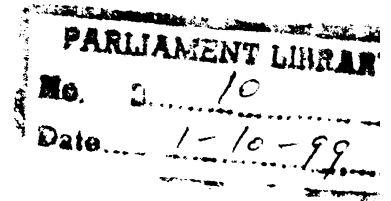


LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)



Third Session
(Twelfth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. VII contains Nos. 11 to 18)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Monday, December 21, 1998/Agrahayana 30, 1920 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[English]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, I have to inform the House about the sad demise of one of our former colleagues Shri Abdul Hannan Ansari.

Shri Abdul Hannan Ansari was a Member of Eighth Lok Sabha representing Madhubani Parliamentary Constituency of Bihar during 1984-89.

An agriculturist and businessman by profession, Shri Ansari was associated with various trade unions as well as social and welfare organisations in different capacities in the State.

A well known social and political worker, Shri Ansari, worked relentlessly for the upliftment of the downtrodden and also helped in the promotion of industries.

Shri Abdul Hannan Ansari passed away on 26 November, 1998 at Madhubani at the age of 71.

We deeply mourn the loss of this friend and I am sure, the House will join me in conveying our condolences 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.

11.03 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Bio Villages Schemes

*301. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Bio Villages Schemes operating in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to extend the Bio Village concept throughout the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The Department of Biotechnology has sanctioned a project on establishing a model Bio Village to the Central Salt and Marine Chemical Research Institute, Bhavnagar to implement the project at village Mocha, near Porbandar, Gujarat.

(b) to (d) The biovillage concept would be extended based upon the success of the present project and its impact. Proven biotechnologies have been demonstrated at the grass root level for the benefit of rural masses. Training is also given to the villagers for biotechnological interventions. Application of Biotechnology to benefit the rural masses on large scale would need a major training programme which is an integral part of biovillage concept.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, you can give the reply directly because the statement has already been tabled.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Sir, it is not a statement.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Anant Kumar Hedge, please put your supplementary.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE : Mr. Speaker, Sir in my opinion, biotechnology would be the technology of the next century. The demand for bio-product is ever increasing in the world, but the fund allocation as well as the total output seem to be very less for the same. Its total demand in the world is worth Rs. 3,20,000 crores while in India its total output is only 2,800 crore Rupees. I would like to know about the steps taken by your Ministry in order to increase its output and its export in this field? I think there should be a coordination among four Ministries namely Science and Technology and Ministry of Agriculture for its successful implementation.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Anant Kumar Hegde, he will give all the details. Please put this question.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE : I would like to know about the coordination or the mechanism among the Ministry's of Science and Technology, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry

of Chemicals and Fertilizers and Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Resources?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, these Ministries are frequently being consulted and while making plans the inputs being provided by them are also used.

SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE : What the Minister has told is correct, but the funds allocated for this purpose is very less; it is only 110 crore rupees. If we compare this fund allocation as against the total output of rupees 2000 crore, it comes about less than 0.1% of the total allocation. I would like to know about the steps being taken by the Government to increase the allocation because R & D institutions are only under the Government. There is no R & D institutions in the private sector. If we do not promote the R & D institutions in private sector, we would be unable to compete in the world. I would like to know whether the Government propose to promote R & Development in Private sector and the funds allocated for the purpose.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we promote the private sector to enter this sector and the technology which is being developed in the Department of Biotechnology. We are transferring it to them. You would be glad to know that many people are showing interest in this sector. To involve private sector more and more in this area is our policy and objective. So the objective of the bio-village project is to send the message to the people that how we are able to increase the exports and production capacity by utilizing, this technology more and more. Every attempt is being made in this direction.

[English]

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it appears from the reply of the hon. Minister that the project of Bio Village Schemes is mainly meant for the rural masses. If it is so, I would like to know whether the hon. Minister will kindly consider the backward regions and the Island territories like Lakshadweep, the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and all such remote areas where such kind of a scheme is more essential. I would also like to know whether the Government will give priority to this.

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : However this scheme has been implemented in one village only but there is a proposal of thirty demonstration projects in other states also. If any more project is proposed, we would deputed, consider it sympathetically because our objective is to implement it in villages and make villagers aware of its benefits and to increase its production capacity. So we would definitely consider it.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Union leaders are your supporters. You can yourself take initiative.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Proposal should come from the states. As soon as the proposal is received, we would work on it definitely.

SHRI RITLAL PRASAD VERMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know the number of persons who have got the benefits through this scheme and whether the Government plans to spread it in every state and every block to make it more comprehensive.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : At the moment, the village where this plan is being implemented, has the population of 2100 people and the total cost of the project is 48.99 lakh Rs. The tenure of the project is three years. At present 44% of the people in the village are unemployed. We plan to develop 300 acres of wasteland there and also to develop sea-weeds. The satire drinking water would be treated. Similarly, the industry named VXL has been asked to process the production of this village. So it is a pilot project taken up in a village. But I have already told you that thirty demonstration projects are at work in Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, U.P., Kerala, Maharashtra, A.P., Delhi and N.E. and almost 15000 families are getting benefits out of them. There is a scope for training and self-employment schemes also.

[English]

DR. SAROJA V. : Hon. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has said that the Bio Villages concept will be extended based on the success of the present project and its impact. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, the programme that we have already taken up at Bhav Nagar, Gujarat. When the project is expected to be completed? A training programme is incorporated in the project. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, the type of training and also the details of the same. Is there any proposal from the Government of Tamil Nadu which is pending in this regard? If yes, will it be considered?

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : As I have already told you that the duration of this project is three years. The impact of the project could be assessed after the completion of three years. Sea-weeds would be produced during the training programme and the groundnut and the other products will also be developed in collaboration with Gujarat Agriculture University and Groundnut Research laboratory. This project has been initiated only in January 1998. So its result will be known after sometime. Demonstration project is already functioning in Tamil Nadu.

[English]

SHRI P.C. CHACKO : The answer reveals that the project is in a very infant stage. Shri Anant Kumar Hegde has put the question, which the hon. Minister did not reply. Probably, he glossed over it. The Budgetary provision for the scheme

is very insufficient and insignificant. Sir, in a country like India, bio-technology and conversion of bio-mass into gas are very major projects which will help the society in a very big way. So far, no scheme has been developed for converting the municipal wastes into energy. Pilot projects are being worked out in many places, but they are not very successful. Is there any scheme or any pilot project or any nodal agency working on this scheme to convert the municipal waste into energy? Is this a part of the bio-mass programme? If yes, will the Government think of considerably enhancing the Budgetary provision for the non-conventional energy sector? Otherwise, it will always remain a pilot project and it is not going to take off.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : This is not a project dealing with the conversion of municipal waste energy. That programme comes under the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources which comes under the Ministry of Power, not with me. We are only concerned with using bio-technical, and bio-technical methods for improving the agricultural inputs, for reducing the uses of chemical pesticides, for converting the wasteland projects into productive units, and for giving a better and improved quality of seeds. All these are covered under this project. But the programme of conversion of energy comes under the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources.

[Translation]

Job Oriented Education

*302. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the present education system in India is producing a large number of unemployed people and whether the requirements of industry and trade in the country have not been taken into consideration in this system;

(b) if so, whether a job oriented education system is being framed; and

(c) if so, the time limit stipulated therefor and the groups being associated with the review of the present system?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) Unemployment is a phenomenon caused by a wide variety of factors such as demand and supply of manpower, structure of the economy, wage rates, consumer behaviour and other factors. This position gets considerably accentuated in a rapidly globalised world where the demand pattern and skill requirements change very fast. There has been in our educational system, over time, a variety of responses ranging from inculcation of work culture at the basic levels, to vocationalisation at the secondary level,

to technical and professional education at the tertiary level. This has been done through both the formal and also open systems such as the open schools and open universities.

The Government is continuously interacting with people in trade, industry, technology and the scientific community to promote better linkages and a stronger focus on job-oriented education. As a result the number of technical institutions including engineering, medical and management institutions have increased substantially over the years to provide job oriented quality education to a much larger group of students.

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Minister has, in his reply, mentioned about the Engineering College and the Medical College and also about fact that job oriented courses are there, I admit this. In our country, the primary education and high school education is very essential so as to understand the world around us. But, the education which is being imparted to the children of our country after high school, is not technically viable. Today, a large number of young men in the country are unemployed and are wandering here and there even after possessing B.A., M.A. and M.Sc. degrees. They want jobs, but unable to get it. I would like to know from the Minister of Human Resource Development whether the pattern of education after high school level will be modelled in such a way that the students could get jobs, could start their own business and contribute in the development of the nation?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Sir, this is a very important question. I agree that there is a need to improve the vocational education as well as other courses imparted in our country so that our students who are wandering here and there after acquiring degrees, could start their own business and get proper placement. In 1994-95, as many as 209 institutions including 19 Universities and 190 Colleges, had started such courses. The U.G.C. has commenced these courses initially in 39 subjects. These courses have started from 1995. When these students will come out after passing the courses for the first time in 1998, then we will try to ascertain as to how many students could be able to get employment as well as the number of those who could not be able to get jobs. Overall 1712 vocational courses have been started in 1356 colleges and Universities. Our main aim is to impart such an education to not only our University students but also to our tenth or twelfth standard students that they could render a valuable service to the society as and when required and could also be able to get employment simultaneously. Efforts are also being made in this direction in Secondary schools. However, I admit here that so far as scheme of vocationalisation in secondary schools is concerned, it depends a lot on the State Governments. Our experience in this field has been that even after granting full amount for this purpose, several State Governments did not bother to take full advantage of the same and it seems that the scheme is not being implemented effectively.

SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Are they closing the scheme?

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Here, the question arises that may be any effort has been made in this direction from the Government side and something could have been achieved but I do not see any such a thing here. May be that such things could have come up or experienced inside the office or in Government files. I would like to ask another supplementary that, some sort of parallel education is going on in India today, thus, Sanskrit Schools and Madarasas are being run in different parts of India. The children who come out from there, are imported a particular language or a particular type of education. Last time the Government had decided that computer education or other technical education viz., Electrical, Electronics will be introduced in these Madarasas or Sanskrit Schools. Arrangements will be made to teach English and other Science subjects also in these schools. Whether the Government have taken any initiative in this regard and if so, how much success has been achieved by the Government in this regard?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : This scheme of the Government is going on as usual and we are in favour of modernisation in these Madarasas and schools. However, the proposal for such scheme should have come from their side as these Madarasas are outside our purview. Either they should come through their State Government or can come directly to us, the scheme should have come from their side. We have already made a provision in the budget for this scheme and the amount earmarked for this purpose is allotted to State Governments. So far as we are concerned, whenever we receive any such scheme from the Madarasas, full assistance is provided to them.

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : How many cases have so far been dealt with?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : It requires a prior notice as this query is out of context.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri Fatmiji has raised this very important point by way of this question. Today, unemployment has become a very big problem of the country. Those good old days are over now when Joshiji had done his graduation from the Allahabad University. After graduation, a number of marriage proposals used to pour in and on becoming a graduate, people used to get a lot of job opportunities. Thus those were the days when several offers of marriages and jobs used to come in but, today, the situation is totally different. Now, the situation is such that there is no value of graduation. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister whether there is any proposal to set up at least one I.T.I. at block level so as to remove the rural unemployment and as he said earlier that if job oriented courses are started there, then at least one unit could be covered at block level. So far as this stand that this is a State subject, I agree that

they should take the initiative in this regard but until and unless some guidelines are issued in this direction and this issue be raised in the conference of the Education Ministers, then only the country could progress ahead and unemployment could be removed. Similarly unless we take the technical education to the village, we will not be able to solve unemployment problem. Whether any scheme been formulated for setting up, at least, one I.T.I. at block level?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : In this connection, we have a scheme of vocationalisation. It is clearly mentioned in its guidelines that under this scheme, whatever vocational education is required, should be provided under it by conducting a survey at district level. The State Governments have to do this work. Instructions have been issued to the State Governments regarding establishment of I.T.I.'s as this work also comes under the State Governments. We issue them guidelines and our guidelines clearly indicate that the State Governments should introduce techno-education in one district as per requirement by carrying out techno-education survey. We are ready to provide full assistance for that.

SHRI RAMA NAND SINGH : This is true that the present system of education is just enhancing unemployment. Mahatma Gandhiji had also made a mention about the basic education during the freedom movement. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister whether the Government are contemplating to popularise and propagate the basic education from the primary level itself?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : We have constituted a committee of the Ministers of eight states in this regard and this committee is pondering over this issue. Its meeting will be held in January and, then, we will come up with a comprehensive scheme about it so as to ensure that proper basic education be provided to our children before going for higher education and to what extent we can put the component of vocational education in it. We will think over it. The Government are quite aware about it and we want that instead of producing large numbers of degree holders. There should be such people who could be useful and besides producing just consumers, we are in need of persons who could serve the country by way of producing something. This is the policy of the Government.

[English]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Thank you, Sir. Since the hon. Minister has also referred to the Open Universities, I would like to know through you whether he is aware of the fact that there is a big demand for introduction of MBA course in the IGNOU. Is the Government going to approve that because, these days, MBAs can really get employment?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : The approval of Courses lies with the Universities. These are autonomous bodies. You know it full well.

But if the IGNOU feels anywhere any difficulty and refers it to the Government, the Government will take a view. But otherwise, this is the IGNOU which takes a decision... (Interruptions) AICTE is definitely there. But she is talking of the IGNOU. The IGNOU is different from the AICTE.

DR. BIKRAM SARKAR : Sir this was a specific question on a very serious matter regarding job-oriented education. The number of registered educated unemployed in the country has more than doubled in the last decade. The National Education Policy of 1985 has failed to address itself to this very serious matter. There was hardly any monitoring worth mentioning.

My question, therefore, through you to the hon. Minister is whether he is thinking of having a new National Education Policy of which monitoring will also be an important element.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : I agree that monitoring is very essential. The statistics collected by the Government are generally very weak. We are on the line. We are thinking about it.

We have also mooted that the Ministry of Human Resource Development should have a very strong Department of Statistics so that we can monitor the information. The House may be knowing that we are still depending on the survey of statistics conducted during the Census in 1991. Now, it is 1998. It is very difficult for me even to plan the things. So, we are trying to have a strong statistical machinery in our Ministry. I hope, with the cooperation of this House, we will be able to do it.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the question is about the unique unemployment problem. The hon. Minister for Human Resource Development, Dr. Joshi, was Professor of Physics in the Allahabad University for a long time. Even when he was a Member of Parliament, he continued to be a Professor of Physics in that University. I want to know the present position. Is he still continuing as a Professor in that University? He has added more honour to the Allahabad University.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Sir, I have superannuated in the year 1994.

MR. SPEAKER : Does it pertain to the present question?

SHRI KAMAL NATH : Sir, the hon. Minister has expressed his concern for employment-oriented education. On the other hand, he has also talked of surveys of ITIs at the district level. The question raised by Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee was about the MBAs. Is the Minister aware that the institutions running the MBA courses are in a state of chaos? This is happening especially in Uttar Pradesh. That State has taken upon itself a very strange role of trying to control the educational institutions which are conducting MBA courses.

On the other hand, the Central Government and the AICTE have been mere spectators. Is this being mere spectators and

the action of the Uttar Pradesh Government a veiled attempt to control these institutions or to saffronise them? Why is this happening? You are talking about new institutions. You are talking about new ITIs. But those institutions which were running properly, which were working well, and the students coming out of these institutions were getting jobs, are now in a state of chaos. What is the reason for this?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : If the hon. Member brings to my notice the institutions which are under chaos, I will certainly look into that matter.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I agree with the concern expressed by the hon'ble Ministers. The question is not of M.B.A. and M.B.B.S. Today, many young people possessing B.A., Engineering, Medical degrees are even wandering unemployed. Shri Rajesh Pilotji has mentioned about the I.T.I. The experiment of I.T.I. has not been very successful. A large number of young persons are still unemployed even after getting training from the I.T.I. A very important aspect about removing unemployment is coming up. Whether the Government would like to ponder over a suggestion for adjusting youths self-employment-oriented scheme of private sector as well as to start any such work in the co-operative sector? Whether the Government have any proposal to remove unemployment by imparting training to them alongwith this University education so that they could get jobs in their respective fields after acquiring degrees.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : The Government is considering it very seriously and we have decided that the industry, science, the technology institutes and education should come to a meeting ground time and again for fulfilling each other's requirements. Today, the situation has taken such a turn that very old courses have become obsolete in this fast changing technology. But our difficulty is that we are not at all responsible for revising courses and to improve them does not come under our jurisdiction. We provide guidelines but this authority rests with the Universities, I.T.I's and I.I.T's. Our effort is to tell them and explain to them that if the syllabus of the Universities and technical institutes is not changed in the context of the new technology, then this situation will remain the same. Today, the need of the hour is that the people belonging to the Universities and technical institutions, remain ever alert about it and the syllabi be changed as per today's requirements. In this connection, we have talked to the Science and Technical institutes. We are talking to the industrial institutes and the U.G.C. too. We are urging again and again that such a syllabus should be prepared which conforms to the requirements of the country and the newly changing technical situations. I think that there is a need to form such an environment in the country and especially in the Universities that they are able to alter their courses as per changing requirements. At present, old syllabuses are still being followed

there. In this connection, there is a great amount of laxity in Universities. If the syllabi are changed according to the new situations, then this hurdle can be done away with. As far as I.T.I. is concerned, I have told you that we provide help in opening the I.T.I. but the honourable Members should feel that the responsibility of implementing all these programmes lies with the State Governments. The Union Government only assists and provides guidelines. We are responsible for guidelines. To remove unemployment is not the task of the Ministry of Human Resource Development. We provide help and guidelines to the Universities and institutes as per requirements of the country, requirements of man-power, as put up by the institutes and the technical institutes. This can be worked out through mutual understanding and it can be done by a number of Ministries together.

[English]

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM : Sir, the hon. Minister has given the reason that unemployment is generated by many factors. But among them, education is an important factor. Education being an important factor, the basic education or the primary education should be given the utmost importance, whereas in India, in general the basic education is in a shambles and in a very depressive condition. My first question is, whether the Government is contemplating new proposals to improve the conditions of the basic or primary education in India.

The hon. Minister has agreed and given the answer that as a result...

MR. SPEAKER : Madam, please put your supplementary.

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM : Sir, this is an important question.

MR. SPEAKER : Please put your question.

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM : The hon. Minister has given the answer that the Government is continuously interacting with people in trade, Industry, etc. and as a result, there is an increase in the number of professional colleges including management institutions. Here my question is this. In India there is a very unfair competition between the students in rural sector and in urban sector.

MR. SPEAKER : Madam, please put your supplementary. Otherwis, I will disallow your supplementary.

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM : Is the Government thinking in terms of bringing out the gap between the rural sector, that is students coming from rural sector and the urban sector?

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Sir, so far as improving the quality of the primary education and its propagation is concerned, I have already replied that we have constituted a

committee of Education Ministers from eight States which will look into all the schemes launched in the field of education. Our aim is to formulate a scheme with a sole mission to bring improvement in basic education. As our nation is far behind on the lower level of basic education, which is of great concern to us, this work is to be done by the all over the country. The Government is very anxious about it. So far as the question raised by him about filling up the gap between the urban and rural people and the Government's initiative in regard to coming forward for development of backward areas is concerned my submission is that the Government runs such centres in various Universities and Colleges where training is imparted to the students belonging to the backward areas. There are many such schemes through which the Government tries to make improve the quality of the backward areas, women, backward classes and minorities. In case any such request comes from some particular area, then the Government will pay full attention and provide full assistance as well.

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri Fatmiji raised such a question and Shri Pilotji threw light on that to some extent explaining about the nature of the job oriented education. This had been a big movement. On such an issue, persons like Shri Jai Prakash Narain had called the attention of the whole nation and explained the method of imparting the job oriented education and about the system to be adopted for the same. However, even after considering the issue for quite a long time, the country lacked the leaders who could tell us about the system of job oriented education. This is not a petty question. The number of people who are involved therein, is not enough and moreover this is very vast nation. During the time of Shri Jai Prakash Narain, the attention of whole of the nation had been called in this regard.

MR. SPEAKER : This is not discussion, this is question hour, you please ask question.

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY : Shri Jai Prakash Narain was not in power at that time. He had no Government. I would like to know whether the Government will constitute such a committee for imparting job-oriented education which could submit it's report as early as possible so that the educated people of our country could be able to get employment and the pace of the progress of the country could be accelerated.

MR. SPEAKER : This is a suggestion.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : I have already said that the Government is in regular touch with the private institutes, technical institutes, industries, farmers etc. and our aim is that the education should not only be job-oriented but also job-creative. Every person should receive education to become so competent that he could create employment for himself. Our aim is not to impart education just from the point of view of providing job. We want that every person should be competent

enough and industrious so that he does not have to wander here and there for employment. We need such a system of education and economy. The Government is fully alert in this regard. I would like to tell you certainly that our pledge is to reorient the education system according to the latest changing situations so that we could be able to gain the contribution of the educated person in industrial development along with new technology and inventions.

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY : I was asking whether the Government will constitute such a committee which can tell us all about the job-oriented education....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Rao. Please be brief.

SHRI K.S. RAO : Sir, I will be very brief.

The hon. Minister has said that the permission for opening a number of Engineering Colleges and Medical Colleges has been given. It is true. But the country needs skilled people and technicians at the lower level. The engineers and doctors think that they are engineers and doctors and they are status conscious. But they do not do any physical work.

I want to know from the hon. Minister whether he is thinking or proposing to make it statutory for the industries to train technicians, hospitals to train para-medical staff, and the chartered accountants to train accountants to write the accounts. In that manner, are you thinking in terms of bringing any legislation or proposing any legislation?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : This is not a question of legislation. This is a question which relates to the change in the pattern....*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI K.S. RAO : Our primary interest is to improve the skills of the people of the country.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : I agree with you. This Government believes in improving the skills and, therefore, we have designed vocational courses and for that there are 94 trades.

About this, we have already made courses and given them to the colleges and schools so that in those skills they can come up. We are trying to change the course and curriculum.

SHRI K.S. RAO : What about the industry?

(Interruptions)

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : There is always a difference between industry and the schools.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Kawade. Please ask a very brief supplementary.

[Translation]

PROF. JOGENDRA KAWADE : Mr. Speaker, Sir the honourable Minister has said that efforts are being made to contain unemployment in this country through vocational and technical education but the problem of unemployment is on the rise due to bureaucracy and the policies of Union Government. Due to norms fixed by the institute namely National Council for Teachers Education, the physical institutions and colleges are going to close down in Maharashtra and other states. The norms laid down by N.C.T.E. are not yet clear. As a result of which the colleges situated in Maharashtra and South India are likely to close down. The institute namely National Council for Teachers Education which has been set up at the central level, the norms of this...*(interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You raise question.

PROF. JOGENDRA KAWADE : By imparting physical education, the physical education teachers can be produced. How will the norms of this institute be fixed so that these institutions do not close down.

[English]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : I need a separate notice for this.

MR. SPEAKER : Q. 303. Shri A. Venkatesh Naik.

(interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have already called the next question. Please understand.

(interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : We have already discussed it for half an hour. Shri Venkatesh Naik.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there should be a half an hour discussion on it.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Not now. Shri Fatmi, please take your seat.

Starvation of Animals in Deer Park

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*303. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :
SHRI D.S. AHIRE :

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

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Tame park deer might die as feeds taper off" appearing in the Indian Express dated November 22, 1998;

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

(c) whether survival of many animals is threatened in different States as the Forest Department has backed off from looking after them;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the measures taken by the Government to protect these animals?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI SURESH P. PRABHU) : (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (e) The article refers to non-availability of feed in appropriate quantities to cheetal, rabbits and guinea pigs in the Deer Park at Khatauli. Earlier there was a scheme for meeting the expenditure on upkeep of deer parks in Uttar Pradesh. However, the scheme has been discontinued and the expenditure on upkeep of deer parks has to be met by the department from savings in the budget. It is learnt that in the absence of a separate budgetary allocation there have been some difficulties in providing adequate feed to the animals. The Uttar Pradesh Government have been asked to provide adequate funds for the park.

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Parts (c) to (e) of my question relate to all those animals in different States whose survival is threatened and I have asked about the measures taken by the Government to protect those animals. But the hon. Minister has not given any specific reply.

The survival of many animals is threatened as the officials of the Forest Departments have washed off their hands from looking after them due to resources crunch. The hon. Minister has replied that the scheme to meet the expenditure on the upkeep of deer parks has been discontinued and that there is no budgetary allocation with the Centre and the States. I am unable to understand the justification behind establishing deer parks without funds. Therefore, I want to know from the hon. Minister what steps the Government is taking to protect these animals and to provide adequate funds to maintain the deer parks.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Sir, Deer Parks were the creation of about 20 to 25 years ago when some State Governments decided, as a source of recreation, to start them. If I say with some sort of boldness, these deer parks were the creation of the influence of the Victorian era in which some

animals were kept for display in such a way that some people can come and enjoy by looking at them, without really taking into consideration the health care and the welfare of them. As a result, the Government of India had noticed that the deer parks were not serving any purpose. In a sense, when the zoos were created, they were created with an objective of putting in some scientific input as well as some recreation, but certainly the objective was to give more educational impetus into such programmes. The zoos and the deer parks are supposed to be alive but the deer parks were not functioning as zoos in the way in which they should have. That is why, the Central Zoo Authority inspected all the deer parks and found out that some deer parks are not conforming to the requirements of the National Zoo Policy. They were asked to close down. This particular deer park is under the custody of the Uttar Pradesh State Government. When our attention was drawn to the news item that you have referred to, we had immediately ordered the U.P. Government to close down the deer parks and rescue the animals into the wild.

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : As we are aware due to illegal hunting, all these animals from deer parks are disappearing day by day. So, I want to know from the hon. Minister what steps he is taking to stop such illegal hunting.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Really speaking, the deer parks and the hunting have nothing to do with each other. A deer park is like a zoo, which is really not conforming to the requirements of a zoo, whereas hunting normally takes place in national parks and the wild where people go and hunt. But in a zoo, it is very unlikely because in any way, the animal is kept in captivity. It is very unlikely that animal can be hunted when it is in captivity. So, it is not something which is really a sort of a paradox that you are really talking about.

But generally, going by their intention to protect the wildlives, the Government of India is concerned about the declining number of animals living in wild. It is also true that we have not been able to protect the animals in wild in the manner in which we should be able to do that. One of the reasons why the animals are declining in wild is because the habitat of these animals is declining. As you know, you cannot have a tiger unless you have a forest. And, the forest itself is declining and each tiger marks its territory. Tiger requires a huge amount of territory in which it lives. So, because of the declining habitat, tiger population as well as the other animals living in wild is declining a great deal.

We have already come out with various measures. This year happens to be the 25th year of Project Tiger. Using this occasion, we are launching a massive programme to enlighten people's opinion and create awareness about how animals should be protected in wild. Generally, wildlives should receive the type of attention that it deserves. This year, we have taken all these steps. I am very happy that the hon. Member of

Parliament has raised a question because rarely we discuss wildlives in this house. I am sure in the years to come, we will be discussing wildlives more and allotting more funds for the wildlives.

[Translation]

SHRI D.S. AHIRE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, lives of more animals like Antelope and Deer are in danger at Antelope and Deer park at Khatauli in Uttar Pradesh due to lack of funds for providing fodder and food products. Such type of situation is prevailing in respect of several National Parks of the country. Where are living animals and birds. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, through you, whether the Government have the information regarding the total amount given to the National Parks of the country during 1998-99, and if so, whether it is upto the requirement? If so, the steps being taken by the Government to tackle this problem?

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government of India does not give funds to any of the Deer Parks. The Government of India provides funds to those Zoos only which are accredited by the National Zoo Authority. I would like to tell the House that the amount given during the last years is as under:

[English]

This year we will be giving a total of about Rs. 5 crore to different Zoos. I have a list of all the Zoos to whom the amount is provided. The National Parks are totally outside the Zoo category. The National Parks are not Zoos, they are parts in which the priced animals are kept in wild and the entire vegetation is allowed to grow in the manner in which it is grown naturally. So, such Parks also receive assistance. This year, the Government of India would be sending a total amount of about Rs. 115 crore on wildlife, out of which Rs. 11.50 crore would be spent on National Parks, Rs. 17 crore on sanctuaries and Rs. 17 crore on Project Tiger.

[Translation]

VAIDYA VISHNU DATT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Deer is not only a thing to watch in the Deer Parks being developed in the country, but these deer are known for the musk also which is a very good drug and is also a life saving drug. I would like to know from the hon. Minister through you, whether the Government is making some arrangements to look after the Deer producing musk because musk is not available even at Rs. 10 thousand per 10 grams today. This is a very good drug. Is the Government taking some measures for its specific arrangement?

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are not giving permission to develop new Deer Parks but the existing Deer Parks have been asked to be regulated the Deer Parks which were not under the norms have been closed but the

Government does not have any scheme for obtaining the musk from Deer. As the hon. Member has referred to about musk Deer farming, the Government does not have any such scheme however, this is the responsibility of my Ministry that wild animals should live in natural farms. We don't have any such scheme of their explanation.

[English]

SHRI T. GOVINDAM : Sir, this is something different from the main Question. I would like to invite the attention of the Minister of Environment and Forests to the CRZ Notification which is of great concern to the Government and the people of Kerala. May I know from the hon. Minister whether he has studied the reservations raised by the Kerala Government on the Notification under the Environment Protection Act, 1986 and the Environment Protection Rules, 1996, declaring the coastal stretches as Coastal Regulatory Zones? The main content of the report was against the uniform approach of the Notification.

I would also like to know whether the Minister is ready to accept the two main suggestions of the Kerala Government, namely, including the coastal areas of Kerala into CRZ-II category and bringing down the non-developmental zones proposed for the breakwaters from 100 metres to 50 metres.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Sir, the main question is on wild life, but considering the importance of the Supplementary, which is really not related to the main Question, I shall attempt to answer.

It is true that the Kerala Government has been representing to the Union Government from time to time about the various difficulties that the Kerala Government as well as all other coastal States are experiencing while implementing the various provisions of the CRZ. We have already set up various committees. The matter is under consideration. I have personally met each and every Member from all the coastal States and heard their views. I have already planned a meeting with the Kerala Government on this issue. As soon as the Session is over, I will definitely look into this matter as well as those of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and the Island of Lakshadweep.

[Translation]

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are several sanctuaries in the country under the D.P.A.P. area. When these sanctuaries were developed 20 years ago the number of Deer were limited to 40-50 only.

But today the number of Deer has gone higher than three-four thousands in every sanctuary. This is the law of the land that if somebody hurts Deer, he is arrested and prosecuted but the Deer cause great loss to the nearby crops. The Government of Maharashtra as well as individuals have sent

proposals/schemes for fencing and to reduce the number of deer in these parks so that the losses of the farmers in respect of their crops and foodgrains may be stopped. Whether such schemes would be prepared by your Ministry of Environment or you will put the fencing under a good comprehensive scheme after consulting the state governments so that the crops of the farmers may be saved. I am particularly talking about the Sholapur district.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : This situation exists in so many states. The number of 'Neelgay' (a blue species of deer) has gone very high in some states. Whenever such a situation arises, under the Wildlife Protection Act, the Chief Wildlife Warden is conferred with such powers as may help them to take action to deal with such a situation. He has full powers.

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : The Deer is not covered under the Wildlife Act and your Government is doing nothing in this regard.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Sonkar Shastri, what is this? Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What is this, Shri Sonkar Shastri? How can you speak without the permission of the Chair?

(Interruptions)

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Sir, the Minister has not replied to my question. He has not given complete reply.

[Translation]

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : If the number of any species is more than required in some particular state, the Chief Wildlife Warden, under the Wildlife Protection Act, has been conferred with such powers under which he can deal with it. But the suggestion made by the hon. Member is appropriate that it is better to stop them by putting fencing rather killing them so that the miseries of the farmers can be removed. We have the Eco Development Scheme and the scheme of fencing with us. We are trying to protect the wildlife and as far as possible we are trying to put fencing. Such scheme is in progress in Maharashtra. I agree that it is necessary to put fencing in all the National Parks. However, keeping in view the necessary funds and demand for that, we would surely do, wherever it would be possible.

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (ASVM) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member Vaidya Vishnu Datt had just asked a question about Musk Deer. With reference to that I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister that Musk Deer is a very beautiful animal and besides tourist's attraction, musk which is being used in medicines is also found

in it. It is found at the height of seven to ten thousand feet. These days they are being illegally poached and such a Park is being run by the Government at Ukhimath in my area. But presently it is under the department of Ayurveda, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and it's condition is not good.

The hon. Minister has just now referred to about the protection of Wildlife, protection of Tigers and other such animals. Will the hon. Minister bring the work relating to protection of this Musk Deer under the Ministry of Forest or the Ministry of Environment, or bring it under his Ministry after consulting the Ministry of Health?

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : This is the duty of my Ministry to protect those animals which are defined in the schedule 1 and 2 of Wildlife Protection Act. Therefore, if the department of Union Government sends any proposal to us then we will welcome it. I request to the hon. Minister in this regard who is sitting by my side.

12.00 hrs.

SHRI MOTILAL VORA : Honourable Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to how many deer were died due to non-availability of fodder at Deer Park in Khatauli.

[English]

The hon. Minister mentioned that the Scheme has been discontinued, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he is in a position to tell the State Governments to provide adequate budget.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : There has not been any reported death of an animal from the Park that you are referring to. However, as a measure of abundant precaution because they are not able to provide enough funds for that Deer Park, we ordered the State Government to release all the deer from that Park into the wild. Yesterday, I went there personally and I made sure that such an order has been issued. I discussed this matter with the Forest Minister of U.P. yesterday because I was to answer a question in Parliament today.

MR. SPEAKER : Dr. Sonkar Shastri, please be brief because there is no time left.

[Translation]

DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is good to protect the wild animals, but there is a special type of wild animal in Eastern region (Eastern Uttar Pradesh) which is called 'Neel Ghora' (a blue horse) and has many names such as Ghargauz etc. As a result of the peculiar animal the farmers are going under heavy losses. While protecting to the wild animals, there must be some provision for providing compensation to the farmers. Is there any proposal with the Government in this regard?

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a provision in the schedule of Wildlife Protection Act regarding 'Neelgay' (a blue species) that if the Chief Wildlife Warden is unable to protect the interests of the people and if he desires then he can give compensation. However it's a state matter. The hon. Member may inform to the Chief Wildlife Warden of the state where he has been elected from.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

ICDS

*304. SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Integrated Child Development Services Projects in the country at present, State/Union territories-wise;

(b) the total number of beneficiaries under Adolescent Girls Scheme at present, State-wise;

(c) whether ICDS and Early Childhood Care and Pre-school Education (ECCE) have not achieved the desired results;

(d) if so, whether Government propose to review these schemes and make them more attractive; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) Statements I and II are enclosed herewith.

(c) and (d) Many studies have shown that ICDS and its ECCE component have achieved the desired results. However, continuous efforts are on to make the scheme more attractive.

(e) The Govt. proposes to revise the financial norms of the scheme, provide the necessary inputs, enrich it and improve quality and expand its coverage during the 9th five year plan.

Statement-I

Statewise Number of Operational ICDS Projects

Sl. No.	Name of the States/UTs	No. of Operational ICDS Projects
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	209
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	45

1	2	3
3.	Assam	107
4.	Bihar	323
5.	Goa	11
6.	Gujarat	203
7.	Haryana	114
8.	Himachal Pradesh	72
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	113
10.	Karnataka	185
11.	Kerala	120
12.	Madhya Pradesh	355
13.	Maharashtra	271
14.	Manipur	32
15.	Meghalaya	30
16.	Mizoram	21
17.	Nagaland	41
18.	Orissa	279
19.	Punjab	110
20.	Rajasthan	191
21.	Sikkim	5
22.	Tamil Nadu	432
23.	Tripura	31
24.	Uttar Pradesh	560
25.	West Bengal	294
26.	A & N Islands	5
27.	Chandigarh	3
28.	Delhi	29
29.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1
30.	Daman & Diu	2
31.	Lakshadweep	1
32.	Pondicherry	5
Total		4,200

Statement-II

Statement indicating Statewise No. of Blocks Sanctioned and No. of Beneficiaries of Adolescent Girls Scheme

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	Total No. of Blocks	Total No. of Beneficiaries
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	37	67,810
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	—
3.	Assam	10	—
4.	Bihar	74	11,854
5.	Goa	1	416
6.	Gujarat	15	—
7.	Haryana	4	11,491
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1	3,651
9.	J & K	2	3,150
10.	Karnataka	23	39,866
11.	Kerala	13	15,547
12.	Madhya Pradesh	48	65,146
13.	Maharashtra	39	20,208
14.	Manipur	1	—
15.	Meghalaya	1	3,600
16.	Mizoram	1	1,955
17.	Nagaland	1	—
18.	Orissa	24	42,614
19.	Punjab	3	—
20.	Rajasthan	24	3,934
21.	Sikkim	1	240
22.	Tamil Nadu	33	23,241
23.	Tripura	1	—
24.	U.P.	99	—
25.	West Bengal	41	29,388
26.	A & N Islands	1	100
27.	Chandigarh	1	141
28.	D & N Haveli	1	500

1	2	3	4
29.	Daman & Diu	1	1,280
30.	Delhi	3	2,599
31.	Lakshadweep	1	—
32.	Pondicherry	1	1,359
Total		507	3,50,090

Hazardous Waste in Major Cities

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

(a) whether in Delhi and all other Mega cities in India, there is a difficult problem of tackling hazardous waste; and

(b) if so, the measures taken in this regard in Delhi, Chennai, Mumbai, Calcutta and Hyderabad ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir, disposal of hazardous Wastes is a matter of concern. Steps taken in this regard include the following :

- (i) Notification of the Hazardous Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1989.
- (ii) Notification of the Bio-medical Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1998.
- (iii) Delegation of powers under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, on 8th January, 1997, by the Central Government to the Chairman, State Pollution Control Boards to issue directions to any industry or any local or other authority for the violation of the standards and rules relating to hazardous waste.
- (iv) Inventorisation of hazardous waste generating industries by the State Pollution Control Boards.
- (v) Continuous review by the Central Government from 1996 onwards through State Pollution Control Boards/State Governments of the status of authorization for handling of hazardous waste, resulting in improvement in compliance of the provisions of the Hazardous Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1989.
- (vi) Identification of hazardous waste disposal sites for industrial wastes by the State Governments. As an interim measure State Pollution Control Boards have instructed hazardous waste generating industries to store/dispose of waste generated within their plant premises in an environmentally safe manner.

- (vii) Organization of training and awareness programmes on hazardous waste management and waste minimisation.
- (viii) Financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 19.5 lakhs for identification and conduct of Environment Impact Assessment studies of disposal sites in and around the Mega cities.
- (ix) Guidelines for handling of Hazardous Wastes and Bio-medical Wastes issued by the Central Government.
- (x) Setting up of a Treatment, Storage and Disposal Facility (final stages of establishment) at Dundigal Village, Rangareddy District, (Andhra Pradesh).

State Forest Department and the average survival rate is about 60%.

(d) The implementation of the major afforestation schemes of the Ministry of Environment and Forests in the 8th Plan Period was comprehensively evaluated and the guidelines revised for these schemes for the 9th Plan period onwards. The revised guidelines communicated to the State Governments lay emphasis on micro-planning and joint forest management. The involvement of the local community in afforestation and maintenance is to ensure better and more cost-effective work. The new guidelines also allow funds for maintenance for a longer period of upto 5 years. Monitoring and evaluation has also been made more thorough.

[English]

[Translation]

Afforestation Programmes in Uttar Pradesh

*306. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have reports about the poor/ total lack of maintenance of the trees planted under various afforestation programmes;

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

(c) whether it is a fact that the Forest Department of Uttar Pradesh has planted 2.25 lakh plants in Kanpur during the last five years, but these plants have totally disappeared due to inefficiency of the Department; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Union as well as State Governments for proper and efficient maintenance of saplings ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU) : (a) and (b) Survival of trees planted under various afforestation programmes is monitored by the respective State Government/Union Territory Administrations. In addition, the Ministry of Environment and Forests has evaluations conducted by independent agencies for programmes funded through its schemes.

The Ministry of Environment and Forests also monitors afforestation work under the 20 Point Programme through annual sample checks conducted in 50 randomly selected districts throughout the country. These have been completed for 1991-92 to 1996-97 and indicate on overall survival rate ranging from 55% to 80%.

(c) As per the information provided by the Government of Uttar Pradesh, 56.51 lakh seedlings have been planted in Kanpur Nagar and Kanpur Dehat Districts during the last five years (1993-94 to 1997-98) under different schemes by the

Poaching of Tigers for Medicines

*307. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :
SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :

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

(a) whether the skin, teeth, bones etc. of Indian tigers are being smuggled into Japan and China; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to check the same ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU) : (a) Three tiger skins, 10 kg. tiger bones and 291 tiger nails have been confiscated at Calcutta during the last three years by the Director, Revenue Intelligence and Regional Deputy Director, Wildlife Preservation. Therefore, the possibilities of tiger body parts being smuggled out to some countries to South East Asia cannot be ruled out.

(b) Various measures taken by the Government to control poaching of Tigers and trafficking of its various body parts are enlisted in the enclosed statement.

Statement

1. Setting up of a National Coordination Committee to control poaching and illegal trade in wildlife with enforcement agencies like Customs, Revenue Intelligence, Indo-Tibetan Border Police, Border Security Force, Central Reserve Police Force, Coast Guards, State Police, Deputy Director, Wildlife Preservation & Scientific Organisations like Zoological and Botanical Survey of India.
2. Training programmes and Workshops have been organized to sensitize the above departments to be proactive in control of trade and smuggling of wildlife products.

3. A special co-ordination committee with Secretary (E & F), Special Secretary (Home), Director, CBI and representative of the Chairman, Central Board of Excise & Customs has been created to ensure better co-ordination in the efforts to curb smuggling of wildlife products.
4. Central assistance is being provided to State Governments to strengthen the protection infrastructure including armed squads, vehicles, communication network and coordination between the Park managers. Government of India has earmarked approximately Rs. 20 crores for this purpose.
5. Schemes for awards and rewards for outstanding performance and acts of valour has been introduced to encourage detection and reporting.
6. The State Governments have been advised to strengthen vigilance and intensify patrolling.
7. Training and Workshops of various enforcement agencies for effective intelligence gathering and law enforcement.
8. To control transboundary trade, a protocol has been signed with People's Republic of China and a MOU with His Majesty's Government of Nepal.
9. Initiated creation of a Forum of Tiger Range Countries, i.e. Global Tiger Forum for addressing international issues related to tiger conservation.
10. Launching of public awareness programme to involve Non-Governmental Organisations and others for supporting the Government in its efforts towards wildlife conservation.
11. Supporting programmes of Institutions and NGOs in exploring tiger-trade routes and developing a forensic identification reference Manual for tiger parts and products.
12. Funds are being provided to the State Governments for the eco-development of the areas to reduce the biotic pressure thereon.
13. Site specific special force in Project Tiger Areas.

Forest Security Council

*308. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Commission on Forests and Sustainable Development recommended that India, along with other developing countries, should constitute a forest security council;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal made with its intent and implications;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the details of action taken on the proposal and the present status of implementation ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The World Commission on Forest and Sustainable Development, an Non Governmental Organisation (NGO), in its draft report has suggested constitution of Forest Security Council of 15 countries, including India. The main purpose of the Forest Security Council will be to put the search for solution to the forest crisis on a fast track—which focuses on specific and pressing concerns which involve those which are most relevant to the issues in hand, which overcome the limitation of Typical Global Inter Governmental processes and which are capable of making progress at a much faster rate. The Commission feels that although the leadership at the highest political and executive levels is essential for F-15 to come into being the concept and the process should by no means be confined to governments in these countries. Work towards solutions to the forest crisis should proceed across several streams of society concurrently, involving and interlocking the efforts of academia and research institutions, non-governmental organisations and forest industry corporations, scientists and communities drawn from the F-15 countries. It also feels that F-15 could build the foundation of possibilities, options and solutions for an eventual global effort in which all countries would be involved. Its agenda could be selected from the proposals of the Inter-governmental panel on forests and of this Commission, focusing on the most strategic interventions, developing the methods and measures that would address the roots of the crisis, and piloting their solutions within their group. A Convention could then follow as a means to put these solutions into effect among all countries.

(c) and (d) India has been managing its forest resources through its national forest policy, which is pro-people and has assumed new dimensions after the introduction of the concept of Joint Forest Management. India has all along played a leading role on own its behalf and on behalf of developing countries for finding out solutions to the various problems connected with forests. India has been playing a significant role in the deliberations of the Inter Governmental Forum on Forests (IFF) which has been set up by the Commission on Sustainable Development, providing a suitable Forum to the Group of G-77 and China. The issues of socio-economic reliance on forests and the need for adequate financial and technological assistance for sustainable forest management have been appropriately raised at this Forum. Looking to this India would continue to rely on the consensus which everges from the deliberations

of IFF. However, views of World Commission on Forests and Sustainable Development are being kept in view.

Recitation of Saraswati Vandana and Vande Mataram

*309. SHRI S. SUDHAKAR REDDY :
SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL :

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

(a) whether some State Governments through Government orders have made rendition of Saraswati Vandana and recitation of Vande Mataram compulsory in Government schools;

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

(c) whether the Union Government have sought information from the State Governments in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether objections have been raised by different segments of society against this move of the Government;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the manner in which the Government propose to tackle the issue ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (g) As per the information available from the State Governments of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Himachal Pradesh and Union Territories of Chandigarh and Lakshadweep, they have issued no specific order making recitation of 'Saraswati Vandana' and 'Vande Mataram' compulsory in the Schools. Information from other State Governments and Union Territories has also been sought.

However, the Department of Education of the Government of Uttar Pradesh had issued a Govt. order dated 17.4.1997 under which time table for the Primary and Upper Primary schools were prescribed for inculcating moral education for character building among the boys and girls studying in these Schools. The time table inter-alia included 'Ist Vandana' at the beginning of the School followed by activities like physical exercise, yoga etc. and finally recitation of National Anthem before dispersal to class rooms.

With a view to bring in further qualitative improvement in the elementary education in the State, the Department of Education, Government of Uttar Pradesh issued certain instructions on 25.7.98 for introduction of 'Kalpa Yojana' which inter-alia included recitation of 'Vande Mataram and Vandana in front of the portrait of Mother Saraswati'. The State Government has subsequently withdrawn the orders issued in this regard.

Union Government does not propose to make 'Vande Mataram' or 'Saraswati Vandana' as compulsory in the Government Schools. Similarly, no State Government has reported any such proposal. In view of these, Union Government does not propose any further action in the matter.

Admission in Colleges on Forged Marksheets

*310. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether thousands of students were admitted in various colleges of Delhi University on the basis of forged marksheets and certificates;

(b) if so, whether the colleges of Delhi University provide admission to students on the submission of necessary documents and those documents are cross-checked;

(c) whether any fool-proof system would be adopted by the colleges of Delhi University to give admissions only to genuine certificate holders; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (d) According to the information furnished by the University of Delhi, there have been few reports about the admission of some candidates on the basis of forged documents. The University has directed all the colleges to send detailed particulars about the marksheets and other documents on floppies to the C.B.S.E. and the other relevant examining bodies. The C.B.S.E. has assured the University that they will check the documents and send them back to the University for further verification. The response of the State Boards has however not been very satisfactory. The University is pursuing the matter with them vigorously.

In order to prevent such fraudulent admission, the University has developed a system of verifying the records of the candidates first at the college and then at the University level. In case, of any doubt/complaint about the authenticity of a document, it is sent back to the 'issuing authority' for verification. After confirmation by the 'issuing authority' about the forged documents, admission of the candidate is cancelled.

Annual Report of UGC

*311. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the main points mentioned by UGC in its 1982 Annual Report;

(b) whether the Government have taken any action thereon;

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (d) In compliance with Section 18 of the UGC Act, 1956 the University Grants Commission (UGC) presents to the Central Government its Annual Reports for every financial year to be laid on the Tables of the Houses of Parliament. The Annual Reports of the UGC for the years 1981-82 and 1982-83 highlighting the implementation of various schemes/programmes, achievements, etc. during these two years were laid on the Tables of both the Houses of Parliament. There were no specific recommendations to be acted upon by the Government.

Training Programme to Boost Productivity of Port Workers

*312. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :
 SHRI M. BAGA REDDY :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry have roped in the Government of Netherlands and the International Labour Organisation to formulate a training programme to boost the productivity of port workers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the productivity of Indian port workers is considered among the lowest in the work; and

(d) if so, the measures being considered by the Government to boost the productivity of port workers ?

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

(b) The Royal Netherlands Government have financed formulation of a project proposal by the International Labour Organisation for port workers training in major ports. The proposal envisages establishment of Port workers training facilities for container handling in 5 major ports at Calcutta, Mumbai, Cochin, Chennai & Jawaharlal Nehru Port in the first phase. The second phase envisages Port workers training for bulk handling in 7 major ports at Calcutta, Visakhapatnam, Tuticorin, Mormugao, Paradip, Chennai & Jawaharlal Nehru Port.

(c) and (d) In the absence of authenticated notified data and differences between ports in terms of cargo-mix, technology & equipment, a comparison of the productivity of port workers in India with other ports world-wide may not be possible.

Measures to boost productivity of Indian Port workers include training, incentive schemes and payment of Productivity Linked Reward.

Supply of Safe Drinking Water

*313. SHRI NADENDLA BHASKAR RAO : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Pollution Control Board has submitted a report in the Delhi High Court stating that the water supplied in the capital was unsafe for drinking as it did not conform to the standards prescribed by the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of long term action plan drawn to check effectively dangerous level of water pollution in Yamuna ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The CPCB has not stated in its report/affidavit submitted to the Delhi High Court that the water supplied in the capital was unsafe for drinking.

(c) A statement is enclosed herewith.

Statement

Measures taken/proposed to be taken as part of the long term action plan include the following :

1. Six Zonal laboratories have been set up for checking the water quality for its potability and to ensure that no contamination of water takes place. In addition, a mobile van has also been deployed to check the water quality in rural areas.
2. As a precautionary measure, service reservoirs are cleaned periodically to maintain potability of water. Water quality from tube wells, deep bore hand pumps, ranney wells are also tested on regular basis.
3. People are advised not to use 'shallow hand pump' water for drinking purposes. All shallow hand pumps in resettlement colonies have been painted in red colour with indication 'Not fit for drinking'.
4. Construction of 15 Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) in Delhi to raise the capacity from 284 MGD to 497 MGD is in progress.
5. The capacity of STPs is to be raised to 500 MGD by December, 1999 and 600 MGD by December, 2002.
6. Simultaneous action for conveyance of sewage for enhanced capacity has also been taken up.

7. 15 Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) have been sanctioned for NCT of Delhi costing about Rs. 90 crores which are at different stages of implementation.
8. Delhi Jal Board is monitoring the pesticide residues in drinking water through Indian Agricultural Research Institute and Central Pollution Control Board periodically.
9. Delhi Jal Board has prepared an Action Plan for conservation of water which includes; leak detection and prompt repairs, recycling of processed waste water at water treatment plants etc.
10. For controlling pollution discharges in the stretches in the upper Yamuna and Western Yamuna canal, the industries along the river stretches and the Western Yamuna canal have been directed to strictly comply with the environmental standards.
11. Construction of 17 numbers of additional sewage pumping stations for pumping sewage to STPs is being done.
12. Desilting and rehabilitation of defective sewers is being undertaken
13. Periodical monitoring of the water quality of Yamuna is undertaken by CPCB.
14. Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) & Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) are doing ground water monitoring studies in Delhi to suggest remedial measures.
15. Action has been initiated to maintain the minimum flow of water in Yamuna river by harvesting rain water in the catchment of Yamuna river basin.
16. Pollution discharge is being controlled in the upper stretches of the river Yamuna and the western Yamuna Canal.

Raising Budgetary Allocation for Sanskrit Education

*314. SHRI VITHAL TUPE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have raised the budgetary allocation for Sanskrit education during the current year;
- (b) if so, the amount allocated for 1998-99 as against 1997-98;
- (c) whether the UGC propose to accord recognition to certain Sanskrit Mahavidyalayas;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of steps being taken by the Government to encourage the promotion of Sanskrit language ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir, the total budget allocation made by Government of India for Sanskrit education during 1998-99 was raised to Rs. 30.00 crores from the 1997-98 RE level of Rs. 14.33 crores.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) A statement is enclosed herewith.

Statement

For popularisation and propagation of Sanskrit, the Government has a Central Plan Scheme of Development of Sanskrit Education consisting of five-sub-schemes viz : (i) Financial Assistance to eminent Sanskrit Pandits, (ii) Award of Scholarship to the Students of High/Higher Secondary Schools studying Sanskrit, (iii) Providing facilities for teaching of Sanskrit in Secondary Schools, (iv) Modernisation of Sanskrit Pathshalas and (v) Promotion of Sanskrit through State Government's own programme. Government of India also promotes Sanskrit through various institutions namely Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi, Maharshi Sandipani Rashtriya Ved Vidya Pratishthan, Ujjain, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, New Delhi and Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, Tirupati. These institutions implement various schemes including providing financial assistance to Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalayas/Shodh Sansthans and to Voluntary Sanskrit organisations, Publication and purchase of Sanskrit Books, Implementation of the scheme of Shestra Chudamani and conduct of all India Sanskrit Elocution Contest, Vedic Conferences for promotion of Sanskrit. Besides this the Ministry gives President's Award of Certificate of Honour to fifteen Sanskrit, one Pali, three Persian scholars every year for substantial contribution in the respective fields.

Mismanagement in Lalit Kala Akademi

*315. SHRI DINSHA PATEL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether some instances of mismanagement in Lalit Kala Akademi have come to the notice of the Government;
- (b) if so, the details of such instances during the last three years and action taken against the persons found guilty;

(c) whether the Government have decided to restructure the Akademi and to have full control over its functioning; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) A statement is enclosed.

(c) and (d) Action is on to appropriately amend the Memorandum of Association and Rules and Regulations of the Lalit Kala Akademi and hand over the Management of the Akademi back to the duly constituted governing bodies early next year. The intention is to have a proper balance between autonomy and accountability.

Statement

A number of complaints of mismanagement, irregularities, favouritism etc. by the then management of the Lalit Kala Akademi was brought to the notice of the Government. Based on these complaints, a number of representations from the employees union and references from Hon'ble Members of Parliament, the Government ordered an administrative inquiry and a special audit of the accounts of the Akademi. The important findings of the inquiry are as follows :

- (a) flagrant violation of rules in order to favour certain officials/members of the General Council.
- (b) mis-management and misuse of Government funds.
- (c) breach of general principles of propriety and code of ethical and moral behaviour expected from the management of the National Akademi.

The special audit revealed the following :

- (a) The working Vice-Chairman who also presided as Chairman was awarded fellowship of the Akademi.
- (ii) In the National Exhibition of Photography half of the awards were given to close relatives of Jury Members and Acting Chairman of LKA.
- (iii) Certain Members of the Committees of the Akademi drew inadmissible financial benefits in the shape of TA/DA.
- (iv) Certain officer of the Akademi claimed higher class of Railway fair than that by which he travelled.
- (v) Irregularities were noticed in the allotment of galleries.

(vi) Financial assistance was given to an Executive Board member without following the procedure.

(vii) Influence of Committee Members in purchasing their own exhibits.

(viii) Certain purchases of art work were not available in the stock entries, therefore, it is not unlikely that the purchases were fake.

(ix) Money was diverted from Chairman's discretionary funds for items which were not covered under the rules.

(x) No stock entries are made on purchases of items like frames, glass, paint, etc.

(xi) Grants were given to unrecognised organisations and for non-specified purposes.

(xii) Irregularities were detected in the appointments of Deputy Secy. (Admn), PS to Chairman, OSD, LDCs and Librarian.

(xiii) Irregularities were also noticed in promotions and giving extension in service beyond superannuation.

(xiv) A number of cases where Akademi Galleries were allotted to artists under pre-revised rate was also detected.

(xv) Avoidable expenditure were noticed in delayed clearance of items from the port, on printing news letter, on felicitations, etc.

(xvi) Accumulation of unsold publications was too high.

(xvii) The procedures in granting honorarium to the employees of the Akademi were improper.

Based on the findings of the inquiry/audit reports, as well as the resistance of the Akademi in implementing the Recommendations of the Haksar Committee, the Government took over the management of the Lalit Kala Akademi on 24th Jan. 1997 by the Lalit Kala Akademi (Taking over of Management) Act, 1997 and Appointed an Administrator.

As per the directions of the Government, the Administrator Lalit Kala Akademi has already initiated disciplinary proceedings against the officials indicated in the reports. The existing Memorandum of Association of the Lalit Kala Akademi has no provision for any action against the members of the General Council and Executive Board of the Akademi.

Additional Capacity in Ports

*316. SHRI K.P. MOHAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to create additional capacity of 159 million tonnes during the Ninth Plan in the ports;

(b) the total expenditure estimated for the purpose; and

(c) the total proposals from the private sector cleared in regard to the said proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) For creation of additional capacity of 159 million tonnes in major ports during 9th Five Year Plan, it is proposed to increase efficiency of existing berths by replacing old and obsolete equipment improving management enhancing productivity of labour through their training and re-deployment; constructing and equipping new berths and involving private sector in the development and management of port facilities.

(b) In addition to public sector outlay of Rs. 7215 crores, it is proposed to mobilise private investment of about Rs. 8,000 crores for development of major ports.

(c) Nine proposals contributing to 42 million tonnes of capacity and involving investment of the order of Rs. 3,000 crores have been approved so far.

Commercialisation of Technologies

*317. SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have proposed schemes for CSIR laboratories to have better interface with the industries so that the technologies developed by them are commercialised;

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

(c) whether any of the technologies developed for industries by CSIR have been commercialised till date; and

(d) if so, the details performance thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) No Sir. The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) laboratories already have well established mechanisms to interface with industry and other potential customers for commercialising of their technologies.

(c) and (d) Over the years, CSIR laboratories have commercialised 800 technologies developed by them. The details and performance of these are as under :

Economic Sector	Number of technologies commercialised	Estimated annual industrial production/value addition (Rs. crore)
(i) Chemicals	240	1800
(ii) Food & Food Processing	80	700
(iii) Biotechnology	10	200
(iv) Leather & Leather Chemicals	40	200
(v) Machinery & Equipment	80	200
(vi) Drugs & Pharmaceuticals	40	100
(vii) Electronics & Instrumentation	140	100
(viii) Housing & Construction	50	100
(ix) Minerals, Metals & Materials	60	100
(x) Energy & Others	60	100
Total	800	3600

[Translation]

Distance Education Programme

*318. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of places in the country particularly in Bihar where distance education programmes are being run by the Government;

(b) the extent of its operation in Bihar and the amount spent thereon;

(c) whether public participation in the distance education programme will be initiated; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) The distance education programmes are offered by nine Open Universities including one National Open University and 57 correspondence course institutes in the country. In Bihar, the distance education programmes are being offered by (i) Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), (ii) Nalanda Open University and (iii) Directorate of Distance Education, Patna University. IGNOU has a Regional Centre in Patna and 22 Study Centres in whole of the Bihar State. The total enrolment of students for 1997-98 with IGNOU is 14,722. The expenditure incurred by IGNOU in Bihar during the last three years is Rs. 172.19 lakhs.

(c) and (d) The IGNOU has certain distance education programmes in which there is a scope for general public to participate, such as Panchayati Raj Project, Tannery Workers Training Programme and Skill Training of Construction Tradesmen.

[English]

Commissioner for Women's Rights

*319. DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL :
DR. SUGUNA KUMARI :

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

(a) whether the members of the National Commission for Women have appealed to Government for appointing a Commissioner for Women's rights to look after all the gender-related issues;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to amend the National Commission for Women Act to vest it with more powers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) The proposal is under consideration.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Pending Development Projects

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

(a) the details of Power, Irrigation, Industrial and other developmental projects pertaining to various states pending for the Environment and Forestry clearance, statewise;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to clear these projects; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU) : (a) A statement is enclosed herewith.

(b) and (c) The Government has already taken steps for speedy clearance of projects. Final decision on project proposals are taken within the stipulated period of ninety days from the date of receipt of complete information and relevant details asked from the project proponents. Thereafter, the project proponents are informed about the decision within thirty days.

Statement

List of Power, Irrigation, Industrial and other developmental projects pending with the Ministry for Environment & Forest clearance.

Environment Clearance :

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Referred on	Reasons for Pendency
1	2	3	4

Power Projects :

Andhra Pradesh

1.	46.08 MW Gas Based Mini Power Plant at Gurram Palem Village, Pendurthe Mandal, Visakhapatnam, Distt. Hyderabad By M/s L.V.S. Power Ltd.	October, 1998	Under Process.
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Delhi

2.	330 MW Coal Based TPP Narela, Delhi by M/s Appollo Energy Co. Ltd.	April, 1997	Clarification from CPCB/DPCC is awaited.
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Goa

3.	48 MW Gas Turbine based CCPP at Sancoal (Goa) by M/s Reliance Salgocar Power Co. Ltd.	July, 1998	Additional information is awaited.
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1	2	3	4
Gujarat			
4.	650 MW Combined Cycle Power Project Stage-II at Gandhar in Bharuch Distt., Gujarat by M/s NTPC.	July, 1998	Under final stage of examination.
5.	2.125 MW Akrimota TPP at Village Chhemani, Distt. Kutch By M/s Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Ltd.	August, 1998	Additional information is awaited.
Himachal Pradesh			
6.	UHL Hydro-electric Project-III, 2 × 50 MW, Ballarpur Industries Ltd.	June, 1998	Under process.
7.	Khauli H.E. Project (12 MW) H.P. Electricity Board	September, 1998	Under process.
Kerala			
8.	522 MW CCPP at Ambalamugal, Eranukulam Distt. Kerala by M/s Cochin Refineries Ltd., Cochin.	July, 1998	Additional information is still awaited.
Maharashtra			
9.	Malshej Ghat Pumped Storage Scheme—600 MW—Maharashtra Krishna Valley Development Corp. Pune.	May, 1998	Additional Information is awaited.
10.	Chikhaldara Pumped Storage Scheme-2 × 200 MW-Irrigation Deptt. Govt. of Maharashtra.	June, 1998	Under process.
Mizoram			
11.	Tuivai Hydroelectric Project (100 MW).	September, 1998	Additional information is awaited.
12.	Teesta Hydroelectric Projects Stage-V, NHPC	March, 1998	Under process.
Orissa			
13.	6 × 660 MW Thermal Power Project at Hirna District Jharsuguda. Orissa by M/s CEPA.	September, 1998	Additional information is awaited.
14.	6 × 120 MW Captive Power Plant for Aluminium Project at Jharsuguda, Orissa by M/s Sterlite Industries (India) Ltd.	October, 1998	Under process.
Punjab			
15.	120 MW DG Power Plant near Rajpura Village Debenheri, Distt. Patiala, Punjab by M/s SIEL Ltd.	July, 1998	Under final stage of examination.
16.	490 MW Power Plant at Phulokhari Distt. Bhatinda, Punjab By M/s Hindustan Petroleum	September, 1998	Under process.
Tamil Nadu			
17.	63.75 MW Captive Power Plant of M/s Tamil Nadu Chemicals Product Ltd., Chennai.	July, 1998	Additional information is awaited.

1	2	3	4
Irrigation Projects :			
Assam			
18.	Champamati Irrigation project Deptt. of Irrigation	May, 1998	Under process.
Orissa			
19.	Lower Indra Irrigation Project Irrigation Deptt.	Aprio, 1998	Under final stage of examination.
Andhra Pradesh			
20.	3,00,000 TPA Integrated complex at Jambalpadu Tadipatri Distt. Anantapur by M/s SJK Steel Ltd.	June, 1998	Under process.
21.	0.8 MTPA Cement Plant with 215 MW captive power plant at Ramapuram, Nalgonda by M/s Priyadarshini Cement Ltd.	July, 1998	Additional information is awaited.
22.	Expansion and upgradation of 5,000 TPD Cement Plant at Yerguntala of M/s Zuari Cements Ltd.	November, 1998	Under process.
Bihar			
23.	Expansion of Barauni Refinery for 4.2 MTPA to 6.0 MTPA by M/s IOC.	October, 1998	Additional information is awaited.
Gujarat			
24.	Vadinar-Kandla Product Pipeline by M/s Indian Oil Corpn. Ltd.	July, 1998	Additional clarificaiton is awaited.
25.	Hazira Fertilizer Project Phase-II of M/s KRIBHCO	August, 1998	Under process.
Karnataka			
26.	Mangalore-Bangalore Product Pipeline Projects by M/s Hindustan Petroleum Corpn. Ltd.	July, 1998	Under process.
27.	Manufacturing of Electrical/Electronic Connectors etc. at Bangalore by M/s AMP India Ltd.	November, 1998	Under process.
Maharashtra			
28.	Gasket Sheeting Plant based on Asbestos at Pune by M/s Uni Klinger Ltd.	September, 1998	Additional information is awaited.
Orissa			
29.	Aluminium Smelter Project at Jasuguda, Orissa by M/s Sterlite Industries Ltd.	October, 1998	Additional information is awaited.
Rajasthan			
30.	40 KL Alcohol Manufacturing Unit at Alwar by M/s Vintage Distilleries Ltd.	July, 1998	Under process.
Tamil Nadu			
31.	Expansion of Production capacity for manufacturing of Asbestos at Ambattur Chennai by M/s Rana Brakes Lining Ltd.	October, 1998	Additional information is awaited.

1	2	3	4
32.	Production of Alloy Steel Casting at Trichy by M/s Harihar Alloy Casting Pvt. Ltd.	October, 1998	Under process.
33.	6.5 MMTPA Refinery at Cuddalore vt M/s Pennar Refineries Ltd.	November, 1998	Under process
34.	Foundry Unit at SIPCOT Industrial Estate Gummidipundi, by M/s Pioneer Alloys Casting Ltd.	December, 1998	Under process.
Uttar Pradesh			
35.	Gorakhpur Fertilizer Project of M/s KRIBHCO.	August, 1998	Under process.
West Bengal			
36.	Grass Roots Fertilizer (Urea) complex at Haldia by M/s Paharpur Fertilizers & Chemicals Ltd.	July, 1998	Additional information is awaited.
Others			
37.	Crude Oil Pipeline Project for Punjab Refinery of M/s HPCL.	August, 1998	Under process.
Other Developmental Projects :			
Andhra Pradesh			
38.	Bhimili Beach Garnet Sand Project by M/s Indian Rare Earths Ltd.	June, 1998	Additional information is awaited.
39.	Captive Limestone of Myhome Cements Industries Ltd. in Distt. Nalgonda Hyderabad.	November, 1998	Additional information is awaited.
Gujarat			
40.	Lignite Mine at Akri-Mota Distt. Kutch of M/s GMDC.	April, 1996	Under process.
41.	Lignite Mine at Mata-No-Madh, Kutch Distt. of M/s GMDC.	April, 1996	Additional information is awaited.
42.	Lignite Mining project Umarsar, Distt. Kutch of M/s. GMDC.	April, 1996	Under process.
43.	Bauxite Mining project Distt. Jamnagar of M/s Orient Abrasive Ltd.	December, 1997	Additional information is awaited.
44.	Lime stone mine of M/s Abbas Bhai Dostmohamed Kheera, District Jamnagar	October, 1998	Additional information is awaited.
45.	Pozzelona, clay & silica sand of M/s Sanghi Industries Ltd.	August, 1998	Under process.
Maharashtra			
46.	Lohara (EAST) Coal mine of M/s ACC Ltd.	January, 1996	Under process.
47.	Lohara (WEST) Coal mine of M/s Nippon Denro Ispat Ltd.	February, 1996	Under process.

1	2	3	4
48.	Pauni Opencast Coal mine of M/s WCL. Rajasthan	July, 1998	Additional information is awaited.
49.	Captive Limestone mine, Distt. Chittorgarh of M/s Orient Cements Ltd.	December, 1996	Under process.
50.	Barytes, China Clay & Quartz mine in Distt. Karauli of M/s Shiv Kumar Diwedi.	July, 1998	Under process.
51.	Quartz & Feldspar mine Distt. Bhilwada of M/s B.N. Mining Co.	July, 1998	Under process.
52.	Rampura-Agucha mine expansion by M/s Hindustan Zinc Ltd. Tamil Nadu	August, 1998	Under process.
53.	Heavy minerals Kudiraimozhi mine, Distt. Chidamber Nager of M/s Indian Rare Earths Ltd.	March, 1996	Additional information is awaited.
54.	Mine-1A opencast captive Lignite mine of M/s Neyveli Lignite Corp. Ltd. Karnataka	October, 1998	Under process.
55.	Iron ore of M/s A. Narain	November, 1998	Additional information is awaited.
Infrastructure :			
A & N Islands			
56.	Construction of lighted Beacon at Rosen Port, Greater Nicobar Island.	October, 1998	Under process.
Andhra Pradesh			
57.	Construction of dedicated Jetty for BPI Power Krishnapatnam 'B' (2 x 260 MW) Thermal Power project in Nellore District, AP.	October, 1998	Under process.
Goa			
58.	Proposed construction of a Time Share Beach Resort by Mr. Darryl Pereira in property Survey No. 248/1 of Calangute village, Goa.	January, 1997	Additional information is awaited.
59.	Proposed construction of a Hotel Project in Survey No. 117/1, of Arossim village of Mormagoa Taluka-M/s Nova Resort Pvt. Ltd.	September, 1997	Additional information is awaited.
60.	Construction of Hotel by M/s Sunset Resorts (P) Ltd. in Survey No. 103/1 of Cavelossion village of Salcete Taluka, Goa.	July, 1998	Under process.
61.	Proposed construction of a Beach Resort by Mr. Garth D'Souza in Sy. No. 109/1 Cavelossim Village, Goa.	October, 1998	Additional information is awaited.

1	2	3	4
62.	Proposed construction of Timeshare Resort/Mahendra Beach View Resort in Sy. No. 176/1 (part) of Varca Village of Salcete Taluka-M/s Mahendra holiday and Resort India Ltd.	November, 1998	Under process.
Gujarat			
63.	Punjab Refinery project in the Bathinda Distt. of Punjab-Bathinda Distt. of Punjab-SPM off the coast of Mundara, Gujarat for handling Crude Oil Tankers-HPCL	September, 1998	Additional information is awaited.
Karnataka			
64.	120. MW Barge Mounted Power Project at Mangalore, Dakshina Kanada District, Karnataka by M/s Smith Co-Generation (India), Pvt. Unlimited.	September, 1998	Additional information is awaited.
Maharashtra			
65.	Worli-Bandra Link Road.	April, 1998	Under final stage of processing.
66.	Construction of Breakwater and other related activities for LNG Import Terminal at Dabhol.	June, 1998	Additional information is awaited.
67.	Expansion of Abhishek Beach Resort at S. No. 56-2B/1 and 56-2C at Village Ganapati Pule, Distt. Ratnagiri, Maharashtra, M/s Courtesy Hotels Pvt. Ltd.	July, 1998	Additional information is awaited.
68.	Transporting Coal Cargo by Road from Mundra jetty to Nagothane Rail Siding for MSEB-M/s Esquire Oil Trade Pvt. Ltd.	September, 1998	Additional information is awaited.
69.	Construction of Mumbai-Nashik Expressway.	September, 1998	Additional information is awaited.
70.	Construction of Mumbai-Talasari Expressway.	September, 1998	Additional information is awaited.
71.	Construction of Mumbai-Sawantwadi Expressway (Phase-I)—Mumbai to Mahad (Chirle to Ambet), Distt. Raigad, Maharashtra.	September, 1998	Additional information is awaited.
72.	Proposed walkway and Promonides from the foot of Hanging Garden to Nepean Sea Road-Malabar Hill Citizen's Forum.	October, 1998	Under process.
73.	Construction of Akola Bypass on NH-6 in the State of Maharashtra	November, 1998	Under process.
Orissa			
74.	Proposed fish landing centre at Gopalpur on sea in the Distt. of Ganjam, Orissa.	November, 1998	Under process.
75.	Proposed fish landing centre at Kirtania in the Distt. of Balasore, Orissa.	November, 1998	Under process.
76.	Proposed fish landing centre at Talasari in the Distt. of Balasore, Orissa.	November, 1998	Under process.
Rajasthan			
77.	Rajasthan State Highway Project (RSHP), Phase-I	November, 1998	Under process.

1	2	3	4
Forestry Clearance :			
Andhra Pradesh			
1.	Mining of sand beach for Indian Rare Eath Ltd.	February, 1998	Additional information sougth form the State Government.
2.	Mining of Limestone, Rashtriya Ispat Nigam	March, 1998	Site inspeption awited.
3.	Minning of limestone M/s KCP.	November, 1998	Additional information is awaited.
Arunachal Pradesh			
4.	Forest land to M/s Assam Saw mills timber Co. Ltd.	October, 1997	Additional information is awaited.
Bihar			
5.	400 KV Line Sasaram to Rihand	January, 1998	Under process.
6.	Stone quarrying lease	December, 1997	Under process.
Gujarat			
7.	Construction of Kuneli Dam	June, 1997	Under process.
8.	For construction of mid stream jetty to Ballarpur Industry Ltd.	February, 1996	Additional information is awaited.
9.	For salt works to Adani Chemical Ltd.	October, 1997	State Govt. asked to submit proposal after examining alternative non forest land.
Himachal Pradesh			
10.	Parvati Stage-II Hydro Electric Project.	September, 1996	Additional information is awaited.
Karnataka			
11.	Forest land in f/o M/s VCP Ltd.	October, 1989	Additional information is awaited.
12.	Construction of new tank at Jala sound fry.	February, 1996	Under process.
13.	Release of forest land for lying of pipeline to M/s Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd.	June, 1998	Site inspection report awaited.
Kerala			
14.	Raising of pepper Plantation	January, 1997	Under process.
Maharashtra			
15.	Bhagwanpur Minor Irrigation	July, 1996 February, 1996	Under process.
16.	Yedshi Minor Irrigation Tank	January, 1998	Under process.
17.	Mandra Minor Irrigation Tank	November, 1998	Under process.
18.	Bewartala Minor Irrigation	September, 1998	Under process.

1	2	3	4
19.	Bhuratola Minor Irrigation project	November, 1998 May, 1998	Under process.
20.	Kasola Minor Irrigation Tank	September, 1997	Under process.
21.	Mumbai Talasari Expressway	May, 1998	Under process.
22.	Dindora Barrage and K.T. Weir	September, 1997	Under process.
Madhya Pradesh			
23.	Survey & Investigation in Panna District	September, 1998	Additional information is awaited.
24.	Undergroud coal mining by WCL.	June, 1997	Additional information is awaited.
25.	Field firing range.	October, 1995	Additional information is awaited.
26.	Underground coal mining by SECL.	May, 1997	Under process.
27.	Bijasand Tank Project.	October, 1998	Additional information is awaited.
28.	Forest land for Diamond project in f/o NMDC.	November, 1998	Under process.
29.	Construction of Sukhary Tank Project.	March, 1997	Under process.
30.	Construction of Amanalla Tank Project	May, 1997	Under process.
Orissa			
31.	Kasia iron & Dolomite mining	October, 1998	Under process.
32.	Mining in favour of Rungta.	October, 1998	Under process.
33.	Forest land for coal mining.	October, 1998	Under process.
34.	For iron ore mining, K.C. Pradhan.	October, 1998	Under process.
35.	Forest land for Eastern India Refinery Project.	July, 1998	Information sought from State Govt. regarding status report on wildlife and resettlement plan is awaited.
36.	220 KV T/L from Indravati Power House to Therubalui Grid station.	November, 1998	Under process.
37.	Talabira Block-I coal mine of M/s Indian Aluminium Co. and resettlement plan.	September, 1998	Under process
38.	Kalarangi Mines of OMC Ltd.	June, 1997	Under p rocess.
Rajasthan			
39.	Mining of soapstone.	October, 1997	Additional information is awaited.
40.	Mining of soapstone.	June, 1998	Additional information is awaited.
41.	Regularisation of encroachment.	February, 1996	Additional information is awaited.
42.	Forest land for silica sand mining.	July, 1998	Under process
Sikkim			
43.	Construction of Teesta Dam	March, 1998	Under process.

1	2	3	4
Uttar Pradesh			
44.	Forest land for Koteswar Dam.	December, 1988	State Govt. asked to submit consolidated proposal.
45.	Diversion for Maudha Dam.	June, 1994	Additional information is awaited.

Development of Kakinada Port

3403. SHRI U.V. KRISHNAMRAJU : Will be Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Kakinada deep water port is in full operation to handle more than 5 million tonnes of cargo, in view of the all round development of the region;

(b) if so, the budgetary amount allocated for the financial year and the amount spent so far for the commissioning of deep water port at Kakinada; and

(c) the further developments envisaged for the development of Kakinada port to meet the potential demands of the Visakhapatnam-Kakinada corridor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) Deep water port at Kakinada is designed to handle 3 million tonnes of cargo annually with the existing three shore connected berths. It is presently handling about 1 million tonne of cargo due to non-availability of mechanical equipment on the berths.

(b) No budget allocation is made for this year, since the deep water port is completed with the loan assistance of ADB and operation and management is offered for privatisation. Rs. 293 crores have been spend on the development of the Kakinada port.

(c) M/s. International Sea Ports Private Limited, Singapore has been selected for operation and maintenance of the existing 3 berths and also for construction of 4th berth at Kakinada.

[Translation]

Declaration of Road from Devas to Nemavar as N.H.

3404. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the road from Devas to Nemavar in Madhya Pradesh has not been accorded the status of National Highway; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

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

(b) The proposal could not be considered for declaration as National Highway due to interse priority of various other proposals and paucity of funds.

[English]

Speedy Disposal of Litigation

3405. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN AHAMED : Will be Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to ensure inexpensive and speedy disposal of litigations on the basis of the recommendation of the meeting of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices held in 1993; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (b) The Chief Ministers' and Chief Justices' Conference, 1993 has made a number of recommendations for providing inexpensive and speedy disposal of cases. Government has taken a series of steps in this regard. This includes steps for amendment of Civil Procedure Code and Criminal Procedure Code, increase in the number of posts of Judges in the High Courts, provision of a statutory base to Lok Adalats and vesting it with the powers of a civil court after the extension of provisions of Chapter III of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 to all the States and Union Territories, appointment of Special Judicial/Metropolitan Magistrates and adoption of other alternative and locally appropriate methods of disputes resolution.

In addition to the above, the various High Courts have taken a number of steps for expeditious disposal of cases, viz; grouping and classification of cases involving similar question of law, setting up of specialised benches, computerization of records, etc. The High Courts have also issued instructions to their subordinate courts to reduce frequent adjournment of cases.

Commission for Administrative and Procedural Laws

3406. SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any commission has been set up to review the administrative and procedural laws;

(b) if so, whether the Government had moved a Bill about three years back to amend the basic laws of evidence and criminal law but it lapsed with the dissolution of the Lok Sabha;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to move the said Bill and made necessary amendments to bring it again before the Parliament; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) The Government constituted a Commission on review of Administrative Laws on 8th May, 1998. The terms of reference of the Commission, inter-alia, include the review of administrative laws, regulations and procedures administered by different Central Ministries/ Departments and the follow up steps thereafter, for repeal and amendment.

(b) to (d) The Criminal Law (Second Amendment) Bill, 1995 was introduced in the Lok Sabha on August 21, 1995 to amend the Indian Penal Code and Criminal Procedure Code, 1973 and consequent amendments to the Indian Evidence Act. This Bill lapsed with the dissolution of the Lok Sabha.

It has been decided to introduce the Bill afresh.

Tribunal Bench at Mumbai

3407. SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up a Tribunal Bench at Mumbai under the National Environmental Tribunal Act; and

(b) if so, details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) and (b) The provisions of the National Environment Tribunal Act envisage the setting up of a National Environment Tribunal with its Principal Bench in New Delhi. The other Benches of the Tribunal will be set up in Chennai, Calcutta and Mumbai. This is being put into operation. The Act provides for strict liability for damages arising out of any accident occurring while handling any hazardous substance and for effective and expeditious disposal of cases arising from such accident, with a view to giving relief and compensation for damages to persons, property and the environment and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

[Translation]

Development of Forests in Rajasthan

3408. SHRI RAMPAL UPADHYAY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Rajasthan have submitted any project for the development of forests;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have approved the said project;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken or propose to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) to (e) The proposals received from the Government of Rajasthan for the Ninth Plan period under the major afforestation schemes of the Ministry of Environment and Forests and their status is given in Statement annexed.

Statement

Proposals Approved :

1. Schemes of the Ministry of Environment and Forests

Scheme/Project	Total Central Assistance Sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)	Central Assistance Released so far
1. Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development Projects Scheme (IAEPS) :		
(i) Banswara district	340.57	103.84
(ii) Jhalawar district	373.45	108.88
(iii) Kota district	365.73	104.19
(iv) Tonk district	196.76	30.07
(v) Udaipur district	365.81	118.66
2. Area Oriented Fuelwood and Fodder Project for Rajasthan (on 50:50 sharing basis with State).	1610.63	517.96
3. Conservation and Development of Non-Timber Forest Produce including Medicinal Plants for Rajasthan.	540.45	162.11

Proposals Pending/Under Consideration :*I. Schemes of the Ministry of Environment and Forests*

1. Under the "Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development Projects Scheme", a project for Jaipur district with proposed outlay of Rs. 308.66 lakhs (sanction is dependent on availability of adequate funds under the scheme).
2. Under the "Tree and Pasture Seed Development Scheme", a project with proposed outlay of Rs. 31 lakhs.
3. Under the "Association of Scheduled Tribes and Rural Poor in Regeneration of Degraded Forests on Usufruct Sharing Basis Scheme", a project with proposed outlay of Rs. 107.60 lakhs.

II. Externally-Aided Projects

Aravalli Forestry Project posed by the Government of Rajasthan for external assistance is being considered by OECF, Japan.

*[English]***Indira Mahila Yojana**

3409. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the date on which Indira Mahila Yojana was introduced and the aims as well as details of achievements thereunder;

(b) the names of the blocks in Uttar Pradesh, particularly in Ghaziabad and Bulandshar areas where this scheme has been introduced and the number of Mahila groups constituted under the said scheme as on date; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to introduce the said scheme in all the blocks in Uttar Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Indira Mahila Yojana has launched on 20th August, 1995 in 200 blocks on a pilot basis. The basic concept of the scheme is to 'empower' women through awareness generation, income generation activities and convergence of intersectoral services through creation of women's groups. As per the information received from the state governments there are more than 31,000 women's groups formed.

(b) The names of the districts and blocks in Uttar Pradesh where IMY is being implemented presently are given below :

District	Blocks
Bijnor	Najibabad
	Kiratpur
	Mohammedpur-Deomal
	Haldaur (Khari Jhalu)
	Kotwali
	Nehtaur
	Dollahpur (Dhampur)
	Budhanpur-Secohara
	Noorpur
	Rampura
Jaluan	Kuthaund
	Madhogunj
	Jaluan
	Nadigaon
	Dakor
	Kadaura
	Singhpur
	Unchahar
	Salon
	Tiloi
Rae Bareilly	Maharajganj
	Bahadurpur
	Babhani
	Choupan
	Duddhi
	Myorpur
	Robertganj
	Chatra
	Ghorawal
	Nagva
Sonbhadra	

2412 Women's groups were formed in the state under this scheme by the end of March 1998.

(c) There is no proposal at present to cover all the blocks in Uttar Pradesh under IMY.

*[Translation]***Non-Formal Educational Scheme**

3410. SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jahanabad) : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the projects for which assistance has been provided to Bihar under Informal Education Scheme by the Union Government during each of the last three years;

(b) whether any representations have been received by the Government in this regard; and

(c) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Non-Formal Education (NFE), financial assistance as per details given below was provided to Bihar during the last three years.

Year	Amount Released (Rs. in lakhs)
1995-96	2007.59
1996-97	2790.74
1997-98	3793.24

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

*[English]***Implementation of Career Advancement Scheme**

3411. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Career Advancement Scheme of UGC has been implemented in the Sanskrit Mahavidyalayas in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

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

Modernisation of Madarsas

3412. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Madarsas at present in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Union Government provide any funds for the modernisation of Madarsas in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof and funds provided during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(d) whether this fund is being utilised for the salaries of teachers instead of modernisation of Madarsas;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the Government proposed to provide more funds to enable Madarsas to start computer and sports education; and

(g) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Information is being obtained from State Govts./UTs.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Government of India operates a scheme of financial assistance to voluntary organisations/government aided institutions for modernisation of Madarsas, under which funds are released through the State Governments. The major components of the scheme are :

1. Financial assistance to the extent of 100% for appointment of qualified teachers for teaching of science, mathematics, social studies and languages.
2. Assistance for establishment of book banks and strengthening of libraries in Madarsas for these subjects.
3. Provision of science/mathematics kits and essential equipments etc.

A statement showing funds provided during the last three years, yearwise and State-wise is enclosed.

(d) and (e) The funds are utilised for salaries of teachers of modern subjects and for other items as enumerated in reply to part (b) and (c) of the question.

(f) and (g) No such proposal is under consideration.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the State	(Rs. in lakhs)		
		Amount Released During 1995-96	Amount Released During 1996-97	Amount Released During 1997-98
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Nil	10.95	0.30
2.	Assam	19.45	8.37	Nil

1	2	3	4	5
3. Bihar		Nil	44.38	12.67
4. Haryana		1.32	7.40	Nil
5. Himachal Pradesh		Nil	Nil	0.61
6. Kamataka		2.74	2.38	19.98
7. Kerela		12.77	Nil	Nil
8. Madhya Pradesh		11.09	Nil	24.43
9. Maharashtra		Nil	1.82	1.59
10. Orissa		Nil	Nil	1.83
11. Rajasthan		4.07	11.26	13.71
12. Sikkim		0.30	0.26	0.27
13. Tamil Nadu		0.30	Nil	Nil
14. Tripura		7.30	37.65	Nil
15. Uttar Pradesh		34.88	91.61	78.84
16. West Bengal		24.32	24.77	19.04
17. Chandigarh		Nil	0.30	Nil
18. Delhi		1.52	Nil	Nil
Total		120.07	241.15	173.27

[Translation]

Recognition to New Universities

3413. SHRI H.P. SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the U.G.C. propose to accord recognition to new Universities in Bihar; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) Proposals for declaring fit the following 8 Universities in Bihar and one Institution established under State Legislative Act to receive Central Assistance under Section 12-B of the UGC Act, subject to their fulfilling the requisite eligibility conditions, are under consideration of the UGC :

- (i) Rajendra Agricultural University, Bhagalpur;
- (ii) Birsa Agricultural University, Ranchi;
- (iii) Jai Prakash Vishwavidyalaya, Chapra;
- (iv) B.N. Mandal University, Madhepura;

(v) Sidhu Kanhu University, Dumka;

(vi) Veer Kunwar Singh University, Arrah;

(vii) Vinbha Bhawe University, Hazaribagh;

(viii) Nalanda Open University, Patna;

(ix) Indira Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences, Patna.

Power Generation

3414. SHRI DHIRENDRA AGARWAL : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to generate power from Tamasin Dam;

(b) If so, whether the Government propose to conduct comprehensive study in this regard; and

(c) if so, the time by which the same will be conducted ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) No proposal has been received by the Central Electricity Authority for clearance of the project to generate power from Tamasin Dam.

(b) and (c) The State Government will have to take necessary action to conduct a Comprehensive Study.

[English]

Power Production in Karnataka

3415. SHRI B.M. MENSINKAI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any new proposals from the Karnataka Government regarding Power Production in the state; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b) The details of projects cleared/under execution in Karnataka are given below :

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Capacity (MW)	Date of receipt in CEA	Date of TEC
1	2	3	4	5

A. CEA CLEARED/APPRaised

1.	Sarapadi HEP (H)	3 × 30	7/89	04-12-90
2.	Raichur St. III (T)	2 × 210	7/95	19-12-95
3.	Toranagallu TPS (T) (Revised)	2 × 120 (2 × 130)	3/95	20-03-96
4.	Mangalore TPS (T)	4 × 250	1/95	22-04-96

1	2	3	4	5
B. DPR UNDER EXAMINATION IN CEA				
5. Manjangud CCPP (T)	110	31-12-97		
6. Tatihalla (H)	410 GWh	8/98		
7. Kaniminke (Bangalore) (T)	107.8	31-12-97		
8. Mandva CCPP (T)	164.4	31-12-97		
9. Hassan CCPP (T)	189	31-12-97		
10. Taloi (Bijapur) TPP (T)	1 × 350	30-03-98		
11. Nagarjuna TPP (T)	2 × 500	27-07-98		

**Research for Value Added Products
from Cow Dung**

3416. SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether some recent scientific experiments prove that apart from using cow dung/urine for liquid and solid compost, many value added products have been made like Bio-pesticides, Medicine for human beings/livestocks, Toiletry products and above all generation of power; and

(b) if so, the works done by CSIR laboratories in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) No Sir, the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) laboratories have not carried out experiments for making bio-pesticides, medicine for human beings/livestock etc. using cow dung/urine.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Jawaharlal Nehru Port

3417. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the depth of the Jawaharlal Nehru Port; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which this task would be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Power Projects

3418. SHRI C.D. GAMIT : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have recently decided to treat the power projects worth 15 thousand millions rupees with cent percent equity shares as automatically sanctioned projects; and

(b) if so, the details of the policy firmed up in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) and (b) The Government has recently reviewed the existing guidelines for automatic approval for foreign equity for electric generation, transmission and distribution projects, and has decided to enlarge the provisions for automatic approval for such projects. Accordingly, projects for electric generation, transmission and distribution will be permitted foreign equity participation up to 100% on the automatic approval route provided the foreign equity in any such project does not exceed Rs. 1500 crore.

[English]

Conservation of Dal Lake

3419. SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have accorded their approval for conservation of Dal Lake in Kashmir;

(b) whether the Government have to provide Rs. 291 crores for the project; and

(c) the amount of money released so far for this purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) The Union Government have accorded 'in principle' approval only, for conservation of Dal Lake in Kashmir.

(b) It has been decided to prepare a Detailed Project Report in consultation with State Government to firm up the estimated cost of the project.

(c) An amount of Rs. 25 crore has been released, so far, for this project as additional Central Assistance under the annual plan 1997-98 of Jammu and Kashmir.

Power Projects in Sikkim

3420. SHRI BHIM DAHAL : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of on going power projects in Sikkim and the estimated power generation capacity thereof;

- (b) the amount spent on these projects so far;
- (c) the progress made so far in this regard; and
- (d) the target fixed for completion of these projects ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) to (d) There are two ongoing power projects in Sikkim, the details of which are as follows :

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Capacity (MW)	Amount Spent so far (Rs. in crs.)	Remarks
1.	Rolep HEP	9	0.14 (12/97)	Preliminary works taken up at site. Tenders for intake and water conductor system have been invited. Commissioning expected in 2001-02.
2.	Rangit HEP Unit III	20	300 (upto 10/98)	Equipment installation works nearing final completion. The project is targetted for commissioning in December, 1998.

Ownership Rights of Minor Forest Produce

3421. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the main recommendations of the Expert Committee on conferring ownership rights of Minor Forest produce to Panchayats/Gram Sabha in Fifth Scheduled Areas;

(b) whether these recommendations have been communicated to all the States/UTs for their comments;

(c) if so, the comments communicated to his Ministry so far, State-wise;

(d) the steps taken by his Ministry to extend the MFP rights to the tribals in Scheduled Areas of the country on the basis of the Forest Policy for Tribals so far; and

(e) the initiative taken to get the comments from the States to formulate the scheme and provision for socio-economic development of tribals ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) The main recommendations of the Expert Committee on conferring Ownership Rights of Minor Forest

Produce to Panchayats/Gram Panchayats in Scheduled V Areas are given in the statement enclosed.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Comments of States/UTs are yet to be received.

(d) and (e) The Ministry has written to all concerned States on 29.7.1998 to implement the provisions of ownership rights of Minor Forest Produce to Panchayats/Gram Sabhas in Scheduled V Areas by formulating suitable rules and regulations for the development of tribals. The States were also requested in the meetings of the State Forest Ministers held in June-July, 1998 to send their comments.

Statement

Main Recommendations of the Expert Committee on conferring ownership rights of Minor Forest Produce to Panchayats/Gram Sabha in Scheduled-V Areas

- 'Minor Forest Produce' is the forest produce, other than timber, harvestable on a non-destructive basis. The term 'forest produce' and 'timber' will have the same meaning as in the Indian Forest Act, 1927.
- Tendu Patta and Apta should not be excluded from the list of minor forest produce but bamboo cannot be included within the meaning of the term 'MFP'.
- The Gram Sabhas/Panchayats should be endowed with usufructory rights rather than ownership of MFPs available from all lands except National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries and Biosphere reserves.
- The present arrangement of Corporation/Federations carrying out the trade of MFPs should continue as it is and they should involve Gram Sabhas/Joint Forest Management Agencies in the trade and no third agency, nominated or elected should be involved in this activity.
- There should be linkages between usufructory rights and responsibilities for developing and protection of MFPs as in the case of Forest Protection Committees.
- The Gram Sabhas not only in Schedule-V areas, but also all over the country be given usufructory rights over MFPs available from all Government forests except the Protected Areas (i.e. National Parks, Sanctuaries, Biosphere reserves) and the State should continue to regulate the trade of important MFPs through the Corporations, Federations, local enterprises etc. Out of the net surplus revenue available from all the MFPs at least 25% should be transferred back to the Gram Sabhas through the agency responsible for MFP trade for the development of MFPs. Another 25% should be utilised for community development

through the aforementioned agency and the balance 50% should be given to individual collectors in proportion to the value of the produce collected by them.

Coastal Transport and Ports

3422. SHRI DEVJIBHAI J. TANDEL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have constituted any committee for the development of Coastal Transportation and Minor Ports in India;

(b) if so, whether the Union Territory of Daman and Diu is Represented in the same; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. A Maritime States Development Council has been constituted under the Chairmanship of the Minister of Surface Transport for development of minor ports and to ensure integrated development of minor ports and major ports in the country.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

No-Objection Certificates

3423. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether several State Governments have not sent no objection certificates to the All India Council of Technical Education by the due date especially the Tamilnadu Government, for according permission to fully qualified students in unaided Self-financing Engineering Colleges, for 1999-2000;

(b) if so, whether as a result of it, educational prospects of thousands of deserving students have been badly affected; and

(c) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) As per the procedures laid down in the Regulations framed by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) under the provisions of AICTE Act 1987, all the State Governments have been requested to process the applications from the respective States for establishment of Institutions in the field of Technical Education. A time schedule has been prescribed for the purpose. The State Government of Tamil Nadu has not responded so far. There are 125 Degree Level Engineering

Colleges in Tamil Nadu as approved by the AICTE. Before arriving at a final decision for approval or otherwise of an Institution, sufficient opportunity is given to the applicants by way of personal hearing.

Scrapping of Yoga Education

3424. SHRIMATI BHAVNA KARDAM DAVE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are facing financial problem in continuing a centrally sponsored scheme to promote yoga in schools;

(b) if so, whether there is any plan to immediately scrap the scheme introduced in 1989-90; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) and (c) The experience of implementing the Centrally sponsored Scheme for Promotion of Yoga in Schools which was formulated and introduced in 1989-90 was not very encouraging. The Department of Education now has a two pronged strategy :

(i) To consider introduction of Yoga as a subject in the regular school syllabus; and

(ii) A fresh Scheme for introduction of Yoga in schools is currently being formulated in the Department with inputs from all concerned Departments.

[Translation]

Achievements of Bihar Shiksha Pariyojana

3425. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the achievements made under the 'Bihar Shiksha Pariyojana' so far;

(b) whether Gaya District of Bihar has also been covered under the said scheme; and

(c) if so, the total amount spent on the above project in Gaya District ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) 'Bihar Shiksha Pariyojana' (BEP) was initially started in 1991-92 in 3 districts of Ranchi, Rohtas, West Champaran and later expanded to

another 4 districts namely, Chatra, East Singhbhum, Muzaffarpur and Sitamarhi in 1992-93. The BEP continued in the above 7 districts upto March, 1998. The achievements made under the 'Bihar Shiksha Pariyojana' (BEP) may be seen in the attached statement.

(b) Gaya district was not covered under 'Bihar Shiksha Pariyojana'. However, Gaya is covered under the District Primary Education Programme (DPEP III) being implemented by the Bihar Shiksha Pariyojana Parishad.

(c) The Question regarding amount spend under 'Bihar Shiksha Pariyojana' in Gaya district does not arise. However, under DPEP-III which is being implemented in Gaya district from October, 1997, a sum of Rs. 93.17 lakhs has been spent upto November, 1998.

Statement

- * Micro-planning has been conducted in villages.
- * Village Education Committees (VECs) have been formed in villages for schools.
- * Balmelas. cultural programmes and cultural rallies have been organised.
- * Ten day training in child centered education through joyful teaching method has been imparted to all teachers teaching in primary classes.
- * Recurrent Training and Reflection of teachers have also been held at Cluster Resource Centre Level.
- * Teachers have been trained, encouraged and reasonably financed to prepare and use local specific teaching-cum-learning materials (TLMs) in classroom teaching.
- * Annual Cash Grant of Rs. 2000/- (Rupees two thousand) has been given to all schools having primary classes for school improvement.
- * Following competency based text books have been developed—
 - Language : Hindi-I / Urdu-I / Bangla-I / Bangla-II.
 - Mathematics : Ganit (Hindi)-I / Ganit (Hindi)-II / Ganit (Urdu)-I / Ganit (Urdu)-II / Ganit (Bangla)-I / Ganit (Bangla)-II.
- * The above ten books have been accepted as core text books by the Government of Bihar for seven BEP districts.
- * NFE centres were opened for such children who are deprived of primary education due to economic, social and other constraints.

- * On experimental basis Shiksha Premi Schools were opened in BEP districts for out of school children residing in remote and inaccessible areas.
- * School buildings based on the concept of pedagogical need, cost effective technology and community ownership have been constructed in the BEP districts. Cluster Resource Centres and Block Resource Centres were constructed in rural areas.
- * Mahila Samoochs have been formed. Sahyoginis have been identified and trained. Jagjagi Centres including Bal Jagjagi centres have been established. Mahila Shikshan Kendras have been formed. Mahila Kutirs have been constructed.
- * Thrift and Credit have been encouraged among rural women through Saving Groups.

Dhauliganga Hydel Power Project

3426. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the construction of the Dhauliganga hydel power project in Uttar Pradesh is going on slowly and the project is likely to be scrapped;

(b) if so, whether the Forest Conservation Act is obstacle in the construction of said project;

(c) if so, the measures being taken to complete the project within stipulated time; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Forest Conservation Act is not an obstacle in the construction of the Project.

(c) Not applicable.

(d) Not applicable.

[English]

Proposal for Doubling of NH-17

3427. SHRI JAYARAMA I.M. SHETTY : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal to double the National Highway No. 17 from Mangalore to Coondapur has been lying pending for approval with the Union Government since long;

(b) if so, whether land has been acquired for doubling the said National Highway;

(c) if so, the present stand of the Government in this regard and further plan of the Government; and

(d) the specific time by which the said National Highway would be doubled ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Proposal is at conceptual stage with the State Government and therefore, no details can be given.

Mittal Committee Report

3428. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Mittal Committee has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the recommendations made therein;

(c) the present status of the implementation of each of the recommendations; and

(d) if not, the time by which the report is likely to be finalised and implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) A copy of the recommendation is given in the statement enclosed.

(c) and (d) The Mittal Committee recommendations were considered & approved by the Board of Directors of IRCC on 18.12.1997 and the recommendations have already been implemented.

Statement

5. RECOMMENDATIONS OF MITAL COMMITTEE :

5.1 The following steps may be taken by the Corporation :

- (i) The retrospective amendments of the R & P rules with effect from February, 1991 may be withdrawn. Corporation may if it is considered necessary amend rules prospectively.
- (ii) The number of vacancies in each grade to be filled by promotion, limiting them to 50% of the total number of vacancies may be determined with effect from 1.2.1991.
- (iii) Permission of the Board may be sought for filling up those vacancies in relaxation of the ban orders, giving justification therefor.

(iv) Review DPC may be held for making recommendations for filling up the vacancies to the extent permitted by the Board to be filled up, as per the prevailing R & P rules and after taking into account roster points.

(v) All Officers/officials promoted after February, 1991 except who are recommended by the Review DPC as per the Board's approval should be reverted to their original posts.

(vi) The Departmental Promotion committee may be reconstituted to give representation to SC/ST/ Minorities. Preferably, an outsider may also be included in the DPC.

(vii) While the roster for reservations for SC/ST are being maintained for individual posts, the system of dereservations of posts is not being followed. The Corporation should in future have deserved any post falling on the reserved points, current or carried forward, after following the prescribed procedure before the same is filled up by a general candidate.

(viii) The Corporation should take action to implement the directives for adopting IDA pattern and related scales of pay in the Corporation w.e.f. 1.1.1989.

Sabarmati River Cleaning Project

3429. SHRIMATI BHAVANA CHIKHALIA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made in regard to the Sabarmati River Cleaning Project;

(b) the total amount spent on the project so far;

(c) whether a large amount spent on the project has not been properly utilised;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which the remaining work of this project is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) and (b) An expenditure of Rs. 13.39 crore has been incurred till 30.11.1998 on the National River Conservation Plan of River Sabarmati in Gujarat. This constitutes about 15% progress of the project.

(c) and (d) The amounts diverted earlier have since been recouped by the State Government.

(e) The scheme is targetted for completion by March 2001.

Pollution on Ports

3430. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are taking steps to make the ports pollution free; and

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating specific steps taken to make Paradeep Port in Orissa free from pollution, if any ?

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

(b) The projects relating to all ports including Paradeep Port are subjected to examination in accordance with the laid down parameters to ensure their environmental friendliness before they are allowed to be executed.

Tercentenary of Birth of Khalsa

3431. SHRI SHANKAR PRASAD JAISWAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to declare the year 1999 as the 'Year of Human Spirit' and have also written to UNESCO about the same as part of the 'tercentenary celebrations of the birth of Khalsa';

(b) if so, whether the Government have also sanctioned a grant of Rs. 100 crore for the tercentenary celebration;

(c) if so, the broad features and details of the celebrations;

(d) whether a national committee for the said celebrations has been constituted; and

(e) if so, its composition, functions and *modus operandi* ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Government of India had written to UNESCO for declaration of the year 1999 as the 'Year of Human Spirit'.

(b) and (c) The National Committee for celebrations of the Ter-centenary of the founding of Khalsa met under the chairmanship of Prime Minister on November 5, 1998. After due consideration, it was decided to set up an Implementation Committee under the chairmanship of the Union Minister for Human Resource Development to finalise the specific programmes and activities. In that meeting, the Prime Minister announced that the Government of India would contribute Rs. 100 crores for the celebrations all over the country.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. A copy of the Resolution constituting the National Committee for celebration of the Tri-centenary of

Birth of Khalsa under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister is enclosed as a statement.

Statement

*To be Published The Gazette of India
Extraordinary Part-1*

Section-1

No. F. 3-2/95-C&M

Government of India

Ministry of Human Resource Development
(Department of Culture)

New Delhi, the 21st October, 1998

RESOLUTION

With a view to observe the Tri-Centenary of Birth of Khalsa in a befitting manner, the Government of India has constituted a National Committee as under :

- | | |
|--|----------|
| 1. Shri Atal Behari Vajpayee,
Prime Minister of India. | Chairman |
| 2. Shri Inder Kumar Gujral,
G-13, Maharani Bagh, New Dehli. | Member |
| 3. Shri Chandra Shekhar,
Former Prime Minister of India,
3-South Avenue Lane, New Delhi. | Member |
| 4. Shri L.K. Advani,
Minister of Home Affairs. | Member |
| 5. Dr. Murl Manohar Joshi,
Minister of Human Resource
Development. | Member |
| 6. Shri George Fernandes,
Defence Minister of India. | Member |
| 7. Shri M.L. Khurana,
Union Minister, Government of
India. | Member |
| 8. Shri R.K. Hegde,
Union Minister, New Delhi. | Member |
| 9. Shri Prakash Singh Badal,
Chief Minister, Punjab Secretariat,
Chandigarh. | Member |
| 10. Shri Farooq Abdullah,
Chief Minister, J & K,
New Secretariat, Srinagar. | Member |
| 11. Shri Gurcharan Singh Tohra,
President, SGPC
Amritsar (Punjab). | Member |

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| 12. Shri Surjit Singh Bamala,
Minister,
Chemicals & Fertilizers,
New Dehli | Member | 25. Shri V.N. Narayanan,
Editor,
Hindustan Times,
Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi. | Member |
| 13. Dr. Manmohan Singh,
M.P. (Rajya Sabha)
Rajya Sabha Secretariat
9-Safdarjung Lane, New Delhi. | Member | 26. Shri Vijay Chopra,
Editor,
Hind Samachar Group of Newspapers
Jalandhar (Punjab). | Member |
| 14. Shri Om Prakash Chautala,
Former Chief Minister, Haryana,
Haryana Bhavan, New Delhi | Member | 27. Air Chief Marshal Arjun Singh (Retd),
Vayu Bhavan, New Delhi. | Member |
| 15. Shri Sharad Pawar,
M.P. (Lok Sabha)
(Leader of the Opposition)
6-Gurdwara Raqab Ganj Road,
New Dehli. | Member | 28. Shri R.S. Narula,
Chief Justice (Retd.) Punjab &
Haryana High Court, Chandigarh. | Member |
| 16. Chairman, Gurudwara Board,
Takhat Shri Abohal Nagar,
Hazur Sahib,
Nanded (Maharashtra). | Member | 29. Dr. Maheep Singh, Professor (Retd.),
H-108, Shivaji Park, New Dehli. | Member |
| 17. Chairman, Management Committee,
Takhat Shri Patna Sahib,
Patna (Bihar). | Member | 30. Dr. Amrik Singh,
Former Vice-Chancellor, Punjabi
University, Patiala.
ATV House, ITO, New Delhi. | Member |
| 18. Chairman, Delhi Sikh Gurudwara,
Prabandhak Committee, Bangla
Sahib, New Delhi. | Member | 31. Shri S.S. Johal,
Former Vice-Chancellor,
Punjabi University, Patiala. | Member |
| 19. Shri Kushabhau Thakre,
President, BJP
11-Ashok Road, New Delhi. | Member | 32. Dr. J.S. Grewal,
Former Vice Chancellor,
Guru Nanak Dev University,
Amritsar. | Member |
| 20. Ms. J. Jayalalitha,
Former Chief Minister,
Chennai (Tamil Nadu) | Member | 33. Shri Kirpal Singh,
Historian,
C/o Punjab Bhawan,
New Delhi. | Member |
| 21. Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav,
M.P. (Lok Sabha)
2-Krishna Menon Marg, New Delhi. | Member | 34. Shri Tarlochan Singh,
Chairman,
Delhi Tourism Corporaiton,
Moolchand, New Delhi. | Member |
| 22. Shri Gulzar,
91-A, Cozy Home,
250 Pali Hill, Bandra West, Mumbai. | Member | 35. Shri K.S. Duggal,
P-7, Hauz Khas Enclave,
New Delhi-16 | Member |
| 23. Ms. Shabana Azmi,
702, Sagar Samrat,
Green Fields, Juhu, Mumbai. | Member | 36. Ms. Amrita Pritam,
K-25, Hauz Khas Enclave,
New Delhi-16. | Member |
| 24. Shri Kuldip Nayyar,
Journalist
M.P. (Rajya Sabha),
D-7/2, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi-57. | Member | 37. Shri Shamim Sarin,
Sardar Bazar, Amritsar Cantt. | Member |
| | | 38. Mrs. Prabhjot Kaur,
D-203, Defence Colony,
New Delhi. | Member |

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| 39. Shri S.S. Ahluwalia
10, Gurudwara Rakab Ganj Road,
New Delhi. | Member | 54. Shri Paramjit Singh Sarna,
23/41, Punjabi Bagh (West) Delhi. | Member |
| 40. Mr. G.K. Sudip,
N-4/13, Sundar Nagar, S.V. Road,
Malad West (Mumbai). | Member | 55. Shri Kuldip Singh Bhogal,
11, Hari Nagar Ashram,
New Delhi-24 | Member |
| 41. Shri Khushwant Singh,
49-E, Sujan Singh Park,
New Delhi-110003 | Member | 56. Dr. K.P. Aggarwal,
'Sudharma' 1/5, Gokhle Marg,
Lucknow. | Member |
| 42. Shri Raminder Singh,
Editor, Times of India,
7, Bahadurshah Zafar Marg,
New Delhi-7 | Member | 57. Shri Kamaljit Singh,
44-Cm Singar Nagar,
Lucknow-226005. | Member |
| 43. Shri Sartaj Singh,
M.P.,
D-2 (Old), M.S. Flat, Baba
Kharak Singh Marg, New Delhi | Member | 58. Shri A.D. Singh,
42, Ground Floor, Raj Guru Nagar,
Ludhiana-141001. | Member |
| 44. Prof. Yashpal,
11 B, Greenview Apartment,
Sector 15 A, Noida-201301 | Member | 59. Shri Balwant Singh,
Andhra Pradesh Bhawan,
New Delhi. | Member |
| 45. Shri Hari Kishan Singh Surjeet,
M.P.
23, Tughlak Road,
(Near Police Station)
New Delhi. | Member | 60. Shri Virender Singh,
183, Jorbagh, New Delhi. | Member |
| 46. Shri B.S.S. Sachdeva,
B-242, Chitranjan Park,
New Delhi-19 | Member | 61. Shri Prithipal Singh,
President (Maharashtra)
Rashtriya Sikh Sangar,
165, Dharampeth Extension,
Nagpur-440010. | Member |
| 47. Dr. S.S. Noor,
7/4A, Vijaynagar, Delhi-9 | Member | 62. Shri H.S. Hanspal,
Former M.P.
K-17, Rajouri Garden, New Delhi. | Member |
| 48. Justice Kuldeep Singh,
295 Sector 17, Panchkula, Haryana.
85, Sector 10A, Chandigarh. | Member | 63. Shri Prem Singh,
M.P. (Lok Sabha)
Punjab Bhawan, New Delhi. | Member |
| 49. Dr. Kiran Bedi,
2, Talkatora Lane, New Dehli. | Member | 64. Sardar Prithvipal Singh,
Allahabad,
U.P. Bhawan, New Delhi. | Member |
| 50. Justice Yashpal Singh,
62, Lodhi Estate, New Delhi. | Member | 65. Shri Kalyan Singh,
Chief Minister, U.P.
U.P. Secretariat, Lucknow. | Member |
| 51. Shri Jaswant Singh Sethi,
7, Rajendra Park, New Delhi-6. | Member | 66. Shri Gopinath Munde,
Dy. Chief Minister, Maharashtra
Government Secretariat, Mumbai. | Member |
| 52. Prof. Ajaib Singn,
B-1/132, Janakpuri, New Delhi. | Member | 67. Shri Bansilal,
Chief Minister, Haryana,
Haryana Secretariat, Chandigarh. | Member |
| 53. Shri Avtar Singh Hit,
B-307, Hari Nagar,
New Delhi-54 | Member | 68. Smt. Sushma Swaraj,
Chief Minister, Delhi
Old Secretariat, Shamnath Marg,
Delhi. | Member |

69. Shri Narendra Mohan,
M.P.
117, North Avenue, New Delhi.

Member

70. Shri Brajendra Singh,
Editor, Ajit Group of Newspaper,
Jalandhar.

Member

9. DPOI, Ministry of Human Resource Development,
Department of Culture, New Delhi (10 Copies).

(S. Sathyamoorthy)
Joint Secretary

*To be Published the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part
Section-I*

No. F. 3-2/95-C&M (Pt-I)

Government of India

Ministry of Human Resource Development
(Department of Culture)

New Delhi, the 3rd December, 1998

RESOLUTION

In continuation of this Department's Resolution of even number dated 21st October, 1998 the following have been nominated as members of the National Committee for the Commemoration of the Tri-Centenary of the Birth of Khalsa.

1. Sardar Onkar Singh Thapar
2. Captain Amrinder Singh
3. Secretary (Deptt. of Culture)
4. Chief Secretary, Govt. of Punjab

(S. Sathyamoorthy)
Joint Secretary

Ordered that a copy of the Resolution be communicated to all the Ministries and Departments of the Government of India and all State Govts. and Union Territory Administrations. Ordered also that the Resolution be published in the Gazette extraordinary of India for general information.

(S. Sathyamoorthy)
Joint Secretary

To

The Manager,
Government of India Press,
Mayapuri, Ring Road,
New Delhi.

Copy to :

1. All Section of the Department of Culture, Ministry of Human Resource Development.
2. All Attached and Subordinate Offices of the Department of Culture, Ministry of Human Resource Development.

Order

Ordered that a copy of the Resolution be communicated to all the Ministries and Departments of the Government of India and all State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. Also ordered that the Resolution be published in the Gazette Extraordinary of India for general information.

(S. Sathyamoorthy)
Joint Secretary

To

The Manager,
Government of India Press,
Mayapuri, Ring Road,
New Delhi

Copy to :

1. All Sections of the Department of Culture, Ministry of Human Resource Development.
2. All Attached and Subordinate Offices of the Department of Culture, Ministry of Human Resource Development.
3. All members of the National Committee for commemorating the Tri-Centenary of the Birth of Khalsa.
4. Prime Minister's Office with reference to their U.O. No. 580/31/C/25/98-ES/II dated 21.9.98.
5. PS to Minister of Human Resource Development.
6. PS to Minister of State (E & C)
7. PPS to Secretary (Culture)
8. PS to JS(S).

3. All members of the National Committee for commemorating the Tri-Centenary of the Birth of Khalsa.
4. Prime Minister's Office with reference to their U.O. No. 580/31/C/25/98-ES/2 dated 24th November, 1998.
5. PS to Minister of Human Resource Development.
6. PS to Minister of State (E&C).
7. PPS to Secretary (Culture).
8. PS to US(S).
9. DPIO, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Culture, New Delhi (10 Copies).

(S. Sathymoorthy)
Joint Secretary

[Translation]

Abolition of Discretionary Quotas

3432. SHRI ARVIND KAMBLE : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Hon'ble Supreme Court has issued directions to the Government to abolish all types of discretionary-quotas of MPs and Ministers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (b) The Hon'ble Supreme Court has not issued any general directions regarding abolition of all types of discretionary quotas of MPs and Ministers. However, in writ petition No. 585/94-Shiv Sagar Tiwari Vs. UOI, the Supreme Court on 23rd Dec., 1996 has put a ceiling of 5% on the Ministers' quota for allotment of Government houses. In this case, the Supreme Court has also directed to frame the guidelines for exercise of discretionary quota. The guidelines have since been framed by the Ministry of Urban Development. In the writ petition No. 886 of 1993, Centre for Public Interest Litigation Vs. UOI and another, the Supreme Court on 31.3.1995 has laid down certain guidelines to regulate discretionary allotments of petroleum products agencies. In that case the Supreme Court has also directed that the number of discretionary allotments should not ordinarily extend 10% of the average annual marketing plan of which allotments of retail outlets for petroleum products should not normally exceed 5%.

Contribution to Road Transport Corporations

3433. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD : Will be Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the contribution being given to Road Transport Corporations of the country by the Union and concerned State Governments has been discontinued; and

(b) if so, the date from which it has been discontinued and the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

[English]

Share of Chandigarh from BBMB

3434. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Territory of Chandigarh is a 'Succeeding State' under the Punjab Re-organisation Act 1966 and hence is entitled to its share in the power being produced by the Bhakra Beas Management Board like the states of Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to give Union Territory of Chandigarh its due share in the power from the Bhakra Beas Management Board;

(e) if so, the rate and quantum of power Chandigarh is likely to get ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (e) Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) was set up under the provisions of Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966 to administer, maintain and operate the Bhakra Nangal and Beas Projects on behalf of partner States, namely Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Chandigarh. The matter regarding allocation of power to successor States was decided in a meeting held on 17-4-1967 according to which Chandigarh is entitled to 3.5% of energy generated at Bhakra complex after meeting the common pool requirement and share of Rajasthan.

BBMB was requested in August, 1983 to accord treatment to Himachal Pradesh and Union Territory of Chandigarh on par with Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan and the quantum of benefits from Bhakra and Beas projects presently allocated on ad-hoc basis will remain unaltered until a final decision is taken on the sharing of rights and liabilities of all successor States in the two projects. The issue was considered in various meetings of the BBMB and representative of Punjab Government observed that the request of Central Government to accord partnership status to Chandigarh is a matter of policy

and shall adversely effect the rights of the State of Punjab and linked the issue with the final apportionment of assets and liabilities of Bhakra Nangal and Beas projects among the partner States.

State of Himachal Pradesh has also filed a Suit (Suit No. 2 of 1996) claiming higher share and supply of 12% free power from Bhakra Nangal and Beas projects in the Supreme Court. The matter is sub-judice.

At an official level meeting convened by the Ministry of Power in Chandigarh on 16-9-1998, and was attended by representatives of partners States, it was suggested that BBMB could consider according 'partnership' status to UT of Chandigarh on the lines of the partnership status granted to Himachal Pradesh without prejudice to legal rights and contentions of the parties concerned and without prejudice to the pending Suit filed by the HP Government before the Supreme Court.

At present BBMB is raising bills for this energy @ 34 P/kwh but UT of Chandigarh is releasing payment @ 05.63 P/kwh. On being declared partner, UT of Chandigarh will be charged proportionate net O & M expenses as is being done from other partners.

Condition of Manipur National Highway

3435. KUMARI KIM GANGTE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the condition of National Highway in Manipur is very bad due to lack of its maintenance; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken for the maintenance of N.H. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Setting up of Higher Education Centres

3436. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any plan to set-up higher education centres like engineering colleges, centres for computer education etc. in the rural areas to enable the children of rural areas to get an opportunity of higher education; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) There is a significant increase in the number of Technical Institutions

established in the Private as well as Government Sectors during the recent past with the approval of the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE). Majority of the Institutions in the Private Sector are located in the rural areas. Since the admission to such Institutions is based on merit, aspirants from the rural as well as urban areas are on equal footing in so far as admissions to such Institutions are concerned.

Technical Education

3437. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are taking any steps for the reconstruction/strengthening of the Technical Education Board;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any comprehensive scheme for the expansion and improvement of the technical education in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the number of proposals received in this regard from the Government of Orissa and the proposals cleared out of these and pending with the Board ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (d) The Government has established the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) by an Act of Parliament, namely, the AICTE Act 1987 for proper planning and co-ordinated development of the technical education system throughout the country. The AICTE has since notified Regulations aiming for qualitative as well as quantitative improvement of technical education at all levels in the country.

(e) The details of proposals received by the AICTE from the State Government of Orissa for starting new Colleges in various disciplines during the academic session 1999-2000 are as under :

Engineering (Degree)	32
Engineering (Diploma)	16
Pharmacy (Degree)	06
Pharmacy (Diploma)	02
Architecture (Degree)	01

[Translation]

Amendment of Various Acts

3438. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the views given by the commission for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes to his Ministry for amending various Acts meant for welfare of these communities and enacting new laws for them during the last three years;

(b) the action taken by the Government on the views given by SC/ST Commission;

(c) whether the Government have taken any decision for making amendments to the existing Acts and Rules meant for SCs/STs; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) to (d) The National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes presents its report, under Article 338 of the Constitution, to the President, annually and at such other times as it deems fit. Such reports contain the suggestions/recommendations of the Commission. The Commission has so far presented four reports and a special report. The first, the second and the special report of the Commission have already been laid on the Table of both Houses alongwith action taken report. The preparation of action taken reports on the third and the fourth report of the Commission is in process.

Recitation of Saraswati Vandana

3439. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to have recital of the 'Saraswati Vandana' at the Government functions after the protest of the Education Ministers of some States in the recent Conference of Education Ministers;

(b) whether there had been 'Saraswati Vandana' at the Government functions prior to the said conference; and

(c) if so, the names of such functions in which 'Saraswati Vandana' was done ?

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

[English]

Seminar on Lower Judiciary

3440. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Seminar on lower judiciary was organised by the All-India Lawyers Forum for Civil Liberties in New Delhi on August 22, 1998; and

(b) if so, the points discussed in the Seminar and the outcome thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Consultants Appointed by Election Commission

3441. SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Election Commission has appointed Consultants during the years 1997 and 1998;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and terms and reference of the contract;

(c) whether such a contract to appoint consultants is in violation of Government instructions; and

(d) if so, the details of other facilities being provided to such consultants in violation of the rules ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a), (b) and (d) According to information made available by the Election Commission of India, it has engaged a Consultant w.e.f. 1.1.98 to assist it in its functioning, particularly in the area of legal work. His consolidated fee has been fixed at Rs. 15,300.00 per month from 1.1.98 to 31.3.98 and Rs. 10,800.00 per month from 1.4.98 onwards. Facility of a telephone and of being picked up from his residence and being dropped back by official vehicle has also been provided to him.

(c) The terms and conditions of engagement of the consultant were the terms under which he, after negotiation with the Election Commission of India, agreed to serve it and were not strictly in accordance with the executive instructions, required to be followed by the Government Departments while engaging Consultants.

Roads in Dadra and Nagar Haveli

3442. DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is no proper road communication link in Dadra and Nagar Haveli and people find difficult to commute by road;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the action proposed to be taken in the matter;

(d) whether a small stretch of road measuring 18 kilometers from Vapi to Silvassa (D & NH) is in dilapidated condition and need immediate repair/relaying;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) Central Government is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways, all other roads falling within the States/Union Territories are not responsibility of Central Government. However, Dadra and Nagar Haveli administration has reported that the Union Territory is well connected by roads and people have no difficulty in commuting within the territory.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) to (f) Dadra & Nagar Haveli administration have further intimated that a small stretch of 3.2 km. length which forms a part of road link for the Union Territory with Gujarat, is in a dilapidated condition. It is for the Union Territory of Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Government of Gujarat to sort out the matter for repair of the road.

Scheme Formulated for Sharing Power

3443. SHRIMATI KAMAL RANI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any scheme for sharing power by Northern States has been formulated or proposed to be formulated; and

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

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b) The Formula for sharing of power to various States including those in Northern Region from central generating power stations is given below :

1.0 Thermal and Nuclear Power Stations :

The following formula for sharing power from Central Sector thermal power stations was evolved in 1978 and the same is being generally followed :

- a. 10% of the power to be allocated to the State in which the Central thermal power plant is located (Home State).
- b. 75% of the power to be distributed among the States in the Region (including Home State) in accordance with the pattern of Central Plan assistance to the States in the Region and the energy consumption in the States of the Region for the previous five years. These two factors are given equal weightage. The

requirements of the Union Territories in the Region was to be met through appropriate allocations.

- c. 15% of the power to be kept unallocated at the disposal of the Central Government for meeting the urgent requirements of the individual states in the region from time to time.

2.0 Hydro Power Stations :

The formula for sharing from Central Sector Hydro Electric Power Stations was evolved in 1981 and modified in 1990. The formula revised in 1990 is now being generally used for sharing of power from Hydro Power Stations.

- a. 15% of the generation capacity to be kept as 'unallocated' at the disposal of the Central Government to be distributed within the region or outside, depending upon overall requirement.
- b. 12% of power from the energy generated by the power station to be supplied free of cost to those States of the Region (including the State where the hydro electric project is located), where distress like submergence, dislocation of population, etc. is caused due to setting up of the project at the specific site, the allocation being made in proportion to the extent of such distress. The energy generated figures for the purpose to be calculated at the bus bar level, i.e. after discounting auxiliary consumption but without taking into account the transmission line losses. For the purpose of allocation of 12% free power, the extent of distress caused would be assessed by the Central Electricity Authority in consultation with the concerned States.
- c. The remaining power (73%) to be distributed between States of the Region on the basis of the pattern of Central Plan assistance given to various States in the region during the previous 5 years and on the basis of consumption of electricity in the States of the region in the previous 5 years, the two factors to be given equal weightage.

[Translation]

Study of Weather

3444. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :
DR. ASHOK KUMAR PATEL :
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :

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

(a) whether the Government propose to launch a satellite and a most sophisticated sea satellite to analyse and study the weather;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
 (c) the stage at which the proposal stands at present ?

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

(b) The first indigenous satellite for oceanographic studies, Oceansat-1 (IRS-P4) has been developed by Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and is to be launched by the indigenous Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV). The satellite will provide valuable data on the ocean, through two payloads namely, Ocean Colour Monitor (OCM) and Multi-frequency Scanning Microwave Radiometer (MSMR). These are useful for harnessing marine fishery resources, and deriving data on sea surface temperature, wind, atmospheric water vapour and cloud liquid water which contribute to better understanding of monsoon systems and formation of cyclones.

(c) The satellite is in advanced stage of development and the launch of this satellite is planned during early part of 1999.

Development of Bio-tech. Industry

3445. SHRI JANARDAN PRASAD MISRA : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government are contemplating to take some action for the development of bio-tech industry;
 (b) if so, whether any steps have been taken in this regard;
 (c) if so, the details thereof; and
 (d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Under the liberalized Industrial licensing policy, licensing of all biotechnology activities is automatic for Indian Companies. These include activities relating to fermentation based production of drugs and pharmaceuticals, speciality chemicals, enzymes, bioactive molecules, biofertilizers, biopesticides, laboratory specialities etc. Hightech agricultural activities like production of hybrid high yielding seeds and tissue culture propagation of elite plants have been classified as industrial activities for attracting investment. Foreign collaboration up to 51% in equity is automatic; increase beyond 51% foreign equity is examined on merit. Genetically modified organisms have been put under scrutiny both under I (D&R) Act as well as under the Environment Protection Act to enable their commercial approval and adoption, after environmental safety is ascertained, and after the applicants have complied with recombinant DNA biosafety guidelines. Biotechnology activities have been classified to attract advantages under Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) scheme. Applicants setting

up tissue culture based production units under 100% Export Oriented Units (EOU) or putting up units in Export Promotion Zones (EPZ) are required to ensure 60% value addition. Rationalization of Customs Duty & Excise Duty on the raw materials and finished products is made to provide Indian entrepreneurs equal level playing ground with the imported products.

[English]

Cases Filed Under MRTP Act

3446. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA MALLICK : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases filed under the Monopolies & Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969 during each of the last two years;

(b) the number of companies out of them against whom action have been taken so far; and

(c) the number of persons who have got compensation through the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969 and the amount of compensation given to each of them ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (b) 1490 and 1596 enquiries including Injunction Applications u/s 12A and Compensation Applications u/s 12B of the MRTP Act were instituted/registered in 1996 and 1997 respectively. The MRTP Commission does not make any distinction between the companies and other entities in respect of the proceedings before it. 370 and 604 cases were disposed of during the years 1996 and 1997.

(c) The number of Compensation Applications disposed of during 1996 and 1997 were 61 and 220 respectively. The MRTP Commission does not maintain the information in respect of execution of its orders. Such orders are executed by competent Courts.

Mormugao Port Trust

3447. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state .

(a) whether there is any proposal to streamline the functioning of the Mormugao Port Trust; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) There is no separate proposal for streamlining the functioning of the Mormugao Port Trust. However, in order to make the Port Trusts' function more effective and efficient,

the Government has recently accorded greater administrative and financial autonomy to the Port Trust Board. These measures have helped the Mormugao Port Trust in streamlining its functioning and improving the quality of its management and standard of port services.

Rainfall

3448. SHRI S. GANGADHAR : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the rainfall recorded during June 1st to September 30, 1998; and

(b) its impact on agriculture sector ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) For the country as a whole, the total rainfall during the summer monsoon season was 957.6 mm as against the normal rainfall of 905.0 mm thus making it to be 106% of its Long Period Average Value.

(b) The production of Kharif foodgrains in the current year is estimated to be 101.03 million tonnes which is marginally lower than last year's production. However, with the chances of better Rabi crops on account of favourable weather conditions, better reservoir situation, good pace of sowings and adequate availability of inputs, the prospects for overall food production during 1998-99 are brighter. The crop prospects for sugarcane and oilseeds are also better. However, the production of coarse grains is expected to be somewhat lower than the last year.

Setting up of Space Gallery

3449. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a Space Gallery at the Visvesvaraya Industrial and Technological Museum in Bangalore;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated cost for the same; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (d) The National Council of Science Museum has a proposal to set up a space Gallery titled "Space-Emerging Technology in the Service of Mankind" in the Visvesvaraya Industrial and Technological Museum, Bangalore. The Gallery will cover an area of 700 Sq. mts. and will include sections like Flight Mechanics, Launching of a Space Vehicle, Mission Control, Rockets & Satellites, Satellite application, Indian Space Programme and

Space Theatre etc. The Project is likely to be completed by 31.3.1999 at an approximate cost of Rs. 30-35 lakhs.

Central Assistance to Tanneries in Chennai

3450. SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to extend financial assistance to the Tanneries in Tamil Nadu for purification of effluent discharge emanating from the factory;

(b) if so, whether the effluent discharge of the Tanneries at Ranipet and nearby is diverted;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to erect purification centres for Tanneries;

(d) whether the Government are also considering to constitute a Board as is being done in Delhi and Bombay; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) to (c) Financial assistance is given to the small scale industrial units including tanneries in Tamil Nadu for the construction of the Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETP) under the World Bank aided Industrial Pollution Control Project for the treatment of effluent discharged from the factories.

(d) and (e) The Government has constituted the Loss of Ecology (Prevention & Payments of Compensation) Authority for the State of Tamil Nadu under the Chairmanship of Justice P. Bhaskaran which has, inter alia, functions "to close the tanneries permanently or direct their relocation, which have not provided adequate treatment facilities and not having valid certificate from the Tamil Nadu State Pollution Control Board".

Anta Gas Thermal Power Station

3451. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the time by which the Anta Stage-II gas based thermal power station of National Thermal Power Corporation is likely to get gas allocations and the Union Government's sanction;

(b) whether the gas allocation for the existing Anta GTPS is adequate to operate it as a base load station as per policy of Department of Power; and

(c) if not, the time by which additional allocation of gas is likely to be made for stage-I and also for stage-II ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) National Thermal Power Corporation

(NTPC) had originally formulated a proposal for expansion of Anta Gas Power Project Stage II (430 MW) in 1988 considering gas as the main fuel to be supplied from HBJ pipeline. However, because of non-availability of gas, the proposal could not be processed further. The expansion project was reformulated in 1997 with a capacity of 650 MW with naphtha as a primary fuel with provision to switch over to Natural Gas/Liquefied Natural Gas as and when available. The project has been accorded linkage of naphtha in November, 1997. The project has also been techno-economically cleared by Central Electricity Authority in August, 1998.

(b) and (c) Anta Gas Based Combined Cycle Power Station Stage I (413 MW) has gas allocation of 2 MCMD (comprising 1.75 MCMD of original linkage plus 0.25 MCMD reallocation diverted from Stage II to Stage I) which is adequate to operate the station at base full load.

Linkage of naphtha at 80% PLF for Anta Stage II is already available.

[Translation]

Road Network in the Country

3452. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether 87 percent of the total passengers travel by road network and 65 percent of goods of the total goods are carried by it;

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

(c) whether 6.5 percent of the total plan outlay was allocated for road sector during the First Five year plan whereas it was on 5 percent during the Eighth Plan;

(d) if so, the facts thereof; and

(e) the percentage of funds proposed to be allocated on this head during the Ninth Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) Government's assessment is that over 60 percent of freight traffic and 80 percent of passenger traffic is being carried on the road network.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The share of road sector has decreased from 1.5 percent of the total plan outlay in the First Five Year Plan to 0.6 percent in the 8th Five Year Plan.

(e) 9th Five Year Plan is yet to be finalised and hence no details can be given at this stage.

Annual Reports on Environment

3453. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :
SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :
DR. ASHOK PATEL :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHARY :
SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :

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

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to enact a law pertaining to environment so as to make it obligatory for the States to submit annual environment report regularly;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

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

(b) and (c) does not arise.

[English]

Amendment to UGC Act

3454. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to Amend the University Grants Commission Act, 1956;

(b) if so, whether any task force has been set up to go into the loopholes of the Act; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) The University Grants Commission has submitted a comprehensive proposal for the amendment of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956. A task force set up by the Government under the Chairmanship of Prof. Amrik Singh is examining the proposal.

[Translation]

Power Stations in Maharashtra

3455. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to install new power station or increase the capacity of the existing ones in view of the large quantity of coal is available in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the present generation capacity of the existing power stations in the State ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) to (c) The new power stations proposed to be set up in Maharashtra during the Ninth Plan period are as follows :

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Capacity (MW)
1.	Chandrapur U-7	500
2.	Dudhganga	24
3.	Koyna ST-IV	1000
4.	Sar. Saro. (27%)	175.5
5.	Wama	16
6.	Dabhol CCGT-I	740
7.	Bhadravati TPS	1072
8.	Dabhol CCGT II	1275
9.	Ghatghar PSS	250
Total		5052.5

(d) The generation capacity of the existing power stations in Maharashtra is as follows :

Sl.No.	Power Stations	Generation (MW)
1	2	3
1.	Nasik	910
2.	Koradi	1080
3.	Khaper Kheda II	420
4.	Paras	58
5.	Bhusawal	478
6.	Parli	690
7.	Chandrapur	2340
8.	Uran G.T.	672
9.	Uran WHRP	240
10.	Koyna	920
11.	Vaiterna	60
12.	Tillari	60
13.	Bhira Tail Race	80
14.	Trombay	1150

1	2	3
15.	Trombay GT	180
16.	Dhanu	500
17.	Khopoli	72
18.	Bhivpuri	72
19.	Bhira + Bhira PSS	281
20.	T.A.P.S.	320

Development of Universities

3456. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :
SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :

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

(a) whether the Union Government had fixed the target to develop 500 Universities into autonomous ones by the end of the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details of the target achieved in this regard, State-wise;

(c) the reasons for not fully achieving the target fixed in this regard, if any; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard during the Ninth Five Year Plan ?

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

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

Rubberisation of National Highways

3457. SHRI P.C. THOMAS :
SHRI MULAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any discussion was held on rubberisation of roads in the Conference of Indian Road Congress some years ago;

(b) if so, the main features of the discussion along with the result thereof;

(c) whether some research/study has been conducted by the Indian Road Research Institute regarding rubberisation of Roads;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Union Government have given any instruction to the State Governments regarding rubberisation of National Highways in their respective States; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In the Seminar organised by the Indian Roads Congress on 'Bituminous Roads : Design and Construction Aspects' held at New Delhi on the 25th & 26th August, 1994, a Paper on 'An Insight into Rubberised Roads' was contributed and presented by Shri K.S. Gopalakrishnan of Rubber Board.

The recommendation arising out of the discussion on this topic is as under :

"Our country is set to enter into the era of high speed roads such as Expressways and question of using different types of additives such as Rubbers and polymers etc. in the bitumen to withstand extra stresses and strains must be explored and encouraged even if it involves spending a little more on binders initially."

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Central Road Research Institute is conducting the following studies about rubberisation of roads :

(i) Use of Rubber Modified Binders under Ministry of Surface Transport Research Scheme R-54.

(ii) Pavement Performance studies using Natural Rubber Modified Binder.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Doer not arise.

[Translation]

Development of Mumbai, Kandla Ports

3458. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose, to implement any programme for the development of Mumbai, Kandla and other primary ports during Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated cost of each of these projects;

(d) whether some projects out of them are likely to be implemented by the Private Sector; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) and (c) During 9th Plan, an outlay of Rs. 7215 crores has been approved for development of Major Ports including Mumbai and Kandla ports. The port-wise details of the outlay are as under :

(Rs. in Crores)		
Sl.No.	Name of the Port	9th Plan Outlay
1.	Calcutta/Haldia	545
2.	Mumbai	980
3.	JL Nehru	500
4.	Chennai	1700
5.	Cochin	330
6.	Vizag	850
7.	Kandla	360
8.	Mormugao	260
9.	Paradip	900
10.	New Mangalore	340
11.	Tuticorin	450
Total		7215

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) During the 9th Five Year Plan, port projects contributing to about 76 million tonnes of capacity at an estimated investment of Rs. 8000 crores are proposed to be implemented through private investment in various major ports.

Electricity Regulatory Commissions

3459. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the brief in regard to Electricity Regulatory Commissions at the State level;

(b) whether the Electricity Regulatory Commissions are to be set up in all the States;

(c) if so, the names of States in which the said commissions have since been set up; and

(d) the time by which the commissions are proposed to be set up in the remaining States ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) to (d) Under Section 17(1) of the Electricity Regulatory Commissions Act, 1998, there is a provision that the State Government may, if it deems fit, by notification in the Official Gazette, establish for the purposes of this Act, a Commission for the State to be known as the (name of the State) Electricity Regulatory Commission. Hence setting up of State Electricity Regulatory Commission (SERC) is at the discretion of individual State Governments. So far the State Governments of Orissa & Haryana have set up SERCs under their respective State Power Sector Reform Acts.

[English]

Drop-Out

3460. SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the measures being taken by the Government to reduce the drop outs in Class-I to VII amongst the rural poor students;

(b) whether the Government propose to provide financial and other incentives to check it; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) Government have taken a number of measures to reduce dropout rates. These include Micro-planning, Community Mobilisation, improvement of school infrastructure through Operation Blackboard Scheme, incentives for girls and SC/ST students such as free text books, uniforms and attendance scholarships, establishing and strengthening of institutions of teacher education, introduction of Minimum Levels of Learning and residential schools and hostels for SC/ST boys and girls.

District Primary Education Programme (DPEP), which is being implemented in 149 districts, have designed contextually relevant strategies to ensure better participation and retention of children at primary level.

Japanese Collaboration in Road/Bridges

3461. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme to induce latest Japanese knowhow for rehabilitation of road bridges in the country;

(b) if so, whether a new collaborative programme has been chalked out between the Ministry of Surface Transport and Japanese International Co-operation Agency in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRAHDAN) : (a) to (c) Upgradation of technology in the highway sector including that in the field of rehabilitation of road bridges is a continuous process. As a part of this process, two Japanese experts visited India under grants-in-aid programme of Japan International Cooperation Agency in November 1998. For wider dissemination of their knowledge and experience, a seminar on "Condition Survey and Rehabilitation of Road Bridges" was organised in New Delhi on 14th November, 1998.

[Translation]

Research Centre for Fossils

3462. SHRI SOM MARANDI : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether hills of Rajmahal in Bihar are famous for fossils;

(b) if so, whether any survey and research of this area has been undertaken by various scientists;

(c) if so, whether the Government contemplate to set up a research centre regarding fossils in Rajmahal;

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be set up; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Rajmahal hills in Bihar are known for the occurrence of Upper Gondwana plant fossils. The pioneering work on the survey of fossils in this area has been undertaken by Geological Survey of India (GSI) and Birbal Sahani Institute of Palaeobotany (BSIP). This work started around 1863 and is still continuing. The results have been published from time to time.

(c) to (e) There are no plans to set up a research centre regarding fossils in Rajmahal as the needful is being done adequately by GSI and BSIP.

Technical Education

3463. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any policy for the development of technical education;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the State-wise break-up of funds spent in this regard during 1996-97; and

(d) the reasons for not making any allocations for Uttar Pradesh in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (d) The development of Technical Education is amply covered in the National Policy on Education 1986 as modified in 1992 and the Programme of Action 1992 thereunder. The establishment of the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) as statutory body for planned and co-ordinated development of Technical Education is one of the major steps taken in this direction. There is no scheme in Technical Education whereby funds are allocated State-wise and hence the question of making any allocation for the State of Uttar Pradesh or for that matter to any other State does not arise.

[English]

Increasing the Intake of Students

3464. SHRI A. SIDDARAJU : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the present intake of students for post-graduate diploma course in Management at the Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore;

(b) whether the Government have asked the said Institution to increase the intake of students; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) At Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Bangalore, the present intake of students is 180 for Post Graduate Diploma in Management and 60 for Post Graduate Diploma in Software Enterprises Management.

(b) and (c) With a view to optimally utilizing the resources available, the Government has plans to increase the student intake in Indian Institutes of Management at Ahmedabad, Bangalore and Calcutta. The scale of increase can, however, be decided only after considering various relevant factors.

[Translation]

Registration of Colleges with UGC

3465. SHRI MITRASEN YADAV : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of applications received by the University Grants Commission from various colleges for registration during the last two years till date; and

(b) the number out of these registered, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) The total number

of proposals received in the UGC during the last two years for registration under Section 2(f) and 12-B of the UGC Act and the number of proposals approved, respectively, State-wise, is as under :

Sl.No.	State	Number of proposals received	Number of proposals approved
1.	Andhra Pradesh	36	29
2.	Assam	29	21
3.	Bihar	19	04
4.	Goa	06	04
5.	Gujarat	23	10
6.	Haryana	04	02
7.	Himachal Pradesh	10	00
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	01	01
9.	Karnataka	125	46
10.	Kerala	20	10
11.	Madhya Pradesh	98	51
12.	Maharashtra	79	37
13.	Manipur	04	04
14.	Meghalaya	03	00
15.	Orissa	17	04
16.	Punjab	07	03
17.	Rajasthan	21	10
18.	Tamil Nadu	12	09
19.	Tripura	02	02
20.	Uttar Pradesh	20	16
21.	West Bengal	14	13
22.	Delhi	04	03

[English]

Education Schemes for Minorities

3466. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of centrally sponsored existing education schemes for minorities, especially Muslims, in Rajasthan;

(b) the funds allotted and expenditure incurred thereon during the last five years, year-wise;

(c) target fixed and achieved during each of the last three years and target fixed for 1999-2000;

(d) whether some of the educational institutions are non-functional due to non-availability of funds and shortage of teachers; and

(e) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Two such Centrally Sponsored Schemes are in operation in Rajasthan.

(b) and (c) The funds allotted and grants released to the State Governments under both the schemes during the last five years are as follow :

Year	Funds Allotted (Rs. in lakhs)	Grants Released
1993-94	227.00	218.00
1994-95	240.00	261.00
1995-96	342.00	340.00
1996-97	464.00	461.00
1997-98	1562.00	1272.00

Grants are released for construction of additional class-rooms, teaching learning material, construction of girls hostels under the scheme of Area Intensive Programme for Educationally Backward Minorities. For introduction of science, mathematics, social studies, hindi and english in the curriculum for students of Madarsas/Makhtabs, financial assistance under the modernisation of Madarsas can be availed of. Annual Plan 1999-2000 has not been finalised.

(d) and (e) Scheme of Area Intensive Programme for Educationally Backward Minorities provides financial assistance for development of infrastructure facilities in the identified areas of minority concentration while the scheme of financial assistance for modernisation of Madarsas provides for introduction of subjects like Science, Mathematics, Social Science in their curriculum.

Construction/Maintenance of National Highways in Maharashtra

3467. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any study has been conducted to make an assessment with regard to the required plan-allocation for the construction/maintenance of national highways in Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) An assessment has been made for requirement of funds for development and maintenance of National Highways in the country including the State of Maharashtra. An amount of Rs. 23,000 crore is required for the purpose during the ninth Five Year Plan.

[Translation]

Construction of Railway Bridge and NH-2 in Bihar

3468. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Highway Authority of India has prepared a project report for construction of a railway bridge and National Highway No. 2 in Bihar with the World Bank assistance;

(b) whether the Government has accorded approval for the construction of a railway overbridge in place of the railway level crossing at Isri near Parasnath railway station during 1997;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for construction of railway overbridge and National Highway No. 2 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) is preparing the project report for the 4-laning of NH-2 in Bihar through International Consultants with World Bank loan assistance. As regards project report for construction of Railway bridge, no such report has been prepared by NHAI.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The project preparation work for the 4-laning of NH-2 including the provision for Railway overbridge near Isri has been undertaken by National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) as indicated at (a) above.

[English]

Salal and Uri Hydel Power Projects

3469. PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the power supplied to Jammu and Kashmir on royalty basis from the Salal and Uri hydel power projects;

(b) the rate at which the power was being supplied to Jammu and Kashmir from Bhakra Dam and other sources during the last three years and the current year;

(c) The amount outstanding on this account against the State Government;

(d) whether some Central agencies are planning to take up some new hydel power projects for execution in Jammu and Kashmir;

(e) if so, the power generation capacity and cost incurred in their execution;

(f) whether the Government propose to hand over some hydel power projects to some foreign companies for execution; and

(g) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) Free power at 12 per cent is being supplied to Jammu and Kashmir from Salal and Uri Hydel Power Projects.

(b) Power supplied to J & K from Power Houses of Bhakra Complex and rates charged thereof during the past four years are as under :

Period	Rate (P/Kwh)
1-10-1994 to 30-6-1995	65.078
1-07-1995 to 30-6-1996	71.346
1-07-1996 to 31-3-1997	78.241
28-1-1998 to 31-3-1998	85.825

The provisional rates in P/Kwh, at which power was being supplied to Jammu & Kashmir from NHPC generating stations, during the last three years, and the current year are as given below :

Project	Provisional Tariff (P/Kwh)*			
	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
Salal	55	55	55	55
Uri	—	—	360	258
Tanakpur	138	138	138	138
Chamera	216	216	216	216

*Subject to adjustment, after issue of Tariff Notification.

(c) As far as NHPC is concerned, Rs. 209.28 crores is outstanding against J&K Government, as on 1-12-1998. This amount is exclusive of surcharge, on account of delayed

payment. Further this amount is arrived at after adjusting the payment received by NHPC from the J&K Government upto November, 1998 in regard to bills raised for energy supplied upto September, 1998. Amount outstanding on account of power supplied from BBMB is Rs. 15.44 crores.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Does not arise.

Manpower in Major Port Trusts

3470. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have tried to reduce the manpower in the major Port Trusts in the country through Voluntary Retirement Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present employee strength as on 31.03.1998 and the reduction made therein through VRS during the last three years;

(d) whether the Government have disallowed use of National Renewal Fund for the VRS of Major Port Trusts; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) to (c) The Government of India introduced a Special Voluntary Retirement Scheme in the Major Port Trusts and Dock Labour Boards in 1991 with a view to reducing the surplus manpower. During the last three years 1,287 employees/workers have taken voluntary retirement under this scheme. As on 31.03.1998, the Major Port Trusts and Dock Labour Boards had a total manpower of 1,03,451.

(d) and (e) The funds under National Renewal Fund could not be made available to Port Trusts/Dock Labour Boards as these are not public sector undertakings.

National Commission for Women

3471. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria adopted by Government for nominating Chairperson and Members to the National Commission for Women;

(b) the present chairperson and the members of the commission;

(c) whether the commission is not fully autonomous to choose its staff; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The Chairperson and Members for National Commission for women are nominated as per the criteria laid down in the National Commission for Women Act, 1990.

(b) The present composition of the National Commission for Women is as follows :

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|--------|
| (1) Dr. (Smt.) Indira Baswaraj | — | Member |
| (2) Smt. Sukeshi Oram | — | Member |
| (3) Dr. (Smt.) Saiyidian Hameed | — | Member |
| (4) Smt. Vijay Daksh | — | Member |

Further Notification for appointment of the following has been issued :

- | | | |
|------------------------------|---|-------------|
| (1) Smt. Vibha Parthasarathy | — | Chairperson |
| (2) Dr. (Ms.) Poomima Advani | — | Member |

(c) and (d) Central Government provides the Commission with the officers and staff, in terms of Section 5 of the National Commission for Women Act, 1990. Further the National Commission for Women make appointments of its Group 'C' and 'D' employees in accordance with National Commission for Women (Salaries, Allowances and other Terms and Conditions of Service of Group 'C' and 'D' Employees) Rules, 1997.

**Japan South Asia Youth
Friendship Programme**

3472. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :
SHRI D.S. AHIRE :

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

(a) whether a group of 30 young Science Teachers from India visited Japan on the invitation of Government of Japan to participate in the "Japan South Asia Youth Friendship Programme for 21st Century" in the month of November, 1998;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of the teachers who visited Japan ?

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

28 young Natural Science Teachers from India has left for Japan on 24th November, 1998.

(b) Under the Japan South Asia Youth Friendship Programme, the Government of Japan had extended an invitation for the visit of a 30 member delegation consisting of Natural Science teachers in the age group of 18 to 35 years.

(c) The names of the teachers who have been nominated to visit Japan is given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

*List of Indian Participants for Japan-South Asia Youth
Friendship Programme (1988)*

Sl.No.	Name/Address
1.	Mr. Ramisetty Sankar, Teacher, Kendriya Vidyalaya No. 2, Navsena Bagh, Visakhapatnam (A.P.).
2.	Mr. Sabitabrata Mandal, Teacher, Kendriya Vidyalaya, P.O. Bhuli, Dist. Dhanbad (Bihar).
3.	Mrs. Madhu Bala, Teacher, Bidya Bithi High School, Park Road, Kadam Kuan, Patna (Bihar).
4.	Ms. Vinita Gilbert, Teacher, St. Joseph's High School, Lodipur, Patna (Bihar).
5.	Mr. Ashok Kumar, Teacher, Govt. Boys High School, Lal Bahadur Shastri Nagar, Patna (Bihar).
6.	Mr. Rajiv Tyagi, Teacher, Laxman Public School, New Delhi.
7.	Dr. Anurita Sharma, Teacher, Govt. Senior Secondary School, Sector-6, Panchkula, Haryana.
8.	Mr. Pawan Kumar Puri, Teacher, Navodaya Vidyalaya, Pehubela, Distt. Una, (H.P.)
9.	Mrs. Saleem Unnisa, Teacher, Govt. Urdu Higher Primary School, Islampur, H.A.L., Bangalore (Karnataka).

Sl.No.	Name/Address
10.	Mrs. Jyoti Dangorkor, Teacher, Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Shegaon, Dist. Buldana, Maharashtra
11.	Mr. Y.B. Singh, Head Master, Kakching Girls High School, Kakaching, Manipur.
12.	Mr. L. Hmaa, Teacher, Govt. Republic Higher Secondary School, Aizwal, Mizoram.
13.	Ms. V. Khiangte, Teacher, Govt. Harangchhuana High School, Ramhlunm, North, Mizoram.
14.	Mr. Som Nath, Teacher, Navodaya Vidyalaya, Rakh Jaganoo, Dist. Udhampur, Jammu & Kashmir.
15.	Mr. Anand Gupta, Teacher, S.I.S.E. Punjab, SCO Sector 17A, Chandigarh.
16.	Mrs. Neeta Upadhyay, Teacher, Jawahar Navoday Vidyalaya, Patehara Kalan, Mirzapur, Uttar Pradesh.
17.	Mr. Gajendra Kumar, Teacher, Jawahar Navoday Vidyalaya, Chauvari, Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh.
18.	Ms. Anjali Singh, Teacher, Triloki Singh Bal Vidyalaya, Kaiserbagh, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.
19.	Ms. Jyotsna Singh, Teacher, Modern College, Sector E, Aliganj, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.
20.	Mr. R.B. Singh, Teacher, Modern College, Sector E, Aliganj, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.

Sl.No.	Name/Address
21.	Mr. Abhra Chattopadhyay, Teacher, Naihati Narendra Vidya Niketan, Jan Mohammed Ghat Road, Naihati, 24 Paraganas, West Bengal.
22.	Mr. B.N. Walikar, Asst. Teacher, V.V. Sangh's Girls High School, Bijapur, Karnataka.
23.	Mrs. Balvinder Kaur, Teacher, Sarvodaya Kanya Vidyalaya, Block 20, Trilokpuri, New Delhi.
24.	Mrs. Punita Duggal, Teacher, Green Field Public School, Dilshad Garden, Delhi.
25.	Mrs. Anita Mokhade, Teacher, Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Kodinar, Amreli, Gujarat.
26.	Dr. Sandeep Verma, Director Sec. Education, Haryana. 30 Bays Building, Sector 17, Chandigarh.
27.	Mrs. Shaheda Perveen, Head Mistress, Govt. U.H. Public School, Tank Garden, Bangalore, Karnataka.
28.	Mr. M.G. Belraj, Teacher, Kannoth, U.P. School, Keerharior Koyilandy Kozhikode, Kerala.

Implementation of CRZ Notification in Kerala

3473. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that Coastal Regulation Zone notification in the existing form may cause difficulties to Coastal Communities and Tourism Industry in Kerala;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to bring the entire stretches in Kerala under CRZ-II category;

(c) whether the Government also propose to bring down the 'no development zone' for back waters from 100 m to 50 m; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) The State Government of Kerala has brought various issues, relating to the implementation of the provisions of the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991, to the notice of the Central Government.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) The Central Government has set up the following Committees :

1. Prof. N. Balakrishnan Nair Committee for issues pertaining to Kerala.
2. Fr. Saldanha Committee for issues pertaining to Andaman & Nicobar Islands.
3. Fr. C.J. Saldanha Committee to examine specific issues relating to Coastal Regulation Zone Notification for the entire country.

The reports submitted by these Committees have been examined and the recommendations made are under consideration.

Reductions in Power Generation

3474. SHRI PROMOTHEES MUKHERJEE :
SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the new-item "NTPC to resist attempt to surrender Central Quota" appearing in Telegraph, Calcutta, dated November 16, 1998;

(b) whether in order to damage other Central Government power generating units, National Thermal Power Corporation is adopting illegal ways and means to reduce power generation; and

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

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) The capacity of the regional power stations of National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has been established keeping in view the requirements of the States in the region in which substantial investments have been made by the Central Government. The beneficiary states have also entered into Power Purchase Agreement with NTPC to get their share of power from these stations. In the Eastern Region, NTPC has set up/is operating a capacity of 3900 MW through Farakka Super Thermal Power Project (1600 MW), Kahaigaon Super Thermal Power Project Stage I (840 MW) and Talcher

Super Thermal Power Project Stage I (1000 MW) besides Talcher Thermal Power Project (460 MW) taken over from the erstwhile Orissa State Electricity Board. These power stations of NTPC are being grossly under utilised with a capacity utilisation of only 40% to 50% due to lack of demand.

Under the proposed availability based tariff structure, State Electricity Boards would be required to pay fixed charges of NTPC stations in proportion to allocated shares. Accordingly, SEBs will continue to pay their share of fixed charges regardless of the level of utilisation of their capacity shares.

(b) No, Sir.

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

Yashpal Committee

3475. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH :
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH :

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

(a) the main recommendations of Yashpal Committee;

(b) whether the said recommendations are being implemented in all the States;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the name of implementing and non-implementing States ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The main recommendations of Yashpal Committee Report are given in the statement enclosed.

(b) to (d) In the 50th meeting of the Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) held on 2.3.94, State Governments have expressed their broad agreement with the recommendations of the Yashpal Committee. The consensus of such views was identified and the course of action to be adopted by the State Governments suggested to them. The implementation of these recommendations has been partially initiated by most State and Central agencies. The recommendations of the Committee are of two categories :

(i) Those requiring one time action; and

(ii) Recommendations requiring long-term intervention.

The Government has issued two sets of action points; one for States/UTs and the other for Central Agencies to facilitate implementation.

Implementation of the recommendation by the State Governments is a part of their on-going programme of Development of school education.

Statement

The main recommendations of prof. Yashpal Committee Report are summarised below :

- (i) Decentralisation of curriculum framing and preparation of textbooks so as to increase teacher's involvement in these tasks.
- (ii) Support to committed Voluntary organisations in the development of curriculum.
- (iii) Revision of science syllabi to link them to classroom experiments and activities that can be performed by children and teachers.
- (iv) Modification in Social Sciences syllabi for: classes VI-X by changing the repetitive nature of history syllabus, replacing 'Civics' with 'contemporary studies' and relating the study of Geography to contemporary realities.
- (v) Review of Mathematics curriculum for primary classes with a view to slowing down the pace at which these children are required to learn basic mathematical concepts and extending the scope of primary mathematics to include areas other than number work.
- (vi) Language textbooks should adequately reflect spoken idioms, childrens life experiences, and stories covering lives ordinary people and should avoid pedantic language and excessive didacticism.
- (vii) In primary classes, children should not be given any homework, save for extension of explorations in the home environment in upper primary and secondary classes, homework, where necessary, should be non-textual.
- (viii) The existing norm atui (1 : 40) should be enforced and an attempt should be made to reduce this to 1 : 30 at least in the primary classes.
- (ix) B.Ed. degree courses by correspondence be derecognised.
- (x) Replacement of the prevailing textbased and quiz-type questioning for public examinations at the end of class X and XII by the concept-based questioning.

B.E. Colleges

3476. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that there is acute shortage of B.E. Colleges in the country;

(b) if so, whether A.I.C.T.E. has given approval to open up some more private colleges for B.E. Courses during 1998-99; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) As per the mandate given to the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) by the AICTE Act, 1987, the Council is responsible for planned qualitative and quantitative growth of Technical Education in the country. As of now, the AICTE has accorded approval to 655 Engineering colleges at Degree level.

(b) and (c) The Council has given approval to 88 new Engineering Colleges during the academic session 1998-99, the details of which are given in the statement enclosed

Statement

Number of Engineering Colleges Approved by AICTE During 1998-99

State/Union Territory	Number of Colleges Approved
Madhya Pradesh	2
Orissa	2
West Bengal	5
Utta: Pradesh	10
Haryana	7
Delhi	1
Punjab	4
Rajasthan	1
Andhra Pradesh	30
Tamilnadu	19
Gujarat	1
Maharashtra	6
Total	88

Satellite Port at Porbandar

3477. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JADAVBHAI JAVIA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any plan for setting up of a Satellite Port at Porbandar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) No, Sir. The Central Government has no plan for setting up of a satellite port at Porbandar.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Ruinous Growth in Nalanda

3478. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the article captioned "Ruinous growth—Wild grass hides the ancient seat of learning" appearing in 'The Week' dated November 15, 1998;

(b) if so, the precise condition of maintenance of this heritage site; and

(c) the reasons for this neglect and the steps being taken for proper maintenance thereof ?

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

(b) and (c) Due to the rainy season there is vegetational growth on the monuments which is frequently removed.

Maintenance and conservation of this monument is a continuous process. Specific conservation measures are resorted to whenever required, subject to the overall availability of resources.

[Translation]

Expenditure Incurred on Students of Navodaya Vidyalayas

3479. SHRI AJIT JOGI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount being spent on the students of Navodaya Vidyalayas per month;

(b) whether this amount is sufficient for fulfilling the requirements of students; and

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to increase this amount ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The annual per capita expenditure on students in Navodaya Vidyalayas was Rs. 14,879 in 1997-98. This expenditure excludes expenditure incurred on construction.

(b) and (c) This amount is found to be presently sufficient for fulfilling the requirements of the students. However, this amount is revised from time to time in view of the increase in prices.

[English]

Mahila Samridhi Yojana

3480. SHRI M. RAJAI AH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of money collected under Mahila Samridhi Yojana in the country during the last three years;

(b) the number of women benefited under the said scheme, State-wise;

(c) whether women of Muzaffarnagar and Meerut districts of U.P. are not getting benefits of the scheme; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) An amount of Rs. 186.55 crore was collected under the scheme of Mahila Samridhi Yojana during the last three years.

(b) A statement showing the cumulative number of beneficiaries under the scheme as on 31.3.97 (state-wise) is attached.

(c) They got the benefits till March, 1997. The scheme is being re-structured and as such no new accounts are being opened since 1.4.97.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

Under MSY as on 31.3.1997 (State-wise)

Sl.No.	States/Uts	No. of A/c opened a (fig. in lacs)
1	2	3
States		
1.	Assam	15.08
2.	Madhya Pradesh	37.73
3.	Goa	0.46
4.	Tamil Nadu	24.17
5.	Mizoram	0.23
6.	Haryana	7.70

1	2	3
7.	Andhra Pradesh	28.04
8.	Karnataka	15.36
9.	Punjab	6.65
10.	Gujarat	11.15
11.	Himachal Pradesh	1.92
12.	Uttar Pradesh	41.45
13.	Orissa	9.42
14.	Sikkim	0.12
15.	Rajasthan	10.73
16.	Kerala	5.21
17.	Maharashtra	11.12
18.	Manipur	0.25
19.	West Bengal	7.65
20.	Tripura	0.35
21.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.70
22.	Bihar	7.67
23.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.04
24.	Nagaland	0.05
25.	Delhi	0.04
26.	Meghalaya	0.05
Union Territory		
1.	Chandigarh	0.12
2.	Lakshadweep	0.02
3.	Pondicherry	0.20
4.	Daman & Diu	0.02
5.	Andaman & N Island	0.05
6.	D & N Haveli	0.03
Total		245.76

Expansion of National Highway in Gujarat

3481. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any plans to expand the present highways in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the name of highways to be expanded and the time limit for their completion ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Govt. has decided to declare three routes in Gujarat as New National Highways totaling to a length of approximate 239 Kms. as per details given below :

(i) Extension of NH-8A from Kandla to Mandvi via Mundra

(ii) Extension of Dhule-Surat NH-6 upto Hajira

(iii) Jetpur-Junagarh-Veraval-Somnath Road

Development of National Highways is a continuous process and hence no time limit can be given.

Limit of Indian Public Finance Institutes in Power Project

3482. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have fixed limit of 40% for Indian Public Finance Institutes in the power project based on indigenous equipments;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any representation from Gujarat Government has been received to relax the limit and also to exclude funding from Indian Commercial Banks while calculating aggregate investment of Indian Public Finance Institutes; and

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

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b) The policy announced by the Government in 1991 to encourage greater private participation in the power sector, inter alia. Stipulated that an amount not exceeding 40% of the total outlay may come from Indian public financial institutions, but the remaining amount should be met from other sources. This was done to ensure that the investor brings in additionality of resources to the sector.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) It has since been decided that while there could be no bar to the extent of domestic debt raised by a project developer, subject to the need of maximising financing from external sources and prudential norms exercised by IFIs, allowing a higher domestic debt component for projects which are developed based on indigenously sourced plant and equipment would be more desirable.

Banni Grasslands

3483. DR. VALLABH BHAI KATHIRIA :
SHRI SHANTILAL PURSHOTTAMDAS PATEL :

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

(a) whether Banni grasslands in Kutch (Gujarat) is facing threat of extinction;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Gujarat Ecology Commission is implementing Banni restoration activities through Gujarat Institute of Desert Ecology and other Research Institutions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

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

Express Highways

3484. SHRI R.S. GAVAI :
SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the Express Highways pending with Union Government for clearance, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government have refused permission for a Mumbai-Pune express way bypass through a forest area near Lonavala;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) time by which pending cases will be cleared especially of Maharashtra ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) No proposals relating to Express Highways are pending with Union Government for clearance.

(b) No permission is required from this Ministry.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Development of National Waterway No.-3

3485. SHRI GEORGE EDEN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the total annual budget provision made for carrying out the proposed developmental works on National Waterway-3 with break-up of each item;

(b) whether there are any provisions for providing permanent bank protection measures in Champakkara and Udyogamandal Canals of NW-3 during the current year;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) how many years will take for completing the necessary bank protection works in the above two canals ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) The total annual budget provision for National Waterway No. 3 during 1998-99 is Rs. 10.30 crores. The break up of each item is given in the statement enclosed.

(b) Yes, Sir

(c) Budget provision of Rs. 30.00 lakhs has been made for Bank Protection on National Waterway No. 3 during 1998-99. A scheme at a cost of Rs. 15.00 lakhs has been approved for providing rubble masonry type bank protection in vulnerable reaches of Champakkara and Udyogmandal canals and the same is under implementation.

(d) Bank protection work will be taken up from time to time depending on requirement and as per the recommendations of the consultants.

Statement

Sl. No.	Activity/Scheme	Budget Porvision in 1998-99 (Rs. Crores)
1.	construction and Maintenance of Locks	0.50
2.	Land acquisition for terminals	0.80
3.	Capital dredging including land Acquisition for widening of Canal	4.00
4.	Annual maintenance activities	1.50
5.	Acquisition of survey Vessels	0.40
6.	Procurement of survey equipment	0.30
7.	Construction and maintenance of terminals	2.00
8.	24 hrs. navigational aids	0.30
9.	Bank protection	0.30
10.	Acquisition of Petrol Boats	0.10
11.	Pollution control and EMP	0.10
Total		Rs. 10.30 crores

Reservation for Handicapped in Port Trusts

3486. SHRI VAIKO : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether 3% reservation made in promotions in Class III and IV posts under his Ministry for the physically handicapped employees has been implemented in Port Trusts;

(b) if so, number of physically handicapped employees benefited thereunder since its introduction year-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the action taken for its implementation; and

(d) the number of posts in different categories reserved for physically handicapped lying vacant in all the Port Trusts in the Country ?

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

(b) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(c) Instructions of the Govt. have been re-iterated to the Port Trusts for implementation.

(d) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Construction of Two Lane Track on NH-8

3487. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a bridge on River Mahi near Vasad on National Highway No. 8 in Gujarat connecting Khera with Baroda districts will have additional 500 meter long two-lane track;

(b) whether an agreement has been signed between Government of Gujarat and Union Government for the construction of this track; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith expected expenditure and time to be taken for its completion ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. An agreement for the execution of the project in question costing Rs. 42.00 crores on B.O.T. (Build-Operate-Transfer) basis has been signed on 16th November, 1998. The construction period is about 18 months.

Imparting of Sex Education

3488. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a detailed study has been conducted by intellectuals on the need to impart sex education at higher secondary level and in colleges;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to hold any such conference on the subject; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) A number of studies from 1970 onwards conducted by different research institutions and professional bodies have stressed the need to have sex education and population education as an integral part of adolescent education. A few of such studies have been documented by NCERT.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Government does not consider it necessary to hold any conference on the subject to consider only this issue.

Jhuggis in Shahjee Sarai

3489. SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether some people have constructed jhuggis in Shahjee Sarai, Begampur, Malviya Nagar, New Delhi which is a protected monument; and

(b) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for immediate removal of these jhuggis ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) There were already a large number of encroachments occupying the site when the monument was declared as centrally protected in 1988. They have since resisted attempts to evict them. In a few cases the encroachers have taken the matter to court and the cases are subjudice.

[Translation]

On Going Projects in UP/Haryana

3490. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the on going projects in Uttar Pradesh/ Haryana financed out of the Central Road Fund;

(b) the estimated cost thereof, project-wise;

(c) the amount released therefor; and

(d) the expenditure incurred thereon so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) The details of the ongoing projects under Central Road Fund (CRF) alongwith the estimated costs for the State of U.P. and Haryana are given in the attached statement.

(c) and (d) The allocation is not done on Project-wise basis. However, during the last three years a sum of Rs. 618.00 lakhs and Rs. 380.00 lakhs have been allocated to the State of U.P. and Haryana, respectively. The total expenditure incurred on the above Projects upto March, 1998 is Rs. 1145.61 lakhs in U.P. and Rs. 395.45 lakhs in Haryana, inclusive of State share.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of work	Sanctioned amount (Rs. in lakhs)
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Name of State U.P.

1.	Construction of Farukhabad bypass.	54.37
2.	Improvement of Azamgarh Varanasi road.	38.00
3.	Construction of Jiyampur Anausi Walidpur Mohamdabad road.	78.30
4.	Widening & Strengthening/improvement of riding quality of existing roads in Amethi project.	1965.90

State of Haryana

1.	Augmentation of laboratory facilities in laboratories in Haryana.	15.74
2.	Estimate for widening & strengthening of Panipat Safidon Jind-Bhiwani-Loharu road S.N. 14 (Sec. Safidon-Jind road KM 43 to 54 & KM 54.50 to 58 in Jind Distt.	87.20
3.	Traffic Engineering Cell in Haryana for the period of 5 years.	50.00
4.	4 laning Yamuna nagar-Chhrauli road from Aggarsain chowk to Buria chowk and Aggarsain chowk to Bilaspur chowk.	80.00
5.	Strengthening of Agroha Adampur road KM 0 to 16.77 in Hissar Distt.	94.61
6.	4-laning of Ratia Budhlada Ratia Fetehabad city portion Ratia in Hissar Distt.	86.73

[English]

Ban on Tree Felling

3491. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :
SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH :

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

(a) whether Government have imposed a ban on the felling of trees in the Country;

(b) whether the ban has been violated in the several States;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the persons arrested have been punished; and

(e) if so, the nature of punishment granted/awarded to such persons ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) No, Sir. The forests are worked as per the prescriptions of the working plans approved by the Government. However, in specific areas the felling of trees is regulated by tree preservation Acts promulgated by some of the States.

(b) to (e) Illegal fellings of trees are dealt with by the State Governments under the relevant sections of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 and State Forest Acts and the offenders are punished by the State Government.

Award of Ph.D. Degree

3492. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the basis of awarding a Ph.D. degree;

(b) whether there is a standard principle in this regard for all the Universities in India;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the candidates whose results get delayed are being penalised (in terms of increments, seniority, etc.) for no fault of theirs; and

(e) if so, the remedial steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (e) Ph.D. Degree is awarded for the original research work. The date of completion of Ph.D. is normally the date of passing the viva-voce. However, the Degree is awarded when the convocation is held.

The Universities are autonomous bodies and Government does not interfere in their academic matters.

Appointment in NHAI

3493. SHRI SHANKAR PANNU : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the appointments made till date in National Highways Authority of India, Post-wise;

(b) the number of SCs/STs among them; and

(c) the details of backlog regarding SC/ST Vacancies and the likely time by which it would be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) As in the Statement enclosed.

(c) There is a backlog of one SC and two OBC in Group-B posts. NHAI being a new and expanding organisation, backlog for SC/ST/OBC is being filled up from time to time.

Statement

Appointments made post-wise (including SC/ST/OBC) till date in NHAI

Sl. No.	Particulars of Posts	Posts filled up				
		On deputation basis	Gen.	SC	ST	OBC
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Group A						
1.	General Manager	13	—	—	—	—
2.	Deputy General Manager	16	2@	—	—	—
3.	Manager	27	2	1	1	1
Group B						
1.	Accounts Officer	4	—	—	—	—
2.	Assistant Programmer	—	1	—	—	—
3.	Private Secretaries	2	—	—	—	—
4.	Librarian	—	1	—	—	—
5.	Assistant Manager	3	—	—	—	—
6.	Personal Assistants	11\$	—	—	—	—
7.	Cashier	1	—	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8.	Caretaker-cum-Store-keeper	1	—	—	—	—

Group C

1.	Receptionist	—	—	—	—	1
2.	Steno Grade 'D'	—	20*	9*	1	5*
3.	Draftsman	—	2	2	—	2
4.	Staff Car Driver	—	1	2	—	—

Group D

1.	Jamadar	1	—	—	—	—
2.	Peon	—	3	1	1	1
3.	Watchman	2	—	—	—	—

@ Includes one officer who was initially appointed as Manager in 1989 and subsequently promoted as Deputy General Manager in 1995.

\$ Includes 7 Personal Assistants initially selected on deputation and later on absorbed on their own request.

* Includes those who resigned after appointment i.e. General-2, SC-2, OBC-3.

[Translation]

Number of Children not Attending School

3494. SHRI SADASHIV RAO D. MANDLIK : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the number of children in the age group of 6 to 18 years who do not attend school ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : As per the 1991 Census, out of 168.17 million children in the 6-14 age group, 75.47 million were not attending school. As per the NSS 50th Round 1993-94, school attendance rates among the 5-14 age group was 70% in the rural areas and 85% in the urban areas for boys. It was 55% and 80% among the girls in rural and urban areas respectively.

[English]

Seed Terminator Technology

3495. SHRI SITA RAM YADAV : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have assessed the implications of the seed terminator technology developed by Monsanto in USA;

(b) if so, the corrective action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard;

(c) whether Monsanto has not joined hands with a large Indian Co., MAHCO in Maharashtra; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for preventing Monsanto from achieving its nefarious designs ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) A US Patent No. 5723765 entitled "Control of plant gene expression" was assigned on 3.3.98 to Delta & Pine Land Co., USA and the US Department of Agriculture. The seed terminator technology has not yet been developed to a stage for commercial application. The Directorate of Plant Protection Quarantine and Storage (P.P.Q. & S), Department of Agriculture and Cooperation have issued a directive to stop the entry of seeds containing terminator technology in India.

(c) In accordance with the industrial licensing policy, Monsanto has acquired 26% of the total equity of Maharashtra Hybrid Seeds Co. Ltd. (MAHYCO), Mumbai. Monsanto has also setup another joint venture company with MAHYCO with 50% equity and the name of this joint venture company is MAHYCO MONSANTO Biotech (India) Pvt. Ltd.

(d) Various steps are proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent the entry of seeds with Terminator technology in India. In the proposed Plant Varieties & Farmers' Rights Protection Legislation, being formulated by Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, necessary provisions will be made to prohibit registration of seeds with Terminator technology.

Naming of a University

3496. SHRI K. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to name any University after South African Associate of Mahatma Gandhi, Thillaidi Valliammai; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Royal Bengal Tigers in Sunderban

3497. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken initiative in increasing the population of Royal Bengal Tigers in Sunderban Area, West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details of tiger population for the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether there is massive deforestation in Sunderban and its neighbouring areas is causing great ecological imbalance and at the same time putting a negative impact on the animal population; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to stop this trend ?

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

(b) Year of enumeration	Tiger Population in Sunderban T.R.	Tiger Population in Sunderban outside T.R.	Total Tiger Population in Sunderban
1989	269	28	297
1993	251	26	277
1997	263	35	298

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Establishment of National Waterway in Kerala

3498. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to establish a National Waterway connecting the Coastal districts of Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount to be involved therein ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) West Coast Canal from Kottapuram to Kollam along with Champakara and Udyogmandal canals connecting coastal districts of Thrissur, Emakulam, Kottayam, Alapuzha and Kollam has already been declared as National Waterway No. 3.

The developmental works such as dredging to provide the navigational channel with desired depth and width, provision of navigational aids, repair/maintenance of locks, etc. are being undertaken. Land acquisition for construction of terminals and for widening of the canal is also in progress.

(c) The Detailed Project Report for development of National Waterway No. 3, prepared in 1992, envisaged a total cost of Rs. 65.34 crores for creation of infrastructure i.e. waterway and terminals.

*[Translation]***Setting Up of Meteorological Centres**

3499. SMT. RAMA DEVI : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to expand the network of Meteorological Centres to give prior information about cyclones and post-cyclonic situation in various coastal States;

(b) if so, the details of such centres proposed to be set up during the ninth Five Year Plan period, location-wise; and

(c) the steps taken in this direction so far ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) India Meteorological Department has six Cyclone Warning Centres in operation along the east and west coasts of the country covering all the coastal areas of maritime States. These centres provide a proven and reliable system for cyclone warning and its dissemination to different Government functionaries, public and other users. The present set up of Cyclone Warning Centres is found adequate and no necessity is felt for establishing new centres during the ninth Five Year Plan period. However, during ninth Plan, the cyclone warning system is planned to be enhanced by induction of latest state-of-the-art technologies.

*[English]***Export of Ships**

3500. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA :
SHRI MOINUL HASSAN AHAMED :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have received any request from the Government of Kerala regarding the policy decision and necessary action for the export of ships built at Cochin Shipyard in exchange for import of Iranian crude;

(b) if so, the details of this barter transaction with Iran suggested by the Kerala Government; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) to (c) A request was received from Smt. Suseela Gopalan, Minister for Industries and Social Welfare, Government of Kerala for export of ships built at Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) in exchange of import of Iranian Curde Oil. Cochin Shipyard Limited were asked to work out a detailed proposal. No firmed up proposal has been received.

Corruption in Judiciary

3501. SHRI AMAN KUMAR NAGRA : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a large scale corruption in judiciary particularly in lower courts;

(b) if so, the number of corruption cases that came to the notice of the Government during the last five years and involvement of officials, category-wise and State-wise;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to weed out corruption from judiciary during the last five years, State-wise;

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in the matter; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) to (e) The subject matter regarding corruption in lower judiciary is the concern of respective State Governments and High Courts in accordance with the provisions of Article 235 of the Constitution of India.

Central University for Agriculture

3502. SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH . Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central University for Agriculture located in Manipur is not functioning properly;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether this Central University does not have a proper library building; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) As per the information furnished by the Ministry of Agriculture, the Central Agricultural University, Imphal, Manipur is fully functional from 1993-94 Session. Currently, teaching programmes are being conducted in three states, namely, College of Agriculture, Imphal, Manipur; College of Veterinary Science & Animal Husbandary, Selesih, Mizoram; and College of Fisheries, Agartala, Tripura.

(c) and (d) All the three Colleges have their own library buildings located at their respective college campus. New College buildings including provision for library are presently under construction.

Rengali Hydro-Electric Project in Orissa

3503. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of units of Rengali Hydro-Electric Project in Orissa commissioned at present;

(b) the total MW of power being generated annually from these units;

(c) whether the proposal for commissioning some additional units of Rengali Hydro-Electric project are pending; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to clear these proposals ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) At present 5 units of 50 MW capacity are commissioned at Rengali Hydro-electric Project.

(b) The annual energy generation from Rengali Hydro-electric Station during 1997-98 was 976 MU and during 1998-99 (upto October 1998) was 610 MU.

(c) and (d) No proposal for commissioning of any additional unit of Rengali Hydro-electric Project is pending in the Central Electricity Authority.

[Translation]

Decrease of Lead in Pollution

3504. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the extent of decrease of lead in the pollution registered in Delhi after the use of unleaded petrol in vehicles;

(b) the extent to which the amount of lead exceeds its permissible limit in the air; and

(c) the efforts being made by the Government to reduce the said amount further ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) to (c) The Central Pollution Control Board has estimated a 61% reduction of lead in the ambient air of Delhi after the elimination of leaded petrol.

[English]

Replacement of Port Trusts by Corporations

3505. SHRI PRABHAT KUMAR SAMANTAPAY : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up Corporations to replace Port Trusts in selective ports;

(b) if so, the objectives to be achieved by this change and the likely legal position of such ports in view of Major Port Trust Act ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Commercialisation of Items

3506. SHRI RAJ NARAIN PASSI : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the items developed for commercial use by the Research Laboratories during the last five years;

(b) the details of the items out of them found commercially viable;

(c) the expenditure incurred on the items, lab-wise; and

(d) the amount of fee received by the CSIR/Research Labs as a result of this commercialisation ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) Over the five year period 1993-94 to 1997-98 Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) laboratories have developed around 650 items for commercialisation of which around 275 have been found to be commercially viable at the present time. The names of the items and the details are given in the attached statement.

(c) The expenditure incurred on the development and commercialisation of the items comprises not only that incurred by CSIR laboratories but in many cases that incurred by the industrial collaborator/user. Thus reliable data on calculating the expenditure incurred on each item is not feasible.

(d) The amount of fee receivable by CSIR Research laboratories as a result of this commercialisation is around Rs. 18 crore.

Statement*Products/Processes Developed for Commercial Use (1993-94)*

	Product/Process Developed	Commercially Licensed
	1	2
CBRI	1. Brick, Stabilised from Flyash Lime Composition	No
	2. Cable Fire Barrier	Yes

	1	2		1	2
	3. Cement, Multibiend Utilizing Industrial Wastes	No		26. N-Protected 2-Deoxyribo-Nulceosides	No
	4. Door Shutter, Polyesterene Composite, Expanded	Yes		27. Neutralization of Alkaline Waste Water, By Using a Package of Alkalophilic Bacteria	No
	5. Door, Fire Resistant Metallic	Yes		28. Peptide Epitope Useful for Diagnosis of Aspergellosis	No
	6. Epoxy/Phenolic IPN-B Syst for protection of Steel Rein. Concr	Yes		29. Polymer Support for Syn. of Ologos	No
	7. Fire Blocking Layer for Protection of Aircraft Seat Cushions	Yes		30. Thiol Modifier Phosphoramidite Reagent	No
	8. Fire Resistance Fire Stop	Yes		31. Thiol-Link Reagent for Mercaptoalkylmoeity Into Syn. Oligonuleotide	No
	9. Low Cost Device for Pollution Control in Vertical Shaft Lime Kiln	No		32. Universal Poiymer Support for Syn. of Oligonuleotide	No
	10. Machine, C-Brick Making	Yes		33. Acyclovir (Ref : 7/191/94-TU)	Yes
	11. Machine, Concrete Block Making Hydraulic	Yes	CDRI	34. Chandonium Iodide (Ref : 7/191/94-TU)	Yes
	12. Pile Software Package	No		35. Compound 80/53-Antimalarial Nicholas Priamal (I) Ltd., B'Bay	Yes
	13. Pile, Spliced Technology	No		36. Compound 81/470	Yes
	14. Scrubber, Incorporated in a Device Useful for Pollution Control	No		37. Curcumin form Curcume Longa	Yes
CBT	15. Bodseed, Preparation of (Std. Seeding Material for BOD Analysis)	No		38. Fish Spawning Agent Based on Synthetic GnRH-A	Yes
	16. Coatings of Allergens on Paper Discs Useful in Allergy DIA.	No		39. L-Lysine	Yes
	17. Cytidine, Amino Protected	No		40. Laxative, Herbal Palatable	Yes
	18. DMTRCI and 1H-Tetrazole (Dimethyl Trityl Chloride)	Yes		41. Laxative, Herbal Palatable	Yes
	19. Glucose Test Strip	Yes		42. Norgestrel by Fermentaton Method	No
	20. Hybrid Polypeptide, Novel Synthetic	No		43. Primaquine-Antimalarial (Ref. 7/191/94-TU)	Yes
	21. Immbolized Microbial Composition, Prepn. of, for Use as Seed Inoculum	No		44. Anticorrosive Air Drying Coating Using Silicone-Titanate Resins Heat Resistant	No
	22. Immunotherapy by Liposome Entrapped Allergen/Antigens	No	CECRI	45. Batteries, Lead Acid, Maintenance Free	Yes
	23. Kit, Elisa Based for Detection of Tuberculosis	No		46. Batteries, Lead Acid, Maintenance Free	Yes
	24. Kit, Immunological for Detection of Aspergillosis	No		47. Cement Polymer Coating System for Corrosion Prevention	Yes
	25. Microbial Composition, Prepn. of Useful for B.O.D. Estimation	No			

1	2	1	2
48. Concentrate, Platinum Plating Solution	Yes	73. Water Treatment Chemicals Used in Cooling Waters	Yes
49. Cryogenic Engine Thrust Chamber by Electroforming of Ni	No	74. Weaning Food, Malted	Yes
50. Diamond Powder Incorporated Metal Matrix Coating on Steel Discs	Yes	CEERI 75. Digital Mapping System	Yes
51. Electrodes, Silver-Silverchloride	Yes	76. Diodes, Silicon Hyperabrupt Varactor Varactor	No
52. Epoxy Powder for Aqueous Powder Suspension Coatings	No	77. Diodes, Silicon Varactor for TV-Tuner	No
53. Epoxy Silicon Based Heat Resistant Paint for Protecting Mild Steel Structure	No	78. Drip Irrigation System, Automatic (Micro Controller Based)	No
54. Formulation, Paint	Yes	79. Magnetron, 2MW S-Band Tunable Pulsed	No
55. Formulations, Yellow Chromating for Aluminium	Yes	80. Minewinder, MP Based Monitoring System for (Micromon)	Yes
56. Gallium Metal from Sodium Aluminium Liquor	Yes	81. Multiloop Controllers, Programmable (Promulc-Z41)	Yes
57. Gravy, Multipurpose	Yes	82. Receiver, Nicam to Receive Stereo Sound in TV	No
58. Insulation Varnish from CNSL Based Resin	No	83. Speech Serecy System	No
59. Lead from Battery Waste	Yes	CFRI 84. B-Picoline & Pyridine by Catalytic Cyclisation Reaction	No
60. Manganese Dioxide Cell, Alkaline	No	85. Battery of Ovens for Prodn of Coke for Domestic Use	Yes
61. Monochlorotoluene	No	86. Bricks, Common Building Using Waste Material (Fly/Bottom Ash of Coal Etc.)	No
62. Multicoat Protective System over Concrete Surface	No	87. Coal Gasification, Improved Process for	No
63. Nickel-Chromium Plating of Steel Tubes	Yes	88. Device for Maintaing Isothermal Conditions of a Fixed Bed Catalytic Reactor	No
64. Paint, Epoxy Polyurethane for Coating over Concrete Structure	Yes	89. Device, Direct Reading for Measuring Plastometric Properties of Coal	No
65. Paint, Reflective Road Marking	No	90. Equipment, Improved for Generation of Fuel Gas from Biomass	No
66. Painting System for Appln. in Marine & Indl. Applications	Yes	91. Iron Catalyst, Preparation of for Wax Prodn.	No
67. Sodium Perborate	No	92. Low Ash Fuel Alternate for Industrial/ Metallurgical Purposes	No
68. Stainless Steel, Colouring of	Yes		
69. Stainless Steel, Colouring of	Yes		
70. Strippable Coatings	No		
71. Sulphur Concrete for Repairing Damaged Concrete Structures	No		
72. Supervisor Contrl and Data Acquisition System (SCADA)	Yes		

	1	2		1	2
	93. Low Ash Fuel Alternative to Byproduct/ Beehive Coke	No		119. Doughnut Mix, Combination of	No
	94. Petroleum Residue into Useful Fraction, Upgradation of	No		120. Dirp Loss Prevention in Frozen Fish	No
	95. Pyridine & 3-Picoline from VP Cyclocondensation Using Zeolite Catalyst	Yes		121. Emergency Ration	Yes
	96. Pyridine Compounds	Yes		122. Enzyme, Fungal Phytase	Yes
	97. Resorcinol, Improved Process	No		123. Ethanol, Production of Using Saccharomyces Cerevisiae	No
	98. Wax, Prodn. of, from Synthetic Gas Over an Iron Catalyst	No		124. Ethanol, Production of Using Saccharomyces Cerevisiae	No
CFTRI	99. Bacon Ham	Yes		125. Fibre Biscuit, High	No
	100. Bajra Bread, Composite	No		126. Fibre Biscuit, High	No
	101. Biscuit Formulation (Cocoa, Cocoa Cream, Nutro High Protein)	Yes		127. Fish Spawning Agent based on Synthetic GnRH-A	No
	102. Biscuit Production (5 Varieties)	Yes		128. Fish Viscera Silage, Fermented	No
	103. Biscuit, Cardamom Flavoured	No		129. Formulation, Animal Feed Cattle and Poultry	Yes
	104. Biscuit, Cardamom Flavoured	No		130. Ginger, Dehydration/Bleaching	Yes
	105. Biscuit, Low Therapeutic and Low Sodium	No		131. Gravy, Multipurpose & Gravies for Fish Preparations	Yes
	106. Biscuits Incorporating Sunflower Sees-Grits & Wheat Germ	No		132. Idli Maker, Automatic	No
	107. Biscuits, Sugar Free	Yes		133. Jamun Products	No
	108. Cashew Kernels, Deep Fat Fried	Yes		134. Juice Concentrate & RTS Formulation	No
	109. Chicken Biryani, Frozen	Yes		135. Lactic Acid	Yes
	110. Chicken Fish Sausage	Yes		136. Lipid Emulsion Disrupties	No
	111. Chicken Wafers	Yes		137. Machine, Dosa Making Continuous	Yes
	112. Chilli Sauce	Yes		138. Maize Noodles	No
	113. Chillies, Red Fractionation	Yes		139. Mango Bar	Yes
	114. Chips, Fried, from Tubers & Vegetables	No		140. Meat, Dehydration of	Yes
	115. Cocoa Beans, Curing of	Yes		141. Mushroom, Oyester Culture & Prodn. of Spawn	Yes
	116. Cumin Oil Extraction	Yes		142. Mushroom, Oyster	Yes
	117. Doughnut Mix, Cake	No		143. Mushroom, Oyster, Dehydration of	Yes
	118. Doughnut Mix, Cake	No		144. Mushroom, Oyster, Prodn. of Rural Model	No
				145. Mushroom, Oyster, Prodn. Urban Model	Yes

1	2	1	2
146. Nutritive Food, Supplementary	Yes	172. Enamel, Jewellery	Yes
147. Osmo Tolerant Yeast	Yes	173. FRP Pultruded Support for Optic Fibre	Yes
148. Papaya/Carrot Tuiti Fruity	Yes	174. Gas Sensors, Thin Film Zinc Oxide/Tin Oxide for Liquid Petroleum Gas	Yes
149. Paper, Phosphine Indicator	Yes	175. Glass for Dosimeter, Radiophotoluminescent	Yes
150. Paper, Phosphine Indicator	Yes	176. Glass Frit, Low Temperature	No
151. Paushtik Atta	Yes	177. LPG Sensor for Safety Alarm	No
152. Pepper, Black, Thermal Stabilization of, Improved Process	No	178. Microporous Insulation Refractory	Yes
153. Phytase Production	Yes	179. Moisture Meter, for Solid Block	Yes
154. Pickles, Mutton	Yes	180. Mullite, Synthetic & Zirco	Yes
155. Ragi Bread, Composite	No	181. Nodules from Rice Husk Ash	Yes
156. Rice, Basmati	Yes	182. Plaster of Paris from Phosphogypsum	Yes
157. Rice, Quick Cooking	No	183. Sealant, Polyester Based	Yes
158. Spice Mixes for Sambar and Rasam	Yes	184. Thermistor, PTC for Mosquito Repellent	Yes
159. Spice Oleoresin, Enriched	No	185. Tiles, Synthetic Granite from Beach Sand Garnet	Yes
160. Spirulina Biomass	Yes	186. Vacuum Gauge Using Ceramic Sensor	Yes
161. Staining Technique for Differentiation of Basmati Rice	Yes	CIMAP 187. 10-Deacetyl-Baccatin-III (DAB)	No
162. Waxol Preparation	Yes	188. Arteether from Artemisinin	Yes
163. Zinc Edta Chelate Complex	No	189. Artemisinin from Dihydro Artemisinic Acid	No
164. Alumina Bricks from Sillimanite Beach	No	190. Artemisinin, Isolation of from Artemisia Annua	Yes
165. Alumina Products, Sintered	Yes	191. Distillation Unit Design of Improved	Yes
166. Alumina, High Purity Reactive (99.5%)	No	192. Dye & Oil from Plash Flowers, Extraction of	Yes
167. Castables, Cement Free Dense Flowing	Yes	193. Elite Clone 'Mishree' of Mulethi	No
168. Ceramic Heads for Hemi & Total Hip Ceramic Prosthesis Implants	No	194. Formulation from Natural Products Useful as Pest Repellent for Stored Products	No
169. Coatings, Glass Lined Equipment Coloured Ceramised Glass	Yes	195. Formulation Useful as Repellent for Housefly	No
170. Dielectric Formulation Equivalent to Tamtron X7R262LBASED on ACC Barium Titanate	Yes		
171. Enamel Frit, Vitreous for Coating Mild Steel Sand Garnet	No		

1	2	1	2
196. Geraniol-Rich Citronella Strain	No	CLRI 220. Bone Implant, Process for Preparation of	No
197. German Chamomile	No	221. Colourant, Ecofriendly Black from Myrobalan Sludge	No
198. Hepatoprotective Drug, Isolation of	No	222. Copolymer Resin Emulsion, Acrylic Block	No
199. High Straw Morphinian Yielding Opium Poppy Genotype, Dev. of	No	223. Copolymer, Polyurethane Polyvinyl Multi Block	No
200. Japanese Mint, Improved Variety of	No	224. Copolymer, Water Dispersable Betonite Grafted Acrylic	No
201. Lemongrass Variety (Krishna) High Yielding	No	225. Device to Detect Magnetic Resonance	No
202. Marusudha, An Improved Cultiver of Guggul	No	226. Device, Logic	No
203. Menthol Mint (Himalaya), High Yielding and New Cultiver of	No	227. Dipeptide Derivative, Synthesis of	No
204. Menthol Mint (Kosi), High Yielding	No	228. Dualmod. Pas	No
205. Mosquito Repellent Lotion	No	229. Dualmod2. Pas	No
206. Natural Dye	No	230. Dualshap. Pas	No
207. Oleaonolic Acid from a Rich Natural Source (Lanta Opmara) Extraction & Isolation of	No	231. Fibrin for Medical Applications	No
208. Palmarosa with Black Gram, Intercropping of	No	232. Fibrin Powder for Medical Applications	No
209. Peppermint-Kukrail	No	233. Fibrin Powder for Medical Applications	No
210. Pestonuggets, Process for Making	No	234. Fibrin Sheet for Medical Applications	No
211. Psyllium Strain	No	235. Fibrin Sponge for Medical Applications and Fibrin Prepared Thereby	No
212. Pyrethrum-Jhelum	No	236. Fibrin Sponge for Medical Applications	No
213. Rice Mint Based Cropping Sequesnce Suitable for North Indian Conditions, Dev. of	No	237. Foil, Transfer	Yes
214. Rose Oil, Design of Distillation Unit for	Yes	238. Peptide Derivative	No
215. Spearmint under Subtropical Climate, Optimum Planting Time for	No	239. Peptide Derivative Exhibiting Invitro Inhibition of Platelet Aggregation and Antimicrobial AC	No
216. Strain of German Chamomile	No	240. Polyurethane Macroiniferter, Tetraphenylethane Based	No
217. Taxoids, Isolation of, From Needles & Bark of Taxus Wallichiana	No	241. Resin, Epoxy for Industrial Application	No
218. Taxol, Isolation of from Taxus Baccate	Yes	242. Tannery Effluents, Treatment of	Yes
219. Vetiver Genotype, High Yielding	No		

	1	2		1	2
	243. Tannin Extracts, Blended Vegetable	Yes		267. Data Acquisition System Useful for Underground Mines	No
	244. Tanning Agent, Containg Titanium and Cr.	No		268. Data Acquisition System Useful for Underground Mines	No
	245. TCMTB (Thiocyanate Methythic Benzothiozole)	Yes		269. Device for Detrmination of Characteristics of Dusts, Liquids, Solids	No
	246. Tetraphenylethane Based Polyurethane Macroiniferters for Living Radical Polymerisation	No		270. Device, Useful for Protecting Dressers/Miners	No
	247. Ticrotan a Tanning Agent Con-taining Titanium & Cr	No		271. Equipmment for Shortwall Mining Useful of Extraction of Pillars in Mining	No
	248. Water, Purification of by Using Mutated Pseudomonas Strain	No		272. Extensometer, Borehole Electro-Mechanical	Yes
CMERI	249. Air Conditioner	No		273. Extensometer, Digital Tape	Yes
	250. Coir Traddle Ratt	No		274. Fire Protective Coating	Yes
	251. Decorticator, Twin Roll	No		275. Garbage Loader	No
	252. Harvester, Sugarcane	No		276. Garbage Loader, Eco-Friendly	No
	253. Honey, Purification of	Yes		277. Heat Resistace Explosive	Yes
	254. Loom, Circular Coir Mat	No		278. Intrinsically Safe Telephone Exchange Useful for Areas Having Explosive Atmosphere	No
	255. Machine, Universal Fibre Yarn Making	Yes		279. Intrinsically Safe Telephone Exchange Useful for Areas Having Explosive Atmosphere	No
	256. Machine, Radial Drilling	Yes		280. Kit, Life Safety	No
	257. Machine, Stitch Bonding	Yes		281. Pelletiser, Improved for Making Methane Sensor	No
	258. Machine, Stitch Bonding for Geo Textiles	Yes		282. Pelletiser, Improved for Making Methane Sensor	No
	259. Machine, Zinc Can Trimming	Yes		283. Prop, Rigid Steel with Remote Release Mechanism Useful for Supporting Mine/Tunnels Roofs	No
	260. Oil Expeller 10TPD Design Dev. and Improvement	Yes		284. Prop, Rigid Steel with Remote Release Mechanism Useful for Supporting Mine/Tunnels Roofs	No
	261. Oil Expeller, Mustard Seed, Design of Special	No		285. Prop, Remote High Set	Yes
	262. Pump, Hand, Shallow Well	Yes		286. Prop, Strong, Green Roof	Yes
	263. Screw Press, Twin for Extraction of Palm Oil	Yes		287. Prop, Vertical with Hgih Setting Load	No
CMRI	264. Composition Useful as a Small Diameter Sensitive Explosive	No		288. Removal of Iron from Zircon	No
	265. Composition Useful for Excavation Works	No			
	266. Composition with High Expansion Properties Useful of Extraction of Pillars in Mining	No			

	1	2		1	2
	289. Steel Arch Useful for Withstanding Effects of Rock Burst	No		312. Citrus Peel Oil	Yes
	290. Sulphuric Acid. Recovery of	No		313. Liliium, Agrotechnologies for Standardization of	No
	291. Temperature Indicator, Digital	Yes		314. Tagetes Oil	Yes
CRRRI	292. Binder, Polymer Modified for Construction of Roads	Yes		315. Tea Based Soft Drinks, Technique for	No
	293. Binder, Polymer Modified for Constuction of Roads	Yes		316. Tea on Hill Slopes, Agro-technology of	No
	294. Pavement of Deterioration Model, Software on	No		317. Tea Plants, Micropropagation of	No
	295. Tester. Concerete Abrasion Resistance	No		318. Tissue Culture Techniques for Mass Propogation of Gladiolus & Orchids	No
CSIO	296. Analyser, Specific ION Microprocessor Based	Yes		319. Tulips, Agrotechnologies for Standardisation of	No
	297. Door Scope	Yes	IICT	320. 1, 1, 1, Trichlorotrifluoro Ethane (R-113a)	Yes
	298. Fibre Optic Holography	No		321. 10-Undecenoic Acid from Castor Oil	Yes
	299. Indicator, Digital for Inclinator/Tiltmeter	Yes		322. 11-Aminoundecenoic Acid from Caster Oil	Yes
	300. Instruments, Geophysical (Analog Seismograph)	No		323. 11-Bromoundecenoic Acid from Castor Oil	Yes
	301. Integrated Syst. for Measurement of No. 3, NH4, PO4	No		324. Acephate	Yes
	302. Meter Circuits, Energy, 3-Phase Real and Reactive	No		325. Adhesive, Automatic Labelling, Synthetic Polyacrylic Acid Based	Yes
	303. Meter. Energy, Solid State Single Phase	No		326. Adhesive, Insect Catching (Sec Pheromone)	Yes
	304. Meter. pH, Economic Field Usable	Yes		327. Adhesive, Office Paste	Yes
	305. Microscope, Scanning Tunneling	Yes		328. Adhesive, Polychloroprene for Shoes	Yes
	306. Optthalmoscope & Otoscope Diagnostic Set	Yes		329. Adhesive, Polyurethane for Metal Paper Honey Comb Structures Bonding	No
	307. Tester. Salinity. Soil Inductive Electromagnetic	No		330. Adhesive. Powder	Yes
CSMCRI	308. Alumina Hydroxide (Printing Ink Grade)	Yes		331. Adhesive, Pressure Sensitive, Acrylic Based	Yes
	309. Jojoba Skin Care Lotion	No		332. Adhesive, Pressure Sensitive Acrylic Emulsion	Yes
	310. Zeolite Powder (Detergent Grade)	Yes		333. Adhesive, Surgical Cyanoacrylate Based	No
IHBT	311. Bamboo. Micropropagation of	No			

1	2	1	2
334. Adhesive, White Neoprene Based Transparent	Yes	361. Furfuryl Alcohol by Catalytic Hydrogenation of Furfuraldehyde	Yes
335. Adhesives, Polyvinyl Acrylic Emulsion	Yes	362. Halofantrine	Yes
336. Amlodipine	No	363. Halofantrine—Anti Malarial	No
337. Aspartame	Yes	364. Ink, Indelible Tattooing	Yes
338. Azadirachtin (Tech) Extraction from Neem Seed Kernals	Yes	365. Kraft Paper, Using Date Palm Leaves	Yes
339. Azithromycin	Yes	366. Lacquers, TV Picture Tube	Yes
340. Betoxolol	No	367. Lisinopril	Yes
341. Binder for Acoustic Tiles, Boards	Yes	368. Loratidine	Yes
342. Binders, Vinyl for Distempers	Yes	369. Mefloquine	Yes
343. Calcium Pantothenate	Yes	370. Methyl Thiophenate	Yes
344. Carbidopa, Anti Ulcerogenic	Yes	371. Methyl Thiophenate	Yes
345. Castor Oil Based Chemical Plant, Designs for (Package of 7 Processes)	Yes	372. Ortho Amino Phenol	Yes
346. Catalysts for Conversion of Non-Edible Oils to Liquid Petroleum Products	No	373. Oxychlor Catalyst	Yes
347. Catalysts for Vapour Synthesis of Anthraquinone	No	374. Paints, Epoxy Based & Chlorinated Rubber	Yes
348. Cefixime	Yes	375. Paper Boards	No
349. Cetirizine—Anti Histamine	Yes	376. Para Hydroxy Phenyl Glycine	Yes
350. Cisapride	Yes	377. Pasting Gum Powder & Gum Liquid	Yes
351. Copolymers, Isobutyl Methacrylate Butyl Methacrylate	Yes	378. Pefloxacin	Yes
352. Cyclopropylamine	Yes	379. Pentamidine—For Kala Azar	No
353. Cycloserine	Yes	380. Petroleum Sulphonates	No
354. Date Palm Fronds	Yes	381. Phenyl Acetic Acid by Co Route	Yes
355. Docetaxel—Anti Cancer Drug	Yes	382. Pheromones for Groundnut	Yes
356. Eflorithine for African Sleeping Sickness	No	383. Polyurethane Coating System Castor Oil & Polyester Based Polyols, Two Components	Yes
357. Enalapril	Yes	384. Polyurethane Formulation for Laminated Particle Boards	Yes
358. Felodipine	No	385. Prenol	Yes
359. Flucanazole—Anti Fungal	Yes	386. Pyrethroids Triazolones	No
360. Formulation, Ayurvedic for Healing Cracked Heels	No	387. Rectal Suppositories	Yes
		388. Rice Bran Wax, Upgradation of	Yes
		389. Rifabutene—Anti T.B. Drug	No
		390. Rifapentene—Anti T.B. Drug	No

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	391. RU-486 (Mifepristone)—Anti Progesterone Abortifacient	Yes		417. Hydrogenation of Pao	Yes
	392. Sensors, Ethanol	No		418. Lithium Complex Grease	Yes
	393. Sensors, for Detection of LPG Leak	Yes		419. LPG Stove, Improved	Yes
	394. Shampoo Based on Soapnuts	No		420. Lubricity Additive for Gas Turbine Oil Nitrogen Based	No
	395. Shampoo, Reethagel	Yes		421. Naphtha Hydrotreater & Catalytic Converter	Yes
	396. Spray, N-Butyl 2-Cyanoacrylate	Yes		422. Naphthalene from Petroleum Based By-Product Streams, Recovery of High Purity	No
	397. Sultamicillin Tosylate	Yes		423. Oil Pressure Stove, Fuel Efficient	No
	398. Tiles, Accoustic Mini Wool Based	Yes		424. Pitches, Impregnating	Yes
	399. Toluene to Benzaldehyde & Benzoic Acid, Air Oxidation of	No		425. Poly Methyl Metha Acrylate (PMMA)	No
	400. Triacontanol, from Rice Bran Wax	Yes		IMT 426. Urokinase	Yes
	401. Trimethyl Phosphite—Ammonia Route	No	ITRC	427. CD Strip for Quick Detection of Adulteration of Butter Yellow in Mustard Oil	Yes
	402. Triphenyl Phosphine	Yes			
	403. Triphenyl Phosphite	Yes			
	404. Vanilin	Yes	NAL	428 2MW Turbo Power Pack	No
IIP	405. Additive, Dewaxing/Deoiling	Yes		429. Air Transparency Measuring System, Air	Yes
	406. Antioxidants, Alkylated Phenol Based (PTBP, d-BUTYL p-CRESOL)	Yes		430. Alumina Hydrate Fillers, Low Density for Paper & Printing Industry	Yes
	407. Catalyst Recipe, FCC A New Generation	No		431. Alumina Trihydrate for Paper and Printing Ink Industry	No
	408. Catalyst, Pt-Re Skewed Reforming	No		432. Alumina, Syn. of for Mfr. of Electronics Ceramics & Technical Ceramics	No
	409. Delayed Coker & Straight Run Gas Oil Hydrotreatment	Yes		433. Alumina, Synthesis of for Mfr. of Electronic Ceramics	No
	410. Delayed Coker & Straight Run Naphtha Hydrotreatment	Yes		434. Centrifugal Compressor Package, for Oil Free Plant Air Supply	No
	411. Formulation, Corrosion Inhibitor for Gas Turbine Engine Parts	No		435. Compressor, Multistage Centrifugal for Oil Free Plant Air Supply	No
	412. Formulations, Cold Rolling Oil	No		436. Finite Element Software Package (FEPACS) to Applied Computer Tech. (ACT)	Yes
	413. Formulations, Energy Efficient Gear Oil Additive	No		437. Nickel Sheets, Electroforming	No
	414. Hexane Using NMP as Solvent for Extraction	Yes		438. Seamless Metal Bellows by Electroforming	Yes
	415. Hydrodesulphurisation, Diesel	Yes			
	416. Hydrodesulphurisation, Naphtha	Yes			

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	439. Turbo Power Pack, 2MW	No		465. Tetrabutyl Ammonium Hydroxide Tetrapropyl Ammonium Hydroxide	Yes
	440. Wind Electric Generator	No		466. Zeolite Based Catalyst, for Improving Yield of Pyridine & Picoline	Yes
	441. Low Cost High-Tech Polyhouse Nursery Technology	Yes			
NCL	442. 1, 4-Butanediol from Maleic Anhydride	Yes	NEERI	467. 2, 3 Butanediol Form Fermentation Broth	No
	443. 2-Phosphonobutane-1, 2, 4- Tricarboxylic Acid	No		468. AIDS, Coagulant for Use in Water and Wastewater Treatment	No
	444. 3-Amino-4, 5-Dimethyl Isoxazole	Yes		469. AIDS, Filter	No
	445. Acrylamido-2-Methyl Propane Sulphonic Acid (AMPS)	Yes		470. Air Sampler, Automatic Sequential Electrically Controlled	No
	446. Amlodipine Besylate	No		471. Aqua Tester, Rapid Bacteriological	No
	447. Catalyst for Conversion of Benzene to Maleic Anhydride	Yes		472. Biological Treatment System Design for Oil Laden Wastewater	No
	448. Catalyst, Dev. of and Process for Diethyl Benzene	Yes		473. Biosurfactant, New	No
	449. Cetrizine Dihydrochloride	No		474. Catalytic Converter and Particulate Trap for Automobile Exhaust Emmission Control	Yes
	450. Epibatidine Analogues, Synthesis of	Yes		475. Cellulase Production	No
	451. Haemodialyser	Yes		476. Coal, Desulphurisation of	No
	452. Hydrocarbon Refrigerators	No		477. Demulsification of Oil in Water Emulsion	No
	453. Hydroquinone/Catechol	Yes		478. Desulfurisation of Hydrogen Sulphide Laden Gases with Recovery of Sulphur	No
	454. Lactose Recovery from Whey	Yes		479. Detection of Enteric Viruses, Rapid Test for	No
	455. Membrane. Reverse Osmosis	Yes		480. Device, for Reduction of Smoke Emitting from Diesel Engine Exhaust	No
	456. Natural Gas to Ethanol, Conversion of	Yes		481. HCL Recovery from Spent Pickle Liquor	No
	457. P-Nitophenol	Yes		482. Low Cost Sanitation System for Rural Areas	No
	458. Para Diethylbenzene	Yes		483. Non-Solvent Based for Extraction & Recovery of Poly-B-Hydroxybutyrate	No
	459. Para Diethylbenzene	No		484. Preparation of DNA Molecule for Biomethanation of Industrial Wastes and Wastewaters	No
	460. Paraffin Oxidation	Yes			
	461. Polymerisation and Oligomerisa- tion of Alpha Olefins	Yes			
	462. Polyol from Waste Stream High Boiler Material	Yes			
	463. Ranitidine	No			
	464. Tartaric Acid	Yes			

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	485. Pump, Diaphragm & Oil Free Vacuum of Air Sampling	No		510. Ceramic Tiles, Decorative Block from Iron Ore Slimes, Flyash etc.	No
	486. Recorder, Wind Direction & Velocity	No		511. Ceramic Tiles, Decorative Block from Iron Ore Slimes, Flyash etc.	No
	487. Recovery of Oil from Oily Sludges and Emulsions	No		512. Chrome-T	No
	488. Sampling Kit, Multigas	No		513. Contacts, Electrical Silver Based	No
	489. Skimming Process for Crude Oil Using Alkali Treated Saw Dust	No		514. Copper Powder, Electrolytic from Copper Wire Solution	No
	490. Software for Ambient Air Quality Network Design for Industrial Proj.	No		515. Device for Iron Electroforming Using Sponge Iron Fines as Anodic Material	No
	491. Software for Design of Green Belt as a Mitigation Measure	No		516. Electroplating Through AC Route	No
	492. Software for Solidwaste Management System Optimisation	No		517. Fused Cast Product-A Substitute for Basalt	No
	493. Software for Wastewater Collection System Optimisation	No		518. Fe-Si (75%)	No
	494. Wastewater, Cokeoven Purification of	No		519. Galalflux	Yes
	495. Wastewater, Purification of Containing Pollutants Especially Cyanide	No		520. Gold & Silver from Gold Refining Dross/Slag	No
	496. Water Analyser, Titrimetric	No		521. Inhibitor, Corrosion and Scale (Corisca-95)	Yes
	497. Water Filter for Removal of Pesticides	No		522. Iron Powder, Cast for Prodn. Paracetamol & Bulk Drugs	No
	498. Zeolite-A, Flyash Based	No		523. Iron Powder, Electrolytic from Sponge Iron Fines	No
	499. Zeolites Using Flyash	No		524. Iron, Sg. By Mg Treatment	No
	500. Zeolites Using Flyash, Prodn. of	No		525. Lead from Battery Scrap	Yes
NGRI	501. Seismically Active Faults by Seismicity Monitoring, Identification of	No		526. Lithium Chemicals from Indian Lithium Bearing Mineral Lapidolite	No
NIO	502. Biofertilizer, Seaweed	Yes		527. Manganese Dioxide, Chemical/ Activated	No
NML	503. 2L-4N Steel	Yes		528. Manganese Dioxide, Chemical (CMD)	No
	504. Alloy, Fe-Si-Mn	No		529. Mullite, Sintered	No
	505. Alloy, Low Silver Brazing	No		530. Mg Chemicals from Waste Magnesite Dust	No
	506. Alloy, Ni-Cr Type Resistance	No		531. Nozzles, Zircon Zirconic	No
	507. Aluminium Cast Iron Heat Resistant	No		532. Ni from Spent Nickel Catalyst	No
	508. Anodized Aluminium Cookware	No		533. Ni-Cr from Stainless Steel Pickling Bath Sludge	No
	509. Ceramic Cell	No			

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	534. Oxygen Scavanger	No		560. Device for Transmitting Standard Time	No
	535. Passivator-NML Galasave	Yes		561. Formulation for Iron Chelation a New Oral Iron Chelating Drug	No
	536. Passivator-NML Pascon	No		562. Gas Generation Under Controlled Pressure	No
	537. Persin Red from Acid Pickling Waste	No		563. Iron Drug for Thallessemia	No
	538. Phosphets Coating on Mild Steel Surface of High Temp.	No		564. Mask, Facelet for Protection of Traffic Fumes	Yes
	539. Phosphoric Acid	No		565. Metal Matrix Composite, Reinforced Synthesis of	No
	540. Radiator Fluid, Long Life (Coolant)	Yes		566. Nitrogen Level Indicator, Liquid Based on Capacitors Method	No
	541. Removal of TiO ₂ and Fe ₂ O ₃ from Bauxite Sample	No		567. Nitrogen Level Indicator, Liquid Based Thermodynamic Principle	No
	542. Resin Bonded Al ₂ O ₃ -SiC Refractories	No		568. Nitrogen Transfer Pump, Liquid Submersible	No
	543. Sponge Iron Fines Low Pressure Briquetting of	No		569. Paint Remover, Synthetic	No
	544. Stainless Clad Aluminium	No		570. Permanent Marking System	No
	545. Stainless Steel Powder, Paint Grade	No		571. Piston Gauge Pressure Standard	Yes
	546. Stainless Steel Powder for Pigmented Paint	No		572. Pneumatically Levitating Plate for Frictionless Movement of Engg. Components	No
	547. Steel, Calorising of	Yes		573. Teleclock, Miniaturised	Yes
	548. Steel, Nitrogen Bearing Austenitic Stainless	No		574. Water Repellant & Fire Proofing Chemical for Cellulose Based Textiles	No
	549. Steel, Ni Free Austenitic for Exhaust Valve	No			
	550. Zinc from Zinc Dross, Recovery of	No		RRL, BHO	
	551. Zinc Tetraoxochromate from Chromate Effluent	No		575. Alloys, Sliz	Yes
NPL	552. Analyser, Particle Size	Yes		576. Alloys, Sliz	Yes
	553. Biosensor, Blood Glucose	Yes		577. Bricks, Clay Fly Ash	Yes
	554. Biosensor, Blood Glucose	Yes		578. Ceramic Fibre Preforms	Yes
	555. Brushes, Aviation Grade	Yes		579. Composite Components, Al Alloy Metal Matrix, for Auto & Engg. Applin.	Yes
	556. Carbon Fibre, Activated	Yes		580. Composite, FRP, Red Mud for Building Components	Yes
	557. Catalyst, Pt/Si, Process for Formatoin of	No		581. Effluent Treatment Plant Design	No
	558. Deposition of Hydrogentated A-Si and Related Materials	No		582. Electrolyte, Low Voltage	Yes
	559. Device for Synthesising Metal Matrix Composite	No			

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583. FRP Fan, Aerodynamic for Cooling Towers	Yes
584. FRP Gear Case	Yes
585. Hard Board Material for Insulation in Graphite Electrode Indus	No
586. Manganese Oxide from Pyrolusite, Leachable	Yes
587. R-Wood Products from Industrial Wastes	Yes

RRL, BHU

588. Chromite Overburden of Sukinda, Beneficiation of	No
589. Iron Oxide, High Pure	Yes
590. Pan Sintering Plant (35TPD)	Yes
591. Phthalocyanin Blue	No
592. Sillimanite Using Flotation Column, Beneficiation of	Yes

RRL, JM

593. 10-DeacetylBaccatin-III & Baccatin-III from Taxus Sp. Isolation of	No
594. Antidiabetic Formulation. of Plant Origin	No
595. Aryl Alkenoic Acid Morpholin Amides Useful as Thermogenic and Spicy Agents	No
596. Bioactive Composition from Vitex Negundo	No
597. Bioactive Glycopeptide Lipid Fraction from the Plant Trichopus	No
598. Bioresolution Process for Prep. of Acetic Acid	No
599. Citronellol from Terpenic Aldehydes	No
600. Dammar Resin (Ex. Shorea Species), Utilisation of, for Aromatic Oils Prod.	No
601. Device for Separating Seeds from the Fruit Skin	No
602. Extraction of Essential Oils and Rutin from Plant Materials	No
603. Fibre, Dietary Separation of	No

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604. Formulation for Increasing Silk Yield in Silkworms, Bombay Mori	No
605. Formulation from Cassia Tora for Enhancing Fecundity in Antheraea Sp.	No
606. Geranyl Nitrile from Lemon Grass Oil	No
607. Gluconic Acid by Genetically Altered Strain of Gluconobacter Oxydans	No
608. Isolation of Hyperglycemic from Pterocarpus Marsupium	No
609. Isolation of Fraction Possessing Adaptogenic Activity from Plant Centella Asiatica	No
610. Kinetic Resolution of (+)-6-Methoxy-9-Methyl-2-Nepthalene Acetic Acid Using a Novel Enzyme	No
611. Machine for Prod. of Coated Threads	No
612. Microbial Hydroxylation of Camptothecin to 10-Hydroxycamptothecin	No
613. Novel Yeast Lipase For Kinetic Resolution of Recemic Drugs	No
614. Podophyllotoxin-1-0-B-D-Glucopyronoid from Roots/Rhizomes of Podophyllum Modi Isolation/Puri	No
615. Process for Prep. of Pharmaceutical Composition with Enhanced Bioavailability for Immunosupres	No
616. Racemisation of Alkyl Estera of Methoxy-2-Naphthelene Acetic Aid	No
617. Syringaldehyde	No
618. Terpeneol, Single Step Process for Production of	No

RRL, JT

619. 16-Dehydropregnenolone Acetate (16-DPA) from Diosgenin	No
620. 16-Dehydropregnenolone Acetate (16-DPA) from Diosgenin	Yes
621. 3-Keto-4 and Osten-17-Carboxylic Acid (Steroidal Drug)	No

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622. Annatto (Bika Orellana)	No
623. Boards from Paddy Husk & Other Cellulosic Materials	Yes
624. Boards, Black, with Synthetic Surface	No
625. Boards, Fibre & Ceiling, Medium Density	No
626. Boards, File, Duplex & Light Roofing Sheets	No
627. Chlorinated Paraffin Wax	No
628. Cymbopogon Citratus, Agro-technology of	No
629. Dibenzyl Disulphide	No
630. DI-Norgesterel and its Intermediate	No
631. Ferrocement Water Storage Tank	No
632. Fibres from Banana Stem	No
633. Indigofera Teysmanii, Cultivation	No
634. Ocimum (Ocimum Gartisimum), Agrotechnology on	No
635. Palmarosa (Cymbopogon Martini), Agrotechnology of	No
636. Patchouli (Pogostemon Patchouli), Agrotechnology on	No
637. Tephrosia Convida, A Non-Wood Plant Agrotechnology of	No
638. Vegetative Propagation of Poplar	No
RRL. TRD	
639. Allumin Abrasives, Sol-Gel	Yes
640. Anorin-44	No
641. Brake Lining Based on Anorin 35. Long Life, Low Fade	No
642. Catalyst from Kaolin Clays	No
643. Composite, Aluminium Graphite (AGC) for Automotive Indus. (Gralu)	No
644. Flame Retardant for EVA Cable Material Containing Anorin 53	No
645. Flame Retardant, Low Smoke Anorin 53	No

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646. Flame Retardant, Wide Spectrum for Plastics (Anorin 35)	No
647. Friction Dust from Anorin 35 (Anordust)	No
648. Green Ginger for Making Value Added Products	Yes
649. Palm Oil Processing Mill by Screw Press Syst.	No
PRL, JM	
650. New Pharmaceutical Composition for Treatment of Arthritis & Inflammation	No
SERC, G	
651. Pullout Test Device, Improved	No

Srisailam Hydro-Electric Power Station

3507. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh has urged the Union Government to permit the state to utilise the entire unallocated power from Central generating stations till recommissioning of damaged Srisailam Hydro-Electric power station;

(b) If so, whether the Union Government have acceded to the request of Andhra Pradesh State; and

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

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) to (c) Allocation to Andhra Pradesh from the unallocated share in Southern Region Central Power Stations was enhanced on 21-10-1998 from 27% to 75% to help A.P. tide over the crisis arising out of flooding of the Srisailam Units. This share has been revised again to 36% on 11-12-1998 following revival of some of the units at Srisailam.

Private Sector Projects

3508. SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision regarding the Private Sector projects worth Rs. 5,000/- crore to take off within the next few months in the road and port sectors; and

(b) if so, the details and locations of these projects ?

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

Yes, Sir. The Government has taken major policy measures to involve private sector for the development of Road and Port Sectors.

(b) The details of BOT projects awarded till date in the road sector are given in the statement-I. The details of projects relating to port sector are given in the statement-II.

Statement-I

Statement Referred to in Reply to Part (b) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3508 for Answer on 21.12.98 by Shri Ajay Kumar S. Sarnaik Regarding Private Sector Projects

(A)			Road Projects		
Sl.No.	Project Name	NH No.	State	Cost Rs. Crores	Status
1.	*Thane-Bhiwandi Bypass	3 & 4	Maharashtra	103	Completed
2.	*Chalthan Road Over Bridge	8	Gujarat	10	Completed
3.	*Udaipur Bypass	8	Rajasthan	24	Completed
4.	Construction of six bridges	5	Andhra Pradesh	50	In progress
5.	Coimbatore Bypass	47	Tamil Nadu	90	In progress
6.	Durg Bypass	6	Madhya Pradesh	68	Agreement signed. Financial closure awaited.
7.	Narmada bridge	8	Gujarat	113	In progress
8.	Nardhana ROB	3	Maharashtra	34	In progress
9.	Patalganga Bridge	17	Maharashtra	33	In progress
10.	Hubli-Dharwar Bypass	4	Karnataka	68	In progress
11.	Nellor Bypass	5	Andhra Pradesh	73	Agreement signed. Financial closure awaited.
12.	Kortalaiyar Bridge	5	Tamil Nadu	30.00	Agreement signed. Actual Construction to commence.
13.	Khambatki Ghat tunnel & road	4	Maharashtra	37.80	Agreement signed. Actual construction to commence.
14.	Nasirabad ROB	6	Maharashtra	10.45	Agreement signed. Actual construction to commence.
15.	Wainganga Bridge	6	Maharashtra	32.60	Agreement signed. Actual construction to commence.
16.	Mahi Bridge	8	Gujrat	42.00	Agreement signed. Actual construction to commence.
Total				818.85	

*Since completed and opened to traffic.

Statement-II*Private Sector/Captive Port Projects Approved so far
(Position as on 6.11.98)*

Sl.No.	Name of Scheme	Name of Port	Capacity	Project Cost	Name of Party
1.	Container Terminal	JNP	6.00	8000	P&O. The Project is under construction
2.	Liquid cargo Berth	JNP	4.50	2000	BPCL & IOC. Agreement in expected to be executed in fortnight's time.
3.	Fifth Oil Jetty	Kandla	2.00	210	IFFCO. Completed
4.	Oil Jetty at Vadinar	Kandla	15.00	14000	Essar Oil Ltd. Terms of agreement have been approved on 7.8.98
5.	Off shore Stockyard and Berth	Mormugao	5.00	3000	Mormugao Martina.
6.	Initially Constructing a Virtual Jetty and then converting into permanent jetty	Kandla	2.00	900	IOC. Virtual jetty completed
7.	Container Terminal	Tuticorin	3.60	1000	PSA. Agreement signed on 15.7.98
8.	Initially Constructing a Virtual Jetty and then converting into permanent jetty	Kandla	2.00	900	HPCL. Virtual jetty completed
9.	Construction of POL jetty	Kandla	2.00	750	BPCL
Total			42.1 MT	30760	

Project Cost is in Rs. Million; Capacity is in million tonnes.

Revision of Voters List

3509. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Election Commission have not revised the voters list in Delhi, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Mizoram where assembly elections have held recently;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the youngsters who crossed the age of 18 years were deprived off the right to cast vote;

(d) if so, whether any responsibility has been fixed for this lapse; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to avoid recurrence of such lapses in future ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR.

M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) The Electoral Rolls were revised with reference to 1.1.1998 as the qualifying date in the States of Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Rajasthan and National Capital Territory of Delhi before the recent elections to the Legislative Assemblies of those States.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does, not arise.

(e) Any person whose name is not included in the Electoral Roll but who is otherwise eligible for registration as elector can get his name included in the Electoral Roll in accordance with Section 23 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950.

**National Express Way Projects to
Link Major Ports**

3510. SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to offer National Express way projects to link major ports and industrial cities to the developers on a build-operate-transport (BOT) basis;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Minister has visited USA and UK recently to find developers for these projects; and

(d) if so, the details of the visit ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) Feasibility studies are being undertaken for providing adequate road connectivity to Major Ports. Offers for shortlisting of consultants have already been received. The nature of work and mode of financing will depend on the finding of the feasibility studies.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Minister of Surface Transport, however, had visited USA via UK to participate in the Seventh Annual World Economic Development Congress from 26th September, 1998 to 3rd October, 1998.

Duty Exemption to Educational Institutions

3511. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the UGC has sought powers for granting duty exemption to educational institutions on the import of CD-ROMs for educational purposes;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) The Central Government has already exempted the educational institutions from the Customs Duty, vide Customs Notification No. 51/96 dated 23.7.1996, for import of scientific and technological instruments and computer software, CD-ROMs etc. for research purposes. To be eligible for customs exemption, the Universities and other educational institutions are required to register themselves in the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR). Since Universities and Colleges do not come under DSIR, UGC sent a proposal to the Government requesting that an amendment may be issued by getting an additional clause added under the heading 'conditions' stating that 'in case of universities and colleges, the Registrars or the Principals of the colleges can certify that the said goods are required for research purpose only'. The proposal was referred to Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) for consideration and approval. That Ministry has sought some additional information on the matter, which UGC has been asked to furnish.

Mandatory Days of Teaching

3512. SHRI K.S. RAO : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Universities functioning under U.G.C. at present;

(b) the number out of them which do not complete the mandatory 180 days of teaching every year and conduct examinations every year;

(c) the reasons therefor and the manner in which the Government propose to remedy the situation; and

(d) the action taken against Universities not completing mandatory days of teaching and holding exams, every year or declaring results on time ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Total number of Central/State/Deemed to be Universities is 222.

(b) As per the information furnished by the UGC, 56 out of 69 responding Universities completed 180 days of teaching in 1995-96 and 114 out of 120 responding universities conducted the examinations on schedule.

(c) and (d) The universities are autonomous bodies. Section 12(d) of the UGC Act, 1956 empowers the UGC to recommend "to any university the measures necessary for improvement of university education and advise the university upon the action to be taken for the purpose of implementing such recommendations". Accordingly, the UGC has issued Regulation for ensuring requisite number of teaching days and also has issued academic calendar for the conduct of examinations, declaration of results, etc. The UGC had also set up a Committee to examine the issues relating to implementation of the academic calendar in the universities. The Committee, in its report, had suggested award to the universities to encourage implementation of the academic calendar. The recommendations were considered by the Commission and circulated to all the universities and State Governments emphasising the need to implement the academic calendar as also the main recommendations of the Committee.

Water Testing Laboratories

3513. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received proposals from some state for setting up water testing laboratories in their respective states;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(d) whether the Union Government proposed to set up a water testing laboratory in each district of Uttar Pradesh; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. However, under the World Bank aided project, the laboratories of Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board are being strengthened including water testing facilities.

Navodaya Vidyalayas in Kerala

3514. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of students studying in Navodaya Vidyalayas in Kerala;

(b) whether the number of teachers working in these schools is less than the requirement;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken to fill up the existing vacancies ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The number of students studying in Navodaya Vidyalayas in Kerala is 5623.

(b) to (d) Against a total 283 sanctioned posts of teachers (PGTs, TGTs and Misc. categories) for the Navodaya Vidyalayas in Kerala, 266 teachers are in position and only 17 posts are vacant as on 30th November, 1998. These vacancies are presently filled by contractual/part-time teachers.

Education for Marginalised and Disadvantaged Children

3515. SHRI C.D. GAMIT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Sulabh Mahila Avom Bal Kalyan Sansthan has taken major initiative to expand education network for the marginalised and disadvantaged children in the society;

(b) if so, the details regarding its Sansthans (educational institutions) functioning at present in the country alongwith the facilities being provided to marginalised and disadvantaged children in the country, state-wise in the field of education;

(c) whether any assistance is also extended by UNESCO for this activity; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) Sulabh Mahila Avom Bal Kalyan Sansthan is not receiving any grants under the scheme of Non-Formal Education (NFE) which addressed to the educational needs of marginalised and disadvantaged children. The details about the activities of the said organisation are therefore not available.

(c) and (d) No assistance has been given by UNESCO under the scheme of Non-Formal Education.

Public Participation in Enquiry

3516. SHRI B.M. MENSINKAI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given to US Q. No. 43 on 30.11.98 and state :

(a) whether the Ministry have set its foot down on the committee's unanimous resolution to invite public views i.e. individuals/organisations to depose before the committee; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) The matter regarding procedure to be followed by the Committee has been discussed and an acceptable course of action has been finalised.

Financial Assistance Under NLM

3517. SHRI BHIM DAHAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether financial assistance is being provided to the state Government under the National Literacy Mission;

(b) if so, the total financial assistance provided to the North-Eastern States including Sikkim during the last three years, year-wise, state-wise; and

(c) the number of people made literate in these States during the said period, year-wise, state-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) Financial assistance under the National Literacy Mission is provided to the implementing agencies directly. The financial assistance provided to the agencies in the North-Eastern States, and the number of people made literate during the last three years is given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

Name of the State	Grants Released (Rs. in lakhs)			No. of persons made literate (in lakhs)		
	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1. Arunachal Pradesh	25.63	20.72	3.67	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
2. Assam	361.07	197.27	86.97	0.29	1.88	0.92
3. Manipur	17.62	20.64	17.94	N.R.	0.18	N.R.
4. Meghalaya	123.60	112.45	16.85	N.R.	N.R.	0.11
5. Mizoram	6.43	0.57	61.23	0.02	N.R.	N.R.
6. Nagaland	47.81	56.90	32.36	0.18*	0.21*	N.R.
7. Sikkim	—	11.22	—	0.04	0.05	N.R.
8. Tripura	0.10	4.73	4.00	N.R.	0.93	2.62

*Learners enrolled.

[Translation]

Pancheshwar Hydro Electric Power Project

3518. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for the non progress in regard to Pancheshwar Hydro Electric Power Project so far signed between India and Nepal;

(b) whether any time limit has been fixed to start the work on the said project; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) The Detailed Project Report for Pancheshwar multi-purpose project is under preparation after discussions between experts of both the countries. The Joint Group of Experts have identified the important issues which require to be resolved in order to finalise the Detailed Project Report.

(b) and (c) The work on the project would be started after the Detailed Project Report is prepared jointly and agreed to by the two Governments.

Hindi Sahitya Academy

3519. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of complaints received in regard to exploitation of writers, non-payment of royalty and non-printing

of approved manuscripts by Bihar Hindi Sahitya Academy, and the action taken thereon;

(b) whether the royalty has not been paid for the book 'Geography of Bihar' for the last five years despite the sale of all its copies;

(c) whether the approved manuscript for the second edition received four years ago has not been printed so far; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check the violation of rules and exploitation of Hindi writers ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected.

[English]

Voting right to Indian Citizens Working Abroad

3520. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any final decision on granting voting right to Indian citizens working abroad;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the Government's reaction to this issue ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT : (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) to (c) Owing to practical and

administrative difficulties, it has not yet been possible to grant voting rights to Indian citizens living abroad.

[Translation]

Utilisation of Denuded/Degraded Forests

3521. SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL :
SHRI D.S. AHIRE :

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

(a) whether the Government have formulated any central scheme for the utilisation of denuded/degraded forests on the basis of profit sharing/fruit sharing;

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

(c) the amount allocated to State Governments for the above scheme during the Eighth Plan, State-wise; and

(d) the achievements made under the above scheme during the above period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Four major centrally sponsored schemes of the Ministry of Environment and Forests are under

implementation in the country for regeneration and afforestation of denuded/degraded forests. These schemes provide for peoples' participation on usufruct sharing basis. The schemes are :

- (i) **Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development Project Scheme (IAEPS):** Integrated approach to promote afforestation and development of degraded forests on watershed basis;
- (ii) **Area Oriented Fuelwood and Fodder Project Scheme (AOFFPS):** to augment production of fuelwood and fodder in identified districts;
- (iii) **Conservation and Development of Non-Timber Forest Produce including Medicinal Plants Scheme (NTFP):** to increase production NTFP with special focus on tribal population;
- (iv) **Association of Scheduled Tribes and Rural Poor in Regeneration of Degraded Forest on Usufruct Sharing Basis:** to promote association of tribals and rural poor in protection and rehabilitation of degraded forests.

State-wise releases and achievements during the Eighth Plan are given in Statement annexed.

Statement

(Rupees in lakhs/Area in hectares)

Sl.No.	States	IAEPS		AOFFPS ¹		NTFP		Asso. of ST/Rural Poor ²	
		Central Assistance Released	Area Covered	Central Assistance Released	Area Covered	Central Assistance Released	Area Covered	Central Assistance Released	Area Covered
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1057.56	13673	313.08	9992	297.89	5639	33.96	400
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	352.65	4472	54.49	960	102.29	2000		
3.	Assam	158.10	4650	565.48	22446	53.50	710		
4.	Bihar	109.35	673	694.50	22108	188.00	4500	83.07	1265
5.	Goa	38.22	445	29.34	726	34.20	766		
6.	Gujarat	266.09	3670	617.25	13794	556.92	7469	42.39	910
7.	Haryana	673.34	8557	1320.234	25648	291.85	3633		
8.	Himachal Pradesh	977.74	13178	627.94	11181	411.89	7580		
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1569.82	19192	127.01	3291	363.26	6723		
10.	Karnataka	115.77	22328	940.03	21684	137.23	2691	36.30	525

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11.	Kerala	213.77	1745	223.30	4423	40.16	581		
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2212.74	49334	1587.79	55650	268.45	6441	218.64	4805
13.	Maharashtra	138.07	1629	220.25	5866	140.44	2420	140.84	1965
14.	Manipur	919.40	14278	520.88	16585	194.61	6207		
15.	Meghalaya	633.33	8917	292.56	6133	278.14	5974		
16.	Mizoram	585.67	8000	1634.75	46090	122.29	3290		
17.	Nagaland	222.45	2675	25.15	2130	43.85	1307		
18.	Orissa	242.40	3666	796.32	25904	654.88	14770	112.45	0 ^a
19.	Punjab	429.28	5690	869.30	16965	343.00	6050		
20.	Rajasthan	2635.95	45180	1019.13	20215	235.29	3800	53.92	700
21.	Sikkim	1216.03	21207	327.62	6971	404.25	4680		
22.	Tamil Nadu	142.81	1157	476.83	14933	120.03	2698		
23.	Tripura	273.79	5408	176.26	8861	56.09	1005		
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1959.14	19597	1300.53	23688	9.00	0 ^a		
25.	West Bengal	1268.36	18928	659.09	17974	301.16	7075	14.00	0 ^a
Total		19451.83	298259	15419.12	404218	5648.67	108009	735.57	10570

1. Implemented on 50 : 50 sharing basis with States.
2. Implemented in Nine States during the Eighth Plan.
3. Implementation not commenced in the Eighth Plan.

Resentment among Judges of Mumbai High Court

3522. SHRI VITHAL TUPE : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is wide spread resentment among the judges of Mumbai High Court and the judges are bent on resigning their posts;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of judges/advocates of Mumbai High Court who have tendered their resignations during the last four months and whether their resignations have been accepted;

(d) if not, whether the Government propose to remove the causes of resentment among judges after ascertaining facts; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR.

M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (b) The Government have not received any report of resentment among the Judges of the Bombay High Court.

(c) to (e) Two Additional Judges of the Bombay High Court tendered their resignations on personal grounds. Since there is no provision in the Constitution for acceptance of the resignation, it is effective from the date specified in the letter of resignation.

Construction of Inter-State Roads/Bridges

3523. SHRI D.S. AHIRE :
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government contribute in economic development of State Governments by constructing inter-state roads/bridges of economic importance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount made available to each State for the purpose in Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(d) the funds to be provided for the said scheme during Ninth Five Year Plan, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Central Govt. is primarily responsible for the development and maintenance of National Highways only. However, in order to assist inter-States coordination, the Central Govt. provides financial assistance for certain category of road/bridge projects under the Economic and Inter-State importance (E & I) Scheme. Under this scheme 100% loan assistance is given to the projects which have Inter-State characteristics and 50% loan for projects of a particular State.

(c) A Statement giving details is annexed.

(d) 9th Five Year Plan is yet to be finalised.

Statement

State-wise release of Funds under E & I Schemes during 8th Plan Period

Name of the State	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
Karnataka	475.00
Madhya Pradesh	3.80
Rajasthan	709.00
Tamil Nadu	325.00
Uttar Pradesh	300.00
West Bengal	211.20

Note: Allocation of funds under E & I is made on lump-sum basis based on the schemes sanctioned and the availability of funds. Ministry while releasing funds for construction of roads of Economic & Interstate Importance reviews the actual utilisation of funds by the State Government as also the expenditure made for their own share.

Way-Side Amenities on National Highways

3524. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any scheme for providing way-side amenities on National Highways to provide facilities to the people;

(b) if so, the places selected for multipurpose way-side amenities;

(c) the details of the project proposals in this regard and the funds earmarked for the purpose by this Government during this financial year; and

(d) the progress made in respect of this scheme ?

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

(b) to (d) Details of sites where way-side amenities are already completed or are in different stages of progress are given in statement enclosed. No funds are earmarked exclusively for wayside amenities work. The required funds for such projects are provided depending on the progress of the work and the availability of funds.

Statement

Position of Passenger Oriented Wayside Amenities

(a) Financed by Government

S.No.	State	Location	Present Status
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Palamner on NH-4	In Progress
2.	Assam	Jakhal-Bandal NH-37, Km. 338	In Progress
3.	Goa	Nagao on NH-17	LA Completed. Development yet to be sanctioned.
4.	Gujarat	Vapi on NH-8	In Progress
5.	Himachal Pradesh	Nauni on NH-21	In Progress
6.	Maharashtra	Manor on NH-8	In Progress
7.	Madhya Pradesh	Khalghat on NH-3	In Progress
8.	Orissa	Rameshwar on NH-5	Complex is operational.
9.	Rajasthan	Gomti ka chowraha on NH-8	LA Completed. Development yet to be sanctioned.
10.	Tamil Nadu	Sattur on NH-7	Complex is operational.

(b) Financed Through Private Sector

S.No.	State	Location	Present Status
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Km. 82 Hyderabad-Vijaywada Section of NH-9	In Progress.
2.	Assam	Km. 962-963 on NH-31	Facility is in operation.

1	2	3	4
3.	Bihar	NH-2 at Km. 385 in Barhi-Asansol Section	Facility is in operation.
4.	Haryana	At Dharuhera on Km. 75.6 on NH-8	Facility is in operation.
5.	Himachal Pradesh	Km. 158.83 on NH-21	Work is in advanced stage of progress.
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	NH 1A at Km. 246/247	In Progress.
7.	Karnataka	Km. 490/475-490/625 on NH-4	In Progress.
8.	Kerala	Km. 471.1-471.3 on NH-47	Facility is in operation.
9.	Madhya Pradesh	Km. 325 on Durg Rajnand Gaon Section of NH-6	Facility is in operation.
10.	Maharashtra	NH-17. Km. 457 Panvel-Panjim Section	Facility is in operation.
11.	Maharashtra	Km. 495/85 on NH-8	Work is nearing completion.
12.	Punjab	Km. 398-399 on NH-15	In Progress.
13.	Punjab	Km. 217/195 on NH-1	Facility is in operation.
14.	Rajasthan	Between Km. 15/400-15/610 of NH-15	Facility is in operation.
15.	Rajasthan	Km. 294 of NH-8 (Jaipur-Ajmer Section)	Facility is in operation.
16.	Rajasthan	Km. 368-369 on NH-8	Facility is in operation.
17.	Tamil Nadu	Km. 46 on NH-7 (Bangalore-Krishnagiri Section)	In Progress.
18.	Uttar Pradesh	Km. 192/600 on NH-24 between Rampur & Bareilly	Facility is in operation.
19.	Uttar Pradesh	Km. 242 of Kanpur-Varanasi Section of NH-2	Facility is in operation except dormitory, which is under construction.

1	2	3	4
20.	Uttar Pradesh	Km. 284 on Bareilly-Sitapur section of NH-24	Facility is in operation.
21.	West Bengal	Km. 805-806 on NH-31 Vill. Tufanganj	Facility is in operation.
22.	West Bengal	Km. 103 on NH-34	Work is in Progress.
23.	West Bengal	Km. 111 on Calcutta-Kharagpur Section of NH-6	Work is in progress.

Setting up of Special Courts

3525. SHRI ARVIND KAMBLE :
SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD :

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of special courts set up in the country;

(b) the objective of setting up such courts;

(c) whether the orders of the Supreme Court have been taken into account while setting up the special courts to deal with the corruption cases; and

(d) if so, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Ragging in Educational Institutions

3526. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to ban ragging in educational institutions; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) Central Government regards the practice of ragging in educational institutions as reprehensible and unwholesome. Instructions have been issued, from time to time, to the universities and institutions, and State Governments to take stern action to curb this menace, and to invoke punitive provisions of law where

under the grab of ragging, specific offences are committed. The universities and other educational institutions are also being asked to amend their Ordinances/Regulations to outlaw ragging and treat those participating in it as guilty of 'gross misconduct' so that the penalty of rustication or removal from the rolls of the Universities could be imposed on the offenders.

Scrapping of Lecture

3527. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN AHAMED : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the governing body of the Indian Institute of advanced study, Shimla, has been reconstituted;

(b) if so, the composition thereof;

(c) whether the authorities of the IIAS have recently scrapped a lecture in memory of Dr. Radhakrishnan, to be delivered by the Noble laureate economist Dr. Amartya Sen at the Institute;

(d) if so, the person now slated to deliver the said lecture; and

(e) the reasons for this change ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) After expiry of its term, the Governing Body of Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla, was reconstituted on July 20, 1998. The composition of the reconstituted Governing Body is given in the statement enclosed.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) The Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla has informed that Prof. Amartya Sen was earlier invited twice on 28th January, 1997 and 16th October, 1997 to deliver the Radhakrishnan Memorial Lecture in September, 1997 and September, 1998 but he declined on both the occasions. The Governing Body has unanimously decided to invite Dr. Murl Manohar Joshi, Minister of Human Resource Development to deliver the 1999 Radhakrishnan Memorial Lecture in September, 1999. The name of Prof. Sen did not figure in the Governing Body deliberations on 15th October, 1998 regarding the invitation for the delivery of the Radhakrishnan Memorial Lecture.

Statement

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Prof. G.C. Pandey | – Chairman |
| 2. Shri M.D. Srinivasan | – Vice-Chairman |
| 3. Director, IIAS, Shimla. | |

4. Education Secretary, Department of Education.

5. Financial Adviser, Department of Education.

6. Chairman, University Grants Commission.

7. Chairman, Indian Council of Historical Research.

8. Chairman, Indian Council of Philosophical Research.

9. Director-General, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research.

10. Chairman, Indian Council of Social Science Research.

11. Prof. Goverdhan Mehta

12. Prof. P.K. Ponnuswamy – (To be substituted)

13. Dr. Kirit Joshi

14. Dr. Yoganand Kale

15. Dr. Lakan Lal Mehrota

Environment Education

3528. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the environmental education being imparted include documentation of biological resources and traditional knowledge of the surroundings; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) The environmental education at various levels, particularly at upper primary, secondary and senior secondary stage include documentation of biological resources such as trees, the story of life on land and sea, ways of living of birds and human beings, biosphere, man and his environment, fossil energy sources like coal/crude oil, wildlife and forest conservation, species and population, biotic community etc. Knowledge about these topics is however imparted in the form of textual materials.

[Translation]

Theft of Artifacts

3529. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI :
SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY :

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

(a) the number of idols and artifacts stolen and taken to the foreign countries and out of those brought back to India during the last three years;

(b) the extent of success achieved by the enquiry agencies in this regard;

(c) the number of persons convicted on this account during the said period; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to stop smuggling of antiques ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) As per the information available with the Central Government agencies like the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, the Central Bureau of Investigation and the National Crime Records Bureau, no case relating to theft of idols and artifacts taken to foreign countries and of their retrieval back to India has been reported in the last three years.

(b) Does not arise in view of 'a' above.

(c) Does not arise in view of 'b' above.

(d) Measures have been taken by the Archaeological Survey of India in consultation with the enforcing agencies like Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, Customs, Central Bureau of Investigation and the State Governments to check the theft of antiquities and their smuggling by stepping up vigilance and intensifying checking at Customs exit points, as well as by strict enforcement of the Antiquities and Art Treasures Act, 1972. Armed guards have also been deployed at selected centrally protected monuments and museums under the Archaeological Survey of India.

[English]

Computer Education

3530. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Computer education is imparted in the schools in various States;

(b) if so, the total number of students benefited therefrom in Maharashtra and Karnataka; and

(c) the funds provided for the programme to these States during the VIII plan and allocated for IX Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The Department of Education, under the 'Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Computer Literacy and Studies in Schools' (CLASS) provides Central assistance to States and Union Territories for purchase of computer hardware and for implementing the Computer Literacy Scheme in Government/Government aided Senior Secondary

Schools. Under this Scheme, hands on experience is provided to the students studying in Government schools.

(b) Data regarding the number of students benefited under this scheme is not maintained in this Department.

(c) During the VIII Plan period State of Maharashtra was sanctioned Rs. 890.66 lakhs while the State of Karnataka was sanctioned Rs. 766.90 lakhs. Provision is not made separately for individual States.

Consultancy Services of CRRI

3531. SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE :
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :

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

(a) whether Central Road Research Institute has earned international reputation in the road research;

(b) if so, whether the CRRI is all set to enter into research consultancy in the international market;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether CRRI has drawn a full fledged plan 'CRRI function 2001' to boost its marketing and knowledge base:

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the number of countries to whom the consultancy services have been provided so far and the number of proposals in the hand at present ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes Sir, Central Road Research Institute (CRRI), a constituent unit of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), is internationally recognised as an R & D organisation in the field of road and transportation engineering.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. CRRI is already registered with the World Bank, Asian Development Bank and African Development Bank to provide consultancy services and to meet specialised training requirements of other countries in the area of highway and transport engineering.

(d) Yes Sir, CRRI has prepared a vision document entitled CRRI Vision 2001—An Action Plan.

(e) The Vision document :

- Identifies major thrust areas for CRRI;
- Lays down goals to be achieved by 2001; and
- Specifies testing facilities and infrastructure to be modernised.

(f) CRRI has provided consultancy services to five countries. Currently there are no consultancy projects abroad, in hand.

Lapse of Funds

3532. PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a sum of Rs. 250 crores has lapsed out of the plan funds during the years 1996-97 and 1997-98;

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

(c) whether the development in various sectors has been affected due to this situation;

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

(e) whether the wide-ranging repairs of the National Highways from Baramulla to Handwara to Chokibal could not be undertaken only due to paucity of funds; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) During 1996-97 and 1997-98 an amount of Rs. 240 crore approximately was surrendered out of the plan allocation broadly for the following reasons :

(i) less toll collection from permanent bridges on national highways;

(ii) less demand/proposals from research organisations/ states;

(iii) reduction in the allocation towards investment in the National Highways Authority of India as a result of review by High Level Committee;

(iv) Non-utilisation of funds in externally aided schemes by the executing agencies due to delay in opening of LOC; environmental clearance and problem of tree cuttings, etc.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) This road is not a National Highway and is being developed and maintained by the State Government.

(f) Does not arise.

Taj Hotel in Nagarhole National Park

3533. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH :
SHRI SITA RAM YADAV :

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

(a) whether the Government have denied permission for the Taj Hotel project in Nagarhole National Park in Karnataka;

(b) if so, whether the Government have directed the Karnataka Government to take over the hotel complex from the Taj group;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to stop such profit making concerns for operating in the protected areas such as National Parks, Sanctuaries and Reserve Forests ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) to (c) The proposal of the State Government of Karnataka for leasing of Murkal Complex and Cottages in Nagarhole National Park to M/s Gateway Hotels and Resorts Ltd. has been rejected under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 on 28.5.1998. The State Government's request for reconsideration has also been rejected on 17.9.98. Vide orders dated 17.9.98 of the Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Regional Office, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Bangalore the State Government has also been asked to take the possession of all buildings and ancillary facilities at Murkal Complex immediately from M/s Gateway Hotels and Resorts Ltd.

(d) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has issued detailed guidelines to regulate tourism in protected areas. No commercial tourist facilities are allowed to be established inside protected areas.

Wildlife Trade Control Bureau

3534. SHRI NADENDLA BHASKAR RAO Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to establish Wildlife Trade Control Bureau;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any award has been instituted for forest staff for meritorious service; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) and (b) No final view has been taken by the Government regarding establishment of Wildlife Trade Control Bureau.

(c) and (d) Provision of awards and rewards for specific cases of valour and outstanding performance has been made under the Scheme 'Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries'.

*[Translation]***Change in Study Material**

3535. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :
 SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :
 DR. ASHOK PATEL :
 SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :
 SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHARY :
 DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :

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

(a) whether the Government propose to effect special change in the study material for students provided education through correspondence;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented;

(d) whether only above 25 per cent students out of the total number of students enrolled for education through correspondence complete their education; and

(e) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The University Grants Commission in 1993 provided a detailed plan of action for academic transformation of Correspondence Course Institutes in which it is envisaged that the existing course materials will be transformed into self-instructional materials. The materials provided to the students should be self-contained and self-explanatory. Various steps are envisaged to convert the correspondence course material into self-instructional material.

(d) and (e) According to the information furnished by the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), the success rate at term end examinations of the University is higher. Distance mode is flexible means of learning and the pass percentage at IGNOU is favourable.

*{English}***Adult Literacy Programme**

3536. SHRIMATI KAMAL RANI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Adult Literacy Programme is under implementation in U.P.;

(b) if so, the amount spent there under during each of the last five years;

(c) whether some voluntary organisations have also been engaged for the purpose;

(d) if so, the total number of such voluntary organisations as on date and the financial assistance provided to them,

(e) the targets fixed and achieved by the voluntary organisations;

(f) whether there have been instances of misuse of Central assistance by the voluntary organisations;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

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

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

(b) The amount released during last five years to Zila Saksharta Samities and Voluntary Organisations respectively is as under :

Year	Grants released to Zila Saksharta Samities (Rs. in lakhs)	Grants released to Voluntary Organisations (Rs. in lakhs)
1993-94	2,212.88	132.07
1994-95	2,344.43	151.27
1995-96	1,504.44	81.52
1996-97	628.36	77.22
1997-98	389.09	78.72

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) 56 Voluntary Organisations. The total amount of Rs. 520.80 lakhs has been released during the last five years.

(e) No specific target fixed for the Voluntary Organisation.

(f) No instances of misuse of Central Assistance have been reported during last five years.

(g) and (h) Does not arise.

*[Translation]***Demand and Supply of Power**

3537. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :
 SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI :
 SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantum of thermal and hydel power generation at present in the country, state-wise;

(b) whether there has been a decline in the generation of thermal and hydro power; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) The state-wise/region-wise/system-wise details of energy generation in the country during April-November, 1998 are given below :

(All) figs. in MU)

Region/State/System	Generation		
	Thermal	Hydro	Total
1	2	3	4
Northern Region			
Delhi	4505	0	4505
J & K	0	5244	5244
H.P.	0	3970	3970
Haryana	2178	190	2368
Rajasthan	5695	727	6422
Punjab	6554	2618	9172
U.P.	38562	4912	43474
Western Region			
Gujarat	25990	949	26939
Maharashtra	33567	2965	36532
M.P.	27829	2047	29876
Southern Region			
A.P.	25191	4837	30028
Karnataka	4113	6306	10419
Kerala	165	4806	5025
Tamil Nadu	20203	3464	23667
Eastern Region			
Bihar	5263	136	5398
Orissa	5703	2398	8101
West Bengal	13784	303	14087
DVC	4726	258	4984
Sikkim	0	23	23

1	2	3	4
North-Eastern Region			
Arunachal Pradesh	0	9	9
Assam	606	0	606
Manipur	0	379	379
Meghalaya	0	374	374
NEEPCO	565	773	1338
Tripura	188	37	225

(b) and (c) No, Sir. There has been an increase of 4.3% and 13.5% in thermal and hydel generation during April-November, 1998 over the corresponding period of previous year.

Working of I.R.C.C.

3538. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the names of projects being undertaken so far by IRCC, alongwith locations thereof;

(b) whether a recommendation for liquidating the corporation has been made by the committees constituted by the Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) Names of the projects undertaken by IRCC alongwith its location are attached as statement.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Committee of Secretaries of Government of India, has recommended winding up of I.R.C.C.

(c) A Cabinet proposal for winding up of IRCC has been circulated to concerned appraising agencies.

Statement

- (1) Construction of roads in and around Libya zliton area. CA No. 36 to 44 (9 contracts)
- (2) Surfacing of roads in Misurata area. CA No. 1/80. "
- (3) -do- CA No. 2/80. "
- (4) Construction of Bir Dufan Road Elnachai CA No. 1/80. "

Land for Expressways*[English]*

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| (5) Construction of road Rababia CA No. 2/80. | Libya | |
| (6) Construction of road Elnachai CA No. 3/80. | " | 3539. SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state : |
| (7) Construction of Suktalata Road CA No. 4/80. | " | (a) whether the Government propose to offer concessional rates for land acquisition to develop a network of high speed, access controlled expressways; |
| (8) Construction of Major-Al-Feis road CA No. 1/81. | " | (b) if so, the details thereof; and |
| (9) Construction of Al-haman-Al rajaina Road CA 2/81. | " | (c) the steps taken by the Government to attract private investment, particularly foreign investment in the road projects |
| (10) Construction of South Zliten Agricultural road CA 24/81. | " | THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) No, Sir. |
| (11) Construction of Gheriat Derj Highway CA 468/T/80. | " | (b) Does not arise. |
| (12) Construction of Agedabia Tobruk Libya Highway CA No. 445/T/82. | " | (c) The Govt. has already taken following major initiatives to attract private investment in the road sector : |
| (13) Construction of Jalawala Bridge & its approach road | " | (i) Road sector has been declared as an industry to facilitate commercial borrowing. |
| (14) Construction of 529 Box Culverts on Alquaim-Akashat railway line. | " | (ii) 5 years of corporate tax holiday and deduction of 30% on profits for the purpose of tax in the next five years can be availed of in any period within 20 years of the commissioning of the project. |
| (15) Construction of Aldholoia bridge and approach road. | " | (iii) Automatic Approval for Foreign Direct Investment upto 74% of equity permitted and 100% on case to case basis. |
| (16) Construction of Road & concrete project. | " | (iv) External commercial borrowings upto 35% of project cost permitted. |
| (17) Construction of IBB-A1-Udyan road | YAR | (v) Toll rate indexed to WPI. |
| (18) Construction of ANS Bridge. | J&K (India) | (vi) Duty free import of high quality identified equipment allowed. |
| (19) Construction of Yadunath and Pandakhas bridge in J&K. | " | (vii) Decision to make land free of encumbrances, available for the projects. |
| (20) Construction of Longai bridge Assam. | " | Bench of Gujarat High Court at Vadodara and Karnataka High Court Bench at Hubli |
| (21) Extension & strengthen of Tambaram Air Field. | " | <i>[Translation]</i> |
| (22) Providing project management consultancy to Sail for construction of three stock year at various places | Bhubneswar
Rourkela
Allahabad | 3540. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL :
SHRI M. SRINIVAS : |
| (23) Planing, design & construction of College of Horticulture & forestry at basar in Arunachal Pradesh | Basar;
Arunachal Pradesh.
India | Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state : |
| | | (a) whether any proposals are pending with the Government for setting up a bench of Gujarat High Court at Vadodara and Karnataka High Court bench at Hubli; |

(b) if so, the details of representations received in this regard; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

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

(b) and (c) Representations have been received from time to time from various Bar Associations etc. for establishing Benches of Gujarat High Court at Rajkot, Surat, Vadodara, Kutch and Bhavnagar in Gujarat.

The Government of Karnataka have asked for establishment of a permanent bench of the Karnataka High Court at Hubli-Dharwad.

It is the policy of the Government of India that both the State Government and the High Court consider the matter from all angles and arrive at a consensus for establishment of a Bench.

As no complete proposal has been received from the Governments of Gujarat and Karnataka, in consultation with the Chief Justices of the respective High Courts, it is not possible for the Central Government to take any action in the matter.

Kutir Jyoti Programme

[English]

3541. SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the break up of funds released under the Kutir Jyoti Programme to the different States/UTs during the year 1998-99; and

(b) the mechanism available at the Centre to monitor the programme and its implementation in the States/UTs ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) A statement showing a grant of Rs. 20.11 crores released during 1998-99 (upto 30.11.1998) under Kutir Jyoti Programme to different States/Union Territories is enclosed.

(b) In order to ensure proper utilisation of these funds and implementation of this programme, the Central Government releases 50 per cent of the grant for the agreed number of connections in advance for taking up the work and the balance 50% of the grant is released to the State Electricity Boards/

State Power Departments on completion of the work and furnishing the list of beneficiaries.

Statement

S.No.	States	Grant Disbursement (Rs. in Lakh)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	216
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	
3.	Assam	
4.	Bihar	262
5.	Goa	
6.	Gujarat	25
7.	Haryana	
8.	Himachal Pradesh	25
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	
10.	Karnataka	626
11.	Kerala	11
12.	Madhya Pradesh	265
13.	Maharashtra	275
14.	Manipur	
15.	Meghalaya	18
16.	Mizoram	
17.	Nagaland	
18.	Orissa	
19.	Punjab	25
20.	Rajasthan	24
21.	Sikkim	20
22.	Tamil Nadu	204
23.	Tripura	15
24.	Uttar Pradesh	
25.	West Bengal	
26.	Delhi	
27.	UTs	
Total		2011

Silver Jubilee of Tiger Project*[Translation]*

3542. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :
SHRI TEJVEER SINGH :
DR. ASHOK PATEL :

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

(a) whether a Workshop on the Silver Jubilee of Tiger Projects was organised recently and different measures to save the tigers were discussed therein;

(b) if so, whether the Government have formulated any comprehensive scheme in this regard in view of steadily decreasing number of tigers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABULAL MARANDI) :

(a) Yes, Sir. A national workshop to workout strategies on protection of tigers was organised on the occasion of completion of Twenty-five years of Project Tiger in New Delhi from 19th to 21st November, 1998.

(b) and (c) The Government has decided to create six new Tiger Reserves in addition to existing 23 Tiger Reserves under the purview of Project Tiger during IX Plan. Several other measures have also been taken by the Government which has been given in attached statement.

Statement*Steps taken by the Government of India to Protect Tiger*

1. The State Governments have been advised to strengthen vigilance and intensify patrolling.
2. Training and Workshops of various enforcement agencies for effective intelligence gathering and law enforcement.
3. Setting up of a National Coordination Committee to control poaching and illegal trade in wildlife with enforcement agencies like Customs, Revenue Intelligence, Indo-Tibetan Border Police, Border Security Force, Central Reserve Police Force, Coast Guards, State Police, Deputy Director, Wildlife Preservation & Scientific Organisations like Zoological and Botanical Survey of India.
4. To control transboundary trade, a protocol has been signed with People's Republic of China and a MOU with His Majesty's Government of Nepal.

5. Initiated creation of a Forum of Tiger Range Countries. i.e. Global Tiger Forum for addressing international issues related to tiger conservation.

6. Launching of public awareness programme to involve Non-Governmental Organisations and others for supporting the Government in its efforts towards wildlife conservation.

7. Supporting programmes of Institutions and NGOs in exploring tiger-trade routes and developing a forensic identification reference Manual for tiger parts and products.

8. Funds are being provided to the State Governments for the eco-development of the areas to reduce the biotic pressure thereon.

9. Steps have been initiated to set up site specific special force in Project Tiger Areas.

Smuggling of Skins of Rare Animals

3543. SHRI JANARDAN PRASAD MISRA :
SHRI M.R. CHAUDHARI :

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

(a) whether skins of rare animals are being smuggled from the country;

(b) if so, whether any arrests have been made in this regard during the last six months;

(c) if so, the details thereof and whether any action has been taken against the culprits; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) Cases of attempted smuggling of rare animal skins come to the notice of the Government of India from time to time.

(b) to (d) As per the reports received from the four Regional Deputy Directors for Wildlife Preservation located at Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta & Chennai, four tiger skins and two leopard skins were seized during the last six months and five persons have been arrested in this regard. Action has been initiated against the offenders under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

Expansion and Maintenance of National Highways-8*[English]*

3544. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the funds available for the repairs, maintenance, widening of National Highways and construction of additional Highways from 1998-99;

(b) whether Delhi-Jaipur Highway is being converted into four lane Highway;

(c) if so, the total amount spent so far and the work completed in kilometers; and

(d) the time by which the said four lane Highway is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) For the year 1998-99, Rs. 496 crores has been made available for repair and maintenance of National Highways. Another Rs. 1678.30 crores has been allocated for development of existing National Highways including widening, etc.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Four laning of Delhi-Jaipur road has already been completed and opened to traffic in about 127 kms. The work on four laning of balance reach from Gurgaon (km. 36.63) to Kotputli (km. 162.5) is in progress on which an amount of Rs. 82 crores have been spent up to November, 1998.

(d) The work is targeted for completion by March 2001.

Expansion/Development of NH in Orissa

3545. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal for the expansion and development of some National Highways in Orissa during 9th Plan;

(b) if so, the allocation of fund made for the purpose during 1998-99; and

(c) the details of the National Highways in Orissa proposed to be expanded, doubled and developed in 1998-99 and also during the remaining years of 9th plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. During 1997-98 a new national highway NH-60 of length 52.4 Km has been added to the National Highway Net work in Orissa state. In 1998-99 the Ministry has declared three new national highways in Orissa state aggregating to a length of about 809 Kms.

(b) For the development of National Highways in Orissa an amount of Rs. 32.08 crores have been allocated during 1998-99 financial year.

(c) During 1998-99, Annual Plan Programme provides for development of National Highway works as per the statement enclosed.

Statement

State : Orissa

Annual Plan 1998-99 for Road & Bridge Works

S. No.	NH No.	Name of Work	Length in Km.	Estimated Cost (Rs. Crores)
1	2	3	4	5
A. Road Works Widening to Two Lane (With/Without Strengthening)				
1.	23	Kms. 50.0—54.0	3.1	1.40
2.	23	Kms. 296.96—305.00	8.04	1.40
3.	43	Kms. 329.00—336.00	7.00	3.00
4.	43	Kms. 358.435—361.00	2.565	1.20
5.	43	Kms. 376.00—377.40	1.40	0.70
6.	43	Kms. 382.80—390.00	7.20	3.10
7.	43	Kms. 437.00—446.00	9.00	4.00
Strengthening Weak Two Lane Pavement				
8.	5A	Kms. 67.00—77.40	10.6	3.00
9.	6	Kms. 401.00—412.00	11.0	3.30
10.	6	Kms. 480.00—491.00	11.0	3.30
11.	42	Kms. 18.00—29.30	11.3	3.30
12.	42	Kms. 39.00—49.00	10.0	3.00
13.	43	Kms. 319.00—322.00	3.0	0.90
14.	60	Kms. Selected stretches	6.0	1.80
Misc. Road Works				
15.	N	Misc. Road Works : Improvement of Geometrics, road safety measures, L/A, culverts, bridge approaches, improvement of riding quality, Survey & Investigation etc. each work costing less than Rs. 50.00 lakhs	L.S.	4.00
Total for Road Works				40.00

1	2	3	4	5
B. Bridge Works				
Constn./Reconstn. of Major Bridges				
16.	23	Samakoi Bridge including approaches		12.00
17.	23	H.L. Bridge over river SUDHI at Km. 251/317		4.00
Rehabilitation of Bridges				
18.	6.2	Rehabilitation of distress bridges 7 Nos. (7 Nos.) on NH-6, 23, 3 & 42 under Package I.		2.50
		&		42
19.	5.5	Rehabilitation of distressed bridges (5 Nos.) on NH-5, A 5A & 6 under Package II.	5 Nos.	2.50
		&		6
Minor Bridges				
20.	6	Bisoi Nalla Bridge	24 m	0.70
21.	23	Neta Nalla Bridge	40 m	2.00
22.	43.	Hardapat Nalla Bridge	40 m	1.00
Misc. Bridge Works				
23.	N	Survey & Investigation, repairs & rehabilitation, widening minor bridges, consulting services etc. each costing less than Rs. 50.00 Lakhs	L.S. (8 Nos.)	2.00
Total				20.70
(Bridge works)				20.70
Grand Total (Road & Bridge Works)=Rs. 66.70 Crores				

Grants to Voluntary Organisations for the Development of Sports

3546. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the total grants provided to National Sports Federations and Voluntary Organisations for the development of sports in the country, during the last two years and the current year;

(b) the steps taken by the Government so far to promote sports and encourage talented sports persons and their coaches in the country; and

(c) the number of voluntary organisations sanctioned grants for the development of sports in the country, during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) A total grants of Rs. 2907.70 lakhs have been provided to various National Sports Federations and Voluntary Organisations for the Development of Sports in the country during the last two years and the current year. In 1996-97 and 1997-98 both under plan and non-plan a grant of Rs. 874.36 lakhs and Rs. 1246.70 lakh respectively have been given to various National Sports Federations.

However, during the current year viz. 1998-99 a total grant of Rs. 775.12 lakhs have been released to them upto 15th December, 1998. Besides Federations, sports clubs located in the Rural and Tribal blocks were also given financial assistance for the promotion of sports at the grass root level under the Rural Sports Programme. During 1996-97 a total grants of Rs. 6.17 lakhs have been released, while in 1997-98 a grant of Rs. 5.35 lakhs have been released to them. No financial assistance to Rural Sports Club have however, been released during the current year so far as the said scheme was under revision.

(b) The Government has taken a number of steps with a view to promoting sports and encouraging talented sportspersons and their coaches. They are as follows :

1. Revision of National Sports Policy : The existing National Sports Policy of 1984 is being revised with a view to redefine the thrust areas, priority and giving a new directions to the whole idea of the promotion and development of sports.
2. National Sports Development Fund : The Government has set up a National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) with an initial contribution of Rs. 2 crores. The Fund aims at mobilising financial resources from both corporate as well as public Sectors. With a view to make contribution to the fund attractive, 100% tax exemption has been provided on all contribution made towards this fund.
3. Creation of Infrastructure : The existing scheme of creation of infrastructure has been recently revised. Set of standards, designs and estimates have been

prepared to have a uniformity and quality. State Governments and Non-Government Organisations which are actively associated with the sports will be given financial assistance for creation of sports infrastructure.

Besides that the Government is implementing a number of schemes with a view to nurturing sports talent in the country. Scholarships are given to talented sportspersons studying in schools, colleges and universities. Similarly under the recent formulated scheme for assistance to promoting sportspersons, assistance upto Rs. 5 lakhs per year could be given to selected sportspersons for upgradation of their skills and achieving excellence at international level. Exceptionally meritorious sportspersons are also given various honours and awards such as Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratan Award, Arjuna Award and Dronacharya Award.

(c) The number of voluntary organisations sanctioned grants for development of sports in the country are as follows :

Year	No. of sports clubs
1995-96	30
1996-97	20
1997-98	23

Infrastructure Development in J & K

3547. PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the amount spent on the infrastructure development of roads in Jammu and Kashmir during last three years;

(b) the progress made on the Basohli-Bhadrawah Road and Bhadrwah-Chamba Road projects; and

(c) the details of any other infrastructure development proposal in the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) The amount spent on the development of roads in J & K by the Ministry and Border Roads Organisation during the last three years are as under—

Year	(Rs. in Crores)
1995-96	70.76
1996-97	119.89
1997-98	122.11

(b) (I) Basohli-Bhadrawah Road :

The present progress for improvement to class 9 specifications are as under :

(a)	Formation	—	Completed
(b)	Surfacing	—	76.07%

(II) Bhadrwah-Chamba Road :

This Road is being developed & maintained by the State Govt.

(c) There is no infrastructure development proposal for National Highway in the State pending with the Central Government at present.

Plan Allocation for Bihar

[Translation]

3548. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the plan allocation made for the development of ecology and forests in Bihar during the last three years; and

(b) the steps being taken for fresh plantation and expansion of forests in the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has released an amount of Rs. 741.26 lakhs, Rs. 443.28 lakhs and Rs. 375.28 lakhs during 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 respectively to the State of Bihar for the development of ecology and forests.

(b) A number of schemes such as Integrated Afforestation and Eco Development Project, Area Oriented Fuelwood and Fodder Project, Tree and Seed Development and Association of Scheduled Tribes and Rural Poor in Regeneration of Degraded Forests on Usufruct Sharing Basis are being implemented for plantation and expansion of forests in Bihar.

[English]

Service Conditions of Lower Judiciary

3549. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the service conditions of Lower Judiciary (upto District Judge Level) have not been revised for quite a long time and there is a considerable resentment among the judicial officers in this regard;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to remove the grievances and genuine problems of the Lower Judiciary ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) Under the provision of Article 309 of the Constitution, it is the respective State Government to regulate the service conditions and facilities available to the Judges of its subordinate judiciary.

(b) and (c) The Supreme Court of India had given certain directions in the All India Judges Association case (W.P. No. 1022/89) relating to improvement in the conditions of service of the judicial officers. These directions pertained to provisions of residence, working libraries at residences, transport facility, increase in the retirement age from 58 to 60 years etc. Many State Governments have since made improvement in the service conditions and facilities available to the judges and some of the State Governments are in the process of implementation of the Supreme Court directions. The First National Judicial Pay Commission (FNJPC) has also been set up by the Central Government under the Chairmanship of Sh. Justice K.J. Shetty, in compliance with the direction of the Supreme Court in the above case. The terms of reference of the FNJPC include examination and recommendations in respect of salary, allowances and other conditions of service of the members of subordinate judiciary of the entire country.

Quota of Foreign Students in Universities

3550. DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase the quota of foreign students in the Universities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the increase will upset the student-teacher ratio and will be detrimental to the local students; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) There is no such proposal with the Government.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Grant to Voluntary Organisations

3551. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the schemes for which the grant is being provided to the voluntary organisations by his Ministry;

(b) the total grant provided during the last two years under each scheme and the criteria adopted for providing the grant;

(c) the names of the organisations which have received the grant during the last two years alongwith the names of the projects for which the grant was provided, State-wise and scheme-wise;

(d) whether there exists any mechanism for monitoring the grants; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

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

Vocational Institutes

[Translation]

3552. SHRI AJIT JOGI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of vocational institutes, working in the country state-wise;

(b) the number of students enrolled therein; state-wise; and

(c) the grant provided by the Union Government to these institutes to the states during the last three years; state-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education financial assistance is provided to States/UT's for operationalising Vocational Sections in the existing Schools. So far financial assistance has been provided for operationalising 18719 Sections in 6486 Schools and capacity created for 9.35 lakhs students. The number of students enrolled state-wise is not maintained.

(c) Statement showing grants released to the States/UT's under the scheme during last three years state-wise is attached.

Statement

Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Amount of Grants Rs. in Lakhs		
		1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	—	—	—
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5
3. Assam		108.52	—	—
4. Bihar		415.39	—	—
5. Goa		115.04	139.68	—
6. Gujarat		—	—	—
7. Haryana		621.85	239.28	—
8. Himachal Pradesh		1.33	—	—
9. Jammu & Kashmir		—	—	—
10. Karnataka		328.32	357.75	—
11. Kerala		929.35	514.38	223.00
12. Madhya Pradesh		—	—	—
13. Maharashtra		3134.44	2239.88	—
14. Manipur		35.24	—	8.00
15. Meghalaya		13.67	4.63	—
16. Mizoram		8.80	—	—
17. Nagaland		—	—	—
18. Orissa		—	—	—
19. Punjab		434.53	1.42	—
20. Rajasthan		—	888.48	—
21. Sikkim		—	—	—
22. Tamil Nadu		—	—	—
23. Tripura		—	25.65	—
24. Uttar Pradesh		502.40	473.74	—
25. West Bengal		—	20.50	—
26. A & N Islands		—	—	—
27. Chandigarh		26.86	50.69	27.00
28. D & N Haveli		—	—	—
29. Daman & Diu		5.06	5.90	—
30. Delhi		50.23	14.92	—
31. Pondicherry		14.06	—	—

National Open School

[English]

3553. SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of students enrolled by the National Open School in Maharashtra during the last three years, location-wise;

(b) the number of centres established by school during the last five years, location-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up some more centres; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) As per information furnished by the National Open School (NOS), 9277 students were enrolled in Maharashtra during the last 3 years for various courses offered by the NOS who are imparted education with the help of study centres located in different parts of the state. A district-wise list of 88 study centres established by the NOS in Maharashtra during the last 5 years is given in the statement enclosed.

(c) and (d) Accreditation of study centres is a continuous process and the institutions which are desirous to be associated with the NOS as its study centre are granted accreditation from time to time, in case, they fulfil the prescribed eligibility conditions.

Statement

District-wise List of Study Centres established by the National Open School in Maharashtra during the last 5 Years

1	2
1. Mumbai	13
2. Nagpur	2
3. Godchiroli	1
4. Pune	25
5. Thane	7
6. Panchgani	2
7. Nasik	5
8. Sindhudurg	7
9. Osmanabad	2
10. Dhule	3
11. Sangli	1
12. Ratnagiri	1
13. Parbhani	1
14. Nanded	2

1	2
15. Latur	4
16. Chandrapur	2
17. Wardha	1
18. Amravati	2
19. Akola	2
20. Yawatmal	3
21. Buldhana	2
Total	88

Hydel Power Project

3554. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set-up a Hydel Power Project near MEKE DATLU on the border of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, the details thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) and (b) Government of Karnataka as well as Government of Tamil Nadu had submitted separate proposals for setting up of Mekadatu, Hogenakkal, Rasimanal and Sivasamudaram hydro electric-projects on the Cauvery basin. Since the proposals submitted by both the State Governments are mutually irreconcilable. Government of India had taken initiative to request the National Hydro Power Corporation to give advice by a process of review of the proposals keeping in view the orders of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal.

National Hydro Power Corporation has submitted two alternative proposals for consideration. The first proposal envisages 3 dams at Mekadatu, Rasimanal and Hogenakkal and the second proposal envisages only 2 dams at Mekadatu in Karnataka and Rasimanal in Tamil Nadu. The views of the Government of Tamil Nadu and Government of Karnataka have been sought on the two alternative proposals.

Forestry Development in Orissa

3555. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the financial grants provided to the Orissa for forestry development during the last three years, project-wise;

(b) whether the utilisation of grants has been found to be satisfactory;

(c) if so, the details in this regard; and

(d) if not, the action proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) to (d) Details of the Central Assistance (CA) provided, scheme/project-wise, to Government of Orissa under the centrally sponsored afforestation and related schemes of the Ministry of Environment and Forests during the last three years, and their utilisation, is as follows :

Scheme/Project	Rs. in lakhs	
	CA Released (includes revaluated amounts) (1996-97 to 1998-99)	CA Utilised (1996-97 to 1998-99)
1. Integrated Afforestation and Eco Development Project Scheme (IAEPS) :		
Projects in :		
(i) Dhenkanal district	6.00	Progress Report Awaited.
(ii) Tel watershed	125.00	Sanctioned in 1998-99.
(iii) Chilika watershed	26.00	Progress Reports Awaited.
(iv) Salandi watershed	25.60	
2. Area Oriented Fuelwood and Fodder Project Scheme Project in Orissa	265.16	177.34
3. Tree and Pasture Seed Development Scheme	3.50	Progress Report Awaited
4. Conservation and Development of Non-Timber Forest Produce including medicinal plants Scheme Project	374.18	286.03
5. Association of Scheduled Tribe and Rural Poor in Regeneration of Degraded Forests on usufruct sharing basis	112.45	58.60
6. Modern Forest Fire Control Methods' Scheme	23.75	7.50

The utilisation is, by and large, satisfactory.

Creation of Awareness among Farmers

3556. SHRI R.S. GAVAI : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to create awareness of the basic concepts, potentials and recent developments in Agricultural implements and biotechnology among the farmers in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present status of thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Various Government departments and agencies such as Department of Biotechnology, Indian Council of Agricultural Research and Department of Agriculture and Cooperation are supporting activities to create awareness about scientific concepts and development. To cite some examples, biofertilizers, biopesticides, sericulture, vermicomposting, tissue culture, carcas utilization etc. have major component of training, awareness building and education. There are National Demonstration Programmes, Operational Research Projects and Institute-Village linkage Programmes. Training is given to nearly one million village artisans at Krishi Vigyan Kendras (Farm Science Centres) and some Central and State Government Organizations. These training programmes are from one week to few weeks. Every year about 1000 trainings are organized for such persons related to agricultural machinery and about 10,000 persons are trained. A large number of farm implements for tillage, sowing, inter culture, harvesting, threshing and post-harvest operations have been developed by ICAR and State Agricultural Universities and 26 of these have been adopted by the farmers. Four Farm Machinery Training and Testing Institutes were set up at Buddi (M.P.), Hissar (Haryana), Anantpur (A.P.) and Biswanath Chariali, Distt. Sonikpur (Assam) for imparting training in the selection, operation, maintenance, repairs and management of farm machines. Special training programmes are being organized for "use of different agricultural machinery" at Central Institute of Agricultural Engineering, Bhopal (M.P.).

Efforts have been made to transfer technologies to the rural people in the areas of agriculture, horticulture, floriculture, human nutrition, food processing and herbal medicine. Use of mass media like radio and television network, training and visit programmes run by Central and State governments are creating awareness for use of modern agricultural machinery. Publications are also distributed amongst farmers on new biotechnology packages alongwith live demonstrations.

National Waterway No. 3

3557 SHRI GEORGE EDEN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the activities proposed to be taken on NW-3 during the current financial year and provisions made for the purpose;

(b) whether the Regional office at Kochi is provided with sufficient man power for looking after the work;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken for filling up the vacant posts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) The activities proposed on National Waterway No. 3 and the budget provision made during the current financial year are given in the statement enclosed.

(b) to (d) The regional office at Kochi is provided with sufficient man power for looking after the work.

Statement

Activity/Scheme	Budget Provision in 1998-99 (Rs. Crores)
1. Construction and Maintenance of Locks	0.50
2. Land acquisition for terminals	0.80
3. Capital dredging including land Acquisition for widening of Canal	4.00
4. Annual maintenance activities	1.50
5. Acquisition of survey Vessels	0.40
6. Procurement of survey equipment	0.30
7. Construction and maintenance of terminals	2.00
8. 24 hrs. navigational aids	0.30
9. Bank protection	0.30
10. Acquisition of Petrol Boats	0.10
11. Pollution control and EMP	0.10
Total	Rs. 10.30 crores

Hydel Power Station at Mananthavady

3558. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any request for environment clearance to set up a Hydel Power Station at Mananthavady in Wyanad District, Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto;

(c) whether any study has been made to determine the effects of such a project on the ecology and environment of the district, submerging large extent of virgin forest which is the habitat of elephants and the great Asian Tigers; and

(d) if so, the findings of the study ?

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

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Expansion of Rajkot-Ahmedabad National Highway

3559. SHRI DINSHA PATEL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Rajkot-Ahmedabad National Highway has been identified as accident-prone zone on the 200 kms stretch;

(b) if so, the details of action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to avoid such incidents;

(c) whether the Government have plans to expand this stretch in the near future; and

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

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

(b) to (d) Certain stretches having a length of 19.4 km are already having 4-lane carriageway of the road in question in the Gujarat State, and 10.00 km length has been included in the current (1998-99) Annual Plan for 4-laning. In addition, stretches having a length of 29.8 km are in progress for 4-laning and about 121.9 km are planned for widening to 4-lane from State Funds.

Restructuring of Tution Fees

3560. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to restructure the tution fees charged in the Indian Institutes of Technology;

(b) if so, whether any loan scheme to allow student to get loans and repay after graduation is being worked out;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to impose special fees on those graduates of IITs, going abroad immediately after passing out; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) To meet a certain percentage of cost of educaiton, which has been going up substantially year after year, the Council of Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) (the central body to co-ordinate all activities of IITs) in its 34th meeting held on 7.11.1996, approved the enhancement of the total fees including tution fees per year of Undergraduate and Postgraduate courses from academic year 1997-98.

(b) and (c) Loan schemes for education are available to the students of Indian Institutes of Technology from some banks.

(d) and (e) No such proposal is under consideration at present.

National Power Grid

3561. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of POWER be plesed to state :

(a) whether a National Power Grid is proposed to be established;

(b) if so, the amount allocated for the purpose; and

(c) the mechanism envisaged to regulate the dealings between State Electricity Boards and other private companies ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Powergrid has prepared a perspective plan to establish a national power gird to be implemented in phases by the end of XIth Plan. Powergrid has envisaged interconnecting the regions by HVDC back-to-back links in the first phase. Powergrid has already commissioned a back-to-back link between Northern and Western Region at Vindhychal and between Sourthern and Western Region at Chandrapur. Powergrid is completing HVDC back-to-back link between Southern and Eastern Region at Gazuwaka at a cost of Rs. 659.98 Crores and another link at Sasaram between Northern and Eastern Region is envisaged at a cost of Rs. 671.56 Crores. The grid will be further strengthened with large inter-regional links planned with mega size multi State Projects. In addition, small schemes providing vital links are also being taken up. The resources will be allocated as and when the projects are taken up.

(c) Government of India has already set up the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) under the

Electricity Regulatory Commission Act, 1998. State Electricity Regulatory Commissions (SERC) have been set up in Orissa and Haryana. Many other States are in the process of setting up of SERCs. The dealings between the SEBs and the private companies will be within the purview of the SERCs, once they are set up.

Bus Service between Delhi and Lahore

3562. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI :
SHRI K.L. SHARMA :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have commenced bus service between Delhi and Lahore recently;

(b) if so, the response to the new service launched by the Government;

(c) the steps being taken to promote the tourism between the two countries;

(d) whether according to security experts such a service providing three halts enroute in a day's journey, are likely to provide an opportunity of smuggling arms and ammunition in the country; and

(e) if so, whether Government have ensured against such smuggling ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) to (e) No, Sir. However, a proposal to introduce a bus service between New Delhi and Lahore has been under consideration of this Ministry in consultation with all concerned Ministries/ Departments/State Governments. Negotiations are also being held with the Government of Pakistan to work out the modalities through a bilateral agreement for introduction of such a bus service.

Operation Black Board Scheme

3563. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have any machinery to review/evaluate Operation Black Board Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any monitoring system exists to supervise the grants allocated to States under the scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (d) In pursuance of

the National Policy on Education 1986, the scheme of Operation Blackboard was launched in 1987-88. The three main components of the scheme are : (a) provision of an additional teacher to single teacher primary schools; (b) provision of at least two classrooms in each primary school; and (c) provision of teaching learning equipment to all primary schools. The scheme was revised in 1993 by expanding its scope to provide third classroom and third teacher to primary schools where enrolment exceeds 100 and extended to cover upper primary schools. The scheme of Operation Blackboard is regularly monitored at State and Central Government levels. Quarterly Progress Reports have been the basis for monitoring, besides review meetings and regional meetings/consultations.

In addition, the scheme of Operation Blackboard has also been evaluated by NCERT and other external agencies including Operation Research Group (ORG), New Delhi; G.B. Pant Social Science Institute, Allahabad; National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad and Sandhan, Jaipur. States covered under these evaluation studies are Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh.

A review of the scheme is also undertaken at the end of the Five Year Plans. Based on such reviews the schemes are modified/revised or expanded with a view to achieve the objectives set for the scheme.

The unspent balance with State Governments are regularly monitored and are taken into account while releasing funds to States during subsequent years.

[Translation]

Power Projects in Bihar

3564. SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any scheme have been formulated to increase power generation capacity in Bihar during the current financial year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b) The details of thermal and hydro-electric power projects under execution in Bihar are as follows :

Sl. No.	Name of Project/ Executing Agency	Capacity (MW)	Expected date of Commissioning
1	2	3	4
Thermal			
1.	Tenughat TPP St. II (TVNL)	3 x 210	.
2.	Muzaffarpur TPP (BSEB)	2 x 250	.

1	2	3	4
3.	Jojo Bera TPP (Jamshed Pur Power Co.)	2 × 120	33 months after financial closure is achieved
H.E. Projects			
4.	Chandil LBC (BHPC)	2 × 4	1999-2000
5.	North Koel (BHPC)	2 × 12	2000-2001
6.	Koel Karo (NHPC)	4 × 172.5 + 1 × 20	Beyond 9th Plan

*As order for main plant and equipment is yet to be placed, commissioning schedule cannot be anticipated. Funding arrangement for these schemes is also pending.

[English]

Power Projects set up by NTPC

3565. SHRI TATHAGATA SAPATHY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Thermal Power Corporation has any proposal to set up new power plant abroad; and

(b) if so, the amount of investment proposed to be made in this regard ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Study Material

[Translation]

3566. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Improved Pace and Content of Learning study material is being prepared specially for women under the Adult Literacy Programme;

(b) if so, the names of the States along with the languages in which such material is being prepared;

(c) whether the Government propose to prepare such study material for women in all the States; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) No, Sir. Though no Improved Pace and Content of Learning (IPCL) study material

is being prepared specially for women under the adult literacy programme, gender equity and women's empowerment constitute one of the core contents of IPCL primers. Teaching learning material, specifically for women learners, are not prepared under the IPCL approach as the said approach visualises that all learners, whether male or female, should be equally familiarised with their role and importance in the society. With this end in view, common teaching and learning material is designed for all adult learners with due stress on areas of women's concern i.e. equality of sexes, women's role in decision making process, in the family and building the society etc.

(b) IPCL material exclusively for women learners have not been developed in any language.

(c) and (d) The IPCL approach for preparing teaching learning material visualises that all learners whether male or female, should be equally familiarised with the relevance of the society.

Mid Day Meal in Kerala

[English]

3567. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN :
SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :

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

(a) the allocation for rice made to Kerala under the Mid-day Meal Scheme during 1997-98 till date;

(b) whether the State has requested the Union Government to enhance the quota of rice for this scheme during the current year; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) 627971.2 Quintals and 480228.8 quintals of rice was allocated to Kerala in 1997-98 and 1998-99 respectively.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

National Literacy Mission

3568. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount allocated for the implementation of National Literacy Programme in Kerala for the last three years, year-wise;

- (b) whether the amount allocated could not be spent; and
 (c) if so, the action taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The year-wise release of grants by National Literacy Mission for implementation of Continuing Education for Neo-Literates Programmes in Kerala is as follows :

Year	Amount
1995-96	Nil
1996-97	Rs. 495.00 lakhs
1997-98	Nil

(b) and (c) The amount of Rs. 495.00 lakhs was released in the month of March, 1997 to the State Government of Kerala. State Government of Kerala in turn has disbursed the amount to Kerala Saksharta Samiti, the implementing agency. The Programme is in initial stage of implementation.

Special Area Games Scheme

3569. SHRI C.D. GAMIT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the date on which the Special Area Games Scheme was conceived and came into being; and

(b) the steps taken for promoting sports and games in Tribal areas in Orissa, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and other States so far alongwith performance of the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The Special Area Games Schemes (SAG) was started by the Sports Authority of India in the year 1985.

(b) For promotion of sports and games in Tribal areas in States, talents are spotted on the basis of a talent spotting mechanism founded on sports science parameters. The selected talent, after such preliminary selection, is then subjected to an Assessment Coaching Camp and carefully watched by experts in the field and sports science personnel. The selected talents are then admitted in one of the eight SAG centres located at Aizwal, Imphal, Ranchi, Tellicherry, Jagatpur, Allahabad, Port Blair and Alleppy in the disciplines of Archery, Cycling, Fencing, Boxing, Judo, Wrestling, Weightlifting, Hockey, Athletics, Gymnastics, Water Sports and Football. At present, there are 318 trainees (231 boys and 87 girls) getting training under this Scheme.

The scheme has produced good results at the international level apart from domination in sports competitions at National

level. The Scheme has produced two Arjuna Awardees (Shri Limba Ram and Shri Shyam Lal in Archery) and many other sports persons.

Filing of an Appeal

3570. SHRI B.M. MENSINKAI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have since filed/propose to file any appeal in Supreme Court against the decision of Delhi High Court dated November 17, 1998 striking down its order relating to special Dispensation admissions in Kendriya Vidyalayas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) The question of filing an appeal against the judgement of Delhi High Court dated 17.11.98 in Civil Writ Petition No. 4281/98 regarding Special Dispensation Admission of children in Kendriya Vidyalayas will be considered in consultation with the Department of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Law, after receipt of the certified copy of the judgement.

Promotions

3571. SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK :
 SHRI JAYSINHJI CHAUHAN :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question Number 4615 on July 20, 1998 and state :

(a) whether many an accused listed in the reply has since been promoted;

(b) if so, the names and related details thereof;

(c) whether those promoted have since been absolved of the charges; and

(d) if not, the reasons and propriety of doing so ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) Following officers named in the list under reference have since been promoted as Education Officers :

1. Shri Z.S. Chikara
2. Shri R. Kumar

(c) and (d) on investigation into the complaints received against the two officers prima-facie nothing substantial was found for initiating disciplinary case against them.

Promotions are withheld only when the Departmental Promotion Committee finds an officer UNFIT or when a disciplinary case is pending against an officer. However, there was no disciplinary case pending against any of the above-named officers and as the Departmental Promotion Committee found them FIT for promotion, they have been granted promotion as per extant rules.

Fly Ash Hazards

3572. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Delhi High Court has issued notices to the Government on the issue of fly ash hazards in the capital;

(b) if so, whether the Government have contemplated any action to check the spread for fly ash; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) to (c) The

information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Private/Foreign Direct Investment in National Highways

3573. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state : the details of proposal in regard to the National Highways, identified for private investment/foreign direct investment and estimates of funds expected from these sources during the current year and ninth plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : A list of BOT projects awarded till date is at given in the statement-I enclosed. Another list of projects identified for private investment is at given in the statement-II enclosed. It is difficult to give estimate of funds since this would depend on response from private sector.

Statement-I

List of BOT Projects Awarded as on 25.11.1998

(A)			Road Projects		
S.No.	Project Name	NH No.	State	Cost Rs. Crores	Status
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	*Thane-Bhiwandi Bypass	3 & 4	Maharashtra	103	Completed
2.	*Chalthan Road Over Bridge	8	Gujarat	10	Completed
3.	*Udaipur Bypass	8	Rajasthan	24	Completed
4.	Construction of six bridges	5	Andhra Pradesh	50	In Progress
5.	Coimbatore Bypass	47	Tamil Nadu	90	In progress
6.	Durg Bypass	6	Madhya Pradesh	68	Agreement Signed. Financial closure awaited.
7.	Narmada bridge	8	Gujarat	113	In Progress
8.	Nardhana HOB	3	Maharashtra	34	In progress
9.	Patalganga Bridge	17	Maharashtra	33	In progress
10.	Hubli-Dharwar Bypass	4	Karnataka	68	In progress
11.	Nellor Bypass	5	Andhra Pradesh	73	Agreement Signed. Financial closure awaited.
12.	Koratalaiyar Bridge	5	Tamil Nadu	30.00	Agreement signed. Actual construction to commence.
13.	Khambatki Ghat tunnel & road	4	Maharashtra	37.80	Agreement signed. Actual construction to commence.

1	2	3	4	5	6
14.	Nasirabad ROB	6	Maharashtra	10.45	Agreement signed. Actual construction to commence.
15.	Wainganga Bridge	6	Maharashtra	32.60	Agreement signed. Actual construction to commence.
16.	Mahi Bridge	8	Gujarat	42.00	Agreement signed. Actual construction to commence.
Total				818.85	

*Since completed and opened to traffic.

Statement-II

B.O.T. Projects in Pipeline

S.No.	State	Name of the Project	Approx. Cost (Rs. Crore)	Status
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Delhi	Delhi-Gurgaon (6-lane)	315.40	Detailed Engineering study in progress.
2.	Gujarat	Construction of additional bridge across Watrak river near Kheda on downstream of existing NH bridge	42.00	Prequalification completed. Bid opened and under process for award of work.
3.	Gujarat	Ahmedabad-Vadodara Expressway (balance work)	400.00	Concession Agreement to be finalised.
4.	Gujarat	Gujarat SPV-Valasad Maharashtra Border (Km. 343-381.6) (length—38.6 km.)	180.00	Detailed engineering study in progress.
5.	Maharashtra	Akola Bypass (NH-6) (length 13.5 km.)	67.90	Application for shortlisting of contractors received. Being evaluated.
6.	Maharashtra	Amravati Bypass (NH-6) (length—16.0 km.)	90.30	Shortlisting of contractors completed. Financial bids invited.
7.	Maharashtra	Construction of bridge across Pingalai river in km. 113/800 of Nagpur-Edlabod section of NH-6	8.25	Technical proposal approved and approval of bid document under issue.
8.	Maharashtra	Construction of ROB in km. 23/800 near Butibori on Nagpur-Hyderabad Road NH-7	-	Work proposed to be taken up by Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation through IRCON.
9.	Maharashtra	Construction of missing link Zarap to Patradevi of Panvel-Mahad-Panjim road NH-17 Banda to Patradevi (km. 18/758 to 21/598)	2.84	Technical proposal and draft bid document are under examination.
10.	Maharashtra	Four-laning of Pune-Solapur-Hyderabad Road NH-9 (Four-laning of Solapur bypass in km. 0/0 to 4/500)	18.00	Approval in principle conveyed and technical proposal awaited from State PWD.
11.	Maharashtra	Construction of high level bridge across Bhima river at km. 144/800 on Pune-Solapur road NH-9	12.5	Approval in principle conveyed and technical proposal awaited from PWD.

1	2	3	4	5
12.	Maharashtra	Construction of ROB with approaches at km. 399/0 near Fekri village on Nagpur-Dhule road NH-6	—	TP approved and work proposed to be taken up by MSRDC through IRCON.
13.	Maharashtra	Constructin of flyover bridge (Wajre) westerly diversion outside Pune City km. 25 on NH-4	—	Being handled by NHAI
14.	Maharashtra	Const. of Mumbra Bypass from km. 133/800 to 138/200 of Mumbai-Pune Road NH-4	32.00	Technical proposal approved.
15.	Maharashtra	Strengthening of the selected stretches on NH-6 & 7 in Nagpur Region		Technical proposal is under process.
16.	Punjab	Construction of ROB at Dera Bassi in km. 32.08 of Ambala-Kalka road (NH-22)	25.00	Work likely to be awarded by 30.07.98
17.	Punjab	Construction of ROB at Kurali in km. 26.428 of Chandigarh-Kratpur road (NH-21)	20.00	Work likely to be awarded by 30.07.98
18.	Rajasthan	ROBs (6 Nos.)	114.36	Kishangarh ROB—shortlisting completed, financial bids invited. Approval of Railways awaited for others.
19.	Rajasthan	Jaipur-Kishangarh (4-laning) (length—93 km.)	362.00	T.P. finalised. Contractors shortlisted. Land acquisition estimate sanctioned. Land acquisition in progress. Concession Agreement being prepared.
20.	Tamil Nadu	Const. Of ROB and its approaches in lieu of the existing level crossing at km. 73/6 of NH-46 and service road to connect Gudiyatham road (near Pachakuppan) in Tamil Nadu	10.00	Proposal received from State PWD.
21.	Tamil Nadu	Tiruneveli Bypass (NH-7)	55.50	Proposal being prepared by PWD.
22.	Tamil Nadu	Hosur Krishnagiri (4-lane) (length—61 km.)	227.20	T.P. finalised. Contractors shortlisted. Land acquisition proposal being prepared by PWD. Concession Agreement being prepared.
23.	Tamil Nadu	Chingelpet-Tindivanam (km. 67 to 122) (length—55 km.)	211.00	T.P. finalised. Contractors shortlisted. Land acquisition estimate sanctioned. Land acquisition in progress. Concession Agreement being prepared.
24.	Uttar Pradesh	Moradabad Bypass (Phase-I)	100.00	Application for prequalification of contractors invited.
25.	West Bengal	Const. of Second Vivekanand Bridge across river Hooghly in km. 670 of NH-8 (length—5 km.)	330.00	Concession Agreement is being finalised. Notification for land acquisition under issue.
26.	West Bengal	Construction of Belgharia Expressway on NH-34 (length—8 km.)	88.00	Project proposal under formulation.

1	2	3	4	5
27.	West Bengal	Durgapur Expressway	300.00	Appointment of consultant under progress.
28.		BOT projects (Metro corridor)	2025.00	Feasibility Study in progress.
29.		Neela Mangla Tumkar	211.00	Proposal for prequalification received and under evaluation.

Authorities under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986

(ii) Areas vulnerable to ground water pollution and depletion are being identified.

(iii) Procedures for registration of existing/proposed ground water abstractions are being finalised.

B. Dahanu Taluka Environment Protection Authority.

This Authority examined a number of critical issues which include :

- (a) Permission for stone crushers and quarries in the region.
- (b) Monitoring of coal based thermal power plant located at Dahanu.
- (c) Proposal for setting up a port at Dahanu.
- (d) Implementation of Dahanu Regional Plan.

C. Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority for National Capital Region.

For implementing the action plan drawn up by the Ministry of Environment and Forests for controlling the pollution in Delhi, the Authority has so far held a number of meetings on specific issues with the concerned organisations for ascertaining the current status and future course of action. The Authority is also coordinating with the Delhi Government.

D. Aquaculture Authority.

The Authority has considered the following issues in the 9 meetings held so far :

1. Procedure for considering the proposals for establishing Aquaculture Farms.
2. Processing Fees, Application form.
3. Guidelines.
4. Period for which licences can be granted.
5. Issues regarding demarcating High Tide Line.
6. Training requirements.
7. Constitution of the sub-committee including the representation of the farmers.

[Translation]

3574. SHRI VITHAL TUPE :
SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE :

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

- (a) whether the Government have constituted some authorities under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if so, whether any authority has submitted of progress report to the Union Government;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the funds being made available to these authorities by the Union Government ?

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

The following Authorities have been constituted.

- (i) Loss of Ecology (Prevention and Payment of Compensation) Authority of Tamil Nadu.
- (ii) Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority for National Capital Region.
- (iii) Central Ground Water Authority.
- (iv) Dahanu Taluka Environment Protection Authority.
- (v) Aquaculture Authority.

(c) The above Authorities have submitted their reports except Loss of Ecology (Prevention and Payment of Compensation) Authority.

(d) The Progress Report submitted by the 4 Authorities reveal the following—

A. Central Ground Water Authority—

- (i) States are being advised to constitute State Ground Water Authorities to facilitate implementation of the objectives of the Authority.

(e) Yes, Sir. The required funds have been provided by the Central Government.

[English]

Child Marriage

3575. SHRI D.S. AHIRE :
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :
SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE :

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of child marriages has not been declining in the country;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to adopt stringent penalty to the guilty in such cases; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929 was last amended in 1978 vide the Child Marriage Restraint (Amendment) Act, 1978, with a view to provide that offences under the Act shall be cognizable for the purpose of investigation and for matters other than matters referred to section 42 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (arrest on refusal to give name and residence) and the arrest of a person without a warrant or without an order of Magistrate. No further legislative measures to make the provisions of the Act more stringent are contemplated at present in this regard. The practice of child marriage is deeply embedded amongst certain sections of the society and legislation would not by itself achieve the object of stopping this practice. It is only through social and economic uplift of these sections that the practice be eradicated completely.

Corporate Tax Incentives to Shipping Industry

3576. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :
PROF. P.J. KURIEN :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any plan to move a fresh proposal for the corporate tax incentives to give a fillip to the nation's beleaguered shipping industry;

(b) whether the Ministry are also of the view that the depreciation rate for ships fixed at 20% will be enhanced to 40% in order to bring parity in all the modes of commercial transportation; and

(c) if so, the details of the fresh proposals being provided for the shipping industry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Based on the Report of the National Shipping Policy Committee, this Ministry has moved the proposals for fiscal and funding benefit to shipping industry. Some of the important measures are as under :

- (i) Restoration of Section 33 AC of the Income Tax Act in its original form prevailing before 31.3.1995.
- (ii) Depreciation rate on par with other modes of transport viz. Trucks, car, aircraft etc.
- (iii) Relaxation of average life norms of External Commercial Borrowings.
- (iv) Coastal Shipping be given the benefits status of infrastructure industries and should also be eligible to access loans from Infrastructure Development Finance Company Limited (IDFC).

Replacement of Old Bridge on NH-47

3577. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state the steps taken by the Government to replace the old and dilapidated bridge at Kuzhriiburai in the Trivandrum-Kanyakumari on National Highway 47 by a new bridge ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : The State Government has proposed the construction of new bridge at Km. 604/4 near Khuzithurai on National Highway No.-47 with Private Sector Participation on B.O.T. (Build, Operate and Transfer) basis. The proposal has been accepted in principle by the Ministry.

Reservation Benefit

[Translation]

3578. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the University Grants Commission conducts combined examination for the eligibility of Junior Fellowship and lectureship;

(b) if so, whether as per reservation instructions the candidates of other backward classes are given concession in fees etc. for the said examination; and

(c) if so, the reasons for not declaring candidates of other backward classes successful by giving them the benefit of reservation in the said examination in 1997 ?

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

(b) The candidates belonging to Other Backward Classes are charged Rs. 100/- as Exmination Fees as against Rs. 400/- charged from general candidates. In addition, age relaxation of 5 years is also given to the OBC candidates.

(c) With a view to ensure academic excellence of NET qualified Lecturers and Junior Research Fellows (JRFs), no relaxation other than Examination Fees and age is given to the candidates belonging to OBCs.

Hydel Power Plants

[English]

3579. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to install more Hydel Power Plants in the North East;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have studied the effect of such Hydel Power Plants on nature;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, the details of the new Central Sector Hydroelectric Power Projects identified for execution in the North East and Sikkim is given in the statement enclosed.

(c) to (e) Before the hydro-electric power projects are considered for investment approval, it is mandatory for the project authorities to obtain techno-economic clearance from Central Electricity Authority as well as clearance from environment and forests angle involving indepth studies like eco-system management, air/water pollution control, water resource management, flora/fauna conservation and management, land use planning, social science/rehabilitation, ecology, environmental health management, risk assessment and disaster management plan, environmental impact assessment and catchment area treatment. This is done to ensure that hydro-electric projects are environment friendly.

Statement

Statement showing the details of the New Hydro Power Plants Identified for Execution in North East and Sikkim

S. No.	Name of the Project with the Location	Installed Capacity (KW)	Implementing Agency
1	2	3	4
1.	Kopili HE Project Stage-II, Assam	25	NEEPCO
2.	Tuivai HEP, Mizoram	210	NEEPCO
3.	Lower Kopili HE Project, Assam	150	NEEPCO
4.	Ranganadi HE Project Stage-II, Arunachal Pradesh	180	NEEPCO
5.	Kameng HE Project, Arunachal Pradesh	600	NEEPCO
6.	Tipaimukh HE Project, Assam	1500	NEEPCO/NHPC
7.	Dikrong HE Project, Arunachal Pradesh	100	NEEPCO
8.	Sissini HE Project, Arunachal Pradesh	225	NEEPCO
9.	Kolodyne HE Project, Mizoram	90	NEEPCO
10.	Pakke HE Project, Arunachal Pradesh	75	NEEPCO
11.	Papumpam HE Project, Arunachal Pradesh	100	NEEPCO
12.	Dhaleswari HE Project, Mizoram	120	NEEPCO
13.	Teesta-V, Sikkim	510	NHPC
14.	Loktak Downstream, Manipur	90	NHPC
15.	Tizu Zungki, Nagaland	778	NHPC
16.	Teesta-III, Sikkim	1200	NHPC
17.	Teesta-IV, Sikkim	485	NHPC

1	2	3	4
18.	Teesta-VI, Sikkim	360	NHPC
19.	Teesta-II, Sikkim	373	NHPC
20.	Teesta-I, Sikkim	320	NHPC
21.	Demwe, Arunachal Pradesh	520	NHPC
22.	Dihang, Arunachal Pradesh	13400	NHPC
23.	Subansari, Arunachal Pradesh	7300	NHPC
24.	Lohit, Arunachal Pradesh	300	NHPC
25.	Kimi, Arunachal Pradesh	1100	NHPC
26.	Debang Dam, Arunachal Pradesh	1000	NHPC

Meat of Wild Animals

3580. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :
SHRI ABJHAYSINH S. BHONSLE :

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

(a) whether the cases of poaching and selling meat of wild animals are on the rise in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether in Andhra Pradesh, the Government officials are helping the poachers in poaching by providing weapons for poaching purposes to them; and

(d) if so, the action being taken by the Government against such officials ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) and (b) Responsibility of apprehending and prosecuting offenders for poaching and dealing in wild animal meat lies with State Governments. As per the reports available, the number of the animals of important species poached during last three years is as under :

Year	Tiger	Rhino	*Elephant
1995	5	42	77
1996	6	40	63
1997	4	11 (Nov. 97)	40

(*As per financial year.)

(c) No, Sir. No such report has been received in this Ministry.

(d) Does not arise.

Development Projects of Surface Transport in the Country

3581. SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the projects for the development of Surface Transport under implementation in the country;

(b) whether the foreign financial institutions have also sanctioned loans for some of these projects;

(c) if so, the names thereof and amount sanctioned for the purpose, project-wise; and

(d) the amount paid by the Government to these foreign countries/financial institutions as commitment charges during 1996-97 and 1997-98 for non-utilisation of sanctioned loan amount ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) A list of major projects for the development of Surface Transport under implementation, is given in the statement-I enclosed.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Overseas Economic Co-operation Fund, Japan, (OECF) have provided loans for five National Highway Projects and details are given in the statement-II enclosed.

(d) No commitment charges are payable under the loan assistance provided by Overseas Economic Co-operation Fund.

Statement-I

(1) National Highway Project

Sl.No.	State	Name of Project
1	2	3
1.	Haryana	4-laning between Karnal & Ambala, Km. 132.67-212.16 Section of NH-1 (Length = 79.50 Km.)
2.	Punjab	4-laning between Sirhind and Punjab/Haryana Border Km. 212.2 to 252.25 Section of NH-1 (Length = 40.00 Km.)
3.	Orissa	4-laning of Bhubaneswar-Cuttack-Jagatpur Section of NH-5 (Km. 0.0 to 27.8) (Length = 27.80 Km.)
4.	Madhya Pradesh	4-laning of Indore-Dewas Section of NH-3 (Km. 573 to 590.6) including construction of Indore bypass (32.6 km.) (Length = 50.20 km.)

1	2	3
5.	Maharashtra	4-laning between Bassein Creek and Manor, Km. 439 to 497 Section of NH-8 (Length = 58.00 Km.)
6.	West Bengal	4-laning between Raniganj and West Bengal/Bihar Border, Km. 438.6 to 474.0 Section of NH-2 (Length = 35.40 Km.)
7.	Kerala	4-laning of Alwaye-Sherthalai Section of NH-47 (Length = 47.00 Km.)
8.	Uttar Pradesh	4-laning of Mathura-Agra Section of NH-2, Km. 148.33 to 199.66 (Length = 51.33 Km.)
9.	Haryana and Rajasthan	4-laning of Gurgaon-Kotputli Section of NH-8 (Length = 125.93 Km.)
10.	West Bengal	4-laning of Raniganj-Panagarh Section of NH-2 (Length = 42.00 Km.)
11.	Bihar	4-laning of Barwa Adda-Barakar Section of NH-2 (Length = 42.70 Km.)
12.	Andhra Pradesh	Strengthening of Nandigama-Vijayawada Section of NH-9 (Length = 48.00 Km.)
13.	Andhra Pradesh	Strengthening of Vijayawada-Eluru Section of NH-5 (Length = 74.08 Km.)
14.	Uttar Pradesh	Naini Bridge over Yamuna river at Allahabad with approach road of NH-27 (Length = 5.40 Km.)
15.	Andhra Pradesh	4-laning of Chilakaluripet-Vijayawada Section of NH-5 (Length = 83.25 Km.)
16.	Orissa	4-laning of Jagatpur-Chandikhol Section of NH-5 (Length = 33.20 Km.)
17.	Uttar Pradesh	4-laning of Ghaziabad-Hapur Section of NH-24 including Hapur bypass (Length = 33.00 Km.)
18.	Uttar Pradesh	Varanasi bypass including bridge over Ganga river
19.	Gujarat	Ahemadabad-Vadodara Expressway
20.	West Bengal	Calcutta-Palsit Section (Durgapur Expressway)
21.	Maharashtra	Construction of 4-lane Thane-Bhiwandi bypass
22.	Gujarat	Construction of Bridge across Narmada river on NH-8

(2) Inland Transport Waterways Project

Sl.No.	Name of Project
1.	Development of National Waterway No. 1.
2.	The Ganga from Haldia to Allahabad, National Waterway No. 2.
3.	The Brahmaputra from Dhubri to Sadiya and National Waterway No. 3.
4.	The West Coast Canal from Kottapuram to Kollam along with Champakara and Udyogmandal Canals.

(3) Port Projects

Sl.No.	Name of Scheme	Name of Ports
1.	Container Terminal	Jawahar Lal Nehru Port
2.	Liquid Cargo Berth	Jawahar Lal Nehru Port
3.	Firth Oil Jetty	Kandla
4.	Oil Jetty at Vadinar	Kandla
5.	Off Shore Stockyard and Berth	Mormugao
6.	Initially Constructing a Virtual Jetty and then converting into permanent jetty	Kandla
7.	Container Terminal	Tuticorin
8.	Initially Constructing a Virtual Jetty and then converting into permanent jetty	Kandla
9.	Construction of POL jetty	Kandla

Statement-II*National Highway Projects*

Sl. No.	State	Name of project	Loan amount in Yen Million
1	2	3	4
1.	Uttar Pradesh	4-laning of Mathura-Agra Section of NH-2, Km. 148.33 to 199.66 (Length = 51.33 Km.)	4855
2.	Uttar Pradesh	Naini Bridge over Yamuna river at Allahabad with	10037

1	2	3	4
		approach road of NH-27 (Length = 5.40 Km.)	
3. Andhra Pradesh	4-laning of Chilakaluripet-Vijayawada Section of NH-5 (Length = 83.25 Km.)		11360
4. Orissa	4-laning of Jagatpur-Chandikhoh Section of NH-5 (Length = 33.20 Km.)		5836
5. Uttar Pradesh	4-laning of Ghaziabad-Hapur Section of NH-24 including Hapur bypass (Length = 33.00 Km.)		4837

**Violation of Code and Conduct
during Elections**

3582. SHRI NADENDLA BHASKAR RAO : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Election Commission has received complaints for violating the code of conduct by political parties/candidates during the assembly elections held recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action being taken by the Election Commission in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) to (c) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Facilities to Residential Sports
Schools by SAI**

[Translation]

3583. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :
SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :

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

(a) whether the Sports Authority of India provides some facilities to the residential sports schools in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of such schools and the locations thereof, State-wise; and

(d) the amount of grant provided to these schools during the year 1997-98 ?

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

(b) The Sports Authority of India (SAI) provides facilities to identified residential schools adopted by it under National Sports Talent Contest Scheme with the objective of identifying and nurturing talent among young school children in the age group of 9-12 years in identified disciplines.

The adopted schools are provided the following facilities :

- (i) One time infrastructural grant of Rs. 5.00 lakh (Rs. 7.50 lakh for hilly areas) for creation of new or improvement of existing sports facilities.
- (ii) Annual grant of Rs. 50,000/- including Rs. 20,000/- for maintenance of playfields, Rs. 27,500/- for purchase of consumable sports equipment and Rs. 2,500/- for purchase of books and magazines.
- (iii) Expenditure towards their board, lodging, admission in school, TA to the child and an escort, tuition fee, school uniform sports kit, medical and insurance cover etc.

(c) At present, 29 schools and two Akharas have been adopted under the Scheme. The Statewise location of these schools is indicated in the statement enclosed.

(d) During the year 1997-98 a grant of Rs. 333.45 lakh was provided to these schools.

Statement

Sl.No.	Location (State)	No of Schools
1	2	3
1.	Vijayawada (Andhra Pradesh)	1
2.	Bangalore (Karnataka)	1
3.	Kottayam (Kerala)	1
4.	Gumla Ranchi (Bihar)	2
5.	Calcutta Krishna Nagar (West Bengal)	2
6.	Sundergarh (Orissa)	1
7.	Agartala (Tripura)	1
8.	Gangtok (Sikkim)	1
9.	Dehradun Varanasi Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh)	3

1	2	3
10.	Indore Jabalpur	(Madhya Pradesh) 2
11.	Pune Ahmednagar Panchgani Nasik Sangli Talim pune	(Maharashtra) 4 2 Akharas
12.	Udaipur	(Rajasthan) 1
13.	Goa	1
14.	Itanagar	(Arunachal Pradesh) 1
15.	Guwahati	(Assam) 1
16.	Imphal	(Manipur) 1
17.	Shillong	(Meghalaya) 1
18.	Chandigarh	1
19.	Jalandhar	(Punjab) 1
20.	Rai Sonepat	(Haryana) 2
		31 (29 + 2)

**Life-Extension Studies of Power
Plants and Stations**

[English]

3584. SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Power Finance Corporation has urged State Electricity Boards to carry out life-extension studies of the power plants and stations :

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

(c) whether a team of officials of Central Electricity Authority has visited various power stations of the State Electricity Boards for this purpose; and

(d) if so, the details of the report submitted by them ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) and (b) Power Finance Corporation and State Electricity Boards have jointly identified to initiate R & M and Life Extension Studies of 15 Thermal Stations during 1998-99 with a view to define the scope of works in an optimal and cost effective manner and to get the works done on competitive basis. These stations are Tuticorin, Koradi, Vijayawada, Ramagundam 'A', Bhatinda, Pari, Paras, Satpura,

Dhuvaran, Patratu, Badarpur, Harduaganj, Panki, Obra and Chandrapur.

(c) and (d) A team comprising of the officials of the Central Electricity Authority (CEA), Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL), Instrumentation Limited, Kota (ILK) and those of the concerned power stations visited various thermal power stations in the country to review the ongoing R & M (Phase-II) Schemes and to identify additional works required to be included in the R & M programme for Ninth Plan. Based on the life and performance of the units. 70 thermal/gas units, which have completed their economic life, have been identified for Life Extension Studies/Programme.

Loan for Power Station

[Translation]

3585. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :
SHRI CHETAN CHAUHAN :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any scheme has been formulated by the Government to completely utilise the long-term loan requirement for setting up Power Stations; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) and (b) An amount not exceeding 40% of the total outlay of the power project was allowed as loan from Indian Financial Institutions (IFIs) as per GOI Resolution dated 22-10-1991. Government of India has now decided vide resolution dated 13-10-1998 that while there would be no bar to the extent of domestic debt raised by a project developer, subject to the need of maximising financing from external sources and prudential norms exercised by IFIs, allowing a higher domestic debt component for projects which are developed based on indigenous sourced plant and equipment would be more desirable. Long term loans for power projects are available from Power Finance Corporation, and of hers IFIs apart from external sources.

National Policy to Upgrade Power Plants

[English]

3586. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to form a national policy for upgradation of power plants in consultation with State Electricity Boards, Power Finance Corporation, Central Electricity Authority and Consultants; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) and (b) Government of India has accorded high priority to the upgradation/Renovation & Modernisation (R&M) of the existing power stations to arrest their deteriorating performance and to bring the units to their rated capacity. In respect of thermal power stations, the Government launched a programme to undertake R&M in the 7th Plan, as a Centrally sponsored scheme, which was monitored by the CEA. However, from 8th Plan onwards R&M programme is being implemented through Power Finance Corporation. The Central Government now given interest/subsidies of 4-6% on the PFC loans to the states for R&M. So far under this programme 78 thermal power stations comprising 361 units have been covered.

Similarly, 55 hydro schemes were taken up for Renovation, Modernisation and Uprating (RM&U) from the year 1987. Spillover works of R&M of thermal and hydro stations and certain additional schemes are being implemented in the 9th Plan. A team comprising representatives from Central Electricity Authority (CEA), Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) and Power Finance Corporation (PFC) was constituted to identify the power stations requiring R&M.

In case of hydro power stations, as per recent hydro policy, the Government of India has decided to set up a Standing Committee to identify R&M and uprating of Hydro Power Stations. A team comprising officers from CEA, State Electricity Boards, PFC and BHEL would be set up for identifying new hydel power stations and also for tying-up technical and fund requirements etc.

Cargo, Oil, Coal Berths at Paradeep Port

3587. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cargo, oil and coal berths proposed to be set up by the Government at Paradeep Port during Ninth Plan;

(b) the fund allocations made for the purpose; and

(c) the steps taken in this direction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) Number of berths proposed to be set up at Paradeep Port during 9th Plan are as under :

(i) General Cargo	03
(ii) Oil	01
(iii) Coal	02

(b) The fund allocation for the projects are as under

(i) General Cargo berths : Rs. 63 crore

(ii) Oil berths : Rs. 48 crore

(iii) Coal berths : Rs. 628 crore

(c) Construction work on all the berths have commenced. The General cargo berths are scheduled to be completed by February, 2000; the oil berths are scheduled to be completed in January, 2000; and coal berths are targetted for completion in April, 2000.

Allotment of Forest Land for Development

3588. SHRI ARVIND KAMBLE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the policy of the Government for allotment of forest land;

(b) the number of proposals received by the Government from private parties and industrial houses for allotment of forest and desert land for its development, State-wise; and

(c) the norms adopted in this regard and the revenue estimated to be accrued by the Government therefrom ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) Presently, there is no policy of the Government to allot forest land to private parties and industrial houses for its development.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Desilting of Salal Dam

3589. SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that Salal Hydro-electric Power Project is being threatened due to high silt in the Dam;

(b) whether the Government are also aware that Pakistan has not conceded opening of 'slush gates' of the Project and desilting is not possible without opening of the dam gates; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to find a practical alternative for desilting of the dam ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) to (c) The Salal Hydro-Electric Project (HEP) of National Hydro-Electric Power Corporation (NHPC) in Jammu and Kashmir experiences problems in operation during the monsoon months due to silt content in River Chenab as a result of which outages of the generating units take place.

The Indus Water Treaty between India and Pakistan does not allow sudden release and retention of water and requires the natural flow of the river to be maintained in the Pakistan territory. As Salal HEP happens to be last project on the Indian territory the release of water from Salal HEP has to be regulated through the machines and the spillway to ensure natural river flow. Therefore, no silt flushing arrangement is possible

Six construction under sluices were provided in the Dam during the construction stage. These sluices were enabling devices meant for releasing the water during construction and were designed to be plugged after the completion of the Dam. The closure of the construction sluices is in conformity with practices in respect of similar projects. These sluices are not meant for silt flushing and the question of Pakistan not conceding to open these gates does not arise.

To ensure operation of the project at full efficiency, several technical measures are being taken to minimise the effect of silt and to improve the performance of the power stations and maximise generation. Generation from the Project during the year 1998-99 (upto November, 1998) has been 2770.12 Million Units (MUs) as against 2371.11 MUs generated during the corresponding period last year (1997-98). The generation target fixed for Salal H.E. Project for the current year (1998-99) is 2335.00 Million Units.

Funds for National Highway-5

3590. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount spent on the renovation, maintenance and improvement of National Highway No. 5 during last three years:

(b) whether the Government have sanctioned fund during the current financial year for this purpose; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) The National Highway No. 5 passes through the States of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Orissa. The funds are allocated for National Highways in every State as a whole and not National Highway wise. The following amounts have been spent on the original works and Maintenance and Repairs of the network of National Highways in the States of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Orissa—

Year	Original work (Rs. in crores)	Maintenance and Repairs (Rs. in crores)	State
1	2	3	4
1995-96	12.76	17.90	Tamil Nadu
	48.64	28.43	Andhra Pradesh
	36.02	14.48	Orissa

1	2	3	4
1996-97	20.25	24.13	Tamil Nadu
	39.10	35.45	Andhra Pradesh
	59.17	19.82	Orissa
1997-98	25.68	29.81	Tamil Nadu
	59.56	38.98	Andhra Pradesh
	64.75	25.22	Orissa

(b) and (c) The following amounts have been earmarked for Original works and Maintenance and Repairs during current financial year for this purpose :

	Original works (Rs. in crores)	Maintenance and Repairs
Tamil Nadu	36.73	27.20
Andhra Pradesh	43.77	34.804
Orissa	82.08	18.20

Power Generation Units in M.P.

[Translation]

3591. SHRI AJIT JOGI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Power Generation Units in Madhya Pradesh alongwith the present power generation capacity and locations thereof;

(b) the number of such units not functioning properly;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Union Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) A statement is given in the statement.

(b) to (d) The overall performance of power generating units located in Madhya Pradesh is satisfactory. These units have generated 29876 MU energy against the programme of 28241 MU during April-November 1998. However, the following units are under planned maintenance and Renovation and Modernisation :

1. Korba-II (East) Unit-I (50.0 MW)	Capital Maintenance
2. Korba-III (East) Unit-I 120 MW)	Renovation and Modernisation
3. Korba (West) Unit-3 (210 MW)	Annual Maintenance

Statement**Power Generating Stations located in Madhya Pradesh**

Name of the station	Location	No. x units	Installed capacity (MW) 30-11-98
A. Hydro			
1. Birsingpur	Birsingpur	1 x 20	20.00
2. Bargi	Barginagar	2 x 45	90.00
3. Bansagar Tons	Sirmour	3 x 105	315.00
4. Hasdeo Bango	Bilaspur	3 x 40	120.00
5. Gandhisagar	Gandhisagar	5 x 23	115.00
6. Pench	Border of MP & Maharashtra	2 x 80	160.00
Sub Total (Hydro) No. of units and capacity		16	820.00
B. Thermal			
1. Korba East (II)	Korba	4 x 50 + 2 x 120	440.00
2. Korba West	Korba West	4 x 210	840.00
3. Amarkantak (I+II)	Amarkantak	2 x 30 + 2 x 120	300.00
4. Satpura	Satpura	5 x 62.50 + 1 x 200 + 3 x 211	1142.50
5. S. Gandhi	Birsingpur	2 x 120	420.00
6. Korba STPS (C. Sector)	Korba	3 x 200 + 3 x 500	2100.00
7. Vindhychal STPS (C. Sector)	Vindhyanagar	6 x 210	1260.00
SUB TOTAL (Thermal) No. of units and capacity		37	6502.50
TOTAL (Hydro + Thermal) No. of units and capacity		53	7322.50

Continuity of Literacy Programmes*(English)*

3592. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA :
SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :

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

(a) whether a good number of neo-literates are forgetting what they had learnt from the literacy classes due to lack of continuity of these programmes;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to ensure continuity of literacy programmes; and

(c) the States that have achieved total literacy till date ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. After completion of the first phase of basic literacy in districts, post literacy campaigns are launched so that learners do not relapse to illiteracy. This is followed by launching of Continuing Education Scheme which provides facilities for retention of literacy skills to enable learners to continue their learning beyond basic literacy.

(c) No declaration as to the status of total literacy is made by the States. The Zilla Saksharata Samitis implementing literacy campaigns are allowed to make public the results of external evaluation.

Remains of Puspagiri Vihara

3593. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the remains of the ancient Puspagiri Vihara in Orissa are in a state of decay;

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

(c) whether Government are providing any grants for the protection and maintenance of this famous Buddhist Puspagiri University; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) As informed by the Government of Orissa, remains of an ancient Buddhist site has been found at Langudi Hill in Jajpur district, which some historians identify with the ancient Puspagiri Vihara mentioned in the writings of Hieun Tsang, the eminent Chinese traveller.

(c) and (d) During the year 1998-99, Rs. 2.00 lakhs have been sanctioned by the Government of Orissa to the Orissan Institute of Maritime and South-East Asian Study for the maintenance of the site.

Viability of Power Trading Corporation

3594. SHRI R.S. GAVAI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether World Bank has declined to support the concept of trading in power and questioned the viability of the proposed Power Trading Corporation;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any suggestions has been made by the World Bank to amend mega power policy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (d) Government has recently recast the policy on development of mega power projects, which would cater to the power needs of more than one state. The policy, inter alia, provides for the setting up of a Power Trading Corporation (PTC) which would purchase power from the private mega projects and sell it to the concerned State Electricity Boards. No support has been sought from the World Bank for establishing the PTC. However, the World Bank has been approached by Powergrid to finance the services of advisers for mega power projects.

Gene Terminator Technology

3595. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether gene terminator is a technology used to protect plants and crops from pests;

(b) if so, whether this technology has caused damage to India;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the number of field trials conducted in this regard; and

(e) the States where trials were conducted/being conducted ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (e) The gene terminator technology (Control of Plant Gene Expression) would alter the genetic constitution of the seed so that it will not germinate if used for raising the second crop. The technology has not yet been developed to a stage where the seeds incorporating this technology have been field tested. Thus, the question of any damage to India does not arise.

Financial Grant for Higher Studies Abroad

3596. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are giving financial grants to deserving students for higher studies abroad;

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

(c) the amount earmarked for the purpose for 1998-99 ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) This Ministry does not operate any scheme under which financial grants may be extended to students for higher studies abroad.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Total Literacy Programme

3597. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the total amount allocated to various States for implementation of total literacy programme during the current financial year (till date) and actual utilisation thereof, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : State-wise allocation is not made for Total Literacy Campaigns which are carried out through the aegis of Zilla Saksharata Samities. These Samities are district-level registered societies with the Collector as the Chairman. Funds are released to these Samities on project basis.

Out of a total budget of Rs. 93.97 crores for Adult Education Programme, a sum of Rs. 20 crores has been allocated for Total Literacy Campaigns. A sum of Rs. 7.62 crores has so far been sanctioned under this scheme during the current financial year. A statewise break-up is given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

Funds Released to Zilla Saksharata Samities for Total Literacy Campaign during 1998-99, till date

(Rs. in lakhs)

State/UT	Amount Sanctioned
1	2
1. Assam	50.00
2. Bihar	56.50
3. Gujarat	25.00
4. Haryana	28.77
5. Himachal Pradesh	17.00
6. Karnataka	16.00
7. Madhya Pradesh	65.00

1	2
8. Maharashtra	85.00
9. Meghalaya	20.00
10. Orissa	10.00
11. Rajasthan	62.00
12. Tamil Nadu	22.00
13. Tripura	30.00
14. Uttar Pradesh	128.65
15. West Bengal	32.05
16. New Delhi	114.08
Total	762.05

Central Sector Power Stations in Orissa

3598. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the names and the number of Central Sector Power Stations in Orissa;

(b) the capacity of said power stations and actual MW of power generated by each power station annually at present;

(c) whether the Government have a proposal to expand any such unit;

(d) if so, the steps taken in this direction;

(e) whether the Government have any proposal to set up any new power projects in Orissa; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) and (b) The names of Central Power Stations located in Orissa alongwith the installed capacity is given below :

Name of Power Station	Total Installed Capacity (MW)	Generation 1997-98 (MU)
Talchar STPS (2 × 500)	1000	4136
Talchar TPS (4 × 62.5 + 2 × 110)	470	2097

(c) and (d) There is a proposal to expand Talchar STPS with an additional 2000 MW.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. The details are as follows :

Name of the Project	Total Installed Capacity (MW)
STATE SECTOR	
1. Balimela St-2 (H)	120.0
2. Bargarh (H)	9.0
3. Potteru (H)	6.0
4. Upper Indravati (H)	600.0
5. Jalaput Dam 50% (H)	9.0
Total	744.0
PRIVATE SECTOR	
1. Ib-Valley 3 & 4 (T)	420.0

Herbal Resources in Dang

3599. SHRI C.D. GAMIT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether in a bid to tap the rich herbal resources in the Dang Jungles, the botanical garden in the District of Dang (Gujarat) has given certain blocks to tribals to plant medicinal species;

(b) if so, the details regarding number and names of such blocks;

(c) whether cooperation of the Gujarat State has also been sought to construct a museum on herbs; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) and (b) According to the information available with this Ministry, the State Forest Department have identified forty blocks, each measuring 2 meters × 2 meters, for cultivation of local medicinal plants with the help of the tribal community in the District of Dang (Gujarat). These blocks are laid down in the Botanical garden at Waghai (District Dang).

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Code of Conduct for Higher Judiciary

3600. SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a committee was constituted realising the need to have a code of conduct for higher judiciary; and

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the committee ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, one of the items of the National Agenda for Governance is to set up a National Judicial Commission which would *inter alia* draw up a code of ethics for the judiciary.

Indo-European Shipping Policy

3601. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :
SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH :
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether European Union and India are likely to meet the next month to discuss the Indian Shipping Transfer Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Indian Shipping companies face tariff negotiations following a mandate of the European Union to enter into deals with these companies on behalf of all the member countries of EU;

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

(e) whether the EU has been asked to negotiate a fresh deals with India; and

(f) if so, the extent to which the Government are helping the Indian shipping in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) to (f) No such proposal is at present under consideration.

Power Production in North East

3602. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of power generation in the North East during the last three years, state-wise;

(b) the comparative figures with the rest of the country in this regard; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government for proper utilisation of the excess power produced in the region ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) and (b) The details of power generation in North Eastern Region (State-wise) and comparative figures with the rest of the country during the last three years are given below :

Name of State/System	(All figures in MU)		
	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
Arunachal Pradesh	15.0	17.0	13.0
Assam	1434.0	1362.0	1072.0
Manipur	480.0	497.0	535.0
Meghalaya	539.0	480.0	598.0
Mizoram	0.0	0.0	0.0
Nagaland	0.0	0.0	0.0
Tripura	193.0	244.0	302.0
NEEPCO	1052.0	1389.0	1527.0
Total (NER)	3713.0	3989.0	4047.0
All India	379877.0	394486.0	420622.0

(c) In order to bring about the overall development of the North-Eastern Region, a number of transmission schemes have been taken up under the central sector by POWERGRID. These schemes are aimed to strengthen not only the upper Assam portion with 400 KV links to make highway between North-Eastern Region and Eastern Region traversing from eastern end of the North-Eastern Region, but also to strengthen the transmission system in South Assam portion to facilitate transfer of power to Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura. In addition, POWERGRID has also taken up establishment of State-of-the-art Load Dispatch Scheme to ensure efficient grid operation. It would enable better utilisation of the generation capacity in the region.

Computer Education in Kendriya Vidyalayas

3603. SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether computer literacy and studies in Kendriya Vidyalayas was started in 1984-85;

(b) if so, the number of Vidyalayas covered under it so far, State-wise;

(c) the number of Vidyalayas likely to be covered during the next three years;

(d) whether in such Vidyalayas the students are still working on the old hardware; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken by the Government to provide latest hardware to the said Vidyalayas ?

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

(b) 291 Kendriya Vidyalayas were covered under Pre-revised Class Project which has since been discontinued with effect from 1.4.98, 164 Kendriya Vidyalayas are covered under Revised Class Project. State-wise list is given in the statement enclosed.

(c) 212 Kendriya Vidyalayas under Revised Class Project are likely to be covered during next three years.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) The existing hardware (BBC Micro System) in Kendriya Vidyalayas will be replaced by the modified hardware configuration subject to availability of funds.

Statement

State-wise list of Kendriya Vidyalayas covered under Class Project

Sl.No.	Name of the state	Pre-revised Project	Revised Project
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	17	15
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	1
3.	Assam	18	3
4.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1	—
5.	Bihar	23	4
6.	Chandigarh	4	3
7.	Delhi	16	23
8.	Goa	1	1
9.	Gujarat	14	3
10.	Haryana	8	1
11.	Himachal Pradesh	2	1
12.	Jammu & Kashmir	7	2
13.	Karnataka	8	8
14.	Kerala	9	8
15.	Madhya Pradesh	23	16
16.	Maharashtra	22	16
17.	Manipur	1	—
18.	Meghalaya	1	1
19.	Nagaland	2	—
20.	Orissa	7	4

1	2	3	4
21.	Punjab	12	5
22.	Rajasthan	12	9
23.	Sikkim	1	—
24.	Tamil Nadu	16	6
25.	Uttar Pradesh	46	24
26.	West Bengal	19	13
Total		291	164

Private and Foreign Investment in Power Sector

3604. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are finalising further reforms in its new comparative power policy to stimulate private and foreign investment in power sector;

(b) if so, the details of major thrust areas and concessions, structural and system reforms being considered to attract private and foreign investment in the private sector; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken for effective coordination and implementation of Mega Power Projects to avoid time and cost escalation ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) and (b) The policy announced in 1991 to encourage greater private sector participation is reviewed from time to time to streamline the process of development of private sector power schemes. Government has recently recast the policy on development of mega power projects. According to the revised policy, certain project sites, both in the Public as well as Private sector have been identified for setting up such mega projects which would cater to the power needs of more than one state. The Standing Independent Group constituted by the Government would initially be the apex body to oversee the implementation of the mega private power projects. The principles of competitive bidding would be adhered to as far as possible, while obtaining tariff offers for private sector projects. These projects are being given certain concessions and are being linked to reforms. The concessions include exemption of the identified mega power projects from customs duty for import of capital equipment, deemed export benefit to the indigenous manufacturers of equipment for these projects and relaxed taxation regime. The policy also encourages reforms as there are preconditions to the beneficiary state for receiving power from the mega projects which stipulate that the concerned state would have to establish the State Electricity Regulatory Commission with full powers and would also have to privatise distribution in cities having a population of more than one million

The policy also envisages the setting up of a Power Trading Company, which would purchase power from the private mega projects and sell it to the concerned State Electricity Board. While the proposed mega power projects would result in low tariffs, they would also attract private investment including foreign investments due to the concessions attached with the policy and also the fact that the project developer would have to deal with only one agency.

(c) The revised mega power policy also stipulates that the projects would be offered to the developers only after all the clearances/land have been obtained so that projects can start soon after they are granted to the most competitive bidder. A two stage environmental clearance by Ministry of Environment and Forests is also envisaged and which the site clearance would be given initially. These steps are expected to result in timely implementation of the mega power projects.

Collection of Capitation Fees

3605. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state : the details of setps being taken to stop the collection of capitation fees in the educational institutions ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : As per the Regulations issued by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) under the provisions of the AICTE Act, 1987 and particularly with reference to the Judgement of Supreme Court in Unnikrishnan case, the procedure for admission as well as fee structure has been notified in respect of private unaided Professional Institutions in the field of Technical Education. There is neither any provision nor any scope for charging of capitation fee.

Shortage of Notary Stamps

3606. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is severe shortage of Notary Stamps in the capital and the litigants have to buy the same at the blackmarket price as reported in the 'Statesman' dated August 21, 1998;

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

(c) whether the Government have taken any immediate steps to meet the shortage of Notary Stamps in the capital;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the estimated demand of Notary Stamps in the capital per month and total production of such stamps throughout the country ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : As per information received from the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs)—

(a) and (b) there have been shortage of Notary Stamps in Delhi during April, 1998 to August, 1998 because of lesser supplies. During September-October, 1998, however, arrangements were made to collect the Notary Stamps through personal delivery. Delhi Government has reported that there is no shortage of the Notary Stamps now in Delhi.

(c) and (d) the action is being taken to replace the old machines installed in the India Security Press, Nasik, by new machines in a phased manner, so as to increase the production capacity.

(e) the estimated demand for Delhi as per indent for the year 1998-99 is 52,000 sheets. As against the demand for 14,38,140 sheets from all the States in the country including Delhi, the India Security Press, Nasik, was able to supply only 1,41,475 sheets during 1997-98

Vocational Education

3607. SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL :
SHRI TATHAGAT SATPATHY :

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

(a) the steps taken in the Eighth Plan for the expansion of vocational education in the country;

(b) whether the Union Government have urged several States to promote vocational education;

(c) if so, the steps taken by them in this regard;

(d) whether the Government propose to lay emphasis to expand facilities to promote vocational education in the Ninth Plan;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the funds sanctioned and utilised for the vocational education during the past five years. State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education is being implemented by all States/UT's except Lakshadweep. Funds are also released to Non-Government Organisations/Voluntary Organisations for conducting innovative programme in the field of Vocational Education. During Eighth Plan Rs. 361.36 crores were released to States/UT's for implementing the programme. A Central Institute of Vocational

Education has been set up in 1993 to develop curriculum and competency level in vocational courses. The Institute has developed 160 courses in consultation with various Industries for implementation of the programme all over the country. So far 18719 Sections in 6486 Schools all over the country have been operationalised. The State Governments have been advised to set up management structure at Central, States, Districts and Institutional level for effective implementation and monitoring of the scheme. The scheme has emerged as one of the largest in the Government of India wherein enrollment capacity of 9.35 lakhs have been established.

(d) and (e) A Working Group was constituted to assess the current implementation position and suggest suitable modifications in the implementation of the scheme. Recommendations of the Working Group have been circulated to States/UT's for their comments. Pilot schemes for need based courses with organisations such as the National Institute of Fashion Technology are also being implemented.

(f) The statement showing State-wise funds released during last five years and unspent balances as on date is enclosed.

Statement

Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education

Sl. No.	Name of the State/						Amount of Grants	
		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	Unspent balances as on date	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	640.58	327.45	—	—	—	777.72	
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	0.35	
3.	Assam	291.54	164.42	108.52	—	—	460.59	
4.	Bihar	408.51	157.87	415.39	—	—	196.70	
5.	Goa	56.93	100.42	115.04	139.68	—	13.11	
6.	Gujarat	781.73	—	—	—	—	—	
7.	Haryana	228.18	379.14	621.85	239.28	—	—	
8.	Himachal Pradesh	—	—	1.33	—	—	12.60	
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	22.55	—	—	—	—	22.55	
10.	Karnataka	1012.69	729.55	328.32	357.75	—	430.64	
11.	Kerala	352.40	885.23	929.35	514.38	223.00	794.93	
12.	Madhya Pradesh	—	20.80	—	—	—	326.01	
13.	Maharashtra	2035.74	2449.69	3134.44	2239.88	—	2553.13	
14.	Manipur	7.40	40.24	35.24	—	8.00	25.79	
15.	Meghalaya	—	—	13.67	4.63	—	—	
16.	Mizoram	21.92	—	8.80	—	—	4.99	
17.	Nagaland	1.40	—	—	—	—	16.24	
18.	Orissa	650.00	102.00	—	—	—	844.84	
19.	Punjab	253.74	265.02	434.53	1.42	—	109.37	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
20.	Rajasthan	385.19	556.54	—	888.48	—	509.31
21.	Sikkim	7.15	—	—	—	—	9.61
22.	Tamil Nadu	700.16	706.55	—	—	—	63.90
23.	Tripura	4.12	—	—	25.65	—	21.34
24.	Uttar Pradesh	258.42	265.39	502.40	473.74	—	350.93
25.	West Bengal	—	—	—	20.50	—	3.01
26.	A & N Islands	—	—	—	—	—	1.74
27.	Chandigarh	22.77	23.99	26.86	50.69	27.00	3.13
28.	Dadra & N.H.	2.79	—	—	—	—	2.79
29.	Daman & Diu	3.09	2.66	5.06	5.90	—	—
30.	Delhi	—	105.00	50.23	14.92	—	60.75
31.	Pondicherry	17.44	16.26	14.06	—	—	37.98

Judgements in Various Languages

[Translation]

3608. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to direct High Courts to deliver their judgements in the languages of the respective States so that the persons who have filed suit could get justice in their own language or official language; and

(b) if so, the names of the countries in the world except India where judgements are delivered in foreign language ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI : (a) No, Sir. Under Article 348(2) of the Constitution the Governor of a State, may with the previous consent of the President, authorise the use of Hindi language or any other language used for any official purpose of the State, in proceedings of the High Court having its principal seat in the State, provided that decrees, judgements or orders passed by the High Court shall be in English. Under section 7 of the Official Language Act, 1963, the use of Hindi or official language of a State in addition to English may be authorised with the consent of the President of India by the Governor of the State, for the purpose of judgements etc. made by the High Court for that State. So far, the Governors of the four Northern States namely; Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh have authorised the use of Hindi in addition

to English language in the proceedings as well as the judgements, decrees etc. for the High Court of their State.

(b) No such information is maintained by the Department of Justice.

[English]

Widening and Developing of NH in the Four Lane

3609. SHRI T. GOVINDAN :
SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any request from State Governments for the widening and developing of National Highways into four laning path during the current year and the 9th plan, State-wise/Union Territory-wise;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) to (c) The 9th Five Year Plan is yet to be finalised. However the details for the current year 1998-99 given in the statement enclosed.

Statement*List of Works for Inclusion in the Annual Plan 1998-99**Under Ninth Five Year Plan***Four Laning of National Highways**

Sl.No.	NH No.	Name of works	Length in kms.	Approx. cost (Rs. in crores)
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh				
1.	9	S&I four laning Hyd-Vijayawada & Hyd-Pune Sections	380.00	2.40
2.	7	S&I four laning Hyd-Nizamabad & Hyd-Pune Sections	753.00	4.50
Total			1133.00	6.90
Assam				
1.	37	Widening to 4-lane Km. 165-171 Khampara to Jorbat	6.60	1.00
2.	31C	S&I for 4-laning between Bijni & Srirampur	80.00	0.60
Total			86.60	1.60
Bihar				
1.	28	S&I for 4-laning Km. 360-522 (Karia to Gopalganj, Muzafarpur)	162.00	8.00
2.	31	S&I for 4-laning (Purnea-Dalkola)	50.00	2.50
3.	57	S&I for Muzaffarpur-Darbhanga-Forbesganj-Purnea	300.00	3.00
Total			512.00	13.50
Delhi				
1.	1	Widening from 4-lane to 6-lane including strengthening of the existing pavement Km. 8.5 to 16.0	7.50	12.00
Total			7.50	12.00
Gujarat				
1.	8A	Widening to 4-lane from Km. 14/0-24/0	10.00	12.00
2.	8A	Widening to 4-lane from Km. 85/4-100/0	14.60	13.00
3.	8B	Widening to 4-lane from Km. 160/0-170/0	15.00	15.00
Total			39.60	40.00
Haryana				
1.	10	Strengthening weak 2-lane from Km. 220/0-250/30	30.30	10.00
2.	65	Strengthening weak 2-lane Ambala-Kaithal-Hissar-Fatehpur	210.00	21.00
Total			240.30	31.00
Karnataka				
1.	7	Widening to 4-lane Km. 557-528 of Hyd. Bangalore Section	29.00	7.50
Total			29.00	7.50
Kerala				
1.	47	Trichur-Allwaye section (Phase I) Km. 317/0-332/0	15.00	45.00
Total			15.00	45.00
Madhya Pradesh				
1.	3	S&I for 4-laning of selected stretches	L.S.	2.00

1	2	3	4	5
2.	7	S&I for 4-laning of selected stretches	L.S.	2.00
3.	6	Four lane of Raipur-Durg section Km. 303/0-308/6	5.60	7.00
Total			5.60	11.00
Maharashtra				
<i>Widening to four lanes</i>				
1.	3	Thane-Nasik Road (Km. 414/0 to 589/500) S&I	30.00	0.30
2.	7	Nagpur-Hyd. Road (S&I)	20.00	0.20
<i>Strengthening weak 2-lane pavement</i>				3.00
3.	3	Mumbai-Agra Road (Km. 196/0 to Km. 204/0)	8.00	2.00
4.	3	Mumbai-Agra Road (Km. 265/0 to Km. 240/0)	5.00	3.00
5.	4B	Section 1A to B	7.00	3.50
6.	4B	Section BC and CD	10.00	2.50
7.	6	Nagpur-Raipur Road (Km. 515/0 to 522/0)	7.00	2.00
Total			87.00	16.50
Manipur				
<i>Widening to 4-lane alongwith provision of paved shoulders</i>				
1.	39	Km. 314/0 to 317/60	3.60	3.10
2.	39	Km. 311/0 to 314/0	3.00	3.00
Total			6.60	6.10
Punjab				
1.	10	Four laning within M.C. limits of Malout Town on NH-10	4.00	9.35
Total			4.00	9.35
Rajasthan				
1.	11	Widening to four lane Km. 241/0-346/3 (JPR-SIK)	5.30	1.50
2.	12	Widening to four lane Km. 12/4-16/0 (JPR Tonk)	3.60	1.50
3.	15	Widening to four lane Km. 239/0-240/5 (BKR-GNR Section)	1.50	0.75
4.	15	Widening to four lane Km. 1/5-5/0 (BKR-GNR Section)	3.50	1.75
Total			13.90	5.50
Tamil Nadu				
1.	7	Km. 134/0 to 141/0 of Bangalore-Salem-Madurai section passing through Dharampuri town	7.00	8.87
2.	7	Km. 156/0 to 163/4 of Bangalore-Salem-Madurai section passing through Thappur Ghat	7.40	25.00
Total			14.40	33.87
Uttar Pradesh				
1.	25	Widening to 6-lane in Km. 1 to 4.3 in Lucknow city portion	3.30	4.53
2.	24	Widening & stg. in Km. 490 to 492 in Lucknow city portion	2.00	4.62
3.	2	Widening in Km. 192 & 193 of Allahabad urban link in Kanpur-Varanasi section	2.00	1.60
Total			7.30	10.75

1	2	3	4	5
West Bengal				
<i>Widening to 4-lane including stg. Of existing 2 lanes</i>				
1.	34	Km. 329/8 to 332/0 (near Malda)	2.20	5.00
2.	35	Km. 55/9 to 58\4 incl. widening of Kakar bridge	2.50	5.00
Total			4.70	10.00

Lok Adalats

3610. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up permanent Lok Adalats in all the districts in the country;

(b) if so, the time by which these are likely to be established; and

(c) the efforts taken by the Government in this direction ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) and (c) The 1st Annual Meet of the State Legal Authorities held on 12th September, 1998 in New Delhi under the aegis of the NALSA, has adopted a resolution recommending that permanent and continuous Lok Adalats in all the Districts in the country may be established at the earliest for providing an additional forum to the litigants for conciliatory settlement of their disputes to relieve some burden from the regular courts functioning in the Districts. The setting up of permanent and continuous Lok Adalats has been included as one of the item in the Action Plan drawn for the Department for the current financial year 1998-99. Executive Chairman, National Legal Services Authority is keenly monitoring the setting up of such Lok Adalats throughout the country.

(b) No time frame has been fixed but all State Legal Services Authorities are being impressed upon by the National Legal Services Authority to establish such Lok Adalats without any delay.

Giving Assets of Ports on Lease

[Translation]

3611. SHRI ARVIND KAMBLE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to give on lease the existing assets of major ports to private sector; and

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

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

and (b) Yes, Sir. Leasing out existing assets of the Port Trusts is one of the areas identified in the policy guidelines for private sector participation in the development of major ports to increase their efficiency and productivity.

Four Laning of Bhubaneshwar-Puri and Konark-Pipli Road

[English]

3612. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal for the four laning of Bhubaneshwar-Puri and Konark-Pipli Road;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have considered these proposals submitted by the State Government;

(d) if so, the estimated cost thereof; and

(e) the fund sanctioned by the Government for these projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) No, Sir. Bhubaneshwar-Puri road has been recently declared as new National Highway. Konark-Pipli road is a State road and development of State road is the responsibility of the State Government.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Literacy Rate in Karnataka

3613. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the literacy percentage in Karnataka at present;

(b) whether Karnataka is expected to achieve 100% literacy before the turn of 20th century;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Union Government are making any special efforts in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) The literacy rate in Karnataka, in the age group of 7 years and above is 56.04% at present.

(b) to (d) Adult Education under the National Literacy Mission, Universalisation of Elementary Education and Non-Formal Education for school drop-outs constitute a three-pronged strategy to improve literacy through out the country. The National Literacy Mission aims to make 100 million non-literates of the country in 15-35 age-group as fully literate by 2005. This objective is proposed to be achieved through scheme titled "Special Projects for Eradication of Illiteracy (TLC/PLC) and Rural Functional Literacy Programme (RFLP)". TLC/PLC schemes are implemented through campaign mode which is area-specific, time-bound, volunteer-based, cost-effective and outcome-oriented.

(e) In Karnataka, out of 23 districts covered under literacy campaigns, 3 districts are in Operation Restoration programme and 20 districts in post literacy phase. So far 43,68,776 persons have been made literate in Karnataka under all schemes of National Literacy Mission.

Maheshwar Hydel Project in M.P.

3614. SHRI R.S. GAVALI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are reviewing the clearance accorded in the past to the proposed 400 mw. to Maheshwar Hydel Project at Mandaleswar in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether promoters of the project have defaulted on the rehabilitation package for villagers displaced by the project;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action proposed by the Government against promoters of the project ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) The promoters of the project have initiated the work on rehabilitation package. Resettlement work with regard to village Jalaud is already started.

World Archaeology Conference

3615. SHRI AJIT JOGI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a conference of the World Archaeology took place in Grotia in May, 1998;

(b) if so, the names of participants sent to the conference by the Government;

(c) whether the Indian delegates sponsored by the Government of India have boycotted the session when a resolution condemning the demolition of Babri-Masjid was passed; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) A conference of the World Archaeological Congress was held in Croatia in May, 1998.

(b) The Government of India did not sent any delegates to the conference.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

World Bank Aided Power Projects under NTPC

3616. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Thermal Power Corporation has received World Bank loan for implementing some power projects;

(b) if so, the names of World Bank funded power projects under National Thermal Power Corporation;

(c) whether some of those projects are lagging behind the schedule; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (d) National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has implemented the following power projects with part funding from the World Bank which are presently under operation :

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Capacity (MW)
1	2	3
1.	Singrauli Super Thermal Power Project in Uttar Pradesh	2000
2.	Korba Super Thermal Power Project in Madhya Pradesh	2100
3.	Ramagundam Super Thermal Power Project in Andhra Pradesh	2100

1	2	3
4.	Farakka Super Thermal Power Project Stage I and Stage II in West Bengal	1600
5.	Gas Based Combined Cycle Power Projects at Anta in Rajasthan	413
	Auraiya in Uttar Pradesh and	652
	Kawas in Gujarat	645
6.	National Capital Inernal Power Project in Uttar Pradesh	840
7.	Talcher Super Thermal Power Project in Orissa	1000

In addition, following thermal Power projects of NTPC are presently under implementation with part funding from the World Bank :

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Capacity (MW)
1.	Vindhyachal Super Thermal Power Project in Madhya Pradesh	1000
2.	Kayamkulam Combined Cycle Power Project in Kerala	350

Work on the ongoing projects are progressing as per schedule.

Fishermen Jetty at Mangalore Port

3617. SHRI JAYARAMA I.M. SHETTY : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal to construct a fishermen Jetty at Mangalore Port is pending with the Union Government since long;

(b) if so, the period of its pendency; and

(c) the reasons therefor and the specific time by which Jetty for fishermen at Mangalore Port is likely to constructed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Power Generation by NTPC

3618. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Thermal Power Corporation is executing work on the long term projects to increase its installed power generation capacity in the country;

(b) if so, whether Corporation has several ongoing projects at present;

(c) if so, the extent to which these projects will generate power;

(d) whether National Thermal Power Corporation has also decided to extend its capacity in Southern States; and

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

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (c) National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has an installed capacity of 16910 MW and is presently implementing five power projects with a total capacity of 3170 MW as detailed below :

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Capacity (MW)
I. Coal Based Power Projects		
1.	Vindhyachal Super Thermal Power Project, Stage II, Madhya Pradesh	1000
2.	Unchahar Thermal Power Project Stage II, Uttar Pradesh	420
3.	Simhadri Thermal Power Project, Andhra Pradesh	1000
II. Gas/Naphtha Based Power Projects		
1.	Kayamkulam Combined Cycle Power Project, Kerala	350 (Gas Turbine of 115 MW commissioned on 5-12-1998)
2.	Faridabad Gas Power Project, Haryana	400
Total		3170

In addition, NTPC has planned to implement thermal power projects with a total capacity of 8100 MW which are in various stages of clearances/funding tie ups. These projects are identified for benefits during 9th and 10th Plan periods.

(d) and (e) NTPC is already implementing coal based Simhadri Thermal Power Project (1000 MW) in Andhra Pradesh. Further, it has plans to expand/set up following projects in Southern region :

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Capacity (MW)
1.	Ramagundam Super Thermal Power Project Stage III, Andhra Pradesh	500
2.	South Chennai (Cheyyur, Thermal Power Project, Tamil Nadu	1000
3.	Kayamkulam Combined Cycle Power Project Stage II, Kerala	1950

Scheme for Forest Guards and Employees

3619. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :
DR. ASHOK PATEL :
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHRY :

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

(a) whether the Union Government have decided to provide a comprehensive insurance cover to the forest guards and employees working in the national parks and protected areas;

(b) if so, whether this measure will further motivate forest staff to protect the endangered species as well as forest wealth;

(c) the time by which the said scheme is likely to be introduced;

(d) the other facilities provided to the forest guards and employees working in national parks; and

(e) whether the Government propose to set up strike force to check poaching in forest areas if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) General Insurance Company has been requested by the Ministry to explore the modalities of providing insurance cover.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No firm commitment has been received in this regard.

(d) The Government of India has proposed a scheme of awards and rewards for specific valour, outstanding performance and educational excellence.

(e) No decision has been taken for setting up a strike force so far.

Private Investment in Power Sector

3620. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the investment needed to be made by the private sector agencies to meet the energy targets in the country and the sources from which funds are expected to be mobilised; and

(b) the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b) The requirement of funds for power generation in the private sector in the Ninth Plan period of 1997-2002 has been assessed as Rs. 86845 crores by the Working Group for Power constituted by the Planning Commission. The Indian Financial Institutions (IFIs) and domestic commercial Banks are the main lenders for financing the private power projects in the country. Financing of private power projects also includes external commercial borrowings.

Power Grid Corporation

3621. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Power Grid Corporation falls short of the targets for the year 1997-98;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the corporation has decided to resort to advance purchase of equipments and expediting the ongoing projects to meet the target;

(d) if so, the total budgetary projection made for the purpose; and

(e) the extent to which it has been fully absorbed ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) 'POWERGRID' is committed to meet its target for project completion and expedite some of the projects to match the progress of the generation projects implementation. POWERGRID has successfully met its budgeted Annual Plan target of Rs. 1600 Crores for the year 1997-98.

Construction of Liquid Cargo Berth at Jawahar Lal Nehru Port

3622. DR. RAVI MALLU : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have cleared five port projects including construction of liquid cargo berth at Jawahar Lal Nehru Port;

(b) whether the project also received clearance from the environmental committee of the Ministry;

(c) if so, the details of the projects cleared by the Government; and

(d) the time by which these projects are likely to be set up and total amount involved in completion thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. In fact the Government have cleared 9 private sector port projects.

(b) Yes, Sir. The construction of liquid cargo berth at Jawahar Lal Nehru Port has been cleared by Environment Committee.

(c) A list of port projects cleared by Ministry of Surface Transport from environment angle is given in the statement enclosed.

(d) The 9 private sector projects referred to in part (a) are targeted to be completed during the 9th Five Year Plan.

Statement

List of Port Projects cleared by Ministry of Surface Transport from Environment Angle

Sl. No.	Name of the Port	Name of the Project
1	2	3

Major Ports

1.	JL Nehru	Reclamation of 3000 Sq. mts. Area for providing basic infrastructure facilities and 30 hectares of land for stacking of containers
2.	- do -	Liquid Cargo Berth
3.	- do -	Marine Chemical Terminal
4.	Kandla	Liquid Cargo Jetty of M/s Indian Farmers and Fertilisers Cooperative Ltd.
5.	Visakhapatnam	Four multi-purpose berths in the extended Northern arm of inner harbour
6.	- do -	Storage terminal for LPG/POL products at Exim Park area by M/s East India Petroleum Ltd.
7.	Cochin	Container terminal at Willingdon Island
8.	New Mangalore	Installation of facilities for storage and handling of Petroleum and POL products by M/s United Storage Tank Terminals Ltd.
9.	Chennai	Storage facilities by M/s Suraj Agro Products

1	2	3
Minor Ports		
10.	Mangrol, Gujarat	Expansion of Fishing Harbour (Stage II)
11.	Jakhau, Gujarat	Construction of Fishing Harbour
12.	Kayamkulam & Muthalappozhy, Kerala	Fishing Harbour Project
13.	Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh	Storage facilities for Petroleum Products by M/s Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd.
14.	Raigarh, Maharashtra	Expansion of Captive Jetty by M/s ISPAT Industry Ltd.
15.	Beypore, Kerala	Development of LPG storage facilities
16.	Muldwarka, Gujarat	Facilities for handling and storage of furnace oil at the bulk terminal by M/s Gujarat Ambuja Cements Ltd.

Proposal to Link Cargo Related Tariffs

3623. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Port Tariff Authority has expressed strong reservations on the Ministry's proposal to link cargo-related tariffs to the US Dollar;

(b) whether the move was made against the back-drop of and unstable rupee and in the face of demands from the foreign investors that their investment at the Indian Port be given a protective cushion against any unfavourable movement in the Indian currency; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) There is no such proposal to link cargo related charges to the US Dollar.

(b) and (c) Some of the cargo related charges especially those relating to containers have already been denominated at the ports of Mumbai and Jawaharlal Nehru in US Dollar.

Legislation to Cleanse National Highways

3624. SHRI MAGANTI BABU : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether realizing the need to cleanse National Highways of encroachments the blueprints of two legislations have been prepared for consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, whether the Government have considered these;

(c) if so, the details in this regard; and

(d) the time by which the Government are likely to introduce the said legislation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. In order to control the increasing encroachments on the lands vested in the National Highways and also unregulated use and development of land directly abutting the National Highways affecting the free flow of traffic, this Ministry has proposed enactment of two legislations. The first legislation relates to control of land within the right of way of National Highways and regulation of traffic moving on the National Highways. A draft Central Legislation covering provisions for preventing unauthorised occupation and removal of encroachments, control of access, regulation of different types of traffic etc. is presently under finalisation.

The second legislation is required for control of development activities on the land adjacent to the National Highways outside the right-of-way. This will have to be enacted by the States since regulation of the land outside National Highways right-of-way vests with the State Governments. Assam and Rajasthan have already enacted such legislation. The remaining States have also been requested to enact suitable legislation to control the development of land abutting the National Highways.

(d) It is not possible to indicate any time frame at this stage for introduction of these legislations.

Indo-French Cooperation in Education

3625. SHRI BHAGWANSHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether France is to launch education programme in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto ?

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

Power Development Cess

3626. SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission has mooted a levy of power development cess during the Ninth Plan to mop up funds for the development of hydel power plants;

(b) if so, whether the Planning Commission has also urged the Government to undertake electricity conservation and accessories investment on the research and development scheme;

(c) if so, whether the Government have considered the draft plan document in which a levy of 10 paise per kilowatt as the power development cess on all the consumers has been suggested;

(d) if so, whether the Government have accepted the suggestions of the Planning Commission; and

(e) the steps being taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (e) No, Sir. Planning Commission has not mooted the proposal for the levy of power development cess. The levy of cess on electricity consumption is one of the measures suggested in the Policy on Hydro Power Development in order to accelerate the pace of hydro power development. A proposal to levy cess at 5 paise per KWH on the electricity generation, the proceeds of which will be shared between the Centre and States by enactment of a legislation is under consideration in consultation with the Ministry of Law.

National Heritage Regulation Policy

3627. SHRI MAGANTI BABU : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian National Trust for Art and Culture Heritage has mooted a National Heritage Regulation Policy along the lines of the one adopted by the Maharashtra and more recently by Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the INTCH has also proposed a national policy that will strengthen the State Archaeological Departments; and

(d) the time by which a final decision on the National Heritage Regulation Policy will be taken ?

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

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

Coal Supply Linkages

3628. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether new coal supply linkages have been cleared for the new power projects being set up by the State Electricity Boards, National Thermal Power Corporation and Damodar Valley Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have also decided to provide some new coal supply linkages for independent power projects including 19 million tonnes linkage for the Southern electric CEPA promoted mega 3960 MW projects at Hirma;

(d) if so, the time by which these projects are proposed to be set up; and

(e) the quantum of power likely to be generated from these projects ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. The details of independent power projects having coal supply linkages and quantum of power likely to be generated from these power projects are as follows :

Name of the Project	State	Capacity in MW
1	2	3
Vizag Hinduja	Andhra Pradesh	1040
Sabarmati Thermal Power Station	Gujarat	120
Korba East Daew	Madhya Pradesh	1070
Bhadravati ISPA	Maharashtra	1072
Ib Valley 3 & 4	Orissa	420
Balagarh BPCO	West Bengal	500
Korba West (MUK)	Madhya Pradesh	420
Penen	Madhya Pradesh	500
Hirma Stage I	Orissa	3960
Jawaharpur	Uttar Pradesh	800
Rosa	Uttar Pradesh	567
Bina	Madhya Pradesh	578
Ramagundam BPL	Andhra Pradesh	520

	1	2	3
Apollo Thermal Power Station	Delhi		300
Bhilai Joint Venture Company	Madhya Pradesh		550
Korba West RPG	Madhya Pradesh		520
Raigarh Jindal	Madhya Pradesh		550
Ib 5 & 6	Orissa		420
Ennore Thermal Power Station	Tamil Nadu		1000
Bakreshwar 4 & 5	West Bengal		420
Sagardighi Kulj	West Bengal		1000

The Standing Linkage Committee (Long term) of the Ministry of Coal has enhanced the earlier linkage of 18 MTPA given to Hirma Thermal Power Project (6 × 660 MW) of CETA India (Limited) in Orissa to 19 MTPA with the stipulation that the Fuel Supply Agreement should be completed by 31-3-1999.

While Vizag (Hinduja), Sabarmati TPS, Korba East (DAEW), Bhadravati (ISPA), Ib Valley 3 & 4 and Balagarh (BPCO) are slated for commissioning during the 9th Plan, the other independent power projects mentioned above are envisaged for commissioning beyond 9th Plan. It is however, added that a private power project being set up by an Indian or Foreign Company has to obtain clearances from State and Central Agencies and has to tie up finances from Indian Financial Institutions/foreign banks etc. The time by which these projects are likely to become functional and the quantum of power that will be generated from them can be determined only after they achieve financial closure.

Statement*List of New Power Stations with Coal Linkage*

Name of the Project	State	Capacity in MW (Power)	Expected Commissioning
1	2	3	4
National Thermal Corporation Limited			
Simhadri TTS	A.P.	1000	IX Plan & Beyond
Vindhyachal II	M.P.	1000	IX Plan
Talcher II	Orissa	2000	IX Plan & Beyond
Unchahar II	U.P.	420	IX Plan
Rihand II	M.P.	1000	Beyond IX Plan
Sipat I	M.P.	2000	Beyond IX Plan

1	2	3	4
Ramagundam III	A.P.	500	Beyond IX Plan
Cheyyur	A.P.	1000	Beyond IX Plan
Damodar Valley Corporation			
Maithon RBC	W.B.	1000	IX Plan
Mejia Unit 3 TPS	W.B.	210	IX Plan
State Electricity Borads			
Kothagudem IV	A.P.	250	IX Plan
Tenughat Extension 3 5	Bihar	630	IX Plan
Gandhinagar Unit 5	Gujarat	210	IX Plan
Wanakbori Unit 7	Gujarat	210	IX Plan
Panipat Unit 6	Haryana	210	IX Plan
Raichur Unit 5 & 6	Karnataka	420	IX Plan
Sanjay/Birsing	M.P.	420	IX Plan
Chandrapur Unit 7	Maharashtra	500	IX Plan
Suratgarh TPS	Rajasthan	500	IX Plan
Tanda TPS	U.P.	110	IX Plan
Bakreshwar Unit 1 3	W.B.	630	IX Plan
Muzzafarpur Extension	Bihar	500	Beyond IX Plan
Yamunanagar	Haryana	700	Beyond IX Plan
Khaperkheda 3 & 4	Maharashtra	500	Beyond IX Plan
Vijawada	A.P.	500	Beyond IX Plan
Mizoram	Miz. Govt.	20	Beyond IX Plan

Abbreviations :

TPS	: Thermal Power Station
A.P.	: Andhra Pradesh
M.P.	: Madhya Pradesh
U.P.	: Uttar Pradesh
RBC	: Right Bank Canal
W.B.	: West Bengal
Miz. Govt.	: Mizoram Government

Irregularities in Plantation

3629. SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL :
SHRI MITRASEN YADAV :

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

(a) whether a large number of irregularities are being committed by the Forest Department in the tree plantation programme in Nasik district of Maharashtra, U.P. and Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have conducted or propose to conduct CBI inquiry in the matter;

(d) if so, the details/outcome thereof; and

(e) the action taken/being taken against the guilty persons ?

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

Setting up of Engineering Colleges

3630. SHRI MAGANTI BABU : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has decided to set up more engineering colleges this year in the State;

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

(c) whether the Union Government have been sanction for the opening up the engineering colleges; and

(d) if so, the number of engineering colleges proposed to be set up by the Government and the private sector separately ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (d) The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) considers proposals for establishment of new Engineering Colleges as per its Regulations under the provisions of the AICTE Act, 1987. The State Government of Andhra Pradesh has recommended only 12 proposals, all of which are in the Private Sector, out of a total number of 45 proposals received from the State for the academic session 1999-2000.

Luring Young Talent to Science Stream

3631. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI :
SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL :

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

(a) whether in order to rekindle interest in the science among young CSIR plans to launch a hunt to lure them from the next academic year right from schools;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of facilities likely to be provided to young scientists during their apprenticeship period;

(d) whether young talent is not showing interest in science as compared to other professional courses;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the other encouragement likely to be given by CSIR to those opting science as a profession ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) have announced a scheme entitled CSIR Programme for Youth on Leadership in Science (CPYLS) to inspire in the school students the spirit of adventure, excitement and fun in the study and pursuit of science. Selected students would be provided facilities in doing project work and involved in R&D activities/work in CSIR laboratories during their holidays.

(d) No, Sir, with the global shift towards a knowledge-based society, it has become imminent that the best of Indian brains take up the pursuit of science and develop mastery over it, to this end CPYLS has been launched.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) CSIR is already providing encouragement to those opting science as profession by way of Junior Research Fellowship, Senior Research Fellowship, Research Associateship, Senior Research Associateship, Quick hire fellowship etc.

Land for Construction of Warehouses/ Stake Yards

3632. SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received a representation regarding the allotment of Visakhapatnam Port Trust land for construction of warehouses/stake yards for stage facilities;

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

(c) whether the Government have since examined the points raised in the representation; and

(d) if so, the time by which a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. From time to time, the Government keeps on getting representations for allotment of Port Trust land which are dealt with in accordance with the existing policy guidelines in the matter which provide for calling of competitive bids. No time limit, therefore, could be prescribed for disposal of any particular representation.

12.02 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Annual Report and Review by the Government of the working of the Bharat Dynamics Limited, Hyderabad etc.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :

(a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Bharat Dynamics Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 1997-98.

(ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Dynamics Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2024/98]

(b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Bharat Electronics Limited, Bangalore, for the year 1997-98.

(ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Electronics Limited, Bangalore, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2025/98]

(c) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Goa Shipyard Limited, Goa, for the year 1997-98.

(ii) Annual Report of the Goa Shipyard Limited, Goa, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2026/98]

(2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Nehru Institute of Mountaineering, Uttarkashi, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Nehru Institute of Mountaineering, Uttarkashi, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2027/98]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Jawahar Institute of Mountaineering and Winter Sports, Aru, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Jawahar Institute of Mountaineering and Winter Sports, Aru, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2028/98]

Annual Report and Review by the Government of the working of the Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun etc.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council, New Delhi for the year 1997-98.
- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2029/98]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the International Advanced Research Centre for Powder Metallurgy and New Materials, Hyderabad, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the International Advanced Research Centre for Powder Metallurgy and New Materials, Hyderabad, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2031/98]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Vigyan Prasar, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding the Reviews (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Vigyan Prasar, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2032/98]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research, Bangalore, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research, Bangalore, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2033/98]

- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2034/98]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Kalakshetra Foundation, Chennai, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Kalakshetra Foundation, Chennai, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2035/98]

- (8) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.

- (ii) Statement regarding the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2036/98]

- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies, Samath, for the year 1993-94.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies, Sarnath, for the year 1993-94 together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of of the Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies, Samath, for the year 1993-94.
- (10) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (9) above.
- [Placed in Library. See No. LT 2037/98]
- (11) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96.
- (12) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (11) above.
- [Placed in Library. See No. LT 2038/98]
- (13) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Consultancy Development Centre, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Consultancy Development Centre, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.
- [Placed in Library. See No. LT 2039/98]
- (14) (1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of Karnataka Regional Engineering College, Surathkal, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Karnataka Regional Engineering, College, Surathkal, for the year 1997-98.
- [Placed in Library. See No. LT 2040/98]
- (15) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Centre for Cell Science, Pune, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Centre for Cell Science, Pune, for the year 1997-98.
- [Placed in Library. See No.LT 2041/98]
- (16) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Haryana Prathmik Shiksha Pariyojana Parishad, Chandigarh, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Haryana Prathmik Shiksha Pariyojana Parishad, Chandigarh, for the year 1997-98.
- [Placed in Library. See No. LT 2042/98]
- (17) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Assam Prathmik Siksha Achani Parishad, Guwahati, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of Assam Prathmik Siksha Achani Parishad, Guwahati, for the year 1997-98.
- [Placed in Library. See No. LT 2043/98]
- (18) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for DNA Fingerprinting and Diagnostics, Hyderabad, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Centre for DNA Fingerprinting and Diagnostics, Hyderabad, for the year 1997-98.
- [Placed in Library. See No. LT 2044/98]
- (19) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Immunology, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Immunology, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.
- [Placed in Library. See No. LT 2045/98]
- (20) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :

(a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Central Electronics Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.

(ii) Annual Report of the Central Electronics Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2046/98]

(b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Research Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.

(ii) Annual Report of the National Research Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2047/98]

(c) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Indian Vaccines Corporation Limited, Gurgaon, for the year 1997-98.

(ii) Annual Report of the Indian Vaccines Corporation Limited, Gurgaon, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2048/98]

(21) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bangalore, for the year 1997-98.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bangalore, for the year 1997-98, together with Audit Report thereon.

(iii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bangalore, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2049/98]

(22) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Educational Consultants India Limited and the Ministry of Human Resource Development for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2050/98]

(23) A copy of the National Council for Teacher Education (Guidelines for B.Ed. through Correspondence for regular serving teachers) (Amendment) Regulations, 1998 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. F.28-3/96-NCTE in Gazette of India dated the 25th April, 1998, under section 33 of the National Council for Teacher Education Act, 1993.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2051/98]

(24) A copy of the Kalakshetra Foundation Rules, 1998 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No.G.S.R. 414(E) in Gazette of India dated the 29th July, 1998, under section 33 of the Kalakshetra Foundation Act, 1993.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2052/98]

(25) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Engineering College, Kurukshetra, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Regional Engineering College, Kurukshetra, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2053/98]

(26) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the North Eastern Hill University, Shillong, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the North Eastern Hill University, Shillong, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2054/98]

Annual Report and Review by the Government of the working of the National Hydro Electric Power Corporation Ltd., Faridabad etc.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :-

(a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Limited, Faridabad, for the year 1997-98.

(ii) Annual Report of the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Limited, Faridabad, for the

year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2055/98]

(b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.

(ii) Annual Report of the Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2056/98]

(c) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Limited, Shillong, for the year 1997-98.

(ii) Annual Report of the North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Limited, Shillong, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2057/98]

(d) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Central Power Research Institute, Bangalore, for the year 1997-98.

(ii) Annual Report of the Central Power Research Institute, Bangalore, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2058/98]

(e) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Tehri Hydro Development Corporation Limited, Tehri Garhwal, for the year 1997-98.

(ii) Annual Report of the Tehri Hydro Development Corporation Limited, Tehri Garhwal, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2059/98]

(2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Power Training Institute, Faridabad, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Power Training Institute, Faridabad, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2060/98]

Annual Report and Review by the Government of the working of the Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Ltd., Calcutta etc.

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :

(1) A copy of the Notaries (Amendment) Rules, 1998 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No.G.S.R.547(E) in Gazette of India dated the 31st August, 1998, under sub-section (3) of section 15 of the Notaries Act, 1952.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2061/98]

(2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :-

(i) Review by the Government of the working of the Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1996-97.

(ii) Annual Report of the Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2062/98]

Resolution Containing National Zoo Policy, 1988 and Annual Report and Review by the Government of the working of the G.B. Pant, Institute of Environment and Development Almora, etc.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABULAL MARANDI) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 26 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 :-

(i) The Chemical Accidents (Emergency Planning, Preparedness and Response) Amendment Rules,

1998 published in Notification No.G.S.R.578(E) in Gazette of India dated the 14th September, 1998.

(ii) The Bio-Medical Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1998 published in Notification No.S.O.630(E) in Gazette of India dated the 27th July, 1998.

(iii) The Environment (Protection) Amendment Rules 1998 published in Notification No.G.S.R.504(E) in Gazette of India dated the 21st August, 1998.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2063/98]

(2) A copy of the Notification No.S.O.185(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th March, 1998 appointing Officers of the National Capital Territory, Delhi for the purposes of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, issued under section 4 of the said Act.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2064/98]

(3) A copy of the Notification No.S.O.329(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th April, 1997 prohibiting the open burning of waste oil, throughout India with effect from the 15th April, 1997, issued under section 6 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2065/98]

(4) A copy of the Notification No.S.O.899(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th October, 1998 prohibiting import of hazardous wastes specified in the notification, issued under section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2066/98]

(5) A copy of the Notification No.S.O.609(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th July, 1998 delegating the powers vested under section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to the states of Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland subject to certain conditions, issued under section 23 of the said Act.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2067/98]

(6) A copy of the Resolution containing National Zoo Policy, 1998 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No.S.O.936(E) in Gazette of India dated the 29th October, 1998.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2068/98]

(7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the G.B. Pant Institute of Himalayan

Environment and Development, Almora, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the G.B. Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment and Development, Almora, for the year 1996-97.

(8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (8) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2069/98]

(9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Pollution Control Board, Delhi for the year 1997-98.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Pollution Control Board, Delhi for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2070/98]

Annual Report and Review by the Government of the working of the Hindustan Shipyard Ltd. and Cochin Shipyard Ltd.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :-

(a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Visakhapatnam, for the year 1997-98.

(ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Visakhapatnam, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2071/98]

(b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Cochin Shipyard Limited, Kochi, for the year 1997-98.

(ii) Annual Report of the Cochin Shipyard Limited, Kochi, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2072/98]

12.02½ hrs.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha :

- (i) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 17th December, 1998 agreed without any amendment to the Railway Claims Tribunal (Amendment) Bill, 1998 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 7th December, 1998."
- (ii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 17th December, 1998 agreed without any amendment to the Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories (Repeal) Bill, 1998 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 8th December, 1998."
- (iii) In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 17th December, 1998 agreed without any amendment to the High Denomination Bank Notes (Demonetisation) Amendment Bill, 1998 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 10th December, 1998."

12.03 hrs.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE**Fourth Report***[English]*

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR (Mumbai North-West) : Sir, I beg to present the Fourth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Estimates Committee on Ministry of Textiles-Sickness/Closure of Textile Industry.

12.03½ hrs

COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES**Eighth Report***[Translation]*

SHRI KARIYA MUNDA (Khunti) : Speaker, Sir, I beg to present a copy of the Eighth Report (Hindi and English versions)

of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on Ministry of Information and Broadcasting—"Reservation for and employment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in All India Radio and Doordarshan" including Minutes (Hindi and English versions) of the sittings of the Committee relating thereto.

12.04 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE**Third Report***[English]*

SN. LDR. KAMAL CHAUDHRY (Hoshiarpur) : Sir, I beg to present the Third Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Defence on "Upgradation and Modernisation of Naval Fleet."

12.04½ hrs.

COMMITTEE ON FOOD, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION**Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Reports on Action Taken***[Translation]*

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to present following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Food, Civil Supplies and Public Distribution—

- (1) Fifth Report on action taken by the Government on recommendations/observations contained in Second Report on Demands for Grants (1998-99).
- (2) Sixth Report on action taken by the Government on recommendations/observations contained in Third Report on Demands for Grants (1998-99).
- (3) Seventh Report on action taken by the Government on recommendations/observations contained in Fourth Report on Demands for Grants (1998-99).

12.05 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON URBAN AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT**Twelfth Report***[English]*

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN (Sonepat) : Sir, I beg to present the Twelfth Report (Hindi and English versions) of

the Committee on Urban and Rural Development on the Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Repeal Bill, 1998.

12.5½ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE

Thirty-seventh Report

SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH (Meerut) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table of Lok Sabha a copy of Thirty-seventh Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Commerce on Powerloom, Handloom and Handicrafts sectors.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, we will take up Item No.16 — Calling Attention. Shri Ram Vilas Paswan.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA (Guwahati) : Sir, the whole Assam is burning. Yesterday night, a very serious explosion took place at Laopara in lower Assam's Dhubai District in which more than 10 people had been killed... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI CHETAN CHAUHAN (Amroha) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have been discussing many subjects daily in the house. but sports and athletes are not discussed. I request to allow me to discuss sports and athletes today...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI P.S. GHATOWAR (Dibrugarh) : Sir, the situation in Assam is very bad...(Interruptions)...Everyday, there is a blast...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Today, we have a very important business to transact. I am appealing all of you to cooperate.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDNMAJRA (Patiala) : Sir, the Parliament should continue for five years...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Is it proper to stand when the Speaker is on his legs? What is this?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please take your seats. Today, tomorrow and day after tomorrow, we have very important business to transact. We had taken a decision in this regard. So, I am appealing all the hon. Members to please cooperate with the Chair.

Now, Shri Ram Vilas Paswan to speak.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA : Sir, we should discuss about the situation in Assam...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : We are discussing about the problems of tribals in the Calling Attention. Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You can raise it tomorrow. Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, Shri Rajesh Pilot.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (Dausa) : Sir, my submission is that the situation in Assam is very bad. Everyday there is a blast. The Chief Minister is sitting in Delhi. He is meeting the Home Minister. The whole North-East is burning today. We ready everyday in the newspapers that '10 persons killed in Assam', '20 persons killed in Assam'. Yesterday, again there was a major blast by the militants at Laopara, Dhubri District.

Today, the hon. Home Minister must tell the House about the situation there. We are very much concerned. There is a blast everyday. But here, nobody is coming out with any statement. They should have come up with a statement on their own...(Interruptions)...He should have made a *suo motu* statement...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI (Darbhanga) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, a proposal for partition of Bihar is being introduced here, which has already been rejected by the Legislative Assembly of Bihar. I request not to introduce the proposal for partition of Bihar...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Minister of Home Affairs will make a statement in this regard tomorrow in the morning...(Interruptions)

[English]

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara) : The Minister of Home Affairs must make a statement.

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA (Guwahati) : We want a statement today in this House. . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : He will make his statement by collecting all the facts... (Interruptions)

[English]

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : The hon. Minister of Home Affairs is present here now.

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA : We want reaction of the Minister of Home Affairs... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : He will make a statement tomorrow.

(Interruptions)

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA (Jhabua) : Minister of Home Affairs is sitting here... (Interruptions)

[English]

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Sir, let him make the statement today... (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : At this point of time, I can only share the concern of hon. Members about the two bomb blasts that have taken place there. But you would appreciate that when I make a statement in the House, it has to be on the basis of all the facts that are provided to me. Therefore, I will make a formal statement on the situation tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please take your seats. We have a very tight schedule. I now call Shri Ram Vilas Paswan.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI (Darbhanga) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to raise a very important issue... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Fatmi, you can raise it tomorrow but not today.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record, except what Shri Paswan says.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Yerrannaidu, please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have given me time... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : We have a very hectic schedule today. Shri Fatmi, I will allow you tomorrow.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Fatmi, please understand that we have a very hectic programme today.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Sir, please allow me to speak for one minute... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Not today, it would be allowed tomorrow.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Fatmi, please try to understand. We have to take up Calling Attention now.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Mumbai North-Central) : At least eight lakh people are coming... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Athawale, you are always disturbing the House. This is not the proper way to represent matters in the House. Please understand that and go through the procedure also. Otherwise, I will have to give a warning to you.

(Interruptions)

12.13 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Reported Burning of some Tribal Women and Children in Purnia District of Bihar

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Hajipur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Home Affairs towards the following matter of urgent public importance and request to make a statement in this regard:

"The situation arising out of reported burning of some tribal women and children in Nihrel Village in Purnea district of Bihar on 14th December, 1998 and the action taken by the Government in regard thereto."

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : As per the report received from the State Government, there was a dispute about a piece of land at village Gogar Istambrar under Baisi Sub-Division of Purnea district, Bihar. One Mussawar Mian was the land holder of the said land, but it was cultivated by some Adivasis on tenancy basis. About one and a half years back, the land owner announced that he had obtained a decree in his favour from the hon. High Court by which the sikmi or tenancy right of the Adivasis was abolished. On the 13th December, 1998, the land holder sent his tractor to plough the land. The tractor driver was reportedly killed by the Adivasis and the tractor was set on fire and the body of the tractor driver was thrown into the fire. Angered by the killing of the tractor driver, a big mob of villagers belonging to the minority community came with arms and set fire to 59 huts belonging to the Adivasis of the villages of Kamladih, Koyala, Bhakri Tola and Chanabn Ban in Purnea district. Six Adivasis, including three children, were killed and eight people were injured.

The district administration reached the place of occurrence and brought the fire under control. Raids were launched to nab the killers. Ten persons including Mussawar Mian have been arrested so far. The State Government has sanctioned Rs.1 lakh to the next of kin of each of the deceased. This is apart from relief by way of free ration, polythene and blankets.

Four static armed pickets and two patrolling parties along with a Magistrate have been deployed in the area. The situation is under control.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Madam, they have given notices. I will allow you later and not now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha) : Sir, I have given a notice for raising a privilege issue...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Not now please. Shri Ram Vilas Paswan

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, many supplementary questions have come-up as a result of the answer given by the Minister of Home Affairs. The first issue is related to land dispute and the other is regarding killing of the people. The hon. Minister did not mention the time of incident when Mussawar Mian was killed.

[English]

12.16 hrs.

*[Mr. Deputy-Speaker in the Chair]**[Translation]*

and the time of second incident also, when Adivasis were killed. How far is the police station from there and when the police force reached there.

As I know, the first incident occurred at 8.00 A.M., in which land owner i.e. Mussawar Mian was killed and after that...*(Interruptions)*

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : His driver was killed.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : All right. He did not mention about the driver therein, he stated that the said land belonged to one Mussawar Mian, which was being cultivated by some Adivasis on tenancy basis and they had announced at 1.30 P.M. and they did it as per the Court decision, it's alright. As per my information, the first incident of killing people occurred at 8.00 A.M. and the other occurred at 11.00 A.M. or after that...*(Interruptions)* That's what I am saying that first incident occurred at 8.00 A.M. and the other at 11.00 A.M. When there was hue and cry there, people living as far as twenty kilometer away gathered there, the police station was 4-5 kilometer away from there, but when did the police force and government officials reach there? As per my information, if the government officials had reached in time, this incident could be avoided.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit that this dispute in Purnea District is not a new one. Unfortunately, the land reform law was not enforced in Bihar or other states and as a result of non-implementation, since 1962-63, when I was a student, the incidents at Chandwar and Baspur occurred in this district alone, wherein 60-62 people were killed in 1970. According to the records with me after that incidents also occurred in 1984, 1986 and 1991, in which Congressmen were killed. Two C.P.M. workers were killed in another incident in 1992. Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs, recently an incident

occured before this incident and the incidents of 1991 and 1992 occurred at the same place. But no land was given to the poor people so far and I do not know whether your act is under your or not and whether you will be able to give answer or not. But I do not know how many poor persons were given land till date under the land reform act, ceiling act and its procedure. I have such information that poor persons have got land, but more poor people were killed due to this land.

We had launched agitation many times raising the issue of the land, we were kept in jail for nine months in 1970 and 1971, but no poor person could get even one inch of land, because the law and its procedure regarding the land are so much complicated that no result comes out even after making numerous efforts...*(Interruptions)*. No doubt, it is a matter of State Government, I am also saying it. There is not only one act in it, which you can enlist in ninth scheduled, there are many acts in it. I cannot say whether it is possible to enlist every act in ninth scheduled or not, but I can only say that in the mater of land, the poor people have got a hope that since they have got the paper, they have became the owner of the land, but on the other side, they did not get the land due to court's order and administrative hurdles. Half of the century has passed since we got freedom, but they could not get any land. In the beginning, we have seen that the landlords transferred the land in the name of their dogs-cats and thus kept that land in their possession. I do not know how much land is surplus or not as on date. Possession on land should be given to the poor, they hope that they would get land, but it is not being allotted, on the contrary, they are being killed. I would like to say another thing about the administration. The attitude of administration towards dalits or minorities is merciless. I would like to say something above the party line. The poor people were going to ask for relief in Sitamadhi. Six persons were killed there. Two persons belonged to minority class. They were Ayub Khan and Muni Mian. They were burnt alive. They were burnt alive before the administration. As they were minorities, at least they must have been buried. Similarly, there is a case of a mushar family, the poorest one, where the police entered his house and killed a child of that family. The police tried to drag his mother who had a small child in her lap.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Sambhal) : It is not happening in Bihar alone, it has been happening in U.P. also.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Hajipur) : You should speak about U.P., when you get a chance...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : If Bihar issue is discussed, we will also speak. This matter was raised by Rita Verma, it is a state subject...*(Interruptions)* We should be given a chance, if it is discussed.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : This matter has been raised. If it is repeated, I urge the Minister of Home Affairs

that there should be a debate on U.P. and Bihar. Such types of atrocities are being committed hundred times in U.P., women are being killed...*(Interruptions)* Many such types of incidents are taking place, but no action is being taken. He has been always talking of Bihar...*(Interruptions)* House cannot run against the rule, it should be run according to rule. Discussion on Sitamadhi has already taken place...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GANGA CHARAN RAJPUT (Hamirpur) (U.P.) : The people who were killed are all enlisted criminals...*(Interruptions)* Mr. Mulayam Singh may give notice regarding persons who have been killed...*(Interruptions)*, only mafia gundas are being killed...*(Interruptions)*.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, please confine your speech to the subject. You are not confining your speech to the topic. That is why there were so many interruptions.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Mr. Mulayam Singh, you have not been sitting here for the last 3-4 days, it is not 'Zero Hour', it is a calling attention motion...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : I know. You should not tell me about the rule. I should be given an opportunity if I am called by name. I have read more rules than you. Four muslims were killed, what action has been taken...*(Interruptions)* what is this...*(Interruptions)* you may speak on entire world, I am listening, but...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : I would like to say again...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Paswan, you will have to confine to your subject.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Sir, you have been my friend since 1977. Your name and mine used to appear for Calling Attention not once but hundreds of times. If there is any atrocity on Scheduled Tribes, it is a mater concerning the Indian Constitution. This is not a State subject...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Paswan, I think, you have misunderstood me.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Sir, if you do not want, I will not ask any supplementary. Whatever the Home Minister has said, that is sufficient. I withdraw my question. Please proceed on other items. I do not want to raise any

controversy...(Interruptions). I have not gone outside the purview of discussion.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is with regard to burning of tribals in Purnia.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Sir, not only the tribals, but the Muslims have also been burnt. That is why, I am raising this issue. This arises from the Home Minister's statement.

[Translation]

Not only tribals are being burnt, but muslims have been also burnt there...(Interruptions). Many people want to make it a Hindu-Muslim issue.

[English]

Sir, you please go through the Home Minister's statement.

[Translation]

That is why I am concentrating on administration. I did not say regarding Bihar. It is not a matter of only tribals, but before tribals I said that muslims were also killed. Earlier only muslims were killed and now also only they have been killed, scheduled tribe people have been killed. I want to know only this from the Minister of Home Affairs that what action is being taken by the Government of Bihar on its administration. I want to say that if the police and administrative officials had reached there in time, such incidents could be avoided. Tribals and Muslims both are being insulted by the police. It could be stopped. That is why I asked earlier the time of the incident. At what time administrative officials reached there and what action is being taken strictly to enforce the Land Reforms Act by the Government? I had tried to know in brief the answer of this question. I would like to say again that the Government should give assurance that communal colour will not be given to the land dispute act so that Hindu-Muslim riot does not take place, because people from every party are reaching there. I, therefore, had tried to seek clarification through you so that the poor, minorities and people of all groups can live safely.

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI (Darbhanga) : I had given a notice. I should be given an opportunity for two minutes...(Interruptions) I had given in writing...(Interruptions) the other side should also be heard.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Fatmi, I cannot permit you. Under Rule 197, you have to give notice.

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Sir, I want to put before the House only a few words. I will take only two minutes, not more than that...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Fatmi, if I have to give permission to you, then I have to give permission to her. So, you cannot speak you.

(Interruptions)

PROF. RITA VERMA (Dhanbad) : I just want to say something. I raised this matter in Parliament...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Fatmi, under Calling Attention, you cannot have a discussion. I cannot give permission to you now. I think there is no precedent.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Is there any precedent? I do not think there is any precedent. There is no precedent.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You should know that five names can be included under Rule 197. Earlier two names were there, therefore two persons have been included. It can not be discussed. According to Rule 197, we cannot go beyond its scope. Tell me how can I go beyond it. Rule 197 is very clear that we cannot discuss it.

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Whatever he said, he has misinformed the House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Prof. Rita Verma is requesting to raise a question. Several other members from Bihar are also willing.

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : I have documents. I would like to tell, he has said that police had not reached...(Interruptions).

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I am sorry. Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The hon. Home Minister to reply now.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You cannot do like that. Please understand me. I cannot make it a discussion now under Calling Attention. You are raising it. Prof. Rita Verma is raising it. Shri Shastri is raising it. So many other Members are there. The rule regarding Calling Attention specifically says that this

cannot be a matter for discussion. What can I do? You should have given the notice earlier.

The hon. Minister to give the reply now.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : My Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I agree with Mr. Paswan, it would be totally wrong to give this incident a communal colour. One thing which I said in my statement that I have been able to collect some information from Bihar Government. Bihar Government told us that this is basically a land dispute case. The owner of that land had made a announcement one and a half year ago but after that announcement he had just sent a tractor there. The announcement was about forfeiting their right, 'shikmi' right, tenancy right, therefore they will plough these fields. He sent a tractor which was about to be driven by Firoz Mian. When he went there with tractor, all the tenancy right holders, who were cultivating there earlier, beat him brutally, thus he was killed. Then, the tractor was burnt and his body was thrown in it. Due to this, there was high tension all around that area. Thereafter a mob of 5 thousand people gathered there and that mob set in fire jhuggis of adivasi's and due to this, five people including three children were killed. The facts which are received from the Government of Bihar, we have put it before you. Shri Ram Vilas Paswan and other members who are talking about it are asking as to how far is the police station from there. If you want more information about it, I will give it to you as and when I will receive it. But you should accept this very fact that when the Central Government is asked to furnish a statement about this type of incident then, the Central Government can provide only that much information in its statement which has been given by the statement. We can move ahead only on that basis. I can say this much now.

SHRI RAM VILASH PASWAN : When they asked to submit then it is understood that the concerned Central Government officer should know it very well that such question can come up in the supplementary therefor. He should collect all sort of prior information about it.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : You are all right.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Sir, it happened at 10 P.M. But there is a gap of 2 to 3 hours between these two incident. If the administration would have reached there within 2 - 3 hours period, the second incident could have been averted.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Shri Paswanji will agree with me that in my opinion it will not be proper to hold the Union Government as well as State Government equally responsible for it, under such circumstances, what you have stated is that if it is presumed to be correct and if I would say that a gruesome

incident has taken place in which 7 persons including three children were killed despite of the fact that State Government could not be able to prevent this incident, though it could have been avoided. Thus I think that it will convey a wrong message and there is a possibility that type of comments which have started pouring in here would certainly come up. But I would say only this much that if the House will desire. I could bring more details. So far as I understood on the basis of my information, it is clear that all this happened because the tractor driver went there and consequently he was killed and burnt, there were both unruly things which occurred there, which the Govt. could have averted but I am not in a position to comment on it.

SHRI RAM VILASH PASWAN : Sir, I said that the law regarding Land Reforms should be streamlined. Whether the Government have any proposed to give ownership right to all those directly who have been recently disturb land, though they are tribals or poor people.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I will consult the Law Commission about it, whether there is any necessity to make amendment in the present Land Reform Act again keeping in view the experience of Bihar and another states in this regard.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BUTA SINGH (Jaore) : Hon. Minister of Home Affairs should talk with State Government...*(Interruptions)* He should also confirm whether there was any order of the Court in this regard or he (driver) had just walked in there.

12.36 hrs.

MOTION RE : EIGHTH REPORT OF BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND
MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA) :
Sir, I beg to move :

"That this House do agree with the Eighth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 18th December, 1998."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do agree with the Eighth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 18th December, 1998."

The motion was adopted..

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL (Jalandhar) : I am not questioning the Report. I only want one clarification. Since I have not seen the Report, my ignorance may be excused. I hope the Report provides that tomorrow we are going to discuss the Foreign Policy.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : The statement made by the Prime Minister on this subject yesterday is yet to be discussed in toto.

12.37 hrs.

COMMODITIES BOARDS AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITIES (EXEMPTION FROM INCOME-TAX) BILL*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Ramakrishna Hegde, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Coffee Act, 1942, the Rubber Act, 1947, the Tea Act, 1953, the Marine Products Export Development Authority Act, 1972, the Tobacco Board Act, 1975, the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority Act, 1985 and the Spices Board Act, 1986, so as to provide for exemption to the income of a Board or an Authority constituted under any of the aforesaid Acts from the payment of income-tax.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Coffee Act, 1942, the Rubber Act, 1947, the Tea Act, 1953, the Marine Products Export Development Authority Act, 1972, the Tobacco Board Act, 1975, the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority Act, 1985 and the Spices Board Act, 1986, so as to provide for exemption to the income of a Board or an Authority constituted under any of the aforesaid Acts from the payment of income-tax."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SOMPAL : I introduce** the Bill.

12.38 hrs.

CUSTOMS (AMENDMENT) BILL*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Customs Act, 1962.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Customs Act, 1962."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I introduce** the Bill.

12.39 hrs.

INCOME-TAX (SECOND AMENDMENT) BILL*

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Income-tax Act, 1961.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Income-tax Act, 1961."

"The motion was adopted."

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I introduce** the Bill.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, the House will take up Matters under Rule 377.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Visakhapatnam) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the MPs Local Area Development Fund amount should be increased to Rs. Two crore. The entire House is interested on this subject.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Dr. Reddy, this is not 'Zero Hour'. We are going to take up Matters under Rule 377.

[Translation]

SHRI CHETAN CHAUHAN (Amroha) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, when there is no 'Zero Hour', it is better to inform us in advance. We would have gone after giving notice in the morning that we have to speak.

*Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2 dated 21.12.98.

**Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : It has been decided by the Business Advisory Committee.

[English]

It was already announced in the House that there would be no 'Zero Hour' and Lunch Break today.

12.41 hrs.

CONGRATULATION TO INDIAN HOCKEY TEAM

[Translation]

SHRI CHETAN CHAUHAN : Sir, please allow me to speak for one minute. Indian hockey team has got Gold Medal after 32 years...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, as per rules, there is no 'Zero Hour' at all.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Then, you do not insist for it.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI (Darbhanga) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, our hockey players have got Gold Medal after 32 years. They have displayed very good performance. We want to congratulate them...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHETAN CHAUHAN (Amroha) : We want to congratulate them. You should also congratulate them...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have already said that it is the decision of the Business Advisory Committee.

(Interruptions)

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I want to say something...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please cooperate with the Chair.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please hear him

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Fatmi, the Minister wants to say something in this regard. Please take your seat.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURNA) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it is true that the Business Advisory Committee has decided not have 'Zero Hour', but this matter, which is being raised by the hon. Members, attach a great significance to our national pride. We have got victory in hockey after 32 years. This house wants to congratulate all the gold Medal winners of hockey, Kabaddi and other sports on behalf of hon. Members and the Govt. by passing a proposal.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : It is a matter of great pride for the country. The whole House congratulates our hockey team.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Congratulation to all the gold medal winners.

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : One female player has got two medal.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Now we should get gold medal every year, not just after 32 years.

12.45 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) Need for reconstruction of the railway bridge at Kachhilaghat on Kasganj-Badaun road

DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA (Etah) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, railway bridge at Kachhilaghat on Kasganj-Badaun road is in dilapidated condition. Any time it may come down. Several trains pass through this ghat and there is regular traffic on road. There is traffic jam for hours on both sides of the bridge and people have to wait for long time. A large number of accidents have taken place here. The Govt. of U.P. has also made a demand for the construction of this bridge. I urge upon the Minister of Railways for construction of this Kachhilaghat bridge so that rail and road traffic facilities could be provided to the daily commuters

(ii) Need to clear irrigation projects of Hamirpur Mahoba, Uttar Pradesh and sanction adequate funds for the purpose

SHRI GANGA CHARAN RAJPUT (Hamirpur) (U.P.) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, in my Parliamentary constituency

Hamirpur Mahoba irrigation projects like Virat Sagar Project was pending with the Union Government for clearance. State Government has rejected said project. I urge upon the Government in public interest that said project should be cleared and funds should be granted immediately with the World Bank assistance.

(iii) Need to take stringent action against the police personnel responsible for death in police lock-up

DR. PRABHA THAKUR (Ajmer) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, deaths in police custody has become a day-to-day affairs. Such news are often published in the newspapers that deaths in police custody are increasing day by day. This is a matter of great concern to all of us. Death of a person in police custody who has been accused in a case and whose case is still pending with the Court and who has not yet been sentenced by the Court will be a sort of blemish for the police, as it has got the special responsibility for providing security of the citizen of this country. In such circumstances, these incident put a question mark on the role of police and give a bad name to the entire police organisation. Here this matter which is of great concern to us we can clearly see that no proper action is taken against the guilty police personnel after such incident, the matter is hushed up, no punishment is given, they are just suspended and are reinstated later on. Such incident bring down the reliability and respect—enjoyed by the police force. So instead of protecting such police officers stern action should be taken against such policemen and proper punishment should be given to them, only then public will have a faith in the police and such untoward incidents could be checked. I urge upon the Government of India that police picketing should be increased so that common people may be relieved.

(iv) Need for establishment of Dr. Ambedkar National Public Library at Janpath, New Delhi

[English]

SHRI NADENDLA BHASKARA RAO (Khammam) : Sir, one of the important decisions taken by the Centenary Celebrations Committee of Baba Saheb Ambedkar under the Chairmanship of the then Prime Minister in 1990 was the establishment of Dr. Ambedkar National Public Library at Janpath, New Delhi. This decision was ratified by the successive Governments during the years 1991 and 1993.

In pursuance of the above decision, though the land covered by the five Bungalows, that is, Bungalow Nos. 13, 15, 17, 19 and 21, Janpath, New Delhi have been allotted to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (erstwhile Ministry of Welfare) during April, 1994, for some reason or the others, possession of only one Bungalow, that is, No. 21, Janpath has been handed over to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

I urge upon the Government to hand over the possession of all the five bungalows mentioned above to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, thus enabling the early establishment of Dr. Ambedkar National Public Library at Janpath, New Delhi.

(v) Need to ensure protection of SCs and Backward class people particularly in Ajamgarh and adjoining areas in U.P.

[Translation]

SHRI DAROGA PRASAD RAI (Lalganj) Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government through this House towards the atrocities being committed on SCs and Backward classes and their genocide as well living in Ajamgarh and its adjoining areas in U.P. There is no proper protection as such for the safety and security of these classes. Recently five members of a family belonging to scheduled caste's have been killed in the month of October.

I urge upon the Union Government that immediate action should be taken at the central level to ensure safety and security of the people belonging to SCs and Backward class.

(vi) Need to sanction Metro underground and Metro Electric Trains for Southern Railway Region

[English]

SHRI C. GOPAL (Arakkonam) : In Tamil Nadu, Vellore District, Arakkonam Railway Station is an important railway junction. Daily two lakhs of people travel from Arakkonam to various places like Madras, Tirupathi, Kanchipuram, Jolarpettai, Ambur, Coimbatore and Salem. To avoid rush, it is a very long time demand from the public that electric trains should be operated from Arakkonam to Katpadi and Arakkonam to Tirupathi. We came to understand that to operate the electric trains in the said routes, the allotment of metro underground and Metro Electric trains are required. The Railway authorities have also recommended to the Central Government for getting the same. Therefore, I request the hon. Railway Minister to allot Metro Underground and Metro Electric trains for Southern Railway for the convenience of students, labourers, village public, businessmen and pilgrims.

(vii) Need to provide sufficient staff to the office of General Manager, Telecommunication in Darbhanga Parliamentary Constituency, Bihar

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI (Darbhanga) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Government towards the office of General Manager, telecommunication established recently in my Parliamentary Constituency, Darbhanga. There is great shortage of officers

and staff here. Due to which development works pertaining to Deptt. of Telecommunication are being adversely affected and the development works which were likely to be carried out and being hampered.

Hence, I urge upon the Union Government to provide sufficient officer and staff strength for the office of the General Manager, telecommunication so that the development works initiated by the Deptt. of Telecommunication could be taken up smoothly.

(viii) Need for early creation of separate 'Bodoland' State

[English]

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY (Kokrajhar) : I would like to strongly reiterate my long-standing and genuine demand for creation of a separate State of Bodoland out of the present Assam while implementing the Government of India's move to grant statehood to backward regions of Uttaranchal (Uttarakhand), Jharkhand and Chhatisgarh without any further delay in the greater national interest.

Immediate separation of the Bodoland Territory measuring 25,478 sq. kms. areas on the Northern Bank of Brahmaputra river from the present geo-political boundary of Assam State in the form of a separate State of Bodoland on the foothills of Bhutan and Arunachal Pradesh starting right from the Assam-West Bengal border in the west and upto Sadiya (Arunachal Pradesh) in the east, has been a must, and it is the only amicable as well as appropriate answer to the burning 'Bodoland Question'. The location of the Bodoland territory is most strategic from national security view-point, because it is the gateway of the entire North-Eastern India.

I, therefore, strongly urge upon the Union Government of India to take a concrete and positive policy decision to create separate State of Bodoland through the introduction of the requisite Bill during the on-going Parliament Session itself.

12.54 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS—GENERAL

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House will now take up Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of Budget (General) for 1998-99, for which two hours have been allotted for discussion and voting on these Demands.

with the recommendation of the President.

Motion Moved :

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of Consolidated Fund of India, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1999, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof, against Demands No. 5, 6, 9, 16, 24, 25, 26, 30, 31, 35, 38, 40, 44, 45, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 54, 55, 59, 62, 63, 67, 69, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 85, 87, 89, 99, 100, 101, 102 & 103."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri G.M. Banatwalla and Prof. Saifuddin Soz have tabled cut motions to the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General). I would like to know if they are present here and desire to move their cut motions.

(Interruptions)

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Visakhapatnam) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, regarding enhancement of Local Area Development Fund from one crore rupees to two crores of rupees, yesterday I told the Speaker. We would like to mention a point that the Government has agreed in principle to raise it to two crores of rupees but till date it is not yet communicated.

The entire House wants Rs.2 crores...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Dr. Reddy, this is not the time. We have taken up the next item.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : This will not go on record

*(Interruptions)**

List of Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 1998-99 submitted to the Vote of the Lok Sabha

No. and Title of Demand	Amount of Demand for grant submitted to the vote of the House	
	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
1	2	3
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS		
5. Department of Chemicals & Fertilisers		36,84,00,000
6. Fertilizers	1720,83,00,000	

*Not Recorded

1	2	3	1	2	3	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
MINISTRY OF FOOD & CONSUMER AFFAIRS			MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY			
9. Department of Consumer Affairs		9,00,00,000	1,00,00,000	52. Industrial Development and Industrial Policy and Promotion	2,00,000	
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION			54. Heavy Industry	5,08,00,000	180,00,00,000	
16. Department of Tele-communication		2,20,00,000	55. Department of SSI & Agro and Rural Industries	2,00,000		
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS			MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE			
24. Ministry of Environment and Forest		2,00,000	59. Law And Justice	2,00,000		
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS			62. Department of Company Affairs		2,08,00,000	
25. Ministry of External Affairs		1,00,000	MINISTRY OF MINES			
MINISTRY OF FINANCE			63. Ministry of Mines	6,48,00,000	3,05,00,000	
26. Department of Economic Affairs		1,00,000	MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS			
30. Transfer to State & UT Governments		855,00,00,000	136,00,00,000	67. Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas	34,00,000	
31. Loans to Government Servants			100,00,00,000	MINISTRY OF PLANNING & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION		
35. Audit		59,11,00,000		69. Department of Statistics	8,10,00,000	
38. Indirect Taxes			2,00,000	MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY		
MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE			40. Department of Health		1,00,000	
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS			MINISTRY OF STEEL			
44. Cabinet		23,00,000	77. Department of Bio-technology		1,22,00,000	
45. Police		440,90,00,000	MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT			
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT			79. Ministry of Surface Transport	1,00,000		
48. Department of Education		2,00,000	80. Roads	52,41,00,000	1,00,000	
49. Youth Affairs & Sports		3,00,000	81. Ports, Lighthouses & Shipping	28,05,00,000	488,39,00,000	
50. Department of Culture		6,41,00,000				
51. Department of Women & Child Development		2,00,000			12,00,000	

1	2	3	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES			
82. Ministry of Textiles.		73,00,000	20,00,00,000
MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT			
85. Public Works		1,60,00,000	
MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES			
87. Ministry of Water Resources.		1,77,00,000	
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY			
89. Atomic Energy		12,22,00,000	
U.Ts' WITHOUT LEGISLATURE			
99. Andaman & Nicobar Island		14,34,00,000	13,83,00,000
100. Chandigarh			7,18,00,000
101. Dadra & Nagar Haveli		50,00,000	2,30,00,000
102. Daman & Diu			2,43,00,000
103. Lakshadweep		2,85,00,000	1,07,00,000
GRAND TOTAL		3331,65,00,000	995,56,00,000

12.56 hrs.

CUT MOTIONS

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Demand for a Supplementary Grants of a sum not exceeding Rs.52,42,000,00 in respect of roads (page 34) be reduced by Rs.100."

[Need for early completion and improvement of portions of National Highway No.17 passing through Kerala. (1)]

"That the Demand for a Supplementary Grants of a sum not exceeding Rs. 52,42,000,00 in respect of roads (page 34) be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to link North-South and East-West corridors of Kerala with National Highways. (2)]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, the discussion will take place.

[Translation]

13.00 hrs.

SHRI RAJO SINGH (Begusarai) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to express my views on the Supplementary Demands for the year 1998-99 presented by the hon'ble Finance Minister to the House.

Sir, while preparing the Budget the Government should take into account the approximate expenditure to be incurred by their Department. It does not look nice to bring Supplementary Demands again and again to the House. There are 46 demands in their Supplementary Demands, seeking the approval for an expenditure of rupees 449.76 crores. Why they should be given grants, this is a point to be considered by the House.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, they have not taken up the construction work of the National Highway in Bihar after 1970 even for a single inch. In reply they will say that there was a Congress Government at that time. This is not a question as to which party is in power. The question is what is the policy of the Government. The National Highway in Bihar has not been extended after 1970s whereas the population of the State is 1/10 of the total population of the country.

I would like to say about their demand regarding medical facilities that it is just like the same as had been said by a Poet, Gopal Singh Nepali and on what occasion it was said, the Finance Minister might be knowing. He said—

"Phir bhi esthiti wahin ki wahin reh gai.

Din gaye, baras gaye, yatana gai nahin.

Rotiyan garib ki prathna bani rahin.

Shyam ki bansi baji, Ram ka Dhanush chadha

Budh ka bhi gyan badha, nirdhanta gai nahin."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to say to the Finance Minister that the Government of India had decided to construct a six bedded hospital for per 40,000 population and the Government of India had allotted quota to every State only one time. I don't know in which circumstances it was stopped. Bihar as well as other States did not get that quota due to which the rural areas could not be able to get the medical facilities which they would have get from the nearby areas. I would like to say to the Finance Minister through you that he himself belongs to that area and his constituency is Hazaribagh. Though a proposal of constructing a six bedded hospital there has been approved by the State Government and inspite of providing grants by you, the building of a hospital could not be constructed whereas two and a half acre land was provided by the villagers for the purpose. Then you discontinued providing funds too. So I would like to urge you to restart this scheme as this scheme is very essential for the poor people, tribals and also for the backward areas.

I would like to state that the effect of the disaster of flood in Bihar is so strong and it causes so much damage that the Government of India cannot provide enough grants for that. The situation of other States is different from Bihar because all the rivers originating from the Himalayas flow from Bihar, therefore, then is a need to pay special attention on this, and Government of Nepal and Government of India should interact to chalk out a plan so as to avoid losses and damages in Bihar. Today, during the questionnaire, when the Minister for Agriculture was replying to a question we could not get a chance to ask a Supplementary from him at that time. Today the State Government cannot compensate the entire loss of paddy, houses etc. Therefore, the Government of India needs to provide funds later on. It is often said that a compensation will be given for the damaged houses in Bihar through Indira Awas Yojana but even the grants allotted to the State Government for that purpose are not enough. If it is necessary to increase this amount, it should be increased so that the problems faced by the people of Bihar could be solved.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it is in national agenda to provide pure potable water to all. I would like to know about the steps taken by the Finance Minister in this regard. There was a rural water supply scheme which was to be implemented by the Rajeev Mission. There was a coordination between the Union and the State Governments in that scheme. You have included only six or seven cities, having a population of 10-15 thousand, of the States, whether it is located in Uttar Pradesh or in Bihar under this scheme causing difficulties to the people of remaining areas for potable water. They cannot get pure drinking water. It is also included in your National Agenda, therefore, you should kindly implement this scheme and provide maximum grant to Bihar for this purpose.

There is a scheme for constructing roads and bridges through NABARD. Our Bihar Government has also sent a scheme to the Government in this regard. The proposal and scheme for construction of long roads and bridges on the big rivers, whether it is located in adivasi or in a backward area or in northern area of Gangas or in Bihar, by REC through NABARD have been sent but till date no funds have been provided by the Government of India for that scheme. I would like to request the Finance Minister to see as to why this scheme is not being implemented by the NABARD. The second scheme of the NABARD was to install tubewells in the rural areas for providing facilities to the people and the farmers in cultivation. The scheme was also approved but till date the Government of India and NABARD have not released the funds for installation of State tubewells due to which out of about 600 State tubewells which were to be installed in Bihar in March, not even a single tubewell has been installed. I would like to make a submission that though your scheme is lying pending, still you are forcing us to approve the Demands for Grants in this way. Despite having got the approval, you have

not provided them funds. You are requested to allocate the funds so that the farmers could be able to get benefits.

My sixth point is that after cutting of paddy, farmers cultivate wheat in our Bihar. There is a scarcity of water and we are not getting fertilizers. I have just come today after visiting my constituency. I was very much disturbed when people told me that they don't get fertilizers in the shops and on the other hand, it was replied by the hon'ble Prime Minister in the Parliament that there is a plenty of fertilizers and urea in the country and we are ready to provide fertilizers to all the State Governments as per their demands. I would like to know from the Finance Minister through you whether it is Bihar or Uttar Pradesh or Bengal, how much Urea has been provided to them by you. When their requirement will be fulfilled? When in the month of 'Magha', the crop of wheat will be ready for harvesting, you will send Urea at that time, then it will be sold in the black market and the traders will supply it to other place. Therefore, fertilizers should be provided to the people at the earliest.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, before concluding my speech, I would like to say two more things. The funds for Jawahar Rojgar Yojana and Employment Assurance Scheme should be increased. All the roads, primary schools and the small hospitals of the villages are constructed through Employment Assurance Scheme and Jawahar Rojgar Yojana. Therefore, this amount should be increased. This parameter is quite the same as the rates of tickets in the Railway or Aeroplane where everyone has to pay equal amount for the ticket, irrespective of his weight. Under these employment schemes, an equal amount of rupees 12 lac-14 lacs is provided to all on the basis of blocks whereas it should be given on the basis of population so that the villagers could get maximum benefits and schools and hospitals etc. could be constructed in the villages.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Finance Minister is in-charge of the banks. Whatever lending percentage has been fixed by the Reserve Bank of India for the Nationalised Banks for providing loans to the unemployed youths under the Prime Minister Rojgar Yojana, has not been given to the unemployed youths till date. I have so many times requested Shri Yashwant Singhji in this regard. When he was a Member of Parliament, Member of Assembly and also a member of opposition and when he used to visit his constituency and attend the meetings of DRDA then this question was the main issue in the frequent meetings. I think this question arise in the entire country. The banks do not spend the entire money given to them by the RBI for providing loans to the needy and unemployed persons. It means that the Ministry of Finance does not have control over banks. I would like to request you that you should adopt strict measures to have a control over them, only then the poor and the unemployed people will be provided employment. Otherwise the people do not get the money meant

[Shri Rajo Singh]

for them. The people should get their share. With this, I would like to say that whatever the important suggestions I have made, the hon'ble Finance Minister surely will consider these suggestions. With these words I oppose this Budget.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY (Mandsaur) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, though the amount stated in the Supplementary Demands submitted by the Government is very negligible, I would like to state in brief as to how much amount is required for the various Demands for Grants. It is right to consider it properly at the time of Budget proposals. In the very first page of the Budget, it is proposed to have an increase of rupees 14450.96 crores in voted provision, however, out of this amount an added amount of rupees 13159.96 crore will be recovered from the receipts by the concerned departments. As such, this proposal includes a net expenditure of rupees 1279.73 crore.

But in respect of the Demands for Grants in this regard, First of all, I would like to attract your attention on NAFED as there is a mention of giving some amount to NAFED. It is stated that NAFED should be provided money for the import and export of onion. An amount of rupees 4 crore and 2.61 crore were sanctioned from the contingency fund of India to meet the immediate requirement of providing Grant-in-aid for the losses incurred by the National Agriculture Cooperative Marketing Federation NAFED due to supply of onion at the subsidised rates by it, this amount will be refunded after the approval of Supplementary Grants. I would like to request you that earlier the situation was not assessed and later on though it was assessed but in a wrong way which has brought the Government into a peculiar situation and it was all due to the fault of NAFED. You must have remembered that once NAFED had earlier imported Sugar in the same way and due to that import of Sugar, there was a loss of foreign exchange worth crores of rupees. It is very necessary to pay attention on the way in which the NAFED is working unsystematically. I would like to attract the attention of the Hon'ble Minister that though the demands put forth are very few, however, he will pay specific attention on them so that the working of the NAFED can also be improved properly.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to mention here about another thing, which our honourable member has raised, that the chemical fertilizers are not made available in time. Recently, it was discussed in the House that chemical fertilizers are not made available in time, affecting our agriculture badly. I would like to attract the attention specially towards Madhya Pradesh where the chemical fertilizer is not available easily even today. There is a peculiar situation in M.P. Though, the Urea is available in time on reasonable prices in whole of the country but the M.P. is such a State, where Urea is not made available in time by the State Govt. This restriction has

been imposed by the State Government that the Urea can be distributed through Cooperative societies i.e. controlled cooperative agencies, the Urea cannot be distributed in open market. Though, the honourable Finance Minister is not directly concern with this matter, however, I would like to request through him that the Government should look into this as to how the Urea could be made easily available to the farmers of M.P. because we are considering to give funds to Hindustan Fertilizers. The farmers should not be worried about the chemical fertilizers.

SHRI RAJO SINGH (Begusarai) : Honourable Minister, presented here 45 demands which will be guillotined. So please take other demands also.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Honourable Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the funds have been required for Namroop unit of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation. I, therefore, have put my views by taking the benefit of reference of this subject. I would like to draw the attention of the Hon'ble Minister towards one other thing through you. I would like to put my views in brief. The additional funds have been required under these demands of Grants for National nutrition programme. I would like to draw the attention of the honourable Minister that this programme is not being operated satisfactorily. It has become a fun. There is lot of bungling in this. The children do not get food in time and if at all they get it, they do not get it properly. Due to this the people have started questioning about this nutrition programme; this has become a source to earn the money through unfair means.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, there is also the packages for the revival of some undertakings and among them the National Instruments Limited and Nepa Limited are there and the industry in Nepa-nagar Unit was producing news prints and the quality of this paper was very fine. Today it is running in loss, and as a result thereof thousands of workers have been rendered jobless. I would like to request the honourable Minister that it is an indigenous undertaking and is a good paper producing undertaking. If it requires some more money, you may please give it so that the industry can survive and the workers who have become jobless can get the employment. This industry has such machineries as are better than the modern foreign equipments. The reason for this loss is that we are importing news prints from foreign countries because import of news prints cost us less. I would like to request that it should be saved from loss and it should be made operative so that a better situation can emerge.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to mention about other undertakings alongwith this. The Cement Corporation is also facing chaos and mismanagement, it should be set right. The reference was made about National Textile Corporation here. Much have been said here about cotton industry. The discussions have been made here time and again about this. I do not want to go in its detail's but I would like to draw your

attention towards the today's crisis of our cotton industries. Time and again the declarations are made here that we are going to formulate a new cotton policy and through that policy thousands of workers who have been rendered jobless, will again gets employment and the capital invested therein which is going waste, will be protected. But these two things are not taking place. I would like to tell the honourable Minister through you that it is a wise step to provide funds for the protection of textile industries, as well as all the N.T.C. operated industries and including, all other industries. In this way you should try to give them protection and make them potential so that we can approve your supplementary demands after considering them properly. The import has been increased and the export has been decreased. It is not a good sign for our economy.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, with these words I am going to conclude my views that while supporting the demands presented by you. I would like to request that you will try to overcome all the shortcomings so that we can give pace to progress and we can overcome all the shortcomings. Thanks, for allowing me to speak.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) : Honourable Mr. Speaker, Sir, it seems very unfortunate to present the General Budget in monsoon session before two months back and the supplementary budget in winter session. It is very easy to say that the Government should prepare the details of atleast one year expenditure and keeping in mind the possibility of future expenditure, the annual budget for the whole year should be prepared so that in between we may not face the necessity of supplementary demands. But practically it has become difficult because whatever is happening in the Government, generally it is happening under regional pressure. Now it has become a tradition to make announcements by passing the Parliament and its orders as was being done by ancient rulers in olden days in this country, which is condemnable and sad. I will hope that the honourable Finance Minister would try to avoid it. The funds released for most of such demands either has been exhausted or it has become essential to spent these funds in public interest. Therefore, being a responsible opposition, there is no justification into opposing it but on this point I would like to tell few things to honourable Minister as a suggestion.

Today, the way in which the financial discipline is on the increase in the States, that is a very critical situation and a dangerous indication for the economy of our country. Whatever money is going in the States in the form of Central grant from the Government of India or the funds being provided by the World Bank and International Monetary Fund on the basis of the guarantee given by the Government of India or the amount released for the sanctioned items by Yojna Commission is being misutilized on one side the State Government does not put its share and as the other, whatever amount have been allotted to State, the tendency to spend this amount on its

administrative work is on the increase in the States, I am unable to explain as to what type of discipline the Finance Minister will impose on the States, because the Finance Minister and the Government of India always adopt some special aggressive position about Bihar but the condition of Uttar Pradesh is very bad the Finance Minister should think seriously in this regard. Thus an amount of Rs. 50,000 crores are going to be spent there whereas all the development works are paralised. They do not have money for the payment of salary, this is the fact. The Honourable Finance Minister should try to think seriously on this.

Secondly, we would like to say that it is being published in newspapers that the pace of Inflation is decreasing. The prices of essential commodities are increasing. Since this Government faced a defeat, it is seen that the number of commodities is decreasing but the people have increased the prices of its bi-products. Since last April, May, June till today the cost of tea has been increased. Due to shortage of food products whatever rates have been fixed by the hotel owners in Hotels, there is no reduction in the rates. The manner, in which the cost of medicines is increasing, the medicines will become out of reach of ordinary man in India, for this the Government of India should come forward. It is the need of the hour to reduce the prices of a number of bi-products whose prices have been increased during this period so that the consumers could get some relief. I would like to request the honourable Minister that this year we have faced the severe flood and faced many natural calamities. Just when your Government came into power why the God has become so annoyed, this is a serious question. Due to these natural calamities the Government of India has provided Central assistance to the various States to face the situation but it has adopted dual norms in giving/providing assistance to the States, I think that it is a question of regret. Due to political reasons whatever help the Government of India has given to small States for their hardships, Uttar Pradesh as a big State could not get that type of assistance. I would like to mention it as a criticism and a gentle complaint. The same party is ruling at both the places and the Prime Minister of India has been elected from Uttar Pradesh.

Perhaps, the Government of India is in confusion that since they are ruling on the base of the 52 members of Lok Sabha elected from Uttar Pradesh, so they are not bothered whether the people of Uttar Pradesh may face any amount of difficulties but they will not give any assistance to Uttar Pradesh. I would like to quote an example, time does not permit, I do not want to say but whatever assistance you have given to small States, whether same ratio was maintained for providing relief and in the field of natural calamities in such a big State as Uttar Pradesh is; I would like to know clearly? It is my complaint that Uttar Pradesh has been neglected and the Prime Minister has said clearly there that we have not received any demand

[Shri Mohan Singh]

in the month of Sept. from the Chief Minister of U.P., it was Prime Minister's statement. He went to all the States to see the flood and calamities but he did not have the time for Uttar Pradesh. The honourable Prime Minister did not have even a single minutes to visit the flood affected Uttar Pradesh...(*Interruptions*). He did not go. It is my complaint that he did not go. You tell us, which district he has visited.

THE STATE MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : He had visited Gorakhpur.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : When the flood situation was over, at that time he went to Gorakhpur. After the end of flood situation, he went to aerodrome of Gorakhpur for a little while by aeroplane and after one hour he went back. He talked for few seconds with public representatives, I was present there. But he did not go at the time of flood and he did not go during the flood. My point is that it is unnatural whether any representative of the Prime Minister and the Government of India may visit or not but the Uttar Pradesh Govt. has sent the request to the Government of India however it is delayed, should be acceded to and the ratio of assistance should be given to Uttar Pradesh as is being given to other States. This is my complaint I would like to demand that this assistance should be given.

The other point which I would like to say that the Government has said time and again that the prices of all the commodities have been gone up and the prices of rice and wheat did not increased, their prices were under control. This thing may be correct some how and there are two important factors behind this. The first reason, there was a scheme to provide ration on fair price shops to the people, living below the poverty line and the others, there was a scheme to provide Lunch in the schools to poor students, I am reading in newspapers, that the Government of India has not given the subsidy to these corporations and as a result thereof the food corporation is not in a position to provide such a cheap rate food-grain, at present. It is the newspaper's report, whether it is a fact or not, I do not know, but I would like to urge the honourable Finance Minister that these both the schemes should not be stopped in any circumstances. If you like to provide amenities to common men, there is no justification to close down these schemes, these scheme should continue.

The State Governments are running their own schemes and further increasing the participation of their Legislators in the existing development schemes of the Government of India such as Assured Employment Scheme, Jawahar Rojgar Yojna etc; and thus depriving the Member of Parliament of their participation in these schemes. I would like to request to the hon. Minister of Finance that the participation of Members of Parliament, their involvement, their contribution and their advice be treated as essential in the Assured Employment Schemes

and Jawahar Rojgar Yojna, and these Central Schemes regarding development at village level, should be operated through them and under their supervision.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, with these words I thank you for giving me a chance to express myself and to give some proposals in this discussion on demands for Grants.

KM. MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the Supplementary Demands for Grants.

But at the same time I would like to tell the Minister of Finance that the inflation rate has come down to 6.8 per cent.

[*English*]

The Government has to maintain this tempo and keep the inflation rate at six per cent.

[*Translation*]

Only then our inflation rate can come down to the single digit and it's good for the country. The phenomena of price-rise occurred earlier, has now been stopped and it is almost stable. The Bill to make an amendment in the Essential Commodities Act which was sent to the Select Committee, has sent a wrong message in public so the said Act should not be considered. But I want that this Act should be utilised and should be strengthened.

[*English*]

It is because the black marketeers and the hoarders should not take any advantage of this for hoarding or anything else.

[*Translation*]

I would like to draw your attention on one point.

[*English*]

The Central Government is releasing funds to the State Governments. This money is public money. I would like to draw the attention of the House to the C&AG Report for the year 1996-97 on West Bengal. This report was submitted in the State Legislative Assembly of West Bengal in March, 1997. It was submitted to the Central Government also. You will be surprised to see certain observations made in the C&AG Report. Why is the Central Government still releasing money in spite of the fact that the State Government is not utilising this money? The Government in the State does not care to see as to how much money is spent and how much of it is left unspent. This money is not being utilised and being misappropriated.

On page 36, para 2.06, the Report refers to irregular exemptions, incorrect determination of gross turnover, transfer

of land without realisation of revenue and execution of lease deeds, etc. Such references can be seen on every page of the Report, I could have gone through all these things if I had had more time. On the MP LAD Scheme, from 1993 to 1997, while an amount of Rs.125 crore was sanctioned by the Central Government, most unfortunately, only Rs.16 crore have been utilised. Where has the rest of the money gone?

The District Magistrate of South 24 Paraganas District, Shri Syed Zakir Hossain, wrote a letter to the Municipal Commissioner of Calcutta Municipal Corporation that the work had not yet started. He is not our man. He was deputed by the State Government. I have a copy of his letter with me. You can see that there was no shortcoming on our side. We had submitted the list of schemes but even after three to four years, no work is done. Can a CBI inquiry not be ordered into this? While the Central Government is giving money for the MP LADS, out of Rs.125 crore, only Rs.16 crore have been spent. What about the rest of the money? Where has the interest on that money gone?...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE (Berhampore) (WB) : My, Deputy-Speaker, Sir, does this issue come within the purview of the Supplementary Demands for Grants?

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South) : I am pleading this on behalf of you also.

[Translation]

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY (Baksar) : Rs.125 crores are not being spent and we are discussing only Rs. two crore here...*(Interruptions)*.

[English]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South) : Sir, I am ready to place the documents before the House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Pramoths Mukherjee, Kumari Mamata Banerjee is well within her right to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY (Baksar) : Out of Rs.125 crores only Rs.16 crores have been spent. What is the amount of interest on Rs.109 crores, where would it go and who will take it...*(Interruptions)*.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing except what Kumari Mamata Banerjee has to say, will go on record.

(Interruptions)

[English]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, these are not my views. I am quoting from the C&AG report. C&AG's is a financial audit which is very much relevant in this issue. I

was submitting the report of C&AG regarding the irregularities committed. The report mentions also the instances where the scheme has been fulfilled.

I request you to please go through the C&AG Reports from 1985 to 1998 and see as to how much money has been diverted to different types of work. I am giving you the documents. This is not my letter, this is the letter of the District Magistrate of the District. Not only I, but other Members are also facing this problem.

So, I request the hon. Minister that if they sanction the money from the Central Government Fund, that money should be utilized in a proper time and in a proper manner. The concerned State Government should send you the audit report. They are not sending the audit report. From the PIL Accounts Funds, they are diverting the money like anything.

The most unfortunate part is that you give money for the Nehru Rozgar Yojna Scheme and Jawahar Rozgar Yojna Scheme but these schemes are not being implemented. Even there is no audit of money given for such schemes. Same is the case regarding Employment Assurance Scheme. There is no audit of the money given to them. So, why should it not be within the jurisdiction of the Central Government? The Central Government can ask for investigation if there is something wrong. When the CAG is involved here and it comes under the jurisdiction of the Central Government, the Central Government should ask for inquiry. So, I want a CBI inquiry to be held in this matter regarding the irregularities, misappropriation of funds and corruption. Do you not think that it is a corruption? It is a corruption. People do not get employment and the money meant for them is being utilized for their party funds! So, I demand a CBI inquiry into this matter. The CAG report has given all this.

Sir, if you see the CAG Report, there is a big scandal from the land scandal to the PIL account scandal. So, I do not want that the Government should prop up as a weak Government. The Government should prop up as an important Government and an effective Government. Even, sometimes, the Government has to be assertive. If there is any misappropriation, the law has to work accordingly.

[Translation]

I, therefore, would like to request you to take action on this and if you would not take any action then the public is bound to think that the money which has been provided for them is not being utilised properly. For that I request you that a C.B.I. inquiry be conducted.

[English]

You can do it. Sometimes, you say, yes, you can ask for the CBI inquiry if the State Government asks. Otherwise you cannot.

[Translation]

Mr. Lalu Prasad Yadav himself had said for a CBI inquiry.

[Kumari Mamata Banerjee]

[English]

Their State Government asked. In some cases, the Supreme Court or the High Court orders or the other Courts give order. But in some cases when the Central Government agencies are directly involved, when the Central Government is giving the money directly and is not getting the utilisation certificate in proper time, I think, the Central Government can order for CBI inquiry. So, I ask the Central Government to do it.

[Translation]

The unemployment is having increasing in our country. The condition of unemployment has become such acute in our country that about four-five days ago a question had come to the House. I saw that there are Bengali unemployed youth even in the states like Tamilnadu, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.

[English]

But in Bengal the number of unemployed youth is the highest. There are 57 lakhs unemployed youth in Bengal...
(Interruptions).

[Translation]

There are in Bihar also. I don't want to say more but the Bengali unemployed youth are there.

[English]

But Bengal stands highest in the list in regard to unemployment youth. I have seen the list showing the number of unemployed youth in other States also.

[Translation]

It is in U.P. also, but the unemployment in Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and U.P. is greater. So, I appeal that a comprehensive scheme for the unemployed youth should be prepared for the year 2000 so that they may be able to get some kind of employment in the days to come. They don't get the jobs and the problem is that the Postal Order fee is required to be paid and sometimes they even cannot afford to pay the Postal Order fee. In the process they become overaged.

[English]

I am fighting for their causes for the last 10 years. So, may I appeal that

[Translation]

there should be an alternative that Postal Order fee should be waived.

[English]

There should not be any postal order, at least, for applying the job. I know that how some State Governments are collecting money like anything in the form of postal orders. But the unemployed people have nothing to get. They are facing this trouble like anything.

So, I appeal to the hon. Minister. Firstly, there should be a comprehensive plan of action for the unemployed youth and secondly, the postal order fee should be waived.

Sir, the women employment comprises only two per cent and the minority employment comprises only one per cent in our country. So, I request the hon. Finance Minister to kindly see to it so that these deprived people come out with great importance.

Sir, you were kind enough regarding disinvestment of public sector. Eight sick industries have been closed in West Bengal from MMC to Cycle Corporations, from Tapco to National Instruments and some other industries.

There is a proposal that Government is about to close those industries. We cannot discuss all these matters right for want of time. After Parliament is over, if you can give us time, we can sit with you. I told you that whatever money was given for VRS, that money can be sanctioned by you. Then these companies may be revised and the employees may be saved.

Regarding NTC, it is a very important matter. It is located in States like Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Bengal and everywhere. NTC are also facing the same problem. MAMC is also facing the same problem. We are happy that because of your intervention, IISCO is going to be modernised. I appreciate the performance of the Government regarding IISCO modernisation. If I am not wrong, it is going to be signed within two or three days. This was the demand for our Bengal package also. I request you to do it as early as possible.

As Shri Mohan Singh and Shri Raju Singh have stated, fertiliser is not available in different parts of the country. It is a fact that the farmers have to purchase fertiliser from black-market. If you have the machinery, please find out which are the States and discuss in which places fertiliser is not available. Please see that the farmers should get fertiliser in proper time.

There are 14 subjects related to essential commodities. If you can distribute these essential commodities through the public distribution system, the people will get them in proper time. Though it is lying with the State Government, the Central Government can give instruction that these 14 essential commodities should be supplied from the ration shops.

Regarding PDS, it is very important system. I have already sanctioned that this should be the main area of the Government.

I request you that wherever corruption is there, whoever it may be, please take stringent action so that the corrupt people should not run a parallel economy in this country.

With these words, I thank you very much and I am grateful to the hon. Deputy-Speaker for giving me this opportunity. I request you to take these matters seriously so that people will not be put to sufferings.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, speaking on the Supplementary Demands for Grants, I would like to draw the attention of the Government on two-three points. The hon. Minister of Finance, while presenting the Budget, had claimed that it was a balanced Budget and the prices would not increase after its implementation. But after this Budget the prices have started increasing on which Mamataji has tried to seek a break on it. She has resigned but I don't know, whether she has withdrawn or not.....

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : When we people give then we don't take it back.

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : She is still adamant. It shows that there should be brake as the price-rise. When the alliance parties start obstructing* the Government withdraws. Sometimes the alliance parties act properly...(Interruptions)

PROF. RITA VERMA (Dhanbad) : What type of the Government ... should a Senior Member speak like this. Does this suit to the dignity of the House...(Interruptions).

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Just see the proceedings it is Parliamentary for the Government but it is unparliamentary for an individual. It has been decided several times.

(Interruptions)

PROF. RITA VERMA : Is this word is Parliamentary? ... (Interruptions).

[English]

Sir, this is my point of order... (Interruptions) What is your ruling on my point of order?... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Sir, the prices have gone up.... (Interruptions) The fate of the Government has been decided.... (Interruptions).

PROF. RITA VERMA : You keep quite, first I want ruling.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I expunge it.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : The word.... is Parliamentary about the Government and when it is correct in the precedents then it is correct.... (Interruptions)

PROF. RITA VERMA (Dhanbad) : Sir, again he has said the same thing.... (Interruptions) This is the limit.... (Interruptions) He does not have manners.... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Hon. Members, I am on my legs. Please sit down.

[Translation]

I have expunged that word and you are again speaking. You know that we don't have so much time then why do you do like this?

[English]

You should not do that.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY : Sir, this is my point of order. My point is that he sits on the Chair and his name is on the Panel. If he were on Chair and someone else would have used this word then had he not expunged that word. ... (Interruptions) Sir, this should be treated as my point of order.... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : If you are raising the point of order then quote the rules.

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY : Sir, you are competent of all. I just want to say that his name is on the Panel. If the word... would have been said at the time.... (Interruptions)

PROF. RITA VERMA : He speaks the language using such a words.... (Interruptions) Such people have downgraded the Parliament.... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have already expunged that word. Why are you unnecessarily wasting the time of the house?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. RITA VERMA : Sir, he should be removed from the post of Chair.... (Interruptions)

[Prof. Rita Verma]

[English]

He is provoking us deliberately.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Sir, you have expunged the word mentioned by me and even then they are going on speaking....(Interruptions) I have doubts about the Government, claim to bring an Essential Commodities Act with stringent law, why it has not come up till now?...(Interruptions) They are repeatedly saying that this Bill would be brought. It has been returned by the Joint Select Committee saying that they are unable to do anything on that. Now the Government is required to bring the Bill with stringent law. If you are not favouring the hoarders then bring this Bill. I feel that you will not bring the Bill by which profiteers, hoarders and black-marketeers would go down....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Sir, thirdly I have to speak on non-banking. We hear about non-banking institutions. I don't know as to how many fake financial institutions are allowed by the Minister of Finance and the Reserve Bank in this country. Pearl India, J.V.G and many other companies are there about whom we don't know.

PROF. RITA VERMA : You might be knowing the Healins Company that whose company is this?

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : The poor people, cutting their needs, deposited crores of rupees in these companies. Earlier, the people used to deposit in Post-offices but when they deposited in these companies, they ran away taking their money. Now, the poor people are fearing whether they will get the money back or not. The hon. Minister of Finance should take a legal action against these fake firms so that the poor men may be saved from looting. Even if these institutions are non-banking or otherwise. How much amount have been looted by the J.V.G., how many people have been looted?

PROF. RITA VERMA : I agree with him but it will be got to investigate the Healins Company alongwith the J.V.G.

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : You are also saying the same thing. It means that you know. Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it has been a heavy loot, so the Government should take strict action against them. These fake institutions have grabed crores of rupees of poor people. One girl came to me. She is unmarried. Her father was in service. She said me to help her in getting her money back, and to plead for her. We even don't know these companies. What to do now. Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, now I would like to mention about Bihar. Since this Government came to power, it has been working against the interest of 10 crore people of Bihar. We have the Federal structure. Sometimes the Government is

against it and sometimes it is in favour. This Government wants to send the 10 crore people of Bihar in the hell, it wants to make them poor, it wants to finish them. it's my charge against the Government. Due to the negative attitude of this Government, the lines of 10 crore people of Bihar have become hell. If we calculate fully then an amount of Rs. 22 thousand crore of the Government of Bihar is due against the Government of India....(Interruptions)

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY : Nothing has been done in Bihar and now they say that the amount is due....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Chaubey, please. Mr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, making some points in brief, you conclude.

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, if I will not speak on behalf of the population of 10 crore then who will. When India became independent, it was at third placed as per the per-capita income, but today it is third from the bottom. I had written a letter to Mr. Jaswant Babu...(Interruptions)

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY : The Government and these people are concerned about it now.

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : These people are taking revenge and did not take care....(Interruptions)

I want to prove this by giving an example. They have never consulted the people as to what should be done in Bihar. When I said that Rs.22 thousand crore payable to Bihar is due against the Union Government. Some people started saying that Fodder Scam, this scam and that scam. I want to ask whether the Government of Bihar is your enemy?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now you conclude.

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Why the factories of Government of India located in Bihar are not started to serve the interests of the people of Bihar? Barauni and Sindri in Bihar are lying closed. The N.T.C. is nearly ruined over there. You can at least start these factories. They did not do a single task. They consider the 10 crore people as their enemy. They don't consider them as their own.

Mr. Mohan Singhji was angry with the Prime Minister on the issue of flood because he went to Uttar Pradesh late, but the Prime Minister did not even peep in Bihar. About 40 per cent damage is done every year in Bihar just because of floods and natural calamities. The international rivers and particularly those rivers which flow from Nepal affect the Bihar every year causing flood. This time about one crore 40 lakh people have been affected by the flood in Bihar, but the Prime Minister neither tried to peep there and nor he cared about that. The Union Government boast of national integration and corruption. but they have been exposed by their policies.

The people of my constituency used to say that this time we want to see Atalji and want to give him a chance to come to power, but their aspirations have not been fulfilled. What the Congress did in last 50 years, they have done in a few months. Now the villagers are worried. They say to us that the communal Government like BJP should be removed through an agitation. This Government is not in the interest of Bihar. The 10th Finance Commission has suggested that the Panchayat funds should be given, but the Govt. is not giving that fund. The Parliament have incorporated the 73rd Constitution Amendment and made a provision that the reservation be provided in Panchayats. The Government of Bihar has made such law but the High Court has rejected it. Now that law does not exist by which the Panchayat elections can be held. The Union Government have withheld that money because of elections are not being held there. What is the fault of the Government of Bihar and the public in it? Why are you not giving the money?

MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, Raghuvansh Babu has raised a very specific point. This case is pending in the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court has not issued any such order that the elections may not be held. I want to say with full responsibility that if Panchayat elections are not held in Bihar, it would amount to unabated violation of the constitution there and Bihar would not get that money.

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Hon. Minister of Finance has said that the Supreme Court has not given any such stay against the decision of the High Court, but the High Court has rejected it. So, there is no law as such. Under what law elections can be held there. You are an intelligence man. You know everything in this regard.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : There is a provision in the Constitution in this regard.

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : The Supreme Court stays the decision of the High Court. Thus the previous law automatically ceases from the Constitution. New law has already been scrapped out by the High Court. Now the Supreme Court is taking care of it. That appeal is still pending, therefore, there is no such a law at the moment. It makes the Government intention clear that it will not release the funds unless there is election in Bihar.

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY : There is no law in Bihar at all....(Interruptions)

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Your Minister of Finance stood up and you started supporting him. The royalty on Coal is given on the basis of Ojal and not on the basis of price. If coal is Rs.100 per kilogram the royalty will be given Re.1 per kilogram in Ojal basis.

The Government have a Committee in this regard. That Committee has decided a year ago that the amount should be obtained on the basis of ad-valorem. Bihar suffers the loss of crores of rupees every year for obtaining the Royalty on the basis of Ojal. Rita Vermaji, comes from the Coal region.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now you wind up

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : He does not think of the interests of the people.

PROF. RITA VERMA : Why your Minister of Coal didn't do anything about it?

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : The Minister of Coal was Mrs. Kirli Singh. She had decided only after setting up a Committee. Your Government is sitting over that report. ...*(Interruptions)* Bihar should be kept in special category. Due to this Bihar condition has gone to worse. They are not bothered about it. They did not pay the dues to the Bihar Government. So, I am saying that development and not diversion of Bihar should be done. They want to divide Bihar in two sections. Keeping in view the interests of the people of Bihar, the Government of Bihar has rejected that Bill. Even then they want to bring it again. They don't want to do anything for the development of Bihar. They want to bring the Bill for destruction and division of Bihar. When we talk of agitation against it they talk of Article 356....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY (Baksar) : What developmental activities were done by them from 1990 to 1998?...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, you conclude. Your party have got two minutes.

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : We are the one tenth of the whole Hindustan....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY (Baksar) : They have wasted Billions of Rupees of Bihar. Smuggling is going on openly there and he is talking of development....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please allow me to control the House.

(Interruptions)

Not Recorded.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER This is Supplementary Demands.

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : These people may not be speaking like this within the party. They don't have the courage to raise the point of public interest within the party. I am raising the point of the people of Bihar in this House. He is speaking like this to please the losses of the party....*(Interruptions)* I will speak in the interests of the public of Bihar....*(Interruptions)* They cry on us for fodder scam but a person involved in Hawala scam has become the Minister of Finance....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have already called Shri Chetan Chauhan.

[Translation]

PROF. RITA VERMA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am on a point of order.

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I could not conclude my point due to the interruptions made by them?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You were told to conclude several times but you didn't wind up.

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Only for one minute.

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, he is making noises, he will not finish easily.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Chaubey, let me control the House.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : I will take only one minute.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Conclude in only one sentence.

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, in the interest of the people of Bihar I demand that for 9 lakh hectare land affected with water logging....

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. RITA VERMA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Supreme Court has given its judgment on the Hawala scam and hon. Minister of Finance has been declared innocent, but Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh is making a charge in the House that he is involved in Hawala scam. Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, now you see that despite the judgment of the Supreme Court, allegations are being made by him against the hon. Minister of Home or Minister of Finance or the Members of the Cabinet, then I want a ruling on my point of order. He has blamed the whole Cabinet.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : This is not a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RITA VERMA : But I want your ruling. If even after the judgment of the Supreme Court somebody makes an allegation, what is the ruling of the Chair?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He has not alleged.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. RITA VERMA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, he has made an allegation by saying him an accused of Hawala scam.

(Interruptions)

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, can he allege anybody like this?

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : There is no point of order. This is not connected with the Supplementary Demands.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, hon. Member Shrimati Rita Verma has raised the point of order, what would be the ruling on that? I just want to say that Shri Singh has mentioned about the Hawala scam and said that the Minister of Home was an accused and the Minister of Finance was also an accused. I would not like to say anything to him in this regard, but I just want to say that on the same day, on which this charge-sheet was filed, hon. Advaniji had resigned from the membership of Lok Sabha and I had resigned from the membership of the Bihar Legislative Assembly. That

was our conduct and it's before the whole world as to what is their conduct.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Whatever you wanted to say, you have said it and we have heard it.

[Translation]

SHRI CHETAN CHAUHAN (Amroha) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it looks as if the discussion is going on in connection with Fodder Scam....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh. I am on my leg.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Chetan Chauhan, do you want to participate in the debate?

SHRI CHETAN CHAUHAN : Yes. I want to participate.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Then, you start speaking. Otherwise, I will call somebody else.

[Translation]

SHRI CHETAN CHAUHAN : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I was feeling as if the Fodder Scam was being discussed

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Again, you are repeating it and inviting all troubles.

[Translation]

SHRI CHETAN CHAUHAN (Amroha) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister of Finance has brought the Demands for Grants (General) Bill and I stood up to support it. This is not a new thing and as it was told that the hon. Minister of Finance had presented the Budget and after that he has come with the Supplementary Demands. The Budgets are prepared every year and when some money is left out in Mid-Session or when money falls short at some places and when any Ministry needs the money then the Government have been coming with the Supplementary Demands. This is not being done by our Government only, but all the previous

Governments have been doing like this. I would like to submit one or two points

Hon'ble Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister of Finance that as the apprehension were expressed by the people that foreign money inflow would end up after the Pokharan tests and our industry would get affected badly, but it didn't happen. I want to congratulate the Government that the foreign investment will increase up to 4 billion dollar this year and I believe that with the money, coming from abroad, an industry friendly atmosphere will be created in our country and much development will take place. The hon. Minister of Finance had said in his Budget speech that industrial growth would be 10 per cent in our country but as the whole world is witnessing a global recession, the effects of the same are being experienced in our country also. Nevertheless, the industrial growth is going to be 5 to 6 per cent this year. I, therefore, would request the hon. Minister of Finance to take a little more hard steps and some more encouragement be given to the industry. The hon. Minister of Finance had called upon a meeting of industrialists, wherein it was discussed to take some more hard steps. So, it is requested to take those steps urgently because as you have told that it was going to be 10 per cent industrial growth, and we may be able to achieve that.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would say two-three points about the industry. Some 15 days ago 10-15 Members of Parliament belonging to Uttar Pradesh collectively had a meeting with the hon. Prime Minister. Discussion was held upon the import of Sugar from Pakistan. 5 per cent duty is going to be charged on it. Due to this reason there are apprehension in the Sugar industry of Uttar Pradesh and they are afraid of it. I am concerned about the farmers because the Sugar Mills, which are running in Uttar Pradesh will find an excuse and they are delaying in making payments to the farmers. In this regard I would like to make two demands from hon. Minister of Finance.

Firstly, if it is possible and there is not any international agreement between India and Pakistan, this import should be immediately stopped. If import cannot be stopped and there are any hurdles therein due to some agreement between both of you, I urge upon you that at least duty should be increased from 5% to 40%. Though there are apprehensions that the price of sugar will increase, I would like to say that to increase or to reduce duty is in your hands. If price of sugar increases in coming days, you can import sugar from Pakistan or other countries and can reduce duty too. Thus, sugar can be imported within seven days.

Secondly, I would like something about paper industry. This industry is also in the worst condition, as it comes in

[Shri Chetan Chouhan]

core sector and an amount of about Rs. 50 thousand crore has been invested in it. Most of the papers are being imported due to which our industries are not running well. Most of the industries specially those are in Govt. and public sector, have been closed, and those which are functioning, are utilising only about 40-50% of their capacity. I urge the hon. Minister of Finance and I suggest that since in WTO agreement, there is provision of imposing duty, I am not talking about raw material which help industries to run and create employment, but duty should be increased on finished products which are being imported. There is such provision in it and it is believed that we can impose 45% duty up to 2003 A.D. So, we can increase duty to the possible extent. I am not saying that it should be imposed up to 45%, but it has two advantages. First is that our industries get protection and when commodities become costly, they can compete. Second thing which I am seeing is that as per figures provided by the Minister of Finance, the import duty is on decrease and the collection is also coming down.

[English]

"Indirect tax collection during April-September 1998 fell short of the first year target by 13 per cent; Excise collections at Rs. 21,957 crore was 15.9 per cent short of the target; while Customs collection at Rs. 19,503 crore was 11.7 per cent short of the target. In fact, the shortfall in Excise and Customs collection has so far outweighed the 22.5 per cent higher collection on the Direct Tax front."

[Translation]

There has been good collection in the direct taxes. I congratulate the Minister of Finance for that. Due to introduction of Kar Sammadhan Yojna and simplification thereof, the direct tax has been increased about 10% and collection is also increasing. I would like to express some concern about money supply. It has increased up to 20%, though it is due to investment of about Rs.17,000 crore which came through Resurgent India Bond. You should control it. If you control it up to 15% or 15½%; there will be no price hike.

I would like to say another thing that the amount of Rs.17,000 crore which you have collected through Resurgent India Bond, may become a burden, because it is to be returned after 5 years. I urge upon you not to keep it for a long time. It should be invested at the earliest and should be utilised for productive purposes only. When I talked to some chartered accountants and economists in this regard, they also gave the similar suggestions that the Government should spend the amount on infrastructure at the earliest. You have controlled inflation, which had increased and now it has come down. My request is that it is very much necessary to contain this inflation which is just 8% now.

The Commercial Banks have large amount with them. This year their gain is Rs. 66,563 crores. There has been an increase of about 11% in Bank Deposit and this amount is being kept with Reserve Bank. They are not getting good borrowers and therefore, they are not able to lend money or to provide loans properly.

You must consider about the areas where money can be spent. Since on the one side, industries require money specially as working capital and on the other hand commercial Banks have large amount with them. As I said that their gain is Rs. 66563 crores, so you must consider about it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, in the meantime, there was some increase in the prices. The Government have controlled prices. I congratulate the Government for this. The inflation which was about 2%, you have increased it up to 8%. I would like to congratulate the Government for this too. But it must be controlled. I would like to say to the Government that some decision had been taken in the meeting of State Governments to control the prices. Therefore, action should be taken from time to time against hoarders, black-marketeers and anti-social elements under Essential Commodities Act, 1955. There is need to make amendment in Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Essential Commodities Act, 1980. It has been forwarded to Select Committee, it should be brought back at the earliest so that you can take action on it.

14.16 hrs.

[SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH *in the Chair*]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to say to the Minister of Finance about the problem of onion and potato. Arrangement of cold storage should be made for potato. There is much shortage of cold storage in our country. Two years ago, farmers in U.P. were destroying their potatoes crops, they were not interested in cultivating potato crops. They even ploughed their field alongwith potatoes. I, therefore, want to say that the Government should make arrangement of cold storage immediately and as it has been said that arrangement of cold storage would be made in every block, it should be made at the earliest. There is 33% irrigated land in our country and remaining part of the land depends upon rain. As we know that this year there was less production, many places faced the flood and experienced more rain. Therefore, keeping in view of these factors, we should make arrangement of cold storage.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, lastly, I would like to say about the industries to the Minister of Finance that he should pay attention to it too and the Prime Minister has taken steps to boost the economy separately.

[English]

The 20 point medium term economic agenda outlined by the Prime Minister at Economic Summit.

[Translation]

The 12 points which you have outlined, should be implemented at the earliest so that proper arrangement can be made. I conclude with these words.

DR. SHAFIQR RAHMAN BARQ (Moradabad) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, about 50 thousand non-technical staff of Railways are demonstrating in Delhi today. I would like to draw the attention of the Minister of Railways towards the pay disparity between technical and non-technical staff and he should solve their problems.

[English]

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil) : Sir, I rise to oppose the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) 1998-99. I have certain reasons to be at variance and to support my argument.

The policy followed by the Central Government in respect of financial matters is detrimental to our interest. When I think of the State of Kerala, I will have to definitely emphasise certain traditional industries which are the monopoly of the State of Kerala. We all know that Kerala is one of the foremost States producing rubber. Nearly 90 per cent of the total production of natural rubber is from Kerala. The economy of Kerala is dependent mostly on rubber production.

From time immemorial, Kerala was producing cash crops, plantation crops. We, in Kerala, know that Kerala is a consumer State which is deficit in production of rice. Well, we are only producing 40 per cent of the State consumption while 60 per cent we have to import from other States. That is the position. We are lagging behind in production of rice for the simple reason that most of our land is suited for cash crops, and rubber is one of the major cash crops being produced in the State of Kerala on the mountainous regions.

For the last so many years, the production of rubber has increased and we as the State of Kerala claim that we are able to meet the needs of the entire nation. But unfortunately, the situation has developed that no encouragement is coming from the Centre with regard to increased production of rubber. The policy adopted by the Central Government is quite detrimental to the interests of growers of rubber in Kerala.

Recently, the Central Government had decided to import natural rubber from abroad. There are two competing agents in the world. One of them is Malaysia. Malaysia is the main contenders so far as Kerala is concerned, and they are importing rubber. So, the natural rubber produced in Kerala is out of the market and its consumption has come down to a considerable extent. Sir, there is no stability with regard to the price of rubber in the market. Always, there will be fluctuation which will be detrimental to the interests of the rubber growers in the State. We were clamouring that something should

be done by the Central Government but unfortunately, no step has been taken by the Central Government towards encouraging rubber production in the State.

So, our State is facing a very acute crisis so far as the production of rubber is concerned. There are about 27 lakh small growers of rubber in Kerala and they are more or less put to starvation. They cannot pull on their lives because of the fall in the price of natural rubber. Moreover, to be precise, I may put it that the recent import of tyre from abroad has also added insult to the injury. That is the present situation.

Sir, so far as our State is concerned, coconut is our monopoly crop. There are about 32 lakh small growers of coconut in Kerala. But none of them is getting any price in the market. Apart from Kerala, there are other States also like Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and West Bengal which are engaged in production of coconut. But the situation has come to such a level that it is very very difficult for the coconut growers to pull on because of the policy followed by the Central Government.

Similarly, the coir industry there also is facing a very acute crisis because of the policy adopted by the Government. It is very detrimental to the interests of the people involved in coir industry.

Sir, these are some of the traditional industries there. Most of them are now put to starvation. The people who are engaged in these traditional industries are put to starvation because of the recent import policy of the Central Government.

Here I must make a mention about the Fertiliser and Chemical factory of Travancore which is established in Alwaye near Cochin. The situation has come to the extent that the FACT will have to be closed down. Sir, this factory was started even before our independence. This factory was founded when the Travancore King was reigning the State. It was established some 55 years back.

It was running into profit till recently so far as the State is concerned. Now it is running on a loss. One of the main reasons for the loss of production and for the loss of industries is that the import duty on capro lactum has been reduced and they cannot compete with the international market. Moreover, there is an ammonium sulphate project which was started near Cochin. But the High Court of Kerala has given a direction to remove that ammonium plant and they were compelled to put another plant closing the original one. For this they had to invest an additional expenditure of Rs. 150 crore. That also led the factory to a crisis. If I remember correct, there are about 5,000 workers engaged in the industry. All of them are put to starvation. Until and unless the Central Government come to their rescue, it will not be possible for them to continue. Recently the Central Government took a decision to let in a multinational company in the rare earth

[Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan]

in the coastal area. Zircon limonite and all the other rare materials are available on the coastal side of Kerala from North to South. They are useful for atomic production. There are two important public sector undertakings in Kerala owned by the State of Kerala. They are Chavara Minerals Ltd and Travancore Chemicals. They will have to be closed because the Central Government had given a global tender allowing multinational companies to come into the picture. The State concerns will be put to closure because of the recent policy of the Central Government. This had led to an economic crisis in the South.

Lastly, the neglect of Cochin port has led to another difficulty and they are not giving sufficient help required from the Central Government for the development of Cochin port. That is also one of the reasons for the crisis facing the State.

So, I would request the Central Government that until and unless they take definite steps with regard to improvement of home industries, we will be facing crisis to crisis and the State will be put to difficulties.

I request the Central Government to consider all these aspects and to review the policy. The policy that is followed is quite detrimental to our State's interests.

About the sugar policy, I will have to say that Kerala is the only State where there is public distribution system which is very effective and it has been successful throughout these years in spite of the fact that political combinations may change but the public distribution system will continue without interruption. The sugar policy of decontrol has adversely affected our public distribution system. Unless the sugar policy is changed, the entire public distribution system will be wrong. I request the Central Government to give sufficient quota as promised earlier for distribution through the public distribution system.

With these words, I oppose the Supplementary Demands for Grants.

DR. SAROJA V. (Rasipuram) : At the outset, I support the Supplementary Demands for Grants. I stand before you to analyse where is the necessity for the Supplementary Demands and where we went wrong.

We are going to analyse and debate the corrective steps that we are going to adopt.

It is understood that the Non-Plan expenditure for the Department of Fertilizer alone is Rs. 600 crore. So also, in all the other Departments, this is the case with regard to Non-Plan expenditure. There should be strategy to monitor it and also for allocation of funds.

The next point that comes to my mind is that there is an element of subsidy in all the Departments. I am not against giving any subsidy but there should be a proper monitoring of the subsidies that are given to the States. In this regard, I would suggest that there should be a monitoring committee involving the local MLAs and MPs. The Government of India should formulate and set up a monitoring committee to monitor the allocation of funds to the States as also the Local Area Development funds.

I urge upon the Government of India the importance of revamping the public distribution system. We talk about the people below the poverty line. We are yet to demarcate the strategies. We have not yet confirmed the number of beneficiaries belonging to below poverty line State-wise. It is of utmost importance that we have to concentrate on demarcation of those below the poverty line and identifying the beneficiaries so that the revamping of the public distribution system can be done effectively.

There should be a constant monitoring of production and demand and supply. Whenever there is an increase in supply, we fail to store what we produce. Consequently, when there is a demand, there is an increase of the prices of essential commodities. It is not that the availability of the essential commodities alone should be regulated but the production also has to be monitored. There should be a monitoring committee to monitor the production and availability of the essential commodities at least every three months and to tell us what exactly is happening in the public distribution system. The punishment for hoarding should not be diluted; it should be maximum.

As far as fiscal deficit is concerned, we should definitely keep a watch. It should not exceed 5.6 per cent.

As far as the economic empowerment of woman is concerned, after carefully going through the Annual Report for 1997-98, I understand that the Mahila Samridhi Yojana was there from 1993 to 1997. There were 2.46 crore beneficiaries and there was a saving to the tune of Rs. 265 crore. For the economic empowerment of women, the Planning Commission has set up a committee to monitor this. This particular scheme can be extended to all the States and the money we have accrued through this scheme can be utilised for the economic empowerment of women.

At the same time, we have to keep in mind one important aspect when it comes to any scheme. I am a doctor and I believe in the dictum: 'Prevention is better than cure'. Whether it is natural calamities or health problems or rising prices of essential commodities. There should be an analysis of the cost-benefit ratio, the demand and the supply. There should also be proper planning before we execute any scheme. The programmes should be time-bound. This has to be borne in mind before we finalise the schemes and the Budget allocation is made.

Before I conclude, I would like to quote what my leader, Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi said. Yesterday, she has urged the Prime Minister of India, the Leader of the Opposition and also all other leaders to hold a Special Session and I quote :

"In short, we are the precipice, looking down into the abyss below. Unless strong and corrective action is taken now, the country will plunge into economic depression."

I urge upon the Government to move in that direction to have a Special Session as my leader Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi has suggested. I look forward from the hon. Finance Minister to give a positive reply in this regard. Thank you.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for calling me.

Supplementary Demands have to be taken up as seriously as the main Budget. This is because huge Supplementary Demands for additional funds detract the significance of the main Budget. Large sums of money being asked for through Supplementary Demands render the budgetary exercise meaningless. Therefore, we have to apply ourselves seriously to the Supplementary Demands.

I am, as you know Mr. Chairman, Sir, a staunch opponent of this Government. Yet however, when there is a point to be appreciated, I frankly come forward to appreciate, and therefore, I must state that this first batch of Supplementary Demands is within reasonable limits. Additional sanctions are required for a sum of Rs.14,000 crore plus; and we are told that a sum of Rs.13,000 crore plus will be adjusted and do not require net cash outflow because they will be adjusted by matching savings or through other enhanced receipts. Therefore, the net cash outgo is to the extent of Rs.1,279.73 crore which, I feel, is within reasonable limits for which the hon. Finance Minister must get the necessary credit.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is necessary to emphasise that the items for which Supplementary Demands are being made should be of urgent nature and should be of a nature which could not be envisaged at the time of formulation of the Budget. Here, we have as many as 46 Grants of which a large number of them do not satisfy this criteria.

I will not take much time of the House by giving you the examples. It is also surprising to find that even the capital restructure of a public sector unit is being sought to be made which I do not take objection to, through the mechanism of Supplementary Demands. These are the items that require considerable time and application of mind. I feel that it is better to be taken up at the time of the Budget, so as not to detract the significance of the Budget. Several items are there which could have been envisaged at the time of preparation of the Budget. But then there was no application of mind and if I try to analyse all those items, it will take up the time of the

House. I will restrict myself only to urge upon the hon. Finance Minister to enforce budgetary discipline strictly on various Departments and various Ministries.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have moved two cut motions and I will try to focus on the subject matter of these two cut motions.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Demand No.18 relates to additional funds for national highways. We are not opposed to this Demand. But I must point out to the situation which exists in the State of Kerala. The National Highway-17 passing through Kerala is a sad example of neglect by the Government. This Highway was sanctioned eighteen years ago. Still one does not see any concrete steps to complete the works of the National Highway from Edappally to Mangalore. Even the final alignments of the road have not yet been finalised. We have a situation that the alignments thought of two decades ago need to be revised, particularly in the case of the town Valanchery which has made considerable improvement during the last two decades. These are the points that will have to be considered.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the portion of National Highway-17 between Kuttipuram and Puthanathani, between kms. 302 and 320, there are two ghat portions which are accident-prone by the name of Moodal and Vattappara. During the last two years, nearly 200 accidents have taken place at Vattappara and about a hundred lives have been lost. Therefore, there is a need to take this factor into consideration.

There is a state road from Moodal to Kanhipura connecting kms. 305 to 315 of the National Highway. This is used as a bypass when the accidents occur at Vattappara. If this road is taken over by the National Highways Authority and developed as a bypass to avoid the accident-prone two ghat portions, then there will be no need for a bypass at Valanchery.

Mr. Chairman, I shall conclude by making one more point. This point is reflected in my cut motion also. The hon. Prime Minister has been pleased to announce an express way corridor from Kashmir to Kanyakumari. We are grateful to him for that. But a doubt persists that the State of Kerala has been neglected. This doubt arises because steps are being taken to take up the civil work connected with the project and the National Highway Authority of India has invited pre-qualification tenders. The advertisements that have been released by the National Highways Authority of India refers to the States of Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Bihar, West Bengal and Assam. But there is no mention of Kerala. It is a great disappointment. The State of Kerala should not be ignored or avoided. I urge very strongly upon the Government that Kerala must form part of the proposed North-South Corridor Highway.

Sir, there are a few more points to be placed before this august House. But in view of the constraint of time, I would

[Shri G.M. Banatwalla]

like to conclude by thanking you for giving me an opportunity to speak by once again emphasizing that Supplementary Demands that come before us should relate to items of urgency and should relate to items which could not be envisaged at the time of formulation of the Budget.

This Budgetary exercise should be properly enforced. Otherwise, it is a commendable fact that the first Supplementary Budget, that has come, is within reasonable limits and we are seeking this phenomenon after a long time.

[*Translation*]

SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI (Shimla) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to speak on Supplementary Demands. My friend has just stated that the Prime Minister had mentioned in his statement that the Government would try to construct an express highway from Kashmir to Kanyakumari. I would like to say that Himachal Pradesh has been ignored in it. They are in power in Himachal Pradesh. An amount of Rs. 300 crores was provided by the Union Government to them which was spent by the State Government on the pay of their employees. I think Bhartiya Janta Party is in power in Himachal Pradesh. It has asked for funds from the Union Government because there has been great loss of life and property during the last heavy rain in the State in which cattle and cattle sheds were washed away and people had suffered a lot. But the Union Government did not pay any attention to it. If the Government will not show sympathy towards the small States, how they, specially hilly areas can make progress. If you would have tried to boost Himachal Pradesh, it would have made progress. The coalition Government was formed there but you could not strengthen its Chief Minister, then how the Government will become strong.

The Government did not announce the support price of potato which is produced in Himachal Pradesh. You say that you are considering to announce support price of both Onion and Potato. You have given Rs. 9 crores to NAFED, and not to Himachal Pradesh. I urge upon the Minister of Finance that heavy rain in Himachal Pradesh that causes loss to U.P. and Punjab too. All nullahs are filled with rainy water and they became restless. Due to this, not only Himachal Pradesh, but other States too have to suffer a lot. Himachal Pradesh has a capacity to produce 20,000 MW power. The Government should be given more amount for hydro electricity. If private companies want to do it, let them do it and State Government should be asked to see to it. Haryana, Punjab and U.P. may be asked to pay outstanding amount to us. When Punjab was divided and Punjab and Himachal Pradesh became two separate States, then it was decided that we will get 7.19% royalty on power. But Himachal Pradesh did not get any amount. Himachal Pradesh went to the Supreme Court in this regard but I am sorry to say that when Congress was in power, then

our Prime Minister did not take any step in this regard and even your Government has done nothing so far in the matter. Once a person becomes Minister, he looks after his own constituency only. One person from our area was made Minister but you did not allow to continue him and created a tumult here due to which the proceeding of the house was disturbed for 13 days. But now you have formed the Government with his help.

The excesses being committed against Himachal Pradesh should be stopped, attention should be paid to fulfil its demands. You have stated to provide amount for many heads. I also say that budget should be balanced. Budget means to remove difficulties of the people and to provide them guidance.

You have made efforts. But excess is being committed against small States. People of our Garhwal are crying. Garhwal is becoming Uttaranchal. Udham Singh Nagar will be separated from it. In this way the committees are being constituted, now this hypocrisy will not be tabulated. It should be made clear that you are forming state along with the areas which fall in it so that the hilly people, who are facing problems, can enjoy freedom. They do not have the servant. You have reserved so much amount for employees, they should be given loan.

Loan should be given to the employees for whom it been kept reserved. I know what is loan.

In Bihar, an amount of Rs. 6.7 lakh is given to an M.P. But what is here, only one lakh is earmarked. The status has been lowered. All the M.Ps think that all the programmes which you have given to State Governments, are not being monitored. Kumari Mamata Banerjee has raised this issue here. Monitoring should be done. You should look into the remarks made by the Accountant General. You should check misuse of amount by the State Government anywhere. You have mentioned about the industries. You want to do more for industries, but what is happening there. I will only say that the industries in our country are not running properly. Many buildings have been constructed for them and banks have given loan after constructing buildings. They are closed now. They get loan again in Haryana and U.P.

You have experience of financing and they have experience of making money. They misappropriate the Government's money. They do not have their own vehicle and the poor and the labour class are suffering. Today, the people belonging to working class, are facing problems. It has become difficult for the poor to earn even for two square meals.

Wherever your work is going on that should be monitored. Moreover, you are not even claiming the outstanding amounts. There are thousands such income tax cases in which no recovery is being made. They take recourse to the court and take stay order. I think that there is only one way of running the Government. If we would have money, then the State Government will automatically be strong and then this country

can do better. You should pay attention especially to the poor. You should pay special attention in regard to the implementation of the schemes which are being launched for them. You have fixed salaries for members of Parliament like an officer. The provision of pension has also been made for them on the line of I.A.S. officers and the same was done in Himachal Pradesh. You offer loan of one lac rupees on 15 per cent and the same is offered there on four per cent. You should take care of all officers and employees. Whatever is offered to one, will also be the same for purchasing vehicles. I think that these amounts are very little. It would be better if you ponder over it and take proper steps.

The amount outstanding against us is pertaining to electricity and your Government is there, which has been granted a loan of rupees three hundred crores and our people were told that a great help was provided and the elections in Himachal Pradesh were held on this issue. We were left with no option except ring the bells and praise you. You should take this matter very seriously because the Government which is not balanced, cannot be called a proper Government. The Government which does not ensure equality, cannot be a fit Government and ultimately, I hope that you will pay heed to the State of Himachal Pradesh particularly. There are several issues before the country and wherever any shortcoming is noticed, the same will be removed. I thank you for giving me this opportunity.

DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA (Damoh) : Mr. Speaker Sir, I stand in support of the Supplementary Demands. I extend my thanks to them for the achievements made as result of the economic reforms. I would like to draw your attention to some of the points. When a farmer does not get remunerative prices for his crops, he feels dejected. With the result he sows less seeds during the oncoming season. Later, the condition gets worsened. My suggestion is that the farmers should get the remunerative price of their crops for this purpose they should have more participation in price determination Committee as well as they should get more opportunities as members so that they could be able to put up their views in the Committee. Even after the lapse of 50 years since our country achieved freedom. The persons who are present there, have not done nothing for the welfare of the farmers. Even today, there is no arrangement of cold storage and warehousing on Tehsil level to store crops. This has also been a cause of price-rise. Proper arrangement should be made for cold storage and warehousing on Tehsil level so that farmers can store their crops there and could accrue its benefit by selling their crops at appropriate time.

Here, the priorities stated in regard to the demands of the departments have been received. I would like to appreciate the hon'ble Minister of Finance. So far as the position of electricity in Madhya Pradesh, Bihar or Uttar Pradesh is concerned it has by and large worsened today. To improve

this situation no new projects are being taken up. You should make arrangements to ensure that the new power projects are taken up, farmers could be able to get electricity on time and even for more period so that works pertaining to irrigation and farming could not suffer. Today, the farmer is facing a lot of problems due to shortage of electricity. He does not get electricity for irrigation purpose. There should be a provision to provide subsidy on generators so that in case of non-availability of electricity lands can be irrigated and pumps can be operated with the help of generators. There has been no provision of subsidy for generators so far. There have been long discussions in the House on big rivers. Hon'ble Minister of Finance made provisions for the same but there should also be some provisions for this purpose.

Sir, I would like to talk about the small rivers. Tulsī Dasji has stated in a verse "KSHUDRA NADI BHARI CHALI UTRAI, JAS THOREOO DAN KHAL BAURAI."

15.00 hrs.

It means the small rivers flow with great speed and during floods some of the rivers in my area gather to much momentum that they swept away several villages with them and the people belonging to those villages did not received any compensation so far. This jury of floods has not only destroyed their crops but also swept away their houses. Thus farmers have to face several problems we have submitted our demands in this regard on several occasions but no relief has yet been provided. I would like to draw your attention regarding those places where such natural calamities have occurred and would also urge that a provision should also be made to provide assistance for this purpose.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, our Government have given priority to the drinking water scheme in their national agenda. Even after 50 years of independence there are several such districts in the country where no drinking water is available. I have come across any such drinking water scheme in my constituency Damoh and Panna. The condition is such that the people hardly get drinking water in 3-4 days. Now, this scheme has been finally formulated and has been submitted to the Union Government for its approval. I urge upon the Government to give priority to the drinking water scheme. The main root cause of all the diseases is non-availability of pure potable water. I would like to request the Government that this scheme should be given priority as well as quick action should be taken on it.

At the end, I would only like to say that the Members of Parliament are being granted an amount of Rs. 2 crores for the development of their respective areas. When we go to the villages, the people ask us about it and we feel sorry. We request the Government to sanction this amount as early as possible so that all the works in regard to public interest could be undertaken.

[English]

SHRI T.R. BAALU (Madras South) : Hon. Chairman, Sir, at the outset, I would like to oppose the Supplementary Demands for Grants because of the reasons that I may deliberate during the debate.

Mr Chairman, Sir, I cannot support the Supplementary Demands for Grants proposed by the hon. Finance Minister, Shri Yashwant Sinha. I am sorry to say, Shri Sinha, that the money that you are having in your pocket has fallen short by 16 per cent within 16 months and you are not maintaining the fiscal discipline and you have failed to contain the fiscal deficit.

Mr. Minister, before I go into the subject, first of all, the question that you have to ponder over is how to control the damage. The integrity of the rupee itself is being challenged today in North Bengal, where the Bhutanese currency is being freely circulated. Is it a good signal? You have failed in all these aspects. Under the influence and involvement of external agencies, the Bhutanese currency 'Nu' is being freely circulated in the district of Coochbehar, Jalpaiguri, Darjeeling and elsewhere.

15.05 hrs.

[DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY *in the Chair*]

It is not a good signal. It is high time that the situation is realised and some damage control measures are taken.

The Ninth Plan target of fiscal deficit is four per cent average to the GDP. In 1997-98, it exceeded six per cent. In 1998-99 it slated to six per cent. The hon. Finance Minister, Shri Sinha, has been saying, again and again, that he is going to peg it at 5.6 per cent, that is, at Rs. 91,000 crore. To achieve the target of fiscal deficit of four per cent to GDP, the hon. Finance Minister should ensure that it does not exceed three per cent successively in the coming three years.

The target fixed for gross borrowing is Rs. 79,375 crore. Now, it is beyond the target fixed as it will be more than Rs. 81,000 crore. So, the hon. Minister failed to adopt fiscal discipline. Previously, the Government used to borrow money through *ad-hoc* treasury bills. Then came special securities. Then came what are called marketable securities. Then they found a new nomenclature, that is, ways and means advances. Then comes the special ways and means advances. After that comes the overdraft. After overdraft, if the Government fails to bring it to the nil account, RBI say that it will be kept in private placement. Here arises the problem. Are we in a federal set up? I want to know through this august House. Here the blow comes on to the States. What is it?

As per article 292, the Central Government can borrow money on the securities of the Consolidated Fund of India.

As per article 293, the respective State Governments can borrow money on the securities of Consolidated Funds of the particular States. Constitution, as per articles 292 and 293, gives equal opportunity to the States and the Centre. At the same time, as far as the States are concerned, they can adopt ways and means advance and they can draw overdraft. Here, in the case of a State, the Reserve Bank of India does not permit the overdraft over and above 10 days. Within 10 days, the State Government should see that the overdraft account is brought to nil. After ten days, the cheque that is issued will be dishonoured. But this is not so in the case of the Central Government. Here, in a clandestine manner, the Central Government in collusion with the Reserve Bank call this account as private placements. What is a private placement? If it is public debt, it has to be issued to the public. But here, the Reserve Bank itself comes to the rescue of the Central Government to see that it is funded and it is kept in a separate account as private placement.

It is a private placement, Sir? We know, what is a private placement? If it is a private placement, invariably the Reserve Bank of India should have distributed to the public. It is not like that. So, now, the time has come that the Reserve Bank of India should have the power. The authority should be vested with the Reserve Bank of India. It should not be pressurized by the Central Government, whatever the Government may be. So, once again I say that full autonomy should be given to the Reserve Bank of India.

Sir, what is the position of exports? In the past seven months, the import has gone up to eight per cent. Import is going up and up but the export is not going up for the reason best known to them. During 1996-97, the growth rate of export was four per cent in dollar terms. During 1997-98, it was 2.6 per cent. For the past seven months or rather eight months, what was the rate of export growth? I want to ask the hon. Finance Minister as to what the export growth is! It is - 5.1 per cent. I know that the Finance Minister may say that 'there is a general recession in the global market throughout the world.' All right, I agree. But I want to point out something. During the first quarter of 1998-99, India's export to China declined by 28 per cent; export to Malaysia declined by 32 per cent; export to Indonesia declined by 78 per cent; export to Philippines declined by 44 per cent; export to Singapore declined by 31 per cent; export to Thailand declined by 19 per cent; export to Taiwan declined by 32 per cent; and export to South Korea declined by 54 per cent. This is the position of India's export during the first quarter of 1988-89 to these countries.

Even during 1997-98 — because recession started in June 1997—the export to the same countries had dropped to 1.2 per cent.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Member, please conclude.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Yes, Sir, within two to three minutes, I am concluding.

I once again repeat that in spite of recession in the Asian countries that has taken place, during 1997-98, the growth rate of our export was 2.6 per cent. It was not—5.1 per cent.

Now, I want to know the reasons. Have we failed to integrate Indian economy with the world economy to synchronise the pace of change? Has any substantial structural transformations taken place in Indian export sector since past seven years when reforms started?

Sir, globalisation is nothing but a policy. To achieve a policy, the mechanism is liberalisation. To achieve this policy, the strategy is liberalisation. Before liberalisation, the export to GDP in 1979-80 was 5.49 per cent. The export to G P during 1989-90 was 7.62 per cent. Within these 10 years, the increase was 39 per cent. But after globalisation what is the position? The increase in export to GDP between 1979-80 and 1989-90 was 39 per cent. But after liberalisation for the past seven years, it is 36 per cent. It is three per cent less. Then after the liberalisation, the rate of export growth was declined by three per cent. Where are we going wrong? That has to be pointed out in the globalisation whether the strategy itself was wrong.

The export is diminishing day by day. Why? We are far behind our commercial intelligence. We have failed in terms of getting commercial intelligence from our embassies. Our embassies, throughout the world, have to help us. They have to find out as to what are the commodities or goods that can be exported to the respective countries from India.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude now.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Our embassies should come forward and they should see that help is rendered to India so that the exporters can make use of their services and see that export is increased and export further goes up.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity.

[Translation]

SHRI KALPNATH RAI (Ghosi) : Honourable Chairman Sir, I have stood here for supporting the supplementary demands for grants presented by the Minister of Finance. I would like to draw attention of the Government to this fact that if we ought to strengthen the economy of our country then we will have to look it in the present context of the state of economy of our country. Today, the position of the country on this front is so grave that our agricultural production is going down continuously and population is increasing day by day. Hence, keeping in view of the future crisis, we will have to look into the financial position of our country in national perspective

and also that the policy framed and fixed in this regard should be in right direction.

Hon'ble Dy. Speaker Sir, the Minister of Finance hails from Bihar. He is a very able Minister and we hope that in the next budget he will take care about the villages and the farmers as well so that this country does not prove to be weak at least on the food front. You are well aware that due to mismanagement of policies of our Government, sometimes there is lot of commotion about it in the country. After formation of this Government, we exported onions at the rate of six rupees per kilogram and imported the same at the rate of 30 rupees per kilogram. In spite of this, there was a much hue and cry for onions in the country and we had to bear heavy loss. Moreover, the common people had to face a lot of difficulties for getting onions. I request that policies should be framed in such a manner that the common man of the country might be able to get relief.

Hon'ble Dy. Speaker Sir, I would like to draw attention of the hon. Minister of Finance on two points. Today, in our country and particularly in Uttar Pradesh, the largest Sugar producing belt is the Ganga & Jamuna Valley. At present we have 450 sugar mills out of which 125 sugar mills are in Uttar Pradesh, alone. In India the largest sugar producer is Uttar Pradesh. Just five year ago, Maharashtra was the largest producer of sugar but now, Uttar Pradesh has become such a State where the largest sugar producer. Today in Uttar Pradesh, the sugar industry, is facing crisis. As per the report of the Ministry of Agriculture of our country, the sugar production in the country is expected to be 155 lakh ton and we already have a stock of more than 50 lakh ton of sugar at present in our country. If both are taken together than the total sugar available would be 205 lakh ton and sugar consumption is also not more than 150 lakh ton. Thus, we already have more than 55 lakh ton of sugar stock in the country, even then we have imported sugar worth Rs. 1500 crores from abroad and are still thinking of importing more sugar in future. The Prime Minister of our country Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee had made an announcement on T.V. that there will not be any import of sugar in this country, now. The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs Shri Madan Lal Khurana had said in a statement in the Parliament that there will not be any import of sugar from the next week. The Minister of Commerce Shri Hegde had also said that no sugar will be imported. Despite that, the sugar is being imported by the Government. Hence I would like to know that how sugar is being imported in the country even after the Prime Minister, Minister of Commerce and the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs who are the component of this Government and are jointly responsible for each and every thing have issued similar statements in this regard. Why different versions from different Ministers are coming in on this issue. You have already imported sugar worth Rupees 1500 crores and this amount has been paid in Pakistani foreign currency.

[Shri Kalpnath Rai]

It is uncertain as to how many lakh tons of sugar is likely to be imported. Here, the Minister of Food and Consumer Affairs has stated that now, the Government is considering to impose 40 per cent custom duty, whereas at present, the five per cent custom duty is being levied. There is no country in the world which levies so less custom duty. What will be its outcome? Neither the co-operative mills nor the private mills can pay for the cost of sugarcane of farmers during the oncoming days. As a result, there will be a tumultuous situation in this area. The farmers whose cash crops is sugarcane, will stop sowing it and as a result thereof sugarcane production will come down in our country. Consequently, the sugarcane industry will be ruined and in future, this country and the Government will have to face a big crisis. I want that this Government should formulate such policies which can keep a balance—so that the farmers are benefited and industries do not get ruined, the industries remain intact and the goods are available to the customers on cheap prices also. When there will be an adjustment on all these three fronts, then only we can carry out a proper policy in our nation.

Hon'ble Chairman Sir, I would like to draw attention of the Minister of Finance towards one another point. In this Parliament, a resolution was passed under the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble Speaker, that the Government will mobilize money for central road fund by levying five per cent duty in petroleum products for repair the roads in the country so as to improve the condition of roads. This resolution was unanimously passed in Lok Sabha as well as in Rajya Sabha. When Shri Devegowda was the Prime Minister in 1997, the Cabinet had decided that a heavy amount would be given to central road fund by imposing 5% duty on petroleum products and this amount would be spent on construction of roads of the country. The development of any country needs infrastructure and in which roads play a great role. The condition of the roads of the country is worse, than the roads of any other country of the world. The hon'ble Minister of Finance, the people in your State generally speak that there is no difference between pits and roads in the State. The entire Bihar is in that condition. Fortunately, you are the Minister of Finance from Bihar and are a capable person. You are a representative of the people as well as the Minister of Finance. The Ministers of Finance who held this post in the past, had not relation with the people, but you have been elected by the people and such persons have field knowledge and good common sense. When these two knowledge will mingle at one place, this country will get an intelligent Minister of Finance. The proposal has been passed by the Parliament and not by me. It was moved five year back. It was passed by the Cabinet in the regime of Shri Devegowda that sufficient funds would be arranged by imposing 5% cess on petroleum products so that roads of the country could be developed.

Lastly, I would like to urge upon you that you should try to implement them by considering these two points. With these words, I support the Supplementary Demands of Grants which have been placed by you.

[English]

SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE (Berhampore)(WB) : Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank you for calling my name even at the last stage of this discussion.

Before I enter into the subject, I shall clarify the position of the Government of West Bengal in respect of the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India, which has been referred to in this House by one hon. Member. The Comptroller and Auditor-General of India has a high position and I have the highest regard for this Constitutional dignity.

The West Bengal Government is fully aware of the situation and fully aware of the C&AG's report and findings. As a responsible Member of this House from West Bengal, I can assure the House that West Bengal Government is always ready to face any kind of inquiry within the constitutional parameters in respect of the C&AG's report.

Sir, I do not generally refer to any items appearing in the Press. But today I saw two valuable statements appearing in *The Statesman* of today. With your kind permission I would like to refer to them here. A leader of the Trinamool Congress Party has severely criticised this Government headed by the BJP and its combine as a weak Government. I also saw in *The Statesman* that the AIADMK supremo has severely criticised this Government for the economic ruins done by them during this period and also urged them to convene or to summon a Special Session in the month of January to discuss this scenario.

Sir, I would like to place it on record that these two statements, as published in *The Statesman*, clearly indicate the inner contradictions of the Government which is suffering from instability. In a parliamentary democracy, it is a fact that a stable Government means a stable economy, good politics means a good economy. But I am sorry to mention that this Government headed by the BJP and its combine have neither any stable economy nor good politics. That is why, we see confusion, chaos and volatility of the economic life of the country. This Government was committed to *swadeshi*, But today we see that this Government has shifted its attention from the principles of *swadeshi* to the policy of globalisation. This policy of globalisation in our economic standard of life means nothing but a complete surrender to the dictates of Euro-American imperialism. I see a policy of globalisation based on the policy of privatisation and liberalisation is nothing but a handing over of the country's economic sovereignty to the multinational corporations.

May I draw the kind attention of the hon. Finance Minister to the situations in Indonesia, in Malaysia, in South Asia and in South-East Asia? It is completely a debacle, a debacle of the currency and the debacle of the Third World countries. They had followed the principles and policies of globalisation and liberalisation. But what we see today is that they are caught in the debt trap of the World Bank; they are caught in the debt trap of the International Monetary Fund. The debt trap of the World Bank is nothing but the debt trap which is haunting the life of India.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude.

SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE (Berhampore)(WB) : I am the only speaker from my party. So, kindly allow me. I will complete it within a very reasonable time.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Your party has got only one minute.

SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE : Very kind of you, Sir. Please add one more minute.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Kindly wind up.

SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE : Thank you, Sir.

I cannot support the Supplementary Demands for Grants in general because of the fact that there is no Demand for the revival of the public sector undertakings and there is no demand for the revival of the sick public sector undertakings. They are given only idle wages and there is no scope for the revival of IDPL, for the revival of the closed industries, for the revival of the National Textile Corporation mills. Hundreds and thousands of workers are going to be thrown on the streets. This is the scenario. We see high prices, we see job reduction, we see unemployment, we see industrial closure, we see a negative growth, we see the falling of rupee value and we also see the falling of export and revenue collections.

This is the economic scenario. I have the documents to show what the hon. Prime Minister has said. Since there is a time constraint, I am not able to refer to all that he has stated. I would like to urge upon the hon. Finance Minister to go through the statements given by the hon. Prime Minister on 24th and 29th October. In the Indian economic summit of the World Economic Forum of Confederation of Indian Industries held in New Delhi, he said that he was anxious about the foreign investment in our country. ...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, I would like to raise a problem which pertains to my area. Our district suffers from natural calamity, and the erosion of banks of rivers Ganga, Bhagirati and Padma. The then Prime Minister, Shri Deve Gowda, visited this area. The hon. Minister of Defence, Shri George Fernandes, also visited the district of Malda. They have seen with their own eyes the terrible loss that this district suffered due to flood and

erosion. But I am very sorry to mention here that there is no demand in the Supplementary Demands for Grants for the implementation anti-erosion programmes. That is why I cannot support the Supplementary Demands for Grants.

SHRI SAMIK LAHIRI (Diamond Harbour) : Sir, thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak here. I will confine my speech to only seeking clarifications from the hon. Finance Minister.

During the Budget speech, the Minister of Finance had made a claim that the main objectives of his Budget is checking inflation, increasing export, reducing trade gap, increasing the tax collection and achieving the overall growth etc. Now let us take stock of this Government's performance after seven or eight months of its functioning. So far as the inflation is concerned, the hon. Finance Minister had assured us that it would be restricted within six or seven per cent. But I am sorry to say that during the period between April to September, 1997, the inflation rate was 4.3 per cent, but during the period April to September, 1998, the inflation rate was 8.2 per cent. Regarding exports, I do not want to repeat what my hon. friend, Shri T.R. Baalu, has said. In the export front, the growth is negative. It may be due to recession which is there in our country. As far as the trade gap is concerned, it has doubled. In the year 1997 the trade gap was minus US \$ 2495 million, but in the current year, the trade gap is minus US \$ 4995. This is a question of great concern which the entire Finance Ministry should look into. So far as the industrial growth is concerned, it was around six per cent in 1997 but this year it went down to 3.5 per cent, though the target fixed by the Finance Minister was quite high.

Now, let me be allow to go to the revenue side. It is because this is a very important part of the Budget. In his budget speech, the hon. Minister assured us that there would be an overall growth of 17 per cent in the revenue side. His estimate of inflation was six to seven per cent. It means there would be a real growth of 10 to 11 per cent in the revenue side. But, Sir, I apprehend that the targeted growth in the revenue side will not be achieved, if not any miracle take place. The Government could achieve an overall growth so far as collection of direct taxes is concerned. It was much higher than even the previous year. But, Sir, everybody knows that so far as direct taxes are concerned, they are only 15 per cent of the total tax collected by the Government. So, collection of indirect tax is very very important so far as the revenue side is concerned.

Sir, so far as collection of indirect tax is concerned, the projection for the corporate tax was Rs. 26,550 crore. If we calculate prorata realisation per month then it should have been Rs. 2,112 crore but for the first five months the realisation has been Rs. 10,350 crore only leading to a shortfall of Rs. 7,000 crore. So far as excise duty is concerned, the Budget

[Shri Samik Lahiri]

estimated to collect the excise duty as Rs. 55,910 crore which means the prorata realisation per month should have been Rs. 4,660 crore. Realisation for the first five months should have been Rs. 23,300 crore whereas the actual collection was Rs. 18,000 crore only leading to a shortfall of near about Rs. 5000 crore. According to the data which is available from the Finance Ministry, in the first half, the excise collection was 15.9 per cent short of the target. Same is the case with the customs collection. There is 11.7 per cent shortfall in the customs collection. I think the shortfalls in excise and customs collections have been far out-weighed. 22.5 per cent higher direct tax collection. Therefore, Sir, I apprehend that with these miserable failures, the revenue generation will lead to a huge fiscal deficit and the Finance Minister, as per his assurance, will not be able to contain the fiscal deficit within 5.6 per cent of the GDP.

On the one side, revenue collection is low and on the other the Finance Minister is again proposing further allocation which will increase the fiscal deficit and will lead to a gap between the Budget estimates and the Revised Estimates. If gap between the Budget Estimates and the Revised Estimates increases then the first blow will come on the social sector. As you know, no nation can forge ahead without improving the situation of the social sector. What is the situation of the social sector, the situation of our education, health or infrastructure? The entire social sector is in a deep crisis. So, I think this Supplementary Budget which is being proposed by the hon. Finance Minister will lead to another fiscal mismanagement, increasing the gap between the Budget Estimates and the Revised Estimates and the social sector will get a severe blow.

So far as liberalisation policy is concerned, I would like to know from the Finance Minister as to what we could achieve after liberalisation? Whether there is an overall growth or growth in the social sector or not. No growth has taken place. So, the Government has to review the situation. I do not know why the hon. Minister has shifted from the earlier *swadeshi* slogan and why is he hobnobbing with IMF and the World Bank lobby leading the country into a total jeopardy. So, I accuse this Government for leading the economy of this country to disaster. With these words, I oppose the Supplementary Demands which have been placed before the House by the hon. Finance Minister.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara) : Sir, I thank you for calling my name. The hon. Finance Minister must have seen a statement in the press by none other than the leader and the supremo of one of their supporting parties, Kumari Jayalalitha who has said that our economy is on the brink of disaster. Not only that, Kumari Jayalalitha also feels that many economists are also saying that we are heading for a

disaster. The economic indicators are not presenting a very rosy scenario. If you take BoP, its position is worsening day-by-day. I do not want to do a jugglery of statistics. All these statistics are known to you. I do not want to waste time on that.

Our exports are on the decline and the imports are increasing. My friend Shri Baalu has said that the growth of export is negative. I think, in 1991 when you were about to leave—of course, it is no fault of yours—our export was negative in dollar terms. Our industrial production was also not picking up. It was zero or slightly less than one per cent. From that lowest position we have gone a long way and the country was put into the correct economic track. But unfortunately, we are now back to square one. This kind of scenario is alarming. I think no Finance Minister can sleep with this kind of a scenario. I do not know whether you are sleeping without any problem. Kindly tell us in a convincing way whether it is a fact that we are heading towards an economic disaster. Are we getting into a situation similar to that existed in 1991 when we had to pledge our gold? You are an expert in quoting the BoP position or any other indicators. You take the House into confidence and tell us. This is a fear which many economists say and we are puzzled in this scenario. I want you to categorically allay the fears of public if it is not so. If you fear that there are some such signals in the economic scenario, please take corrective measures in a convincing way. I am sorry to say that that is not happening.

There is a decline in Foreign Direct investment. I know you are trying your best and subjecting yourself to pressure from outside to some extent bowing your head before the multinationals and World Bank, etc. and are trying to bring certain legislations also. I am not opposing all this. But with all this, are you getting investment in a concerted way? Unfortunately, you are not. When compared with any other country in this region, we are at the lowest portion with regard to Foreign Direct Investment. But leave alone Foreign Direct Investment, what about investing from within? That is also not there. There is nothing like that. There is a total decline in the economic activity in the country. This is my first point.

Sir, no new investment has been done in infrastructure and no new investment has been done for additional employment generation, except in the schemes which were existing earlier. Unemployment is on the increase. This is something the Finance Minister should be concerned about. The total investment in the infrastructure sector has declined. Our total investment especially in the power is also less. He says that many of the projects are in the pipeline and private investment is coming, but what is the actual investment in this sector, on ground? It is not much.

I have to come to my State and constituency because

the time is limited. There is a power plant in my constituency, at Kayamkulam. That is a thermal plant. It is supposed to be a super thermal power plant, but it is generating only 350 MW. At present, it is a normal thermal plant, but the proposal is for making it a super thermal power plant. I would like him to consider giving financial sanction for setting up a super thermal power plant there. It has got other clearances, but what is pending is the clearance from Finance Ministry.

Sir, the Government of India announced a new scheme of Express Highways, starting from Kanyakumari to Kashmir, from South to North. It is a very good scheme for national integration also, but I am sorry to point out as to how anybody can reach Kanyakumari without touching Kerala. It is a disappointing thing that Kerala is not included in it. A deviated route has been taken deliberately so that Kerala is excluded. I would like him to consider this point also.

Another thing which I mentioned during the last Budget speech was about rubber growers' problem in Kerala. I mentioned that rubber growers were really suffering for lack of adequate price. I also wrote to the Finance Minister about duty imposed on the liberal import of polyurethane. He gave me a reply also. I had mentioned in my letter that polyurethane foams were cheaper than rubber foams, and therefore, the people were preferring polyurethane foams. He replied me saying that a sample survey showed otherwise. I am disputing his reply saying that the sample survey was wrong and not in conformity with the facts.

Sir, I will quote the prices prevailing in New Delhi markets. A latex foam mattress, manufactured by MM Foam, the largest rubber manufacturer, costs Rs. 239.84 per square foot whereas a polyurethane foam mattress manufactured by Sleepwell, a leading manufacturer, costs only Rs. 85 per square foot. Where is the amount of Rs. 239 and where is the amount of Rs. 85?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Prof. Kurien, please conclude now.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Sir, please bear with me.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude now. There are two or three more speakers and the Finance Minister has also to reply.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Our Party has got more time left. We have 30 minutes. We have not taken 30 minutes. I know that.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have not said that.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : That is what I am saying.

MR. CHAIRMAN : But the Minister has also to reply.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : This is correct, but our Party's time should be given to us. You cannot curtail that.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am not complaining, but he has to reply also.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Let me complete. I will complete within two or three minutes.

His officials misled him in writing to me that rubber foams were cheaper, whereas rubber foams are costing Rs. 239 per square foot and polyurethane Rs. 85 per square foot. This is the position. This shows how the officials connive with the importers. I do not know why they do that. I want him to please take note of it and conduct an inquiry about how they have misled him. I am requesting the hon. Minister again that rubber growers' product cannot compete with imported polyurethane and therefore, give some protection to the growers either by increasing duty on polyurethane or by decreasing excise duty on rubber foam products.

Furthermore, I would like to give you this information that polyurethane is banned in some developed countries because it is environmentally hazardous. Since it is banned there, those countries are dumping it here, which we are welcoming and supporting. I would request you to take note of this and take some steps in order to help the rubber growers. Please also take to task the officers who have misled you in this regard. This is the information available with me and with the best of my knowledge, I am giving this data to you.

Sir, at the international level, the crude oil prices have come down. But you are selling the petroleum products at the administered prices. Why do you hesitate to reduce the prices of petroleum products in India? You should consider this aspect also.

Even though I have a few more points and more time, since the Chair is insisting, I am concluding my speech with these words. Thank you.

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN (Trichur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Finance Minister is asking for an augmentation of Rs. 14,000 crore, out of which, he expects Rs. 13,000 crore by way of savings and more revenue collection. I want to know in what manner he expects to collect Rs. 13,000 crore. I feel that if he asks various departments not to spend the already budgeted money, then he gets the savings. The Finance Minister can do that. It can ask various departments not to spend the remaining money and that way you will have savings. Otherwise they cannot save anything because every department is in need of money. So, I do not think that this expectation of saving will materialise.

Another thing is about more revenue collection. How will you get it? What about your Samadhan Scheme? Now-a-days, in the television, I see various advertisements in regard to this Samadhan Scheme. This Scheme is going to end on 31st of December, this year, and a few more days are left. Will the hon. Minister give us some information as to how far he has been successful with this Samadhan Scheme? How much money has been collected under this Samadhan

[Shri V.V. Raghavan]

Scheme? The way the advertisement goes, I get the impression that this Samadhan Scheme has not given us much. So, how will this amount of Rs. 13,000 crore materialise?

I feel that this augmentation of Rs. 14,000 crore through these Supplementary Demands for Grants will put the Finance Minister in more trouble. I sympathise with him. From the day he took over as the Finance Minister, there is a tussle between the Petroleum Ministry and the Department of Revenue. You want to push something, but you have been embarrassed by your own Party. Under these circumstances, how will the Finance Minister and the Finance Ministry manage things?

I would request hon. Finance Minister, for heaven's sake, not to push the country towards imperialism. If you push through the Patents Bill and give exclusive marketing rights to the multinationals and if you push through the IRA Bill, the fate of 98 crore people will be doomed. The nation will not forgive you for this. Mr. Minister, you should assert yourself because you are being pulled by two wings, that is, those in favour of *swadeshi* and those in favour of globalisation.

Please assert and save this country from these multinational companies and imperialist forces. Look at them. How uncultured, how uncivilised, ... *(Interruptions)* manner they act are there these days. If you look at America and Britain in the international sector, you cannot believe them... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude now. I have called Shri Ramdas Athawale.

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN (Trichur) : I have not finished. But, since the Chairman insists, I conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Mumbai North-Central) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon'ble Minister of Finance has presented Supplementary Demands before the houses for discussion and approval. While discussion on Budget and Supplementary Demands, I want to say that the hon. Finance Minister should examine as to what extent the SC/ST people have made progress. I would like to say that the hon. Finance Minister should consider to allocate Rs. 5000 crores in the plan for the economic development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Similarly, Mumbai is the economic capital of the country. Therefore the Government should consider to allocate Rs. 500 crore each to slum development and for other development. If you allocate this amount, I will consider to support your demand. The Finance Minister is laughing and therefore, I hope that the amount will be allocated for the development of Mumbai and for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. With these words, I conclude.

SHRI MITRASEN YADAV (Faizabad) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak even at the last stage of this discussion. The Minister of Finance is the only person who holds the entire economy of the country. If you look into the past, you will see that the Minister of Finance plays a great role. He is a budget specialist and as Sri Kurien was saying, we understand that all the policies which we have adopted towards liberalisation, foreign borrowings and commercialisation have neither mitigated our problems nor have been able to remove the poverty as well as have not reduced the number of unemployed in the country, it has neither been instrumental in containing the price rise nor has been able to fulfill the basic needs and to solve the basic problems of the common man as well. There is no need to mention the figures. I want to make some suggestions in regard to supplementary budget presented by the Minister of Finance. He has presented it in time for which I thank him. However it is not being utilised to the extent it should be but on the contrary it is being misutilised. You do not have any criteria to find out that how our Supplementary Budget will be utilised properly. Education, water, power and medicines all are our basic needs. These are the basic needs of common people of our country. The rich people keep sufficient medicines in the fridge here, while even "Churn" is not available to the poor in the villages. Have you provided treatment and medicines in the villages? The Prime Minister had stated that first of all potable water would be provided to all. Stratum of water is going down daily, there is no plan to store rainy water, rainy water goes waste. There is problem of drinking water, so what to talk of irrigation.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to say one-two things more. J.R.Y. and Employment Assurance Scheme have been formulated to provide employment to the people living in rural areas.

16.00 hrs.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is no participation of MPs in the plans being implemented in Uttar Pradesh. MLA Funds and Poorvanchal Funds have been handed over to the MLAs and even in plans which are funded by the Union Government, MPs are not getting complete participation. I request through you from the Minister of Finance that complete participation of the MPs should be ensured in the Union Government funded schemes and for the purpose, proper steps should be taken on priority basis and the amount of Rs. One crore under Member of Parliament local area development scheme should be made double... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon'ble Minister of Finance.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman and Nicobar Islands) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Minister of Finance has not made any special provision for our Andaman and Nicobar Islands... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

Sir, I want to submit before the hon. Minister replies.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have already called the hon. Minister now.

Let him complete. At 4.00 p.m. we have also to take up discussion under rule 193.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MITRASEN YADAV : Mr. Chairman, Sir, please give me one minute more. I will conclude my speech in one minute....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Mitrasen, please sit down. I have already called the hon. Minister. He is going to speak.

[English]

Shri Bhakta, you can raise your point during the Appropriation Bill.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : All right, Sir.

16.00 hrs.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am extremely grateful to the hon. Members who have taken part in this discussion. I am also grateful to them for having raised here a number of issues which are of local, national and international importance. I shall try, Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the time at my disposal to...

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Since we have to discuss other matters at 4.00 p.m. therefore, if House permits, the hon. Minister of Finance may conclude his speech and we can pass demands for grants pertaining to Ministry of Finance.

SEVERAL MEMBERS : All right.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Minister of Finance, the House permits. You may please continue your speech.

[English]

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara) : You should give a very favourable reply....(Interruptions)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Sir, I am grateful to you and all the hon. Members of this august House for having permitted me to give the reply to the debate now. I was saying that a number of issues have been raised and these are issues of great importance. And, they have to be tackled, they have to be answered. What is the concern of any Finance Minister?

When he is confronted with demands after the Budget for expenditure in various Ministries and Departments? An issue was raised here by an hon. Member Shri G.M. Banatwalla. It was raised by other Members also that if we prepare the Budget properly then the need for Supplementary Demands would not arise. I agree with this that if the Budget is prepared realistically, then except for meeting emerging requirements, there will be no need for Supplementary Demands, and the whole nature and purpose of Supplementary Demands is to precisely meet the emerging and emergency nature of the expenditure. It is my belief, Sir, that I have done exactly that.

Shri G.M. Banatwalla restrained himself from giving examples. I will sit down with him and discuss separately what are the issues that he feels that expenditure could have been anticipated. But as far as I am concerned, I can assure the House that whatever has been provided for in the Supplementary Demands is in the nature of emergency or emergent expenditure which could not have been anticipated at the time the Budget was framed.

Shri Mohan Singh is not here. He has left. This is a point that he was raising that there is a provision in the Constitution and, therefore, they bring supplementary budget before this House for the approval and sanction of this House. It has been my endeavour in this year's Supplementary Demands and I am extremely grateful once again to Shri G.M. Banatwalla who said that despite his tremendous opposition to this Government, he will concede that at least in the Supplementary Demands we have been very reasonable as far as cash outgo is concerned. We have tried our best. I have been extremely strict with the entire machinery of Government as far as additional expenditure is concerned and therefore, wherever a demand for additional expenditure came, I insisted on the concerned Ministry and Department that they must locate matching savings. If they do not locate matching savings, then it will not be possible for me to agree to that extra expenditure and it is as a result of that very strict discipline that we have enforced that it has been possible for us to restrict the cash outgo in this Supplementary Demand to less than Rs. 1,279 crore.

I would like to assure the House that the rest of the demands — Shri V.V. Raghavan might want to know because he raised this issue — are being met out of the savings which have already been located. It is not that I am saying it that these savings will be located in future. (Interruptions) Budgetary provisions will increase somewhere and will decrease somewhere. This is not something which is happening for the first time in the history of this country. This is something which happens every year. I am only saying that in this Government, I have been extremely cautious to ensure that my expenditure does not cross the limits which I have set in the Budget. Why am I concerned? Like the rest of the hon. Members of this House, I am concerned with fiscal deficit. Here I would like

[Shri Yashwant Shina]

to say this because this issue has been raised repeatedly by Prof. P.J. Kurien, Shri T.R. Baalu and Shri Chetan Chauhan. A number of Members have referred to fiscal deficit. It is a matter of great concern. There is absolutely no doubt that fiscal deficit is a matter of utmost concern because the health of any economy is judged by the quantum of fiscal deficit in the Budget of the Government of India and the budgets of the State Governments. But is fiscal deficit a problem which has arisen this year? I have figures here. I do not know whether I have shared that information with this House. Fiscal deficit is the most intractable problem facing this country for two decades. I have figures here from 1980. For the first five years of the decade of 1980 to 1985, what was the average fiscal deficit per annum? The average fiscal deficit per annum was 6.2 per cent of the GDP. What was the average fiscal deficit of the last five years of the decade of 80s? The fiscal deficit of the last five years of the decade of 80s was 8.2 per cent of the GDP. Please note it.

It is projected as if a 5.6 per cent fiscal deficit or a six per cent fiscal deficit is something which is a major figure. It is wrong. We should not even have that kind of fiscal deficit but there have been incidents of high fiscal deficit. In one year, 1986-87, the fiscal deficit was as high as nine per cent of the GDP. It was actually 8.2 per cent.

Prof. P.J. Kurien was referring to the fact that I was the helpless Minister of Finance. He said: 'Is the country going back to 1991?' It is very easy to link Yashwant Sinha with 1991. (*Interruptions*)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : It is not personal.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I will just complete this sentence and then yield the floor.

The situation which arose in the country in the years 1990 and 1991 was a direct result for the unsustainable fiscal deficit over a period of time which took place in the last part of the 1980s. That is the reason why we had that crisis in 1991.

The whole concept of fiscal deficit, I might wish to remind this House, was introduced in the Budget of the Government of India for the first time by no less a person than me. In the Interim Budget of 1991-92, I said, 'This will be the fiscal deficit of the Government of India' and it became a matter which was accepted by subsequent Governments.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Dr. Manmohan Singh was bringing it down every year. That direction has been lost now. This was my point.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : It is not lost. I have the figures here. I am coming to them. Even if Prof. Kurien had not intervened, I would have come to them.

In 1991, the fiscal deficit went up to 8.3 per cent. Then, the Congress Government, led by Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao came into office. They unleashed the process of economic reforms and liberalisation and globalisation in this country. One of the very laudable objectives of that Government was to control the fiscal deficit of the Government of India's Budget. What happened then? If you take the period from 1991-92 to 1995-96, the average fiscal deficit during these five years was 6.1 per cent of the GDP. The fiscal deficit refused to go away. It remained at 6.1 per cent of the GDP per annum and in one year, 1993-94—I would like to remind Prof. Kurien because he was a part of that Government—it went up as high as 7.4 per cent of the GDP. Year-wise, it was 5.9 per cent, 5.7 per cent, 7.4 per cent, six per cent and 5.6 per cent in those years. That is why the average was 6.1 per cent.

What happened during the two years of UF Government? In 1996-97, the fiscal deficit was 5.2 per cent. This 5.2 per cent was one of the lowest that was achieved in a long period of time. Unfortunately, in the last year of that Government, in 1997-98, my predecessor in office had put the target—as I have shared that with this House—of 4.5 per cent. Unfortunately, for various reasons, that target could not be sustained. The result was that we ended the year with a 6.1 per cent fiscal deficit of the GDP. If you take the average of both the years, it comes to 5.7 per cent.

It was in that historical context of the fiscal deficit that obstinately refused to go away, to go below five per cent that I thought I will be realistic. Therefore, I did not go for the moon; I did not go for the stars. I fixed it realistically at 5.6 per cent.

What is the struggle now? What is the challenge before me? The challenge before me is to try and hold it at that level. This is the challenge and I want the cooperation of the entire House, of the entire nation in talking this problem. Unless all of us agree, it will not be possible for any Government, not only for me, to get the better of this problem of fiscal deficit.

We are talking of Rs. 90,000 crore. Some hon. Members mentioned here that I have already exceeded the ceiling limit for borrowing by Rs. 1,000 crore. It has gone to Rs. 80,000 crore. It is true.

How does the Government of India make up for the fiscal deficit? How has the Government of India been making up for the fiscal deficits over the years? It has been making up by borrowings. Today if we are all way down by the burden of only the interest payments in every Budget, is it the creation of this year? Is it the creation of last year? Successive Governments have borrowed heavily from the Reserve Bank of India, from the market and from abroad. The result has been an excessive burden of interest on the budgetary resources of the Government of India. It is an unsustainable

situation and I am not blaming one Government or one Finance Minister. It has been coming over a period of time. This is the problem that all of us have to be fully aware of and acutely aware of. Only then, we shall find the wherewithal to get over that problem.

So, in this, let us not trade petty charges across the floor of the House as to who was in charge and when. That is not important. The important thing is that it is a national problem and it was in order to emphasise the national nature of that problem that I have quoted these figures. I would expect that I will receive the support, this Government will receive the support of the entire House and the people of this country. This is in order to tackle this problem of fiscal deficit.

Now what is happening in this year? Prof. Kurien was asking me to give an honest reply. I will give an honest reply. I will give as constructive a reply as possible. What is the problem now? The problem is that the economy has caught in a slow down since the middle of 1996. The Indian economy has been caught in a cyclical slow down. It has nothing to do with the international situation. The East Asian crisis came much later. But because of the developments within the country, the Indian economy got caught in this slow down. We felt the results or the impact of that slow down in 1996-97; we felt it increasingly in 1997-98; we felt it in 1998-99. I am worried at the decelerating rate of industrial production. If it had not been for my colleague Shri Sompal and his Agriculture Ministry, this would not have been possible and I am hopeful that that Ministry will do better than last year because last year, the Agriculture sector's value addition went down by 1.5 per cent; agricultural production went down by 3.6 per cent.

SHRI KALPNATH RAI (Ghosi) : What about this year?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : This year, we are hoping that agricultural production will grow by anything between three and four per cent. That is our expectation.

Therefore, despite the fact that industrial production is even slower than the last year, with the help of the services sector, I am hoping that the Indian economy will grow at around six per cent. But that is something which we have to see.

But I would like to tell you that when we talk about the Indian economy today, in what context are we talking of it? We know what has happened. Immediately after the nuclear tests, we know in what way the countries of the world had reacted. I remember, when I came before this House with my Budget, Member after Member got up and asked me as to whether I have factored in the impact of sanctions. They asked me as to whether I have factored in the fact that many of the friendly countries were not prepared to give us any further loans. I did factor that in. But I am happy to tell you that we have weathered that storm and we have weathered it extremely successfully. But what has created problems for us

is not so much the fact that sanctions were imposed after the nuclear tests. What has created problems for us is the fact that the East Asian crisis which erupted in the middle of 1997. That, instead of going away, has deepened and widened. This is what has happened. The East Asian Crisis first enveloped Japan. Japan is in trouble. The East Asian crisis then travelled as far away as Russia; and from Russia, it went to Latin America and South America. One of the major countries which was caught in this crisis was Brazil. Brazil with huge reserves of foreign exchange—75 billion dollars—had to go and knock at the door of the IMF for help in order to sustain their economy. This is the enveloping or developing crisis with which India is faced.

Shri Baalu was asking me as to why our exports went down, what am I doing to raise the exports. I would say, "Yes, exports are coming down."

I am not happy with the rate of imports. In a buoyant economy, the rate of imports should be much more than what it is today. There is a trade deficit. It is a fact that the trade deficit has doubled compared to previous year because our export is not picking up. We have done a great deal in order to promote exports. We have given concessions available which the previous Government had not given. We have gone out of our way to help exports. There are problems because of the East Asian crisis, with our major trading partners like Russia and Japan running into difficulties, with European growth rate sliding down and the American growth not being so buoyant. We are trying our best. Let me tell you that a wrong signal should not go from this House because it will unnecessarily create a panic in this country. That is the concern of not only the Finance Minister but also of the House and the whole country. We have not been caught in the East Asian crisis. We have been able to successfully steer the Indian economy through that crisis. Despite all the unfriendly moves made by some of these friends, we have been able to stand on our own. India has not gone to knock at the doors of the IMF like Pakistan did. When we needed money, when we realised that there could be pressure on our balance of payments, what did we do? We went with our Resurgent India Bonds to the non-resident Indians. The two billion rupees that we could raise from IMF, we mobilised it from brothers and sisters abroad. They responded in full measure. I would like to take this opportunity to place on record our appreciation of the fact that Indians all over the globe and all over the world responded with alacrity and with sympathy and made this contribution.

Shri T.R. Baalu, I would like to tell you that the balance of payments is not under pressure, despite the fact that the trade gap has increased. It is because our invisibles are giving us support. Therefore, there is absolutely no problem. Your Government left a balance of around 26 billion dollars and we are maintaining that, despite all the problems that we are facing. There is absolutely no question of any concerned on

[Shri Yashwant Sinha]

our balance of payments front. In one of the debates, I had responded in this House to the criticism made by my predecessor. I had said that there is absolutely no reason to be concerned about the current account deficit. The current account deficit is not going to go beyond 2.3 per cent. The RBI which watches it very carefully in now saying that looking at the receipts which are coming, it could be around two per cent. So, given the international situation, maintaining the current account deficit at that level is something for which I surely feel that this House should compliment this Government. Despite all the problems, despite all the worsening international situation, we have been able to keep the Indian economy and the balance of payments under check.

Sir, I would like to say that we in the Government of India take no advantage of the fact that RBI is the Central Bank of this country compared to the States. When the Congress Government was in power, it entered into an agreement with the RBI. That agreement clearly lays down that at no point of time should the debit of the Government of India with the RBI should exceed, in the first six months Rs. 11,000 crore and in the second half Rs. 7,000 crore. We ran into an overdraft with the RBI when we crossed this limit. I am glad to inform this House that despite all that might be talked about in the Media and elsewhere that our expenditure is running haywire, I would like to assure that from 1.10.1998 we have never crossed this limit of Rs. 7,000 crore which is permitted under the agreement.

As I have told you, the single most important challenge that I am taking as a personal challenge, is the fiscal deficit and my desire to limit it. The States have their ways and means limit and they are allowed to operate within those limits. If a State crosses the limits and if it comes and says that it has run into an overdraft problem with the Reserve Bank of India, we have a provision of helping it with ways and means advances. I can tell you, irrespective of the political colour of the State Government, we have gone out of our way to help each and every State Government which has come and knocked at our doors and we have given them ways and means advance. I would like to tell Shri Radhakrishnan, he was talking about Kerala, that when I received an intimation from the Government of Kerala that they wanted help in this regard, I went out of my way to help Kerala despite the fact that the political complexion of that Government is different. Sitting in Delhi, we cannot be petty minded and say we can help this Government because its political complexion is that or we will not help this State because its political complexion in this. We will help each State Government according to the provisions of the Constitution and according to the arrangements which are there.

This refers to the point raised by Kumari Mamata Banerjee, that we are sending large sums of money to State Governments.

These are going as Centrally sponsored schemes or as Central schemes. I accept the Constitutional responsibility of the Government of India to make sure that these monies are properly utilised. We are all aware, sitting in this House, of what happens on the ground. A lot of money is getting lost on the way. If we come across a report, like the report of the Comptroller and Auditor General, we have to sit and take note of that. I would like to say, there is a Constitutional procedure. The C&AG Report comes, and then it goes to the State Legislature. The State PAC is supposed to sit in judgment over it and then it is supposed to tell the State Government, the Executive what exactly has to be done. If we come across examples of serious nature, where we feel monies have not been properly utilized, it is the responsibility of the Government of India to make sure that we create the necessary mechanism, make the necessary arrangement, to ensure that monies are properly utilised because it is not the Government of India's money. It is the money of the people of this country. Therefore, not a single Rupee of that money should be wasted. Therefore, ever since I have taken charge of this Ministry, I have told my officials to insist on Utilisation Certificate, to insist on audited Utilisation Certificate and then only shall they release the money.

My friend, Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh is not present in the House. He was raising the issue of Bihar. The fact that I come from Bihar will not make me more lenient to Bihar because there is a system and it is in that system that we have to operate. I would like to assure this House that I share the concern of the Members that money should not be wasted. Therefore, we will continue to apply the strictest norms possible to make sure that monies are properly used. If there are examples of misuse, then the Government of India shall not hesitate to make inquiry to look into such misuses of fund.

A number of issues had been raised which relate to a specific area or a specific Ministry. I will touch a few and then I will complete. A number of Members, including the former Minister Shri Kalpnath Rai, had raised the issue of sugar. There is a general impression growing in the sugar lobby, as if I am the enemy of the sugar industry. I would like to clear the doubts. Sugar is a very very important and sensitive industry for certain parts of this country. We did not put sugar on OGL. Sugar was already on OGL and has been on Open General Licence which means that sugar was a product which could be freely imported without any licence.

It continues to be on OGL. When we noticed that imports were increasing then in May this year, we imposed an import duty. There was no import duty on sugar. It was 'zero'. It was tariff free. We imposed an import duty of five per cent plus we also imposed a countervailing duty of Rs. 850 per tonne which together amounted to something like 11.5 per cent to 12 per cent duty on sugar import.

Now, an impression has sought to be created as if all the sugar is coming from Pakistan. Sugar has come from Pakistan, Brazil and from other sources also. Sugar has been imported and it is one commodity where the prices have, fortunately, remained stable. When we talk of price rise, we do not talk of sugar. We talk of edible oil, we talk of onions and we talk of potatoes. But fortunately not of sugar because sugar prices have held. The Congress Government made this arrangement. What was the arrangement? We put more and more products on Open General Licence because whenever prices here tend to go up then you import in order to control the prices. This was the free market mechanism which was put in place not only in respect of sugar, as I said, but in respect of various products. Now that mechanism is operating.

It is not the intention of this Government to damage that industry. It is not the intention of the Government to create any difficulties for the farmers. Therefore, taking note of the feelings which have been expressed in this House and the other House, the Prime Minister said that we will reconsider the structure of duty. This matter is very much under the active consideration of the Government of India. I would like to assure the House that very soon we are going to take necessary steps in this matter. But I have been telling the sugar industry and I would like to repeat it here...*(Interruptions)*. It will be time bound. What I am saying is that this should not lead to increase in the retail prices of sugar. If that happens, then this Government will again be criticised for letting sugar prices go up. We have to match the interests. We have to reconcile the interest of the consumer, the producer, the farmer and it is in that context that we are examining the whole question. I would like to assure the House that very soon a decision in this matter will be taken.

SHRI K.S. RAO (Machilipatnam) : Both the Ministers of Agriculture and Food, have in their wisdom felt that the customs duty has to be increased to 40 per cent. But what were the reasons for the Ministry of Finance has coming in the way? We are also equally responsible for the nation's interests.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : There is a collective responsibility of the Cabinet and there is also the individual responsibility. There are some issues on which the Government as a whole has to take a view and that is where we reconcile various aspects.

Sir, various other issues have been raised. Apart from the international scenario, this year has been, unfortunately, a very bad year from the point of view of natural calamities. We have had cyclones, we have had floods, we have had droughts in certain parts, we have had unseasonable rains and therefore, it has put a pressure on the States as well as on the Central Government. I would like to say that absolutely no discrimination has been shown by the Government of India in giving reliefs to the States. The Prime Minister found time

to visit various States and the Prime Minister, unfortunately, could not find time to visit some other States.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil) . Sir, he has raised a very good question.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : You please listen to me. Then your question will not arise. I will just complete it and then see if your question is still there, I would yield.

What I am saying is that there is a certain methodology by which these decisions are arrived at. Those who have been in Government would be aware of it. Immediately after such a calamity takes place or such an unfortunate incident takes place, we despatch a Central team. It goes there and makes an assessment in consultation with the representatives of the State Governments.

It comes and makes a report. Then, an inter-Ministerial committee meets. They make their own recommendation after assessment. Then, we have a National Natural Calamity Relief Committee which is a National Development Council's Committee. That Committee is likely to meet sometime next month when we will sit down and take a view as to what exactly must be given to each State. In the meanwhile, we are not holding our hands; in the meanwhile, we have given to the States by way of advance Plan Assistance, so that this could be adjusted when the National Natural Calamity Relief Fund is made available to them. I would like to say again that this will be done without discrimination, looking at the damage that each State has suffered. So, there is no question of big States or small States in this. It will be exactly in proportion to the damage suffered and in the light of the recommendation of the Central team...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil) : The hon. Finance Minister may remember that there is a general feeling that when the State of Kerala was facing acute crisis in regard to flood situation, the Central Government refused to come to its help. Even the Prime Minister did not turn up. A Central team came there after a long gap. Even after that, no amount has been sanctioned...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : No, Sir...*(Interruptions)* While I can answer...*(Interruptions)*. Sir, immediately after this reply, there will be a discussion on this very subject. I can take the time of the House in replying to whatever points are being raised. My colleague Shri Sompal is here. Shri Radhakrishnan will have a chance to debate on this subject. He may raise those points specifically when that debate takes place. I am quite confident that the hon. Minister will satisfy him on that. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Vora, we are going to discuss regarding damage to crops due to natural calamities such as floods, cyclones etc. under Rule 193 after this.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH (Mirzapur) : The Minister of Finance has mentioned about natural calamities, I want some clarification about it ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Reply has been completed.

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH : You should clear our doubt. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You may do it later on.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH : Mr. Chairman. Sir, you may clear my doubt....*(Interruptions)* We want your protection. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Minister has given his reply.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am not allowing.

[English]

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, a number of other issues have been raised. I would like to assure the Members of the House that I have taken copious notes and will refer them to the Ministries concerned so that appropriate action could be taken ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.R. BAALU (Madras South) : Sir, the hon. Minister has not replied to my point regarding Bhutanese currency in circulation in North Bengal. I would request him to reply.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I have already, in reply to a question of Kumari Mamata Banerjee, said that this is a matter of concern for the Government of India and every possible step is being taken to see that our currencies run in North Bengal district and not Bhutanese currencies. There is another question in the other House on the same subject tomorrow.

SHRI K.S. RAO : The hon. Minister should give infrastructure status to coal washeries also as is given to power and national highways.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Sir, a number of issues have been raised. I would like to say that if they go back once again to the Budget, from which this Supplementary Demand in a way arises, they will find that the commitment of the Government to the weaker sections, especially the Scheduled Castes, and the Scheduled Tribes, the commitment of this Government to the rural poor, the commitment of this Government to the urban poor, the commitment of this Government for development of infrastructure, the commitment of this Government to provide employment and the commitment

of this Government to provide shelter to those who are homeless have been mentioned in that Budget Speech.

I would like to say that policy decisions have been taken in many cases to start implementing most of those schemes which I had mentioned in the Budget. The time to review the performance of this Government and the achievements of this Government would be when I come with my Budget in February, 1999.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Madurai) : How can you say that?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Maybe, Dr. Subramanian Swamy could present the Budget next year, I do not know.

KUMAR MAMTA BANERJEE (Calcutta South) : He is supporting you.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : But whoever presents the Budget would come out objectively with the achievements of this Government as well as the difficulties which this Government faced.

I will personally request Shri Banatwalla, who has moved the Cut Motion, not to press for it. He mentioned it in the course of his speech. As far as the National Highways of Kerala are concerned, we have made a provision of Rs. 10 crore. I have taken note of the point which has been made by Members coming from Kerala about the National Expressway. The Prime Minister has announced it. I do not know what alignment is being fixed. But I will certainly bring to the notice of the officials and ministers concerned of the feelings which have been expressed here.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : What about the point relating to unemployed youth?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : This is a point which I have taken note of, Mamataji. I am not in a position to respond because it concerns both the State Government and the Government of India together.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : With regard to other points, can you send the replies in writing?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I have taken note of each point which has been made in this House and I will be responding to it. Prof. Kurien has raised the issue of polyurethane.

SHRI K.S. RAO : In the interest of nation, giving infrastructure status for coal washeries is as important as giving it to power, national highways, ports etc.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : The way the list of infrastructure is expanding, there will be hardly any industry which will not come within the infrastructure field. So, I will

request most humbly all the Members in this House to pass the Supplementary Demands for Grants without any division.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Banatwalla, are you withdrawing your cut motions?

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : Sir, in view of the assurance given by the hon. Finance Minister, I seek leave of the House to withdraw my cut motions.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Is it the pleasure of the House that the cut motions moved by Shri G.M. Banatwalla be withdrawn?

The cut motions were, by leave, withdrawn.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts of Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of Consolidated Fund of India, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1999, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof, against Demands No. 5, 6, 9, 16, 24, 25, 26, 30, 31, 35, 38, 40, 44, 45, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 54, 55, 59, 62, 63, 67, 69, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 84, 87, 89, 99, 100, 101, 102 and 103."

The motion was adopted

APPROPRIATION (NO. 4) BILL*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1998-99.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1998-99."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I introduce** the Bill.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Madurai) : Sir, I would like to speak on this.

*Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2 dated

**Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara) : Mr. Chairman, the House has extended time only for the Supplementary Demands for Grants.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Sir, I would just like to put one point for the consideration of the House. The Russian Prime Minister is here. I have to join a discussion later with him as part of the Indian delegation. I will be very grateful if this item of business is finished now.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we have only extended time till the reply of the Finance Minister on the Supplementary Demands for Grants. Since that is over we have to as such move on to Item No. 27, that is, discussion under Rule 193... (Interruptions) I am not saying that we should not take it up now. I am only saying that the time for this item of business has to be extended after taking the sense of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : If the House agrees, we will take up Item No. 24 now.

SOME HON. MEMBERS : We agree.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Prof. Kurien, we will now take up this item. It will take only two to three minutes.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Mr. Chairman, you yourself gave a ruling earlier that Shri Bhakta can speak at the time of consideration of the Appropriation Bill.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South) : The Finance Minister has appealed to the House that the Russian Prime Minister is here and that he has to take part in a discussion with him.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Madurai) : That does not mean the Parliament has to close down.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Manoranjan Bhakta will speak on this Bill.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I also want to speak on this.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Minister may now move that the Bill be taken into consideration.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1998-99, be taken into consideration."

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund

of India for the services of the financial year 1998-99, be taken into consideration.”

(Interruptions)

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman and Nicobar Islands) : Sir, I want to say something....*(Interruptions)*

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Madurai) : After him, you will have to call me....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : He had sought my permission and I have given him the permission to raise his point.

(Interruptions)

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : I am seeking your permission....*(Interruptions)* I am also taking your permission.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Bhakta had taken my permission. There are some rules. You had not given the prior notice.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : I am giving you the notice now.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Bhata had already given the notice and I have permitted him to speak.

(Interruptions)

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : I am giving the notice now.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, you cannot give. Please cooperate with the Chair.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : What cooperation? You are not permitting me....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please cooperate with the Chair.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : Are you not permitting me?

MR. CHAIRMAN : He is on his legs.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : I agree. I also have the right to speak....*(Interruptions)*...So, I want to know as to whether you are permitting me or not....*(Interruptions)*...Are you not permitting me?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Dr. Swamy, please sit down. Your notice is not with me.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : You tell me that you are not permitting me....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : If a Member is desirous of speaking on the Appropriation Bill, he should send intimation to the specific points intended to be raised by him by 10.00 a.m.

upto the House to the Minister concerned to find out position in respect of the points.

(Interruptions)

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : You have residuary power but you do not want to exercise it. That is the matter. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : He had given a prior notice and I have allowed him to speak.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman and Nicobar Islands) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you that you have permitted me to say a few words. The present Appropriation Bill No. (4), 1998 which is in relation to the Supplementary Grants, to authorise this Parliament, to give powers to the Government to draw money from the Consolidated Fund of India to the tune of Rs. 14,449.96 crore for the year 1998-99. I would like to specifically ask the hon. Finance Minister that on the one hand during this current year, for which he has sought more money, his Ministry has issued circulars to all the Ministries to 'follow 10 per cent austerity cut' and on the other hand, he has come with the demand of such a huge amount of money. Can he just tell us as to what is the principle of his budgeting the estimation.

It is a general trend we found that in every year wherever the original allocations are there, subsequently he has again sought more money during the time of Supplementary Grants. Subsequently, neither the original allocation was spent nor the Supplementary allocation was spent. Can he kindly enlighten this august House as to what principle he is following? How is he managing his financial system?

My second point is about the 10 per cent austerity cut which he has mentioned. This House is supreme to grant money to the executive, to the Government to draw and spend for the particular purpose against the heads and sub-heads. Now, when he is passing the Budget, he gives his commitment to the nation that 'these are the heads, these are the amount of money allotted and these are the works which he will be doing for the benefit of the people of this country.' But subsequently, while coming to Parliament, he is issuing back date back-door circulars to all the Ministries that 'you do not spend this money.' This way, is he not going against the interest of the country?

When he is giving 10 per cent austerity cut and also issued circulars then why is he again asking for more money? What will he do with that money? He has replied to the Supplementary Grants that he will find this money somewhere. Some more money will be needed.

There is some less money, some increase or some decrease. This will be taken into account. But can you clearly

state what is your system of budgeting and estimation and how are you doing this? This is my question.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I am following the same system in this country which the successive Governments have followed over the years since 1950 when this Constitution came into existence. I had explained while replying to the debate on the supplementary demands that there are occasions where Ministries come up with requests for extra expenditure and it is the endeavour of the Minister of Finance to make sure that it does not result in additionality of overall expenditure because if we do not locate savings, then it will become absolutely unsustainable. That is why, we are not doing anything behind the back.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : You have commitment to the nation.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I will draw the attention of the hon. Member to the Supplementary Demand for Grants. If you look at the Supplementary Demand for Grants, then for every item of expenditure, there is a justification there. We have said why we are making that provision and need of the circumstances. For overall economy and austerity, I am sure the hon. Members will agree that it is the prerogative of the Government to make sure that moneys are properly spent and where money cannot be spent, that money is saved. It is in national interest to make sure that we save even after we made budgetary provision. In all fairness, forthrightly I am coming to the house with the entire account. It is before you. Nothing is held back from this House and it is within the power of this House to approve it or reject it. I am pleading with you to approve it because it is all fair and above board.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1998-99, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill. The question is :

"That clause 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That Schedule stand part of the bill."

The motion was adopted.

The Schedule was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is:

"That clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the long Title stand part of the Bill."

The Motion was adopted.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved:

"That the Bill be passed."

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Madurai) : There is a third reading. For that I do not need to give you notice before 10 o'clock. That is the tradition of the House. You have all the power. You can read Rule 318.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I know that. If you want to say something, please do it in brief.

(Interruptions)

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : I have only one point. I would like the Finance Minister to take this House into confidence, whether it is a fact that in the Budget he had said that the total tax revenues would rise by 22 per cent and from April till the end of November for which statistics are available, according to our information, the annual rate is only 7 per cent.

17.00 hrs.

In fact, in the month of November, the tax revenues are actually negative. In view of all the indicators going downwards, I want to know whether the Minister of Finance would consider making a comprehensive statement or bringing a white paper so that we know exactly where we stand well before the Budget Session and advise him or whoever is there at that time to formulate a Budget to rescue the country. It is a question of the country.

For example, let us take foreign investment, for which they spoke so much. The cumulated amount of foreign investment in November of last year, which was itself a bad year, was Rs. 9 billion. It has now gone down to Rs. 8.5 billion. This means, people are selling. This means, we are following the Indonesian pattern. I would like the Minister of Finance to tell this House whether it is a fact that the rate at which he is getting his revenues is much, much lower than what he told us at the beginning of the year.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : As far as direct taxes are concerned, we are on target; as far as indirect taxes are

[Shri Yashwant Sinha]

concerned, we are at a shortfall. This is something which I have never hidden from the House. Whenever occasion has arisen, I have said that there is a shortfall. But what will be the nature and extent of the shortfall is something which should be calculated at the end of the year and not at this point of time.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : Practically, this is the end of the year.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I would like to dispute in this House with all the emphasis and confidence at my command this repeated reference to Indonesia and other East Asian countries. India is not in trouble. Please remember this. Despite all the problems, we have successfully managed this economy. I would like Dr. Swamy to please take note of it and not keep on repeating it. India is not Indonesia and India will not go the Indonesian way.

Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House will now take up discussion under Rule 193 on natural calamities.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT (Shajapur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes, What is your point of order?

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Mr. Chairman, Sir, in today's list of Business at Sl. No. 26, it has been stated that 30th report of the then Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Commissioner for the year 1989-91 will be taken into consideration and its full details regarding the time of its consideration has been given in the foot-note, but, Sir, it is not being considered and due to many orders issued by the previous Govt., the promotion of SCs and STs employees is hampered. I request that it should be discussed and tell me when it will be discussed, if it is not being discussed today?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down. There is no point of order in it. That item was to be discussed at 4.00 a.m., as it has been mentioned in the list of business. Since that item has not yet concluded, therefore, it will be discussed according to decision.

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Business Advisory Committee has given its decision that it should be discussed, it has not been fully discussed in spite of the fact that the matter has been included in the list of business for this purpose.

MR. CHAIRMAN : This matter will be considered and time will be allotted therefor. Thereafter discussion take place. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

17.04 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Damage to Crops due to Natural Calamities such as Floods, Cyclones, etc.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I now call Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it seems that our functioning has been very chaotic because it is stated in the Order Paper that this discussion will be taken up at four o'clock but now it is five o'clock. I think, the hon. Member is raising an objection quite correctly that as one debate is going on another debate comes in and nothing gets properly discussed and decided upon. I think, we should better take a proper procedure to finish one discussion and start another.

17.05 hrs.

[SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU in the Chair]

Otherwise, the Members would really forget what they had said about them. Today we have started this discussion and by the time we finish this discussion, there may be three other discussions and this discussion would be forgotten. I am sorry about the state of affairs and I would like to take it up with the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs so that we can do little differently.

Anyway, as you have called me, I am starting the discussion under Rule 193 regarding damage to crops due to natural calamities. During this year, 19 States have been affected by rains, floods, flash floods, cyclones and drought. According to the reply furnished by the Government, these 19 States are : Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Harayana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tripura, UP and West Bengal. These are the 19 States which have been affected, according to the reply furnished by the Government to a question which was answered on the 16th December 1998.

Another interesting thing is that there are different replies and they have given different figures. I am not going into it in detail; but I will give one or two examples. I have got the replies to the questions. They have given different figures for different questions on the same subject, put on different dates. I do not know which should be taken as the real answer.

I would like to say that the States which have been affected most are West Bengal, U.P., Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Assam, Gujarat, parts of Kerala and Tamil Nadu. This, I am saying from my own experience. We are seeing the figures from the replies also. I am not going into those figures at the moment. The damage to crops and other live-stock are more than that of 1997. The loss of human lives are also substantially higher than that of 1997. This year, the number of those who lost their lives, according to one of the answers, was 3494. The damage to crop areas during 1997-98 was 153.74 lakh hectares. According to another answer, they say that for two years, that is, 1997-98 and 1998-99, the area of crop damage was 151.6 lakh hectares. Is it possible? In one of the answers, they said that for 1997-98 alone, the area of crop damage was 153.74 lakh hectares and in another answer, they said that for two years put together, it was only 151.6 lakh hectares.

Is it possible? I would like to point out that the figures mentioned in the replies are fictitious. Otherwise, this kind of answers could not be given. The figure says the damage caused to the houses and huts during the same period, that is during the year 1997, was 3,30,849. This was a huge loss. The total population affected was 475.90 lakhs. If those figures were correct, all that I can say is that the damage this year is much more. What the Government has done, in my opinion, is not at all what they should have done to meet the situation neither in the short-term nor in the long-term.

In this connection, I would like to cite the example of West Bengal. As all of you know, West Bengal, particularly the northern part of West Bengal was very seriously affected this time due to heavy rain, floods and due to the damage caused to the embankments. According to the calculation of the Government of West Bengal, the total loss amounts to Rs. 2,000 crore. The State Government of West Bengal demanded Rs. 700 crore. What did the Central Government give? Last year the Central Government had decided to give some amount of money for resisting the damage. Now, this year the Government altogether gave Rs. 30 crore. Out of those Rs. 30 crore, 30 per cent is grant and the rest 70 per cent would be loan for which they would charge 12.13 interest. That means we will give more than we have received. So, what do we do? Let us come to this year's Relief fund.

As you know, there is a National Calamity Relief Fund and the State Government Relief Fund. Despite the fact that we wanted Rs. 700 crore altogether, nothing has been given to us either from the State Calamity Fund or from the National

Calamity Relief Fund. This is despite the recommendations of the 10th Finance Commission that the fund must be released out of the National Calamity Relief Fund in case the intensity is very severe. Unfortunately, except what I have stated earlier, West Bengal did not receive any help.

In reply to one of the questions with regard to flood prevention, it has been said that, 'requests for financial assistance, especially for construction and repair of bridges embankments, have not been received.' The fact remains, Sir, that we have very much requested for it. The spurs on the Malda were to be done by the Farraka Authorities but they have not yet done it. If these two spurs—20th and 21st—are not built immediately then both Padma and Ganga will meet together and will totally devastate the whole area. This is the position. It will create absolute havoc in the nearby districts. It is already in a very very precarious condition and that is why we wanted this help. For this Ganga Padma Action Plan, for all these years except Rs. 15 crore the Government has not given much fund.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : I am initiating the discussion and I have not said even a single word extra.

Now, the construction of each spur will cost about Rs. 15 crore. So far, the Central Government has given nothing. Unless these two spurs are immediately built up, we shall be in great trouble.

Another point is about the crop insurance. This was discussed at great length during the U.F. Government. The then Minister of Agriculture, Shri Chaturanan Mishra took great trouble in introducing that but till now only 24 selected districts, out of eight States, are being approved by the Central Government for this. If this is the situation, what is the use of having such Crop Insurance Scheme? The Crop Insurance Scheme will be of help if much more expanded area is taken into consideration. These natural calamities occur every year, however, the severity of them varies from year to year. Therefore, the Crop Insurance Scheme is very important.

That is not being put any attention to. I request the Government to pay proper attention to it and assure the farmers that they will be covered by crop insurance all over the country.

Sir, since you are asking me to conclude and I am a law abiding citizen, with these examples I am concluding, though I have many things to say. I am concluding by saying that the way the question of national calamity has been dealt with by the present Central Government, is nothing but calamitous. That is all I can say. The people all over the country irrespective of the type of the Government in the States, are extremely displeased with the performance of the Government. I hope keeping that in mind, in future they will

[Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee]

revise their way and go in for something which is necessary for the people to face such calamities.

[Translation]

SHRI SURENDER SINGH (Bhiwani) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, whatever discussion honourable Geeta Mukherjee has initiated under rule 193, it is very important. Actually when there is unprecedented rain, cyclone or drought in India, the common Farmers and the weaker section of India are more effected by this. Every State faces crisis of money.

India is an agricultural country and the main profession of most of the people is farming. If the farmer faces loss due to rain or drought in any year, the condition of farmers remains deteriorated for 10 to 15 years.

Madam has made discussion regarding West Bengal. Haryana is such a State which adjoins three sides of the capital of India and whenever there is flood or drought, it effects the capital of India directly. When flood is more and the crops are damaged, the rates of vegetables and essential commodities in Delhi get hiked. In 1995, 22 lakh acres land was damaged due to flood in Haryana. No farming could be done on that land for next three to four years continuously. Keeping in view the loss of Rs. 2000 crores, we demanded Rs. 1004 crores from Central Government and in place of that we could get only Rs. 39.10 crores. Shri Sompalji is also present here and you have given Rs. 300 crores at the interest rate of 13 per cent. In 1996, Rajasthan had experienced heavy rain and as our border touches Rajasthan where two dams namely Kameda and Rawli had broken due to which all the water of Rajasthan had entered our area and at that time 2,75,000 acres land was destroyed and there was also loss of 3200 kms. road. We demanded the relief of Rs. 757 crores from Central Government whereas our total loss was Rs. 2971 crores. The honourable Minister is present here, he can guess that how much money we got for relief.

Alongwith this, when there is flood, it leaves many after effects. The State has faced water logging for the last four to five year due to flood. Lakhs of acres of land could not cultivated. Several diseases spread due to stagnation of water. I would like to give a suggestion to honourable Minister that there are so many areas in India which suffer due to flood and drought. The Government should formulate a master plan to solve this. Problem under which, the Government should divert the surplus water to water deficit areas whether it is created due to flood or heavy rain fall. If it is done, the ground water position will improve. The Central Government should look into the last 3 - 4 years by keeping in view this problem as to how much amount it has given to State Governments. If it would have made a master plan, some work might have done towards that direction. Rajasthan is such a state which always faces drought. Even drinking water is also a problem

there. If the Government takes steps in this direction, this problem can also be solved.

With these words I complete my speech. I would like to request the honourable Minister that he should formulate the master plan for this problem. In my view, the small States will get more benefited by this plan.

[English]

SHRI K.S. RAO (Machilipatnam) : Hon. Chairman, we have been discussing about the effects of natural calamities like floods and cyclones every year and everyone of us is aware of the quantum of damage that is occurring because of floods and cyclones. Though the State and the Central Governments are coming to the rescue of the people who are affected, the assistance given is very marginal or dismal. I do agree that certainly, the Government cannot compensate the entire loss caused to the farming community or the people living in those areas. But my humble request all the time—even when I spoke in the House earlier also—is that total loss or damage that is occurring due to cyclones is many times more than what it could cost for finding out permanent solutions to avoid such calamities in several ways. Maybe, we cannot reduce it by one hundred per cent, but we can reduce the cost of damage manifold, by spending a little more amount on permanent structures rather than trying to give some cyclone relief every time.

I will quote some examples from my area. The coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh are subjected to cyclones almost every year. It is very unfortunate that the farming community and the poor sections of the society in the villages are most affected by it. In the last floods which had come about two months back in Andhra Pradesh, river Krishna was in floods. The crops of beetle leaves, vegetables, *haldi* and sugarcane which were grown in the islands of the river Krishna were destroyed. The farmers could earn from those crops anywhere around Rs. 40,000 and Rs. 1 lakh per acre.

The relief given by the State Government, when the entire crop was damaged, was Rs. 500/- per acre. When the loss was Rs. 50,000, the relief given was Rs. 500/- per acre. As I told you, it is not possible, even if we demand from any Government, no matter whichever party is in power, to compensate the entire loss to the farmers. But shall we leave these unfortunate farmers at the mercy of the natural calamities, year after year?

I know that you have certain problems in applying the crop insurance to the whole farming community in the country. But in those areas where these cyclones and floods have become a frequent matter, at least, those people must be compulsorily rescued by a comprehensive crop insurance scheme. When we approached you, you wanted to know whether the insurance premium can be increased on these crops. Yes,

certainly, it can be done. I do not think that farmers would be against accepting a little increase in the insurance premium. They only want that they must be rescued when such calamities occur.

There cannot be two kinds of justice — one for the farmers and another for the traders or industrialists. When an accident occurs in an industry, then the insurance company is compensating almost all the losses that are caused. So, when an industrialist or a trader is taken care of, why should the farmer be left out like that? If the insurance companies were to think that the extent of loss is very high on these things, then the same applies to the industrialists or to the traders. We are continuing our policy there, but we are not applying the same thing to the farmers.

Similarly, certain measures like raising some permanent structures and balancing the reservoirs are needed. During floods, these measures can take care of the devastating effects. In addition, if you permit small check dams on several rivulets, then it will help in storing a lot of water. It will help in avoiding damage to the farming community during natural calamities and it can also be put to extensive use later for irrigating the crops. So, appropriate planning and appropriate directions to the State Governments will help in reducing the loss to the farming community and thus we will be saving the unfortunate farmers, who have been neglected all these years.

With these few words, I request the hon. Minister to consider some special scheme for all the farmers who are living in the coastal belt and who are subjected to frequent cyclones and floods.

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

Revival NTC Mills

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, this House will take up Half-an-Hour discussion as listed in the Agenda.

[Translation]

SHRI BUTA SINGH (Jalore) : Sir, Please I may also be allowed to speak.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Buta Singh, this is the procedure. Now, the time is 5.30 p.m. I cannot allow anything else. Dr. Pandey, please make a brief statement.

(Interruptions)

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla) : Will the discussion continue after this?

MR. CHAIRMAN : After this Half-an-Hour discussion, we will continue the discussion under Rule 193.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY (Mandsaur) : Honourable Chairman, Sir, a question was asked from the hon. Minister on 4 December regarding NTC Mills. The Honourable Minister had given some reply regarding their revival and modernisation but at that time also some questions were not replied properly. I would like to know from the honourable Minister in that context. As all are aware and the honourable Minister also said in his reply that out of 120 mills operated by NTC, one mill has been closed and 119 mills are still in his hand. They have suffered losses in the last three years i.e. Rs. 518.38 crores in 1995-96, Rs. 573.21 crores in 1996-97 and Rs. 646.25 crores in 1997-98. They have incurred losses continuously during these three years. Still the honourable Minister is saying that we have made efforts and are making efforts.

Sir, I would like to remind the honourable Minister that in 1992 a plan was made to run these mills by taking money from financial institutions but that plan of 1992 also proved a failure and they could not revive them and the NTC Mills fell into more miserable condition. After that, again in 1995, they formulated a plan namely turn strategy and under that plan the money was sought from each State Government because State Governments have to provide funds for the improvement of these mills, to run these mills and for their modernisation. As I know a proposal of Rs. 2005 crores was made under this plan. Maharashtra has not given its Rs. 1700 crores due to which this plan became a failure. Maharashtra has the maximum mills, then comes Gujarat and other States. The mills in Madhya Pradesh are in miserable state and thousands of workers are jobless. The mills of Indore, Ujjain and Ratlam are in very bad state. We have requested the State and the Central Governments but we have not received any satisfactory reply. The honourable Textile Minister has thrown out about 95 thousand workers under V.R.S. and this scheme is still going on. I would like to know that how many more workers are to be retrenched and out of 119 mills, how many mills are in operative state and what are the measures being taken to make them operative. Just now you have mentioned about three fold strategy. You have stated in the reply of one question that out of 119 mills, you are going to make a plan to run 37 mills. I would like to know the names of the mills which you are going to make operative in M.P., Gujarat and Maharashtra and in other States and how many workers are working in those mills. I had asked a supplementary question that whether the modernisation of mills can be undertaken by selling the surplus land of the mills. This surplus land is about 1514.57 acres and its cost is about Rs. 2349.10 crores. It includes both types of land i.e. free hold and lease hold. Free-hold is 114 and lease hold is 13. Whether you have given advertisement regarding selling of land or this plan is under consideration or the talks are being held in this regard with State Governments. Whether the three-tier plan will come into force at the end of this year or whether it will take time.

[Shri Laxminarayan Pandey]

You had also mentioned about the constitution of a committee of specialists. By when this committee will be constituted? What is its present position? Today, a great problem has emerged due to competition among mill sector, powerloom sector and handloom sector. Whether you have made any efforts to overcome this problem? The honourable Minister had said in reply of a question that whatever production has been made in three sectors from 1993-94 to 1995-96, a decline has been noticed in cloth production. The production has increased only in powerloom. Today, the position in powerloom sector is good. In spite of this, whatever facilities we should get in powerloom sector, we are not getting. I will take up the textile policy later on. What you have done regarding its effect on textile mills. In reply to my question you stated on 17th July that production in the year 1993-94, 1994-95, 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 has been 1990, 2271, 2019, 1957 and 1963 respectively in power sector, handloom sector and mill sector. Thus, there has been a continuous decline in production. I would like to know from the honourable Minister that whatever required quantity of raw cotton or cotton thread should be available for textile mills, has not been made available because of the decline in production of cotton. Whenever a farmer produces the cotton more quantity, he does not get the reasonable cost.

He then starts growing other crops. How much cotton was produced during 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 and how much is in the stock, what is the requirement of textile mills. Whether it is sufficient or not. The competition in fiber and yarn has increased so much that cotton has gone down. Due to this, the cotton mills are facing great difficulties. I would like to draw the attention towards a news item published on 29.10.98 in 'Rashtriya Sahara'.

"At present, Indian textile industry is being effected by downfall in purchase of yarn and fabric of South-east Asian countries, which are under financial crisis. The situation has become more critical since January, 1988 whereas in recent years, due to increase in production capacity of spun and filament yarn in India, the supply has increased. The domestic market is unable to consume the additional production. On the other hand, the import of textile produces from China, Nepal, Hongkong, South Korea and Bangladesh in India is on increase. The biggest problem of textile industry in India is that most of the textile mills are facing financial crisis. They are facing difficulties even in getting loan from the commercial banks. Whatever loan they are getting, the high rate of interest thereon is also increasing their problem. The loan on 6 per cent interest is available to textile industries in competitor countries in neighbour and international market. In its comparison, in India, the loan is available on 17 to 18 per cent rate of interest. This is the reason that the manufacturing cost is directly increasing."

I would like to know that why the import of textile is increasing here? Whether this import is made through Pakistan, Nepal and other countries, it will definitely effect the domestic production. Secondly, Rashtriya Sahara has raised the issue about availability of loans. The loans from Commercial Banks should be made easily available but it is not happening so. The rates of interest are 17-18 per cent. Whereas in other country, the people, engaged in these industries, get loan on 5 or 6 per cent interest rates. This is the reason that they are capable to compete with. This is not in the case of textile only but the condition of other things are also the same. The Government should determine the policy by holding talks with the banks to fill up the gap and the people, who are engaged in these industries, many get loan at less interest rate. Efforts should be made in regard.

The Government is going to formulate the revival plan. The time by which the Government will present it before this house? The honourable Minister has replied that:

"The textile industry is facing recession. I never said that there is no recession. The Government are making all efforts to bring out this industry from recession. So far as the question of mis-management is concerned, they have not committed any crime but they could not run the mill with time limit and coordination as it should be done. That is why I say that it is right that there is mis-management."

Your plan for making textile industry capable, should not remain just a plan, it should come forth and people should reap its pints. Moreover, there is apprehension among workers that they are being retrenched. The problem of livelihood has arisen before them. They are compelled to knock about from pillar to post. On the other hand, crores of rupees meant for investment in industries is going waste. Machines are rusting. What do you propose to save these industries. Please clarify in your reply.

[Translation]

SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH (Meerut) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the situation is so horrible that the total Budget of Textile is of Rs. 850 crore. Out of this Rs. 550 crore is for the sick mills of N.T.C. That will be utilised in the salaries of their employees. Thus Rs. 300 crores remains as balance. You should use this amount in powerloom, handicrafts and handloom sectors. It is essential to run these mills because they prepare alongwith the textiles, yarn as well. They should at least start making yarn. I want to know from the hon. Minister that by which time he will get this work done? It will help in stabilising the prices of the yarn and export will remain unaffected.

The sources of export have been ceased and the price of yarn has risen. Due to non-stability in the production of yarn the National interest is getting harmed. It has been the

basic lacuna that since the day when India became independent, the production of powerloom has been 70 per cent but this sector was getting a Budget amount only one per cent. What a peculiar situation this is? If 70 per cent textile can be produced without the national help then what is the need for a Minister of Textile in this country? I would like to know from the hon. Minister that if he will set up a Powerloom Development Commission? Out of the 11 mills in Uttar Pradesh, how many mills are going to be started under the new scheme? Today the condition in Uttar Pradesh is as such that the land worth Rs. 212 crore is lying surplus and the old machines worth Rs. 19 crore can be sold. The mills can be modernised with a sum of Rs. 294 crore. The Standing Committee of Grover Committee had recommended that the mills could be modernised by selling the surplus land, but the Government of Maharashtra said that this money should be invested in Maharashtra. I say that Maharashtra be modernised but I would like to know by which time this scheme will be implemented. If the mills there would have been modernised by selling the surplus land in the State then yarn would have been available and the manufacturing of textile would have been started. Handloom and handicraft could not be developed till date in this country because bogus co-operative societies have been being helped for the last 50 years. Had this mistake not taken place then the private handloom owners would have been the No.1 exporters of the country.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to know about some points to be clarified by the Minister. By which time these mill will be started, out of the 11 mills of the Uttar Pradesh, how many mills would be taken up for modernisation, by which time after selling the land, they will be modernised and by when the Powerloom Commission would be set up? The mills engaged in production in a particular sector, the ratio in which their savings will be distributed, and whether or not the assistance will be given to the Handicrafts and Handloom in Private sector alongwith the co-operative sector.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, the reply by the hon. Minister.

SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI (Madras North) : Sir, please allow me.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Rules do not allow. It must be completed within half-an-hour. Shri Baalu, you are aware of the rules.

SHRI T.R. BAALU (Madras South) : I am not going to speak, Sir. It is a matter of two minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is not a question of one or two minutes. Now, the Minister.

[Translation]

MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, hon. Pandeyji has raised many points

in his statement. An strategy plan should be prepared to revive the N.T.C. mills. It's true that these have not been exhibited and implemented in a manner as these should have been done. But it's not proper to believe that the proposed new strategy would also get the same fate. The strategy which is under consideration will be very beneficial for the workers of N.T.C. mills. We could be able to avoid the failures that took place in the past.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, hon. Pandeyji has rightly told that three strategies and three plans have been prepared till date. First one was prepared in 1992 which couldn't be fully implemented because the Financial Institutions have refused to pay the money which was due to them. The reason for that was that the mills, due for modernisation, were pending before B.I.F.R.

Despite all these reasons, it was prepared. As was told that a revival plan was prepared in 1995 with a cost of Rs. two lakh five crore but we could not be able to obtain Rs. 1700 crore by selling the land of closed mills of Maharashtra. We could not sell that land. This scheme was prepared on the basis that modernisation will take place only after getting money from selling the land, but it could not be implemented.

Further a turn around plan was made in 1997 and it's total estimated cost was Rs. 2684.66 crore. It was discussed in the Cabinet and a Group of Ministers was prepared so that a detailed discussion could take place. On the basis of the decision taken by the Group of Ministers, the Ministry of Textiles was asked to prepare a paper as to how this plan could get success. On the basis of that whatever the strategy we are going to prepare—revival plan for 1998—is a plan consisting of three-four strategies. We will put up a comprehensive note before the Cabinet regarding that plan which is under consideration. Out of the 119 mills 37 viable mills will run under this. There are total 82 such mills as cannot run at all. I would like to say that still out of the 119 mills about 34 mills are such that are not running and they are totally closed. Mr. Pandeyji has just mentioned in his speech about the revival plan being prepared by us as to where the money will come from and after selling what type of land. The 34 viable mills possess about 298.4 acre land worth Rs. 733.95 crore and the unviable mills possess 1492.81 acre land worth Rs. 1947.62 crore. The cost of machinery is also included in that. The total estimated cost is Rs. 2786.56 crore. I would like to submit that the proposed plan would consist of viable, unviable as well as V.R.S.

An hon. Member has raised the issue of V.R.S. and asked as to what the V.R.S. is. We are still giving V.R.S. We are still giving the V.R.S. and the hon. Minister of Finance had declared one V.R.S. in Budget, but we believe and we have mentioned it in the revival plan 1998 that the workers should get incentive and the V.R.S. be implemented on the Gujarat pattern. I would like to say that the Government is determined

[Shri Kashiram Rana]

to execute the whole plan, which will be prepared, as quickly as possible. But it will also take time as it is not so that once it is decided, it will be implemented immediately.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, this whole strategy would go to the B.I.F.R. He will call the Unionists and discuss on the dues, whether statutory dues or any other dues, and I feel that all this consultation, perhaps, it may take one or two years in implementing this plan. But the Government will go ahead for its execution and implementation as early as possible.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, an issue regarding Expert Committee has also been raised. The details of the Expert Committee are asked. I would wish that we will constitute a separate commission in this regard if the approval of the Cabinet on the revival plan is achieved. A retired Judge of the Supreme Court will be nominated its Chairman, he will decide as to how their land is to be sold and this Committee will function on that basis. It is true that the production has come down in the Mill sector. But as I have told earlier that the production in Mill sector is decreasing because the numbers of Powerloom sector are increasing. The production in Powerloom sector is on the rise and when production in Powerloom sector increases then more labourers get job therefrom. As the decentralised units are being established, so efforts have been made to reduce the loss of mill sector. Our Government is very careful and concerned about our consumption and production availability in view of the increasing Powerloom sector. It is not so that the Textiles Mills don't get cotton yarn. There are so many mills which have many more problems perhaps they might not be getting yarn. But those mills which function properly, get yarn regularly. Production of cotton is also increased in the country. Last year 156 lakh bails of cotton were produced and this year 165 to 170 lakh bails of cotton will be produced. The production of cotton this year will increase in comparison to the last year.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Member of Parliament has raised the point that the Bank should give them loans to face the situation of recession. For this also the Ministry had called on a meeting of the officers of all the Financial Institutions in which we had asked the Chairman of all the institutions to provide financial assistance to the Powerloom sector, mill sector and to those who are engaged in spinning. They promised us that they would be ready to help them case by case and simultaneously we would monitor that they may get assistance from the Financial Institutions, and we would continue to watch such arrangements.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY (Mandsaur) : Hon'ble Minister, Sir, the rate of interest is too much, they are charged with 17-18 per cent interest, what are you doing for reducing the rate of interest?

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : As far as labourers are concerned the Government takes care that their livelihood may continue. The Government has always been concerned that no workers be retrenched and therefore, despite sickness of the N.T.C. we are giving wages to nearly 97 thousand workers and staff. We ensure least difficulties to the workers. But under the existing conditions of the N.T.C. all the workers want, if N.T.C. is unable to continue, to go after taking V.R.S.

18.00 hrs.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, in Gujarat, the Government of Gujarat and the workers of its 11 mills accepted the V.R.S. and the workers agreed upon that. When the trade unions realised that these mills cannot function and the public money is being wasted then they accepted V.C.R. and took retirement.

Sir, I want to tell that out of the 119 mills of N.T.C. efforts will be made to run most of the mills. Complete concentration will be paid for that and they will be modernised. Everything will be done as per the plan prepared for them. It will be our effort to ensure that we get maximum amount from the Government as loan without any interest and that we don't have to sell the lands of our mills. Such a scheme is under our revival plan.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Shri Amar Pal Singh has asked as to how many mills in U.P. are viable and how many are non-viable. In this regard I would like to submit that the full report has not yet been received. When the full and final report is received only then it will be clear about the number of mills worth running and not worth running. He has given a very good suggestion that Powerloom Development Corporation should be constituted. This is very good and worth suggestion. When Handloom Development Corporation is there in our country then we should not have any difficulty in setting up Powerloom Development Corporation. We will ponder over it positively. Shri Amar Pal Singh has raised an important issue regarding excessive rate of yarn. Let me tell that the rate of yarn in the market is already higher. From our side, the minimum support price of yarn has been fixed, but it is being purchased even at 40 to 50 per cent higher rate than that. The prices of yarn in the international market has fallen in comparison to our market. We have get information that the price of cotton yarn in our country is much higher, but it has not affected the N.T.C. mills. These prices were much higher well before the setting up of N.T.C. mills in our country. These N.T.C. mills have not closed down owing to the higher prices of cotton yarn. I would like to tell that we keep an monitoring the prices of cotton so that yarn can be made available to our cotton and Powerloom mills.

SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL (Nasik) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister has not replied that whether the money acquired from the sale of land of textile mills of Maharashtra would be utilised in Maharashtra itself?

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, many points have been raised here and one of them is that what is the total number of employees there. I would like to state that upto September there are 82,810 workers and 9,893 officers etc. Thus, the total number of employees of the N.T.C. is 96,370. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AMARPAL SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, my question is yet to be answered. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let the hon. Minister complete his answer.

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, hon. Supreme Court has given a direction regarding removal of disparity in the salary and accordingly we are asking opinion from the legal department for an amicable solution and on the basis of that we will proceed further.

I agree that the hon. Members have raised so many points but I have tried to answer some of them which were important. I believe that the condition of sickness of N.T.C. mills has not developed in recent days. Such condition exists since their nationalisation. Previous Governments have tried to correct it but they failed. I am confident that with the support of entire House and on the basis of new strategy, we will be able to solve the problems of NTC mills which are sick for years

[English]

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN (Quilon) : Sir, I want to raise one question.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down. He has given notice.

[Translation]

SHRI AMARPAL SINGH : My question was that whether the Budget allocation would be made as per the production in various sectors and whether the same assistance, which is being provided to the bogus co-operative societies in Handicraft, Powerloom and Handloom sector, would be provided to the private owners too?

[English]

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Sir, this is a suggestion for action. The Government will keep it in mind.

[Translation]

So far as Budget is concerned...*(Interruptions)* we will keep in mind the suggestions given by the hon. Members.

[English]

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Sir, I have got a pointed question.

MR. CHAIRMAN : So many people are asking for raising question without having given notice.

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : I want to know whether it has come to the notice of the hon. Minister that those mills which are viable are only 34. We had submitted a clean proposal regarding Parvati Mills, Kollam. It can be revived, but it has not been mentioned in the list of 34 mills...*(Interruptions)* It could well be revived. We, from the trade union, have submitted a very clean project and are the first who are entering into a long-term agreement. We are fully cooperating, but this mill is not included in the list of 34 mills which are supposed to be viable. I want to ask the hon. Minister whether it will be considered by the Minister after going through the details.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Minister, you need not reply. You note down.

Shri Premchandran, he will give reply later. Please sit down.

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Sir, the hon. Minister is ready to reply.

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : The entire proposal of the revival plan is under consideration so far. I will keep the suggestion of the hon. Member in mind.

SHRI C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN (Coimbatore) : Hon. Chairman, we are requesting the hon. Textiles Minister that cotton waste should not be exported because it is the raw material of the small open-end spinning mills. With that, the powerloom sector and the handloom sector will benefit highly by the low count yarn. We have already made this suggestion through the Standing Committee on Commerce. I hereby request the hon. Minister that at least in future, the cotton waste should not be exported from this country.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Janardan Prasad Misra.

SHRI T.R. BAALU (Madras South) : Sir, what is the reply from the Minister?

MR. CHAIRMAN : He need not reply to everything.

(Interruptions)

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : This is a suggestion.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, let him react. This is an important matter.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Everything is important. Please take your seat.

Now, we take up discussion under Rule 193. Shri Janardan Prasad Misra.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Damage to Crops due to Natural Calamities such as Floods, Cyclones etc.—*contd.*

18.08 hrs.

[Translation]

SHRI JANARDAN PRASAD MISRA (Sitapur) : Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, our country has been facing disasters due to natural calamities from time to time whether this disaster was due to the cyclone in Gujarat....(*Interruptions*) Mr. Chairman, Sir, I was saying that whether the damage has been done in Gujarat, Rajasthan and Maharashtra, due to the terrible cyclone in Gujarat or a heavy loss of life and property has been caused in Ukhimath, Rudraprayag and Pithoragarh due to the land slide in the Uttranchal of Uttar Pradesh.

In Malpa incidence, where Mansarovar pilgrims were staying the whole team was devastated. Due to awful rain and the flood in the rivers, crores of hectares of land has been affected in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Assam, Punjab, Andhra Pradesh and North-Eastern States. Their crops have been damaged. The water entered into the villages and it entered even into many cities, due to which roads have been damaged there. Thousands of people have lost their lives.

These natural calamities and disaster occur every year and at that time the Government announces some relief to cope with them. but their relief is like a drop in the ocean. The State Governments finds themselves unable to tackle with

18.10 hrs.

[SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH *in the Chair*]

these disasters, and therefore, look towards the Union Government for getting assistance. This time in 1998, about more than one crore people have become homeless due to the rain and floods. Their houses have fallen as the flood water entered into their houses, and many houses were washed away. The villages were washed away due to the erosion by the rivers and in Uttar Pradesh 53 districts of Gorakhpur, Deoria, Lakhimpur, Sitapur and Padrauna etc. of Eastern Uttar Pradesh have come in the slap of flood. While 53 districts in Uttar Pradesh, 28 in Bihar, 20 in Assam, seven in West Bengal have gone into the slap of flood, the Arunachal Pradesh and Meghalaya have been seriously affected. Every year the people residing in the basin of Ganga and lower areas of Brahmaputra are affected by floods in the monsoon season. The Kharif crops have been fully damaged where the flood has occurred. The epidemics are spreading there. People have been affected from infections disease, viral fever, diphoria etc. in 50 districts of Uttar Pradesh.

The hon'ble Prime Minister after visiting Uttar Pradesh and Assam had announced the assistance of Rs. 42 crore. but taking into account the loss of life and property and the damage of crops, no relief can be provided in those States with this meager amount of Rs. 42 crores. The flood water has entered into many cities and the houses have collapsed. The State Government provided assistance immediately. Efforts were made to evacuate the people from floods and meals were arranged for one time or two to survive, but loss of property and the damage to the crops will not be compensated.

There are several rivers which change their routes. There is Sharda river which emanates from the border of Nepal. When the flow of water is fast, such types of rivers change their direction and in this way they wash away the houses and properties of those villages which come in the way. Behraich, Lakhimpur and Sitapur have been affected so much that no village in the four Tehsils of Sitapur has been left without flood water. Heavy devastation has taken place in Gorakhpur, Deoria and Padrauna due to which life has been scattered over there. Many roads, dams bridge-culvert have been damaged and a lot of money is required for their repairing. The hon. Prime Minister has given a relief of Rs. 300 crore but it is not enough to sort out the problem of distress caused by the loss of life and property.

I want to give some suggestions to the Government to tackle the terror of the flood. The Government should extend relief under the Indira Avas Yojna to those people whose houses have been destroyed in the flood affected areas. The rivers which change their routes, as I have mentioned about the river Sharda, if embankments are constructed on both sides of these rivers, a very large area and many villages can be saved from coming in the slap of these rivers.

The previous Government has fully exhausted the Natural Calamity Fund. So, the Union Government is not able to extend assistance from the Natural Calamity Fund. My suggestion is that the amount of this fund should be increased from Rs. 700 crore so that the natural calamities could be fought well. This Fund should be made permanent one.

My one suggestion is that whether it is Ganga, Brahmaputra, Sharda, Saryu or Yamuna, it should be restricted by making some embankments thereon. Some centres have been established by our scientists to provide the information of such disasters. If something can be done to provide the advance information of such disaster, so that the people residing on the banks of the rivers can get prior information, then that prior information can provide a lot of relief and the people can come on higher places after leaving their household and houses. The water has just been released from some of the dams. The water was released from Haryana which caused flood in Delhi. Similarly, the water was released from the Sharda Barrage situated in district Pilibheet due to which water

level of all the rivers went up which caused heavy damage to the crops. So, I request that the State Government, particularly the Uttar Pradesh, whose 53 districts are affected with the fury of flood, be given special relief.

With these words, I conclude my speech and thank you.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you very much that you have given me a chance to speak under Rule 193.

The hon. Minister is sitting here and I would like to tell him that the area of my whole Parliamentary Constituency Chail is in length. On its one side is river Ganga and on the other side is river Yamuna and whenever the flood comes, it becomes horrible and particularly the crops of those villages which are situated along the river Ganga and Yamuna are destroyed and the water enters into the villages. On the other hand the devastation caused by the flood in Poorvanchal this year, is known to everyone. The flood has caused havoc in the districts of whole Poorvanchal Allahabad, Balia, Gazipur, Jaunpur and Gorakhpur. Such a heavy river erosion took place in some villages of Khaga and Sirathu that whenever the flood comes the river changes its route after the flood which costs heavy losses, particularly not only the people of upper areas but also the farmers of Kachchara, who grow peas and vegetables and by which they earn their livelihood, but due to this flood they are facing starvation. I would like to request the hon. Minister to pay the attention on it.

All of my friends from Poorvanchal are sitting here. They know that when flood came in the Poorvanchal, the whole village was devastated. The Government of Uttar Pradesh may be directed to provide houses under the Indira Avas Yojna or Nirmal Avas Yojna to the people of Schedule Castes, backward classes or weaker section whose houses were collapsed. This amount is not sufficient so by providing some more amount, the houses should be constructed for those people who are left over with nothing but their lives only. Secondly, the grants or loans should be given to them under the special schemes of Government of Uttar Pradesh and the Centre, so that they may get jobs and earn their livelihood.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh provide a lot of money in the name of relief work but due to the people engaged in relief work, the displaced persons don't accrue any benefit from the relief measures. The reality is that a large scale bungling takes place. So, my suggestion is that a team of voluntary organisations and political groups should be formed there which should conduct survey of the works there so that the money given by the Government of Uttar Pradesh and by the Union Government can be utilised properly.

Second thing, I would like to thank the Army and the voluntary organisations that they have stopped the flood in the

Poorvanchal as if it was their own home. One more thing on which I would like to draw attention of hon. Minister is that due to the so much water coming from Nepal to Poorvanchal, a heavy destruction takes place. The Government should talk to the Government of Nepal and sort out this problem.

Lastly, I would like to give a few suggestions to the Government. The problem of flood remains due to the problem of sand in the rivers. The Government should make an arrangement to remove this. At the same time, an arrangement should be made for erosion too so that the people residing along the rivers can be benefited.

Sir, I thank you very much for giving me a chance to speak.

SHRI LAKSHMAN CHANDRA SETH (Tamluk) : Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Sir, for giving me an opportunity to participate in the discussion regarding natural calamities. It has become a regular feature in our country. Floods, cyclones and drought are important features of natural calamities. The cyclones cannot be tackled, but floods and drought can be tackled. Preventive measures can be taken up to combat the devastation caused by cyclone. In the coastal areas, every year cyclones take place. Haldia, Digha which belong to the district of Midnapore and Andaman are some coastal areas which are being devastated by the cyclones. It is an unfortunate event. But it can be easily calculated as to in which part of the coastal area, the cyclone would affect every year. So, certain preventive measures can be taken up to combat the devastation.

Disaster management has failed to tackle the situation. Whenever cyclones take place, heavy devastation takes place, causing damage to houses, paddy crops, uprooting the trees, etc. In the age of advanced technology and science, so many things can be taken up to combat devastation.

I think, in West Bengal, floods are taking place because of the faulty design of the DVC. The total plan of the DVC has not been implemented. Because of the partial implementation of the DVC, Bengal is affected floods every year. The officers concerned are allowing water to flow into West Bengal because the capacity of the DVC is not adequate to accommodate the heavy rainfall.

I think this should be tackled very seriously. In northern part of West Bengal, particularly in Midnapore, there is drought every year. I think natural calamities like flood and cyclone can be tackled by making enough provisions. In northern and southern part of West Bengal, every year there is flood. The rivers are full of silt. Due to the erosion of the river embankments and because of the flood waters of the Bay of Bengal, heavy siltation takes place in the river beds. Since there is a heavy siltation, when it rains heavily, all the areas are flooded. There is no scheme for any reservoir to reserve

[Shri Lakshman Chandra Seth]

the water. If we make provision for reservoirs, we would be able to tackle the flood very effectively. We will be able to use that water for irrigation also in the future. If there is no rain, that water can be used for irrigation.

Since there is no enough water, the water becomes saline. Sometimes, due to acute famine, there is a crisis for potable water. Since there is more salinity in the Ganges, irrigation is also seriously affected which affect the cultivation in turn. I think this problem can be easily tackled. But the Government should make sincere effort and attempt to tackle all these issues. Every year we are either facing either flood or famine or both. The Government should evolve some method so that we can combat these natural calamities. Whenever there is flood or drought or cyclone, the Government is providing under the National Calamity Relief Fund. But the amount provided is not sufficient and it is not timely. Four or five months after the devastation takes place, when the poor people are rendered homeless and when the roads are damaged, Government of India sends some money to the State Governments. My proposal is that suitable fund should be provided in advance to each State Government which are cyclone prone, drought prone and flood prone so that they can easily tackle the situation. Whenever any particular State is affected by flood or drought, that particular State can effectively deal with the situation by providing the funds. So, I would like to put an earnest request to the hon. Minister to look into this matter. The Government should set up reservoirs so that the water can be stored and desilt the rivers in order to increase their capacity to accommodate the heavy rain. The Government should pay special attention to coastal areas because you all know that whenever cyclone hits a particular place, the water of the under soil goes down. In the coastal areas, a special fund should be provided for providing drinking water. As I said earlier, due to the salinity of the water, it becomes useless for irrigation and irrigation does not take place. That is why special arrangement should be made so that rain water can be used for irrigation in coastal areas. If the Government takes all these measures, these natural calamities can be tackled. We can tackle floods and droughts.

It is also found that funds from the Natural Calamity Relief fund are not equally distributed among the States. Some States are deprived of the fund while others are benefited. There is no methodology available with the Centre. A Committee consisting of the representatives of the State Governments should be formed which should allocate funds to different States according to the degree of devastation caused. This methodology should be evolved otherwise, a number of States stand benefited while others are getting deprived of the fund. This is my submission. In this age of advanced science and technology, we are not able to tackle the devastation caused by these natural calamities. This is unpalatable, undesirable.

Today, when the man has reached moon, we are not able to tackle these natural calamities. It is very unfortunate. So, I request the hon. Minister, while replying to the debate, to reply to this important issue in a very positive manner.

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI (Kutch) : I congratulate Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee to have raised this very important issue. As we know, every year different parts of our country face different calamities. This year the North-eastern region has faced a severe calamity. This year, Gujarat, particularly Kutch district, has faced an unprecedented cyclone with the result poor labourers have lost their lives. About 3000 to 4000 poor labourers have lost their lives and many more have lost their homes and shelters. Kutch district is facing acute shortage of drinking water. For the last 15 years Kutch has faced about 32 droughts with the result poor farmers have to migrate from there. The cattle breeders of that district have no other option but to leave that place. About 3000 people have lost their lives this year and yet no special fund has been received by Gujarat State. The State of Gujarat has requested the Centre to provide for at least about Rs. 610 crore. In one of the replies, the Central Government had stated that in 1998-99, Rs. 116.20 crore had been released. While in other reply, it has been stated that for the year 1998-99, Rs. 150.83 crore has been released. Different answers have been given at different times. We have asked for the rehabilitation of labourers of Kandla who have lost their lives. About 3000 houses are to be constructed. There is no plan with the Government as to how to go about this. Gujarat Government has agreed to provide one-third of the money but where from the rest of the money will come? Till it comes, houses will not be constructed and the poor farmers will have to remain without shelter. I would request the hon. Minister to immediately release this fund because this is an unprecedented year because of the unprecedented cyclone which Kutch district has faced. The Kutch Port Trust has given some land. These workers were attached to the Kandla Port. This is the only salt-producing area in the country and it produces almost 60 per cent of the salt being produced in the country. So, I would request that the workers should be given shelter. Kandla Port Trust has got some reserve fund. The Central Government should ask the Trust to give this money.

Sir, as you know, the Kutch district which has a very large area spread over 45000 sq kilometers facing famine after famine every year. During the last 50 years, we had faced 32 famine. People have migrated from there. We have a very small vegetation on Southern coast to Mandvi, Mundra and Anjar Taluka. We had some fruit bearing trees of kharek, Chickoo and Mango. Only kharek trees are being grown in Kutch. This year due to cyclone we have lost about 12 to 15 lakhs of trees in this cyclone. Now, these farmers should be given long-term assistance by way of soft interest loans. They should be provided with seeds and other facilities. If these facilities are not given to them, these farmers who had grown

trees by their labour of 30 to 40 years, will perish. The landless labourers who are dependent on them have got no other job. Therefore, I request the hon. Minister that the Government should make some provision for the long-term assistance.

As regards landless labourers, there should be some special housing scheme like Indira Avas Yojana. Some Special Yojana should be provided there. The Government says that it will be considered in the meetings of the Natural Calamity Relief Fund and Inter-Ministerial Group. I do not know when it will be considered. The Gujarat Government had demanded Rs. 610 crore to meet the damages. No doubt, the damage is much more, as Kandla itself has suffered a loss of Rs. 300 crore. The property worth more than Rs. 2,000 crore has been lost and 4,000 persons have lost their valuable lives. If shelter is not provided to the poor labourers, what will happen to them? So, I earnestly request the hon. Minister to see that some special provision is made for the Kutch district.

[Translation]

SHRI BUTA SINGH (Jalore) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, so far the discussions have been held on natural calamities, flood and cyclone in this House but nobody has discussed about drought here. A large portion of Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan and Gujarat of our country comes under dry farming. A vast area of about thousand miles of this belt remains dry without rain. In this regard, the condition in Rajasthan is worst. The water remains for only 2-3 months in a year in the rivers flowing from the State and due to non-utilization of this water, it disappears within 3-4 hours. During rainy season these rivers flow in a high speed causing destruction of number of villages. Jodhpur, Pali, Nagore, Jalore and Barmer districts of West Rajasthan, Ran of Kutch adjacent to Gujarat and its adjoining area of about 150-200 miles are the very much drought affected areas. The water level has gone so low that there is not even a single drop of water. The situation is so dangerous that even if the water is available anywhere, it contains poisonous substance in it causing deformities leading to the diseases in which the people of that particular area develop hump on their backs as well as crooked and bend bones and they die in their early age also. A thousand lacs of people are becoming victims of this fatalic disease. The most unfortunate thing is that by the time the report of the State reaches in Delhi, it is already rained and the Government of India says that there is no more drought in the State. Therefore, no relief work is initiated. I remember that during the years 1985, 1986 and 1988 there was a severe drought in Rajasthan that the then Prime Minister allocated 10 lacs tonne foodgrains to the State Government and that relief work continued for three years. It gave real relief to the farmers there.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is really a problem for the farmers and people of that area, thousands of cattle of farmers die due to lack of fodder. In my constituency, due to the lack

of fodders, people take hundreds of their cattle for grazing to the nearby areas such as Madhya Pradesh or Uttar Pradesh, where their cattle are made captive, graziers are beaten and looted. Hundreds of cattle of graziers are made captive in Delhi itself. Therefore, I would like to say to the hon'ble Minister that he should send a special team to Rajasthan, conduct study of West Rajasthan and initiate the relief work there immediately so as to provide relief to the people there. Even potable water is not available to the people of that area. The water level has gone so low there that the State Government has no ways and means to raise the water level. They have to install very deep wells. Efforts should be made by the Government of India to provide at least potable water to the people by installing there deep wells so as to save the lives of the people. Their life mainly depends on the cattle. The cattle have been ruined, thousands of cows have died in West Rajasthan. I would like to make a special appeal to the hon'ble Minister to send a special team to the Western Parts of Rajasthan so that the people there can be able to get potable water and fodder should also be sent there for their cattle so that people can get some relief.

I thank you for allowing me to speak and with these words, I conclude my speech.

SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jahanabad) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the discussions are being held here under Rule 193 in respect of the losses incurred to the crops due to the natural calamities such as flood, cyclone etc. Destruction has taken place at a large scale in Bihar State due to flood. In North Bihar, Madhubani, Khagana, Supauli, Sitamarhi districts etc. have suffered a lot, people are facing many hardships due to flood and at this time of calamity, I would like to say through you and this House that the Government of India has done nothing. When some big calamity comes, we take care of it but the Government of India did not think even to take care of it. I would like to thank the hon'ble Chief Minister, Smt. Rabri Devi for combating this sort of problem with great courage. In the history of Bihar, nobody except his Government under the leadership of the hon'ble Chief Minister Smt. Rabri Devi has provided so much assistance in the form of foodgrains or money to the victims of the flood so far. She announced to provide one quintal wheat to each family and provided one quintal i.e. 100 Kg wheat, rupees 200 from the exchequer for salt, oil etc. to each family and rupees 200 per family for treatment of their cattle and fodder for cattle. It was all done by the State Government but the Union Government, at the time of such crisis instead of providing assistance, submitted the Vananchal Bill to the House particularly when the sitting of the House was called to discuss the flood problem as well as the action to be taken by the State Government in this regard.

A sitting of the House was held to discuss the calamity of flood as to how the situation can be tackled, how this problem

[Shri Surendra Prasad Yadav]

can be faced. At the same time the Vananchal Bill was submitted to the vote of the House. Therefore, I would like to say that the discussions are being held about the loss of crop but farmers in Bihar sowed this crop not only once but the sowed it thrice and when the crop grew up, it was infected with the severe disease and the crop was damaged. The houses, which were collapsed at a large scale due to flood, were not built again. The Union Government have in their reply had stated that they have not received the list from the State Government. I would like to challenge the Union Government through you that they have received the list for construction of houses from the State Government. They are just telling a lie that they have not received any list.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, with this, I would also like to make a submission through you that if we want to save Bihar from the disaster of the flood, there is only one solution to it i.e. if a dam is constructed at the point in Nepal where the rivers like Kamla, Kosi, Bagmati and Adhwara originate, then Bihar will be highly obliged. It will produce so much electricity there that Bihar can supply it out of the State also and it will be free from the fear of flood forever. I would like to give two suggestions to the Union Government that if you want a permanent solution to the fury of flood, then you should construct a dam in Nepal after negotiating with them. My second suggestion is that though you did nothing at the time of this crisis, but still you can favour them by providing them money under Indira Awas Yojana for the construction of the houses of poor people which were collapsed and destroyed due to the flood. Bihar State will be highly obliged to you. With these words, I conclude.

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN (Sonapat) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, a special discussion is going on in this House about the destruction caused by the flood and drought in the entire country. Our 80 per cent population depends on agriculture, they are farm labourers and a major portion of this big population is affected with the natural calamities every year, either it is a drought or a flood.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, today we are celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Independence. But no solution is found to this severe problem for the last 50 years. There are many problems such as starvation, unemployment, price rise and population. Similarly, the people of this country are also affected by the flood or any other natural calamity. This is a very severe problem. This country suffers a loss of billions of rupees every year in any form. Almost every part of the State is affected either by flood or cyclone or drought. The farmers, farm labourers are ruined and are always in loss due to it. So far as Haryana State is concerned, this State has been the victim of the flood for the last 50 years continuously. There must be some States where flood comes rarely. But in our State,

out of 19 districts, about 12 districts are always affected by the flood every year.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, seven districts are affected by the drought. The farmers are always ruined either by the flood or by the drought and it is a matter of regret that nothing has been done in this regard for the last 50 years. It is but natural that the farmers who are the victims of these calamities, will demand for the compensation and assistance. We spend too much money for flood relief every year, if we collect the amount of 2-3 years together and spend it in cleaning of drains or digging of new drains, then this problem will be solved for good. But we do not do that. When the flood comes and farmers demand compensation, then a meager amount is given to them for this assistance which is misutilised. The farmers do not get that money. That money instead of reaching to the farmers, goes to the middlemen's pockets. When the flood comes again, then the same process is repeated by the Government. I urge that a special attention should be paid on it.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the farmer is a poor fellow who depends on nature. Floods, drought, shortage of electricity and fertiliser and root cause of his problems. This time, our farmers are facing lot of problems due to shortage of fertiliser and electricity. In our State, the farmers were harassed and when they resorted to agitation, that was suppressed them and there our leaders are behind the bars for the last two-three years. They are not being released. The farmers had to resort to agitation due to electricity factor and as a result of which they were put behind the bars. Several farmers are facing prosecution cases. Shri Ghosi Ram Nain one of the great and eminent leader of our farmers union is in prison for the last three months. He has not yet been released from the prison. We have requested for his release time and again, but he has not been released so far and is still in jail.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we had also met the Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee in connection with the floods in Haryana. He had also assured us. He was also aware of the fact that we have suffered a heavy loss in Haryana, but, to my knowledge, we have not received any help so far. We have suffered a loss of rupees 2200 crores. As against it, if any help is provided by the Union Government, that will be of little importance because we know that the Government resources are limited and farmers suffered a heavy loss. Therefore, the farmer cry in distress and expects the Government to come forward and provide relief to him. The God is the saviour of farmers and agriculture in our country totally depends on him.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am happy that our Minister of Agriculture has formulated the crop insurance scheme for the farmers. Though I have not gone through the same, it has been published in newspapers. I think that this is a welcome

step and this is a very long pending demand of the farmers to which Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture has now paid attention. This time, the Minister of Agriculture has fixed the rate of wheat at rupees 550 per quintal. Though according to agricultural experts and the Agricultural Price Commission, the cost of production of wheat comes to rupees 700 per quintal but I feel that during the Congress rule, the farmers never got enhanced price of wheat higher than rupees one, rupees two and three per quintal. However, this has happened for the first time during the rule of this Government that the farmers have got the enhanced price at the rate of rupees 95 per quintal. We know that this price of wheat is less than the actual cost incurred by the farmer but I consider it a very big achievement.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to request the Government through you that keeping in view the flood situation, our areas which are affected by flood and famine, should be protected and the farmers of the affected areas should be provided maximum help.

Those farmers should be provided maximum assistance and alongwith assistance, such a project should be prepared

for ever that the farmers do not have to face any such compulsion again. In order to ensure that they do not have to wander here and there, money should be diverted towards the projects instead of diverting the same to that side. The drains should be cleaned and all arrangements should be made to control flood before time. Just now, Shri Buta Singhji was saying that there is famine in one area while on the other, there is flood situation. So, you should prepare such a project which can be helpful in diverting the flood water to the dry areas. It will serve both the purposes that is the floods can be controlled and the drought can be done away with. With this, I conclude my speech. Thank you very much.

MR. CHAIRMAN . The House now stand adjourned to meet tomorrow at 11.00 a.m.

19.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the
Clock on Tuesday, December 22, 1998/
Pausa 1, 1920 (Saka)*