

LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

Second Session
(Eighth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Tuesday April 9, 1985|Chaitra 19, 1907
(Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have to inform the House of the sad demise of Shri Ganapati Ram who was a member of First, Second and Third Lok Sabha during 1952-1967 representing Jaunpur and Machhlishahr constituencies of Uttar Pradesh respectively.

A well known social worker, he devoted his entire life for the upliftment of Scheduled Castes and weaker sections of the Society. He was associated with several social organisations besides being a member of Planning, Hospital and Anti-Corruption Committees of Banaras and Jaunpur.

Shri Ganapati Ram passed away on April 3, 1985, at Jaunpur (U.P.) at the age of 59 years.

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 stand in silence for a short while to express its sorrow.

The Member then stood in silence for a short while.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Location of Industries in 'no-industry districts' in Orissa

*344. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of letters of intent issued for location of medium/large industries in the no-industry districts in Orissa during the last year ;

(b) the number of applications for location of such industries in these districts in Orissa pending and by when these will be cleared ; and

(c) the incentives provided to industrialists to locate their industries in 'no-industry districts' ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : a) to (c) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) During the year 1984 and January-March, 1985, 6 letters of intent were granted for setting up industries in 'no-industry districts' of Orissa state.

(b) As on 1-4-1985, 3 applications for grant of letters of intent for location of industries in the 'no-industry districts' of Orissa were under consideration in the Secretariat for Industrial Approvals. It is constant endeavour of the Government to dispose of all pending industrial licence applications as expeditiously as possible.

(c) With effect from 1-4-1983, the 'No-Industry Districts' have been included in Category 'A' of Backward Areas and entrepreneurs setting up industries in these districts are given over-riding priority in the grant of industrial licences, highest rate of Central Investment Subsidy @ 25% subject to a maximum of Rs. 25 lakhs, concessional finance facilities from All-India Term Lending Institutions, tax concessions, hire purchase of machinery by small scale industries, consultancy for technical services, interest subsidy, seed/margin money assistance and comprehensive range of extension services and support through the District Industries Centres. MRTP/FERA Compa-

nies have been permitted to set up Non-Appendix-I industries not reserved for small scale sector with an export obligation of 30% only.

Government have also decided to provide assistance for development of infrastructural facilities in identified growth centres in 'No Industry Districts' by State Governments to the extent of 1/3rd of the total cost subject to a ceiling of Rs. 2 crores per district.

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : The Minister has not replied when these applications will be cleared. In his statement, in reply to (c), he states as follows :

"Government have also decided to provide assistance for development of infrastructural facilities in identified growth centres in 'No Industry Districts' by State Governments to the extent of 1/3rd of the total cost subject to a ceiling of Rs. 2 crores per district."

I just cannot make out from this whether the State Governments are in a position to do it by themselves because they are economically backward States and economically backward districts are also there. I want to know from the Minister whether Central assistance for development of infrastructural facilities can be provided. With this assistance how it has helped them in location of new industries in these districts and to what extent? What was the position before the provision of this assistance and now it has helped them in the location of new industries after the provision of assistance for development of infrastructural facilities?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : Sir, the hon. Member wanted to know why the applications for letter of intent in 'no-industry districts' of Orissa are still pending with the Ministry. As I have already informed the hon. Member, there are only three applications which are pending with the Ministry, and these applications have been filed for letter of intent only recently. One application was filed on 24-11-1984, another application was filed on 28-3-1985 and the third application was filed on

1-3-1985. We will see that these applications are processed as early as possible and a final decision is taken.

The hon. Member wanted to know whether adequate financial assistance is being provided by the Government of India for creating infrastructure.

This is the pattern of assistance that we have evolved and we have approved it, and this scheme has been introduced in 1982-83, under the 'no-industry district' concept and for improving the industrial development in other areas wherever there is regional imbalance. So, it is too early for me to say whether the scheme has worked well or not. We have to take a view in this matter after some time.

I would like to take this opportunity and announce certain decisions of the Government that have been taken very recently. As the hon. Members are aware, this scheme of removing the regional imbalances of 'no-industry district' and other backward areas was introduced in 1983. This 'no-industry district' concept was introduced on 1-4-1983 and it was up to the end of Sixth Plan period. That means it expired on 31-3-1985. Before that we had to take a decision whether we should continue the scheme or whether we have to modify it. In that connection the Government have taken a decision very recently that the central incentive scheme for industrialisation of the backward areas and industrial dispersal which expired on 31-3-1985 should be extended for another year, that is, till 31-3-1986. The scheme will be comprehensively reviewed and for this purpose an inter-ministerial group comprising representatives of the Ministry of Finance, Planning Commission and the Ministry of Industry is being constituted.

I may also add that the districts of Barmer and Churu in Rajasthan which were left out earlier should now be included in Category 'A' as 'no-industry district' with effect from 1-4-1985.

As earlier announced in the Rajya Sabha the district of Ghat Shiroli in Maharashtra has also been included as a "no-industry district" with effect from 1-4-1985.

In order to promote electronic industries in the hilly districts the existing ceiling of Rs. 25 lakhs has been increased to Rs. 50 lakhs, the percentage of subsidy, however, remain at 25 per cent. It is hoped that this special incentive will give impetus to entrepreneurs intending to set up electronic industries in the hill districts.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : It is good that he has made the announcement in the House, not outside.

MR. SPEAKER : He has taken the cue from you.

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : In reply to part (c) of my question the hon. Minister has mentioned that the MRTP/FERA companies have been permitted to set up Non-Appendix-I industries. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the MRTP houses will be persuaded to set up industries in 'no-industry' districts by relaxing the licensing norms for them. Now that the limit has been raised to Rs. 100 crores many erst-while MRTP houses will be free to set up industries anywhere they like.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : And do whatever they like.

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will it not affect the progress of industrialisation of 'no-industry districts' ? Will the Government look into the matter and examine this if it is so, what steps are going to be taken by the Ministry ?

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : Even after this scheme, the MRTP houses, non-MRTP houses and other entrepreneurs they are at liberty to establish or set up industries wherever they want. But the incentive is there for them, if they want to set up any industry. They are entitled to certain subsidy, cash subsidy and also to help from financial institutions.

They are entitled for other financial relief. That is why, there are three categories—A, B, and C. In the case of category A, they will get Central cash subsidy upto 25 per cent or Rs. 25 lakhs, whichever is less. In the case of Category B, they will get 15 per cent or Rs. 15 lakhs whichever is less. In the case of Category C, they will get 10 per cent or Rs. 10 lakhs

whichever is less. Other financial concessions will also follow. Therefore, it is for both the sectors to avail of those incentives as they have been offered in order to attract more and more industries in the backward areas. It is for the entrepreneurs to take advantage of those incentives.

SHRI KOLANDAIVELU : The hon. Prime Minister has announced some time in March that heavy industries would be set up in no industry areas of each and every district. Is the Government going to set up heavy industries in each and every district ; if so, what are the steps taken so far ?

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : I do not know which statement the hon. Member is referring to. As I have said, if either sector or any organisation or an individual wants to set up any industry in backward areas and other areas some incentives have been provided. It is for them to take advantage of those incentives.

SHRI KOLANDAIVELU : Will the Government take steps to put up heavy industries in each and every district ?

MR. SPEAKER : You have to ask a separate question for that.

SHRI JAGANNATH RAO : Apart from the incentives that are going to be given to the intending industrialists to set up industries in backward areas, lack of power is the main impediment as power is the greatest infrastructure. Will the Government take steps to set up power plants in backward areas to facilitate setting up industries by the private industry ?

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : I agree with the hon. Member that whatever incentives we may offer unless infrastructural facilities are available nobody is prepared to go there. That is why, for providing infrastructural facilities Government of India has come forward and told the State Governments that it is going to contribute so much for creating infrastructural facilities. To create infrastructural facilities including power is mainly the responsibility of the State Government. If they create facilities lot of people will go there.

PROF. K.K. TEWARI : This question requires half-an-hour discussion.

MR. SPEAKER : No problem. You can give notice.

ONGC's Assistance to China

*345. SHRI SHIVENDRA BAHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether China has approached Oil & Natural Gas Commission to assist them in various projects in China ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI SHIVENDRA BAHADUR SINGH : I would insist upon the hon. Minister to again verify whether the Chinese Government has approached ONGC or not, because it has appeared in the press. I would also like to know in case they are approached, what will be the reaction of the Government ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : It had appeared only in the 'National Herald'. That is why, the Minister had not taken it seriously.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : I take every paper seriously and the 'National Herald' much more seriously.

Whatever reply I have given I stand by that. The question which has been put by my friend is that whether China has approached ONGC to assist them in various projects in China. I say that there is no specific proposal which has been made by China to India. Of course, there has been some sort of interaction between ONGC and China for the last few years and there have been certain exchange of delegations also.

But that does not mean that there is a proposal on the part of the Chinese Government to the ONGC for assistance in the various projects.

SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM : Sir, I will put the question in a rather reverse way. Did our country approach any

other country to help ONGC and, if so, what are the countries and what are the promises made by those countries ?

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : Many countries have approached us in the exploration and survey.....(Interruption)

SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM : My question is what are the countries whom we have approached to help ONGC.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : That does not arise out of this question. I require a separate notice for that.

SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM : Is China included in those countries ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : He is allowed to reverse the question, Sir.

SHRI G. G. SWELL : Sir, I am happy that the Minister has cleared a little bit of confusion which appeared in the national Press. On the face of what he has said, the very question appears to be unlikely. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he is in a position to confirm or deny these figures that in 1979, China produced 106 million tonnes of crude oil which placed China amongst the first ten oil producers in the world. The report is that today they are producing something in the region of 300 million tonnes and are heading towards 450 million tonnes which would place them amongst the first five oil producers in the world. So, I would like to know whether some American geologists have estimated that China will soon overtake the Soviet Union in the field of oil technology. Most of this oil is, of course, on-shore and the Chinese have almost opened the doors wide to multinationals to explore oil in their off-shore areas which are rich in hydro-carbon. On the face of it, do you consider it ever likely that China will approach us or we will approach China ?

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : So far as the question of the production that China is having, I do not have the exact figures. But to the best of my knowledge and information, China is making great strides towards the production of oil. I do not know whether it would be able to outbeat Russia in the matter of oil. I

have no information, so, I would not be able to say authoritatively on that. We do not have any authoritative information with regard to production to other countries. Whatever little we get from the newspapers.....(*Interruption*).

SHRI G.G. SWELL : You should have more information than I have.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : That is true but I too do not have the access to the other countries' oil production programme and all such things.....(*Interruption*).

MR. SPEAKER : Get some help from Mr. Swell.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : Sometimes whatever we know through the papers, that is the information which is available with us. So far as the other part of his question is concerned, I do not think that requires any answer.

Micro-Wave Telecommunication System

*346. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the steps Government propose to take to improve the present telecommunication system in the country ;

(b) whether Government propose to replace micro-wave system for communication in place of existing under-ground cable system ; and

(c) if so, the time by which the network of communication based on micro-wave will be commenced in rural areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The present telecommunications system is under continuous development and improvement through installation of Micro-wave, Ultra high frequency, Coaxial and Optical Fibre Systems for long distance communication between major cities and by Multi-Access Rural Radio System and Integrated Digital Networks in secondary areas.

(b) and (c) : Microwave systems are not a replacement for cable systems but are complimentary back up to the existing underground cable system. Microwave

systems are not planned for rural communications. However, MARR systems in VHF band and U.H.F. systems have been planned and these are expected to cover the rural area substantially during the 7th Plan period.

SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI : In metropolitan cities like Bombay, Calcutta and Madras faults in the communication are very frequent and the failure of the telecommunication system every time gives rise to traffic problem. So, I would like to know whether in order to avoid these present traffic problems there is any proposal to do away with the present underground cable system in the metropolitan cities ?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : The cable system in the metropolitan cities cannot be totally replaced. Of course, we are trying to replace the cables which are old and damaged. We are also introducing, wherever it is feasible, micro-wave system in the cities by putting them on tall buildings and at other places. But we have no such proposal at present and it is not possible also as has been suggested by the hon. Member.

SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI : Is the micro-wave system cheaper than the underground cables ?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : They serve two different purposes. The micro-wave system is used where there is line on site and where there is no obstruction and where cables can be laid anywhere. So, it is on a certain geographical consideration. When the topography can permit it, it is only then that the micro-wave system can be used. But I can assure the hon. Member that in the metropolitan cities particularly, the cable system which is out-moded or which has outlived its useful life, we are trying to gradually replace it. This is one of our important programmes in the Seventh Plan.

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I congratulate the Government for adopting the latest technology in the field of tele-communication during the Sixth Five-Year Plan. Our multi-purpose satellite INSAT-1B is well equipped with 8,000 useful channels for tele-commu-

nication network. I understand that Multi-Access Rural Radio System and Ultra High Frequency system would be operated through the INSAT-IB. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether a detailed national programme has been worked out by his Ministry for the optimum use of INSAT-IB facilities during the Seventh Five-Year Plan period? If so, how an integrated and economical approach would be possible between the present system, micro-wave system, U.H.F. system and the Optical Fibre Systems.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : The hon. Member started with the Satellite. The Satellite is already there.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Thank him for congratulations.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Yes, Sir, I must thank the hon. Member for complimenting the Government on the latest technology that we are adopting. The instance he has given of the Satellite is certainly the latest technology and we are making full use of that. INSAT-IB has about 4,000 channels—8,000 channels if we take it both ways. Of this 2,000 have already been utilised and 2,000 i.e. the rest of the channels, will be utilised during this year. In other words, it will be fully utilised by the end of this year. We are fully conscious of the use that we are making of it.

As regards the use of Satellite for the MARR system in the rural areas, we have not found it possible or economical to do that. We have other uses for long distance transmission, as for example, between the metropolitan cities or the Adnan and Nicobar Islands or in other places. But for the rural areas we have devised a special system, which, as I said, is the Multi-Access Rural Radio system which will cover areas within 50 kilometres radius with the telephone services. It will be connected by wireless, which means VHF system and other similar systems. So, this is the type of development we want in the rural areas. But the Satellite would be used for high traffic areas and for long distance transmission.

As regards the Optical Fibre system, that is the latest technology and I would

again thank Mr. Swell for pointing to this very important latest technology development and bringing to the notice of the Government and the House about the use that we propose to make of it. We are very much conscious of it and as I said on that day, we have laid some experimental coaxial cables in Poona, we want to lay more of them in the city of Bombay, one long distance one between Ahmedabad and Baroda is proposed. Not only that, we have gone further and we want that Hindustan Cables Ltd. should go in for the manufacture of optical fibre cables in our country. This is the programme that we have.

MR SPEAKER : We have now new experts, you see, for fisheries, oil and communications.

SHRI G.G. SWELL : We would like more of them, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : Add to your number, Sir, I have no objection.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, communication in the House should be improved.

[Translation]

SHRI BALKAVI BAIKAGI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to have information with regard to parts (b) and (c) of this question. How is it that when the activities of forward trading start in the Stock Exchange, your entire system comes to life and, secondly, by what time will you be able to link the Panchayat Headquarters of the entire country through P.C.O.s under the present system?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Sir, the question of linking Panchayat Headquarters through P.C.O.s. depends upon the quantum of allocation that is made for the purpose during the Seventh Five-Year Plan. We certainly have formulated a scheme to carry these telephone services deep into the rural areas, but the allocation which we shall be getting from the Planning Commission is being discussed. As I said in my reply to the main question, we are using two types of systems to which I have already referred. It is also our endeavour to provide a very good telephone facility in the rural areas.

[English]

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a well-known fact the world over that now information systems are being communicated on telephone lines, especially data. We get our PTI scan in fact through one of those systems and our Indian Airlines booking is also dependent on the telephone system. It is a fact that our telephones fail often. Is the Ministry proposing to dedicate lines for these, i. e., dedicate special lines and special means of communication either through micro-wave or UHF, whichever is the system? I would like to know whether the Minister is aware that this is the situation that has developed and what the Ministry is planning to meet the future needs of digital data communication?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Sir, in addition to the voice telephones we have a big plan for data communication and facsimile communication and even now we have some dedicated lines for the purpose. But to what extent we can spare the existing voice telephone lines to this system again depends on what traffic is available on that particular line in that particular area, and above all, as I said earlier, on what provision we get from the Planning Commission to put up these schemes.

Foreign Technology in essential fields

*347. **SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSHI :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government intend to import technology in essential fields like telephones, telex, trunks etc., and if so, the policy in regard thereto ; and

(b) the fields in which foreign technology is acceptable and those in which foreign technology will not be permitted ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

A broad technology base has been established in the country for manufacture

of essential items. Due to rapid change in technology and increased digitalisation of the National Telecommunication Network, the need to continuously update our technology would continue to arise over periods of time.

A large variety of equipments involving switching, transmission and terminal equipment are used in the telecommunication network. Certain equipments of these types will be manufactured through foreign collaboration.

Government's policy for import of technology is selective. Import of technology is permitted in sophisticated and high priority areas, in export-oriented or import substitution manufacturing, or for enabling indigenous industry to update existing technology in India to meet effectively changing consumer preferences and/or to become competitive in the export market.

An illustrative list of industries where no foreign collaboration, financial or technical, is considered necessary has been issued by the Government and copies of the same have also been sent to Parliament Library.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSHI : Sir, the Statement clearly states the policy of the Government. In the Statement the Government declared that large variety of equipments involving switching, transmission and diagonal equipment—certain equipments of those types are manufactured through foreign collaboration. It is our sad experience that in our country a number of private sector companies obtain licences and delayed in implementing the whole thing, at the same time preventing others from entering the field, the result of which is that the entire progress of modern tele-communication system and telex and others is deprived to the people.

So, may I know from the Minister what steps he is going to take in such sectors for delaying to implement the thing and is it not a fact that Hindustan Teleprinters who were making telex machines with Olivetti suddenly switched towards Olivetti for making electric typewriter machines more which are not essential and which can be manufactured indigenously in the country. But they are not manufacturing Telex

machines. What is your view on this? What are you going to tell on this?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): Sir, so far as telecommunication is concerned, the Government has made a statement in Parliament on 23rd March relaxing the policy and encouraging participation of private sector in the manufacture of telecommunication equipments. The hon. Member has a feeling that parties come, get a licence but they do not take any effective steps to go into production. That is why, this is open to private parties and private sector. If a particular party after getting the licence, does not take any effective steps to go into production, then other parties can enter in that field. The licence issued under IDR Act as it is, once you give a licence, I am told, it is very difficult to cancel that licence. That is why, we have got a system that before issuing a licence, the party has to approach for a letter of intent. After getting the letter of intent, then for converting the letter of intent into a licence, he has to approach within a particular period of time. After the party has taken effective steps to start industry, then only the licence would be given to him.

So, all necessary safeguards are provided. In spite of that, if there are parties who after taking the licences do not go into production, then it is open for other private parties to come forward and start producing the equipments that are very badly required for the country.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: In the statement, it has been further stated:

“Certain equipments of these types will be manufactured through foreign collaboration”.

May I know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that in recent times, a team from the Government of India visited the United States, headed by one Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Industry, to study foreign technology in the selected fields? If so, may I know which are the selected fields for which you are bringing technology from the United States? I am also

happy to know whether such fields include telecommunication system also.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL: I don't have that information. But I am told that the Ministry of Communication, may be in consultation with the concerned Ministries and the Finance Ministry, have selected some technologies. I think, some three or four parties or four technologies have been selected. If those private parties want to start any activity, they have to take and accept only those technologies which are selected. But since this is a matter which is being dealt in the Ministry of Communication, I don't have that information. If the hon. Member is interested, he can address it to the Communication Ministry.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: Sir, I asked: “Whether his Ministry is aware that a team had gone to United States to import foreign technology in the selected fields, headed by one of the Joint Secretaries of his Ministry”? Which are the fields for which you are bringing technologies from the United States?

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL: He is asking a specific question about import of foreign technology from America. In what field, I do not know. If he puts a specific question, I would try to collect the information.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: My question is regarding import of foreign technology to India. Part (a) of my question is concerned with telecommunication.

MR. SPEAKER: He said, there are so many fields for which the deal is being done.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: He said, “selected fields”. I wanted to know which are the selected fields for bringing technology from the United States. The question is “selected field”.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL: That is why, I made it clear that if he wants to know which is the technology that is being selected for telecommunication industry, I do not have the information. But certain technologies have been selected by the Ministry of Communication.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: He said, technologies were permitted only

in selected fields. A team has gone to the United States. I want to know which are those selected fields to bring foreign technology into India.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : The hon. Member may get that information, if he puts a specific question, a separate question.

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO : Sir, I am referring to part (b) of the Question which deals with in which field foreign technology is acceptable and in which field foreign technology is not permitted. In the statement that is laid on the Table of the House, the Minister has stated that the policy of the Government is to import technology in fields where there are rapid changes in growth and technology, and also in certain other fields which are sophisticated and high priority areas where the industries could be export-oriented.

There has been a lot of confusion as far as the import of technology is concerned. While this is what the statement of the Minister says, the technical know-how and foreign collaborations have been allowed for even things like manufacture of Olivetti Typewriters, a technology which is 20 or 30 years old; the Lohias were allowed to import technology for manufacturing motor cycles while Bajaj is making Vespa scooters. These people have got small engines and these are sold at a higher price just because of the trade name, the brand name. Even for essential food items like Noodles, Magie and several other things, you import technology from abroad. Ultimately, what is actually happening is that this is being used as a facade to sell the foreign trade name in India. We are not against import of modern technology. But is this the type of technology that the country needs today even after 35 years of Independence for essential items like food stuffs, typewriters, motor cycles and all that?

The Government in this very House, during the previous Lok Sabha, when Mr. S.M. Krishna was the Minister of State for Industry, had answered questions on this very specific subject. But there was no follow-up action taken by the Government. Even the Kothari Sugar Mill are making

drinks with foreign collaboration. These are some instances which we have read in some of the magazines and newspapers.

I would like the Minister to enunciate the policy of the Government specially as far as the foreign technology import and the collaboration of all these things are concerned.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : I want to make it clear that the Government is not encouraging import of foreign technology indiscriminately. The policy of the Government is that the import of technology should be on selective basis and it should be based on national priority. There is a Board which is called the Foreign Investment Board. Before any technology is imported, the proposal has to go before them. It is properly scrutinised. Only the technology which is sophisticated, the technology which is not available in the country, the technology which is going to improve our exports and import substitutions, the technology which is going to improve the quality of goods that are being manufactured and only in the interest of the country if any such technology has to be imported, only such technology is permitted to be imported.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : Whenever we have an international conference and, particularly, when we have the non-aligned conferences, we wax eloquent on the South-South cooperation, including the technological cooperation. As is well-known, amongst the developing countries, there are some countries which are very developed in some areas and these developments have not gone to the entire population. While we speak so eloquently on generalities, when we get down to specifics, why do we always run to USA, as mentioned by my hon. friend Mr. Das Muni or England or France and not to other highly developed countries in some areas, the developing countries? Why is the technological cooperation amongst the developing countries not taking off? What has happened to the idea of giving preferential treatment to the import of technology from a developing country? What has happened to all this?

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : I have made the policy of the Government clear,

so far as the import of technology is concerned, that it is selective. So, while importing technology, I want to make it clear that we want to import technology which is considered to be the best in the world. There is no question of supporting or giving preference to anybody. If we want to import technology, it should be in the interest of the country. Therefore, we want to import the best technology that is available.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : May I know whether it is a fact that an Indian company has been allowed to enter into collaboration with a U. S. firm for the manufacture of Pepsi Cola, a soft drink ? Do the Government of India consider it to be an essential field for importing technology ?

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : The hon. Member has put a very specific question. I require notice.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : What is specific about it ? (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : He cannot say off-hand. If he says something wrong, then you will catch him.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : You kindly advise the Minister to reply to my question.

MR. SPEAKER : You can put a specific question, give notice and he will reply. There is no problem.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Drink to his health and ask the question.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : I want to know whether the Government considers a soft drink to be a high priority area. If he cannot answer me on Pepsi Cola, let him answer on soft drink area.

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat. Next Question.

Compensation to Victims of Bhopal Gas Tragedy

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*349. **SHRI SURESH KURUP :**

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO :

Will the Minister of **CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS** be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of interim compensation paid to the Bhopal Gas victims ;

(b) the criteria for this payment ; and

(c) the number of persons given this compensation ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) to (c) : The State Government reported that they have incurred an expenditure of over Rs. 10 crores in providing relief to the affected persons both in cash and kind. This includes amounts disbursed in cash, in the form of ex-gratia relief, to the injured persons or the kin of the dead persons.

Incidentally the Government of India have given ways and means support to the extent of Rs. 5 crores to the State Government.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : Parts (b) and (c) of my question have not been answered. You should direct the hon. Minister to answer those parts of my question.

My first supplementary is that there are many people around in Bhopal in the gas affected area who have not approached any Government Officers or any Government machinery. I do not know if any such machinery is set up and they have approached people living in low-lying areas and slums.

Will the Government set up a Committee to make a survey of the affected areas, make a first-hand survey of the slum areas, of the whole affected area, take first-hand information and prepare a list of those dead and affected—there are ever so many people affected who have not approached anybody—and make a list of them and help them in getting compensation and other things.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : The hon. Member is under the impression that whatever the State Government is providing is considered as compensation. It is not compensation. It is only a relief. For compensation you know, we have already taken action and the cases are being filed.

So far as relief is concerned, relief has been provided and it is still being continued.

The hon. Member wanted to know whether any survey is being conducted about the damages caused to the people and injuries and all that. Madhya Pradesh State Government has appointed certain voluntary agencies who are surveying and collecting the information. The analysis of the data is still continuing and whoever approached the Madhya Pradesh Government for relief, relief has been provided to them in kind and also in cash. That is why I said that so far Madhya Pradesh Government has spent more than Rs. 10 crores by providing relief to the affected people.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : I again specifically say that parts (b) and (c) of my question have not been answered at all. You should direct the hon. Minister to state the amount of help given as compensation.

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Minister already said that no compensation has so far been given.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : I mean relief and in the reply it is mentioned as relief.

What is the number of persons given this interim relief and what is the criteria for giving this relief ?

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : The relief that has been given, as I have already stated, is in kind and in cash. The scale of the cash relief so far given is Rs. 10,000 per deceased person, upto Rs. 2,000 for seriously affected individuals and upto Rs. 1,000 for those sustaining minor injuries. The distribution started from 4th December. As per available information, Rs. 37.44 lakhs have been distributed to 5,791 persons and also an amount of Rs. 5.65 lakhs has been for given the purpose of distribution, to Collectors of neighbouring districts and Rs. 30.50 lakhs is given to the railway authorities for distributing to 8,436 affected persons. 267 families of the dead have been given Rs. 26.70 lakhs.

So far as providing relief in kind is concerned, Madhya Pradesh Government has distributed wheat 1,36,750 quintals ; rice 44,243 quintals ; sugar 4,485 quintals ; edible oil 3,78,500 litres ; milk 17,83,000 litres and the relief in kind is still being continued.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : We understand that there is a team of United

States lawyers in India at the moment trying to find an out-of-court settlement. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what exactly is the position, whether they are filing the case in the American court and/or Law Secretary has gone there for this purpose or whether they are trying to get an out-of-court settlement.

The second part, which is very important to my mind, is this. The Bhopal tragedy should not be allowed to happen again. Now the position is this. Multi-national corporations come to developing countries and they consider the people of developing countries as commodities, as expendable commodities ; they have a tremendous economic power and they get their way through all bureaucracy and other levels. Because there is no awareness of all this and because of their tremendous power, the multinationals are able to do a tremendous amount of mischief. The Bhopal tragedy is only an extreme case. There are so many other cases which have happened in my own constituency. My question is this. Rather than leaving this to the common law liability, will the Government bring forward a legislation to impose punitive damages and strict liability in such cases against the multinationals and others who are involved in this dangerous exercise and cause death of people ?

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : The Government of India has appointed a law firm. Recently the attorneys from that law firm had come here to discuss with the Government and they had been to Bhopal also to familiarise themselves with the accident that had happened, to see the plant, its location and all that. The hon. Members must have read in the press that the Government of India have already filed a plaint in a court in the U.S.A.

So far as the proposal for compromise is concerned, from Union Carbide the Government of India had received a certain proposal, but that proposal is so ridiculous that I do not think it is worth considering. Therefore, the Government is not in a position to accept that proposal. If a reasonable proposal comes with regard to compensation, Government is prepared to consider it.

About the amendment that the hon.

Member has suggested, it is a suggestion for action ; we will take note of it.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : While asking my question, I would like to start from the reply that you gave in this House last time. You had said that, in settling the issue of compensation, three possible alternatives were open : one, to settle the matter in the court of law in the United States ; the second, in India ; and the third, out-of-court. Your reply last time was that you would weigh the relative advantages and disadvantages of all the three alternatives and accordingly you would take a decision. Since some time has already lapsed, I am sure you must have applied your mind. And your mind was open at that time. An open mind works well like an open parachute. I would like to know this. Have you taken note of the fact that, in the United States court when some victims and their relations had approached the court, very heavy compensations were given not only to the relatives of those who died but even to those who were injured ? Have you also taken cognizance of the fact that a number of public minded Indians in the United States have offered that, without charging the Government, they are prepared to undertake the defence work that they are prepared to go to the court and defend the cases of the workers and those who have been affected? And if they have offered that cooperation, will you accept that so that we will be able to give heavy compensation to those victims on the basis of the compensation given to those injured in the past ? You go through that. That runs into millions of dollars.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : It is true that I had said that three options were open to the Government. Now we have come to a decision. We have already filed the case in the New York Court. That means, Government has already taken a decision to approach the court in the U.S.A. So cases have been filed and now the question is whether we are prepared to take the services of those people who are prepared to volunteer their services. As I have already said, we have appointed a law firm. This law firm has been appointed in consultation with the Law Ministry and in consultation with those who are concerned in our Embassy in Washington. So,

having appointed a law firm, I do not know whether it is appropriate for me to change the law firm or change the attorney and have somebody else. After all we are interested in seeing that whatever is due from Union Carbide firm and whatever is in the best interests of the victims, that course should be adopted.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Do we take it that even after the case has been filed, an out of court settlement will not be ruled out at any stage of the compensation case ?

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : I made it clear that so far whatever offer we have received from the Union Carbide is a ridiculously low offer. That we cannot consider and I have made it clear that if there is a reasonable offer forthcoming in future, we are prepared to consider and we will consider the offer only if it is in the best interests of the victims.

[*Translation*]

SHRI K. N. PRADHAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the tragedy at Bhopal is the worst of its kind in the world which has claimed over 2500 lives and affected about 20 to 25 lakh people economically. There are about 50,000 families who are faced with the problem of food. Government have provided them with free ration upto now which will be continued for this month. Now, they are faced with the problem of employment and when the rainy season will start after two months, the existing employment avenues are likely to shrink further.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh have sought any assistance from the Centre for helping these people and, so, the quantum of assistance sought and whether you have rejected it outright ? Do you feel that the Central Government have fulfilled their responsibility by providing an assistance of Rs. 5 crores for ways and means in such a big accident ?

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : Sir, I have just said that the relief work is still going on and the Government of Madhya Pradesh are incurring expenditure

and providing relief. Till today the Central Government have provided assistance to the tune of Rs 5 crores. As regards the question asked by the hon. Member, I have no information as to how much assistance the State Government have sought. I shall collect this information and pass it on to the hon. Member.

SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has informed us that the Central Government spent Rs 5 crores, although it was the worst disaster. The State Government of Madhya Pradesh spent Rs. 10 crores whereas the Central Government provided only Rs. 5 crores. The State Government spent the money from their own resources by withholding all developmental works. I want to know whether the request of the State Government seeking another sum of Rs. 5 crores will be met to complete the relief works which are still going on ?

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : Sir it is very difficult to say anything at this stage, as I do not have the required information. A decision on the amount of assistance required to be given will be taken in consultation with the Ministry of Finance and other concerned Ministries. Therefore, it is very difficult for me to say at this stage how much amount the Central Government can give.

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has just now said that the suits for compensation have been filed in American courts. I would like to ask whether we have to knock at the door of American courts for securing compensation for the poor people of the country who died in this accident. Do we not have any provision to set up a special court in India itself to get justice or compensation for the poor people ? The Union Carbide has 2 or 3 companies at the place where the accident occurred. That property can be seized and compensation given to the victims and if the judiciary given any judgement in this regard, recovery thereof can be made. I would like to know from the hon. Minister how much money is likely to be spent on filing a case in America in pursuance of this decision ?

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : Sir, due consideration was given to the question of filing compensation suit whether at home or in America and it was decided that the suit be filed in a U.S. court, because it was in the interest of those who were killed or were affected in the Bhopal tragedy that the cases be filed there. Consultations were held with the legal advisers in this connection and only after that the Government of India had taken a decision in this regard because the Head office of the company is in U.S.A. and the company which had about 50.9 per cent shares in it is based there. If we file suits here and get a decree, we shall have to go to American courts to get the decree executed, keeping all these aspects in view, the Government decided to file a case in a U. S. Court.

[English]

Factory Manufacturing L.P.G. Cylinders

*350. **SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL :** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the factories manufacturing LPG cylinders are not running to their full capacity ;

(b) the reasons for under-production ;

(c) whether the low intake by oil companies is one of the reasons; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to stop issuing fresh licences ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM : (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The major reasons for under utilisation of manufacturing capacity have been problems of industrial relations and in power supplies ; besides insufficient orders. The present annual production is more than adequate for the requirements of the oil companies.

(d) An industrial unit for manufacture of LPG cylinders does not require a licence under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951.

SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : I would like to know the number of companies which are producing gas cylinders and their total production during the last year.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : There are 68 companies according to our information that are producing gas cylinders and the anticipated production for 1984-85 is 50 lakh cylinders.

SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL. When the production is adequate and gas is also available why are you not able to give gas connections to the needy persons ?

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : Sir, the production of gas cylinders is more than what we require but the availability of LPG is not so much that we can give connections to all of them. Then there is the problem of bottling capacity and also other infrastructure facilities like distribution network, rail-road transport, etc. In view of these reasons we are not able to supply gas to all the needy persons and fulfil their needs.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VISHNU MODI : I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether orders in excess of their capacity have been placed with some factories and, in case of some other factories, cylinders are being purchased at a higher price whereas newly set up factories are being given orders at lower rates, and whether orders have been placed with such factories as have not been able to utilise their production capacity during the last 4 years? Will all these things be given consideration and do Government propose to cancel the order in respect of the factories to which orders in excess of their capacity have been given? Have imports been made in spite of adequate capacity in India and would further imports be stopped?

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : Many questions have been clipped in a single question. What I have been asked to say is how much capacity has been registered in the country and why it was registered and why imports were allowed. I would like to state that the registration is done by the D.G.T.D. and since it is a non-sche-

duled industry, its registration is automatic. We have no control over it at any point and that is why about 600 units have been registered and 68 units out of them are such as have already started production or are likely to start production and their total production capacity is 12 crore cylinders. Since their production capacity is more and our requirement is 50 lakh cylinders, therefore, the new industries which have entered into production are not getting orders due to which they are suffering a loss. It is a fact that we imported 8 lakh cylinders, but at the time of taking this decision, we neither had this much of production nor the capacity. As the new programme of issuing 15 to 16 lakh new L. P. G. connections every year had been launched, it was thought people at that time that there was no other way out to meet this requirement than to import the cylinders. Therefore, 8 lakh cylinders were imported. This is also correct that orders for three years were placed with those who were in this industry at that time and it was done with a view to encouraging production. So, due to the placing of orders for three years, coupled with the import of cylinders, the new people entering the market are facing difficulties because they are not getting orders. The Ministry is making efforts so that they may also get some orders.

MR. SPEAKER : Question hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Cooperation in Pharmaceuticals between India and Czechoslovakia

*343. **SHRI RAMAKRISHNA MORE :** Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a meeting of the sub-Group of experts for cooperation in pharmaceuticals between India and Czechoslovakia was held in Delhi ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY

AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In pursuance of the discussion of the Indo-Czechoslovak Joint Committee for Economic Trade and Technical Cooperation held on 21-24 May, 1984, a Sub-Group on Drugs and Pharmaceuticals constituted to promote cooperation in the field of drugs and pharmaceuticals between India and Czechoslovakia. During the first meeting of the Sub-Group, held on 21-2-1985, in New Delhi, the following items were generally discussed :

- (i) Procedures for Registration of formulations in Czechoslovakia.
- (ii) Possibilities of augmenting trade in pharmaceuticals.
- (iii) Possibilities of exchange of technology for production of bulk drugs.

[Translation]

Letters of Intent issued for setting up Industries in Uttar Pradesh

*348. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to lay a statement showing :

(a) the total number of letters of intent issued during the last three years to various individuals and institutions for setting up industries in private and public sectors in Uttar Pradesh ;

(b) the number of letters of intent out of them converted into industrial licences each year and industries set up ; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to ensure timely use of the remaining letters of intent ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) 371 letters of intent were granted during the years 1982 to 1984 for setting up industries in both public and private sectors in Uttar Pradesh.

(b) A letter of intent is granted with an initial validity period of one year and further extensions of six months each

also be granted on adequate justification. After the entrepreneur fulfils the conditions of the letter of intent, the same is converted into an industrial licence. Out of the above 371 letters of intent issued during 1982 to 1984, while 52 letters of intent have already been converted into industrial licences, 56 letters of intent have since been treated as lapsed.

(c) Government is anxious to ensure early implementation of all the industrial projects for which letters of intent/licences have been issued. With this end in view, Administrative Ministries and the State Governments have been asked to re-structure and strengthen their administrative mechanism for monitoring the progress of letters of intent and industrial licences and help the entrepreneurs in implementing the projects as expeditiously as possible.

[English]

Allotment of Cooking Gas Dealerships in Gujarat

*351. SHRI NARISINH MAKWANA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of the cities in Gujarat where cooking gas dealerships have been allotted and the number of cities still remain to be allotted the dealership ;

(b) the time by which dealerships will be allotted in the remaining cities ; and

(c) the details of the arrangements made for providing gas connections to the people living in rural areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) :

(a) to (c) LPG distributorships are presently operating at 93 places in Gujarat. Under the 1984-85 Marketing Plan of the Oil Industry, selection of distributors for 21 locations is under way. LPG distributorships in the new areas will be established by the oil industry in a phased manner in keeping with availability of LPG, augmentation of bottling capacity, sale potential, economic viability and other relevant factors. At present only some of the rural areas

contiguous to cities and towns where LPG is marketed are being served.

Cement Factory at Basohli (Jammu and Kashmir)

*352. SHRI JANAK RAJ GUPTA : Will the Minister OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to start a cement factory at Basohli (District Kathua in Jammu and Kashmir State); and

(b) if so, when the work of that factory is likely to be started ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Fertilizer Industry In Jaunpur (U.P.)

*353. SHRI KAMAL NATH : Will the the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether District Jaunpur in Uttar Pradesh is a backward District having no industry worth its name ;

(b) whether there is any proposal to set up a fertilizer industry in Mogra Badshahpur. District Jaunpur :

(c) if so, whether the unit will be set up in private sector ; and

(d) whether any letter of intent has been issued ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) :

(a) Jaunpur District in U.P. is placed in category 'A' for eligibility of concessional finance by All India Term Lending Institution, subsidy on fixed capital investments etc.

(b) to (d) An application for a licence under Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951 for setting up a new Industrial Undertaking in Tehsil Mogra Badshahpur, Dist. Jaunpur for the manu-

facture of Single Superphosphate and Sulphuric Acid has been received recently from a private party. A decision on this proposal will be taken alongwith similar proposals received for setting up of Single Super-phosphate capacity in different areas' regions of the country.

'Export Village Complex'

*355. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : SHRI NAVIN RAVANI :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Small Industries Council (NSIC) propose to set up an 'Export Village Complex' ;

(b) if so, the main objectives of the complex ; and

(c) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS. (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) to (c) Government has no information except what has appeared in the newsitem in the *Financial Express* dated the 5th March, 1985.

[Translation]

Substandard Production and Theft In Field Gun Factory, Kanpur.

*356. SHRI NARESH CHANDRA CHATURVEDI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received complaints regarding substandard production and theft in the Field Gun Factory, Kanpur ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) and (b) : Government have received no complaints regarding supply of substandard equipment by Field Gun Factory, Kanpur to users. Three incidents of thefts/attempted thefts have been reported by Factory Management in recent months. Details of the incidents and the measures taken are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

**The Number of Thefts in the Field Gun Factory, Kanpur in the last 12 Months
March 1984 to February 1985**

S1. NO.	Month	Date of theft	Details of theft	Measures taken to check thefts
1.	July, 1984	28/29-7-84	In the night of 28/29-7-84 one Twist Drill Taper Shank of diameter 21/2'' was found hidden by the side of the railway track near the railway gate just outside the factory.	(i) A preliminary enquiry was carried out by the security staff of the factory, but no clues could be found about the culprit. (ii) Patrolling along the perimeter wall of the factory during night time has also been intensified.
2.	Nov. 1984	15-11-84	On 15-11-84, 19 pieces of aluminium costing about Rs. 2500/- were found hidden in the drain passing beneath the perimeter wall of the factory.	A preliminary enquiry was carried out by the Security Staff, but no clues could be found about the culprits.
3.	Jan. 1985	17-1-85	One 17-1-85, a sealed drum containing 250 Kgs of Nickel Pellets costing about Rs. 25,000 was found hidden from the undergrowth in the unused portion of the factory. A surprise check in respect of the stores' godown of the shop using the material was carried out and a shortage of 975kgs of the same material was detected. A search was carried out inside the factory by security staff and 278kgs of Nickel pellets was recovered in eight gunny bags inside the undergrowth in the unused portion of the factory on 1-2-85.	Shri B.P. Sonkar, Supr. B I/C of the Godown concerned has been placed under suspension. A departmental enquiry has been ordered into the matter. Arrangements for issue/receipt of Nickel pellets from Stores Godown have been streamlined. Efforts are being made to recover the balance of 447 Kgs. of Nickel Pellet.

[English]

Appointment of Agents for LPG in U.P.*357. SHRI V. VENKATESH:
SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the decision to appoint agents for LPG "Indane" distributorship, covered under the marketing plan for 1984-85 of the Indian Oil Corporation Limited for the State of Uttar Pradesh, has not yet been finalised;

(b) if so, the facts thereof and details

of areas in U.P. which are awaiting finalisation of above appointments; and

(c) when the final decision will be taken by the Oil Selection Board (North) ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA):

(a) and (b) Selections for 20 out of 22 LPG distributorships of IOC in U.P. under the 1984-85 Marketing Plan have not been finalised so far. A list of these locations is given in the statement laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Final decision in respect of each location will be taken by the Oil Selection Board (North) upon completion of interviews and related enquiries.

Statement

1. Mirzapur.
2. Khairatpur.
3. Allahabad-A.
4. Allahabad-B.
5. Kasganj.
6. Moradabad.
7. Atarra.
8. Aligarh.
9. Ujhani.
10. Kairana.
11. Baheri.
12. Hathras.
13. Aonla.
14. Noida.
15. Hasanpur.
16. Etawah.
17. Shahjahanpur.
18. Seehara.
19. Saheswan.
20. Gangeh

Abolition of Court Fees

***358. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN:
SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA
REDDY :**

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to abolish court fees in the Supreme Court and/or to make laws for abolition of court fees in the lower courts in the country, having regard to the desirability

of promoting justice on a basis of equal opportunity and for providing free legal aid;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure that opportunities for securing justice are not denied to any citizen by reason of economic and other disabilities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ)

(a) to (c) The question of abolition of court fees was considered in the Conference of Law Ministers of States and Union Territories held in New Delhi in 1982. The Conference was of the view that on account of financial constraints, the approach should be to go in for rationalisation of court fees rather than its abolition. The Conference set up a Committee of Law Ministers of five states to go into the question of rationalisation of court fees. The above Committee has since finalised its report and the report is to be placed before the Conference of Law Ministers of States/Union Territories proposed to be held shortly, for their consideration.

Calcium Carbide Unit in Raigarh

***359. KUMARI PUSHPA DFVI :** Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up a Calcium Carbide unit in Raigarh District of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the estimated cost of the above project;

(c) the time by which the above unit is expected to start commercial production; and

(d) the site selected for the location of the above unit ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Supply of Arms and Equipments to Pakistan by USA

*360. SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any information that sophisticated weaponry imported from U.S.A. by Pakistan has been amassed on Western border of India ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether U.S. Government have been intimated about it ; and

(d) whether this supply of arms and equipments to Pakistan is likely to affect India's military capability vis-a-vis Pakistan ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) and (b). Pakistan is known to be acquiring sophisticated military equipment from the USA. How much is massed on the border with India is a variable factor. There is no confirmed information about all the weaponry having been massed on our borders.

(c) Government's concern on the supply of sophisticated weapons to Pakistan has been conveyed to the US Government.

(d) Induction of sophisticated weapons in our neighbourhood undoubtedly has implications on our security. All such developments are kept under constant watch and appropriate measures taken to ensure full defence preparedness.

Telephone Connections in Srinagar (Kashmir)

*361 PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of telephone connections sanctioned in Srinagar (Kashmir) during the three-year period ending December 31, 1984 ;

(b) the number of people whose demand has not been met ; and

(c) the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Telephone connections given in Srinagar City (Kashmir) during the last three years' period ending December, 1984 are as under :

Year	Telephone connections given.
(1)	(2)
Jan. to Dec. 1982	194
Jan. to Dec., 1983	225
Jan. to Dec., 1984	119

(b) There are 4,723 applications pending which could not be provided with telephone connections as on 31st December, 1984 in Srinagar,

(c) The demand of the pending applicants could not be met due to the overall shortage of equipment, cables and other resources in the country.

Working of the Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Co. Ltd.

*362. SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN : Will the Minister OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any inquiry committee was set up in the past to inquire into the working of the Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Co. Ltd.;

(b) if so, the main findings of the committee ; and

(c) the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

One Big Industry in every District

*363. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY :

A. K. PATEL :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister has declared that one big industry will be set up in each district of the country and if so, the target fixed for 1985-86 and the names of the districts of various States proposed to be covered thereunder and the industries to be set up ;

(b) the percentage position of Central, State and Private Sectors therein ; and

(c) the State-wise number of districts in the country and the time by which every district is likely to be covered under the above scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The industrialisation of specific districts/ areas is primarily the responsibility of the State Government concerned. Central Government supplements their effort by providing various concessions and incentives.

Ninety districts having no large or medium scale industries (as per list attached) have been identified and after re-categorisation of backward areas with effect from 1-4-83, these districts have been included in Category 'A'. Entrepreneurs setting up industries in No-Industry Districts are entitled to over-riding priority in grant of Licensing, highest rate of Central Investment Subsidy, Concessional Finance facilities from All India Term Lending Institutions, Central assistance for development of infrastructure facilities by the State Government and relaxation in export obligation to MRTP/FERA Companies setting up non-Appendix-I industries in these districts. The State Governments have been requested to identify growth centres and prepare feasibility reports indicating the large, medium and small scale industries which have scope for establishment and are proposed to be set up in these districts.

List

List of districts which have no Large or Medium Scale Industries

1. Assam
 1. Lakhimpur
 2. North Cachar Hills
2. Bihar
 1. Aurangabad
 2. Bhojpur
 3. Khagaria
 4. Nalanda
 5. Purnea
 6. Saharsa (including newly carved out district of Madhepur)
3. Gujarat
 1. Dangs
4. Himachal Pradesh
 1. Chamba
 2. Kangra
 3. Kinnaur
 4. Kulu
 5. Lahaul & Spiti
5. Jammu & Kashmir
 1. Doda
 2. Kupwara
 3. Ladakh
 4. Poonch
 5. Pulwama
 6. Rajauri
 7. Udhampur
6. Karnataka
 1. Bidar
7. Kerala
 1. Wynad
 2. Idukki
8. Madhya Pradesh
 1. Balaghat
 2. Bhind
 3. Chhatarpur
 4. Chhindwara
 5. Damoh
 6. Datia
 7. Dhar
 8. Guna
 9. Jhabua
 10. Mandla
 11. Narsinhapur
 12. Parna
 13. Rajgarh
 14. Seoni

15. Shivpuri
16. Sidhi
17. Surguja
18. Tikamgarh
9. Manipur
1. Manipur (Central)
2. Manipur (East)
3. Manipur (North)
4. Manipur (South)
5. Manipur (West)
6. Tangnoupal
- 10 Meghalaya
1. East Garo Hills
2. West Garo Hills
3. Jaintia Hills
4. West Khasi Hills
11. Nagaland
1. Tuensang
12. Orissa
1. Balasore
2. Bolangir
3. Boudh Khondmals
(Phulbani)
13. Rajasthan
1. Jaisalmer
2. Sirohi
14. Sikkim
1. Gangtok
2. Gyalshing
3. Mangan
4. Namchi
15. Tripura
1. North Tripura
2. South Tripura
3. West Tripura
16. Uttar Pradesh
1. Banda
2. Chamoli
3. Fatehpur
4. Hamirpur
5. Jalaun
6. Jaunpur
7. Pauri Garhwal
8. Sultanpur
9. Tehri Garhwal
10. Uttar Kashi
11. Kanpur Dehat
17. West Bengal
1. Bankura
2. Cooch Behar

3. Darjeeling
4. Jalpaiguri
5. Malda

18. Andaman & Nicobar Islands
1. Nicobar Islands

19. Arunachal Pradesh
1. Kameng
2. Siang
3. Subansiri
4. Tirap

20. Lakshadweep
1. Lakshadweep

21. Mizoram
1. Aizwal
2. Lunglez

22. Dadra & Nagar Haveli
1. Dadra & Nagar Haveli.

[English]

Import of Crude Oil

2172. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether recently some agreements for the import of crude oil in the year 1985-86 have been signed ;

(b) if so, the names of the countries with whom agreements have been signed ; and

(c) the quantity of crude oil to be imported from each country as well as the foreign exchange required for this purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) :

- (a) Yes Sir.
(b) and (c)

Country	Quantity (Million tonnes)
1. Iraq	2.35
2. Soviet Union	3.00
3. Iran	2.00
4. Abu Dhabi	0.50
5. Oman	0.50
6. Nigeria	0.175

Excepting for the quantity imported from USSR for which payment is made in

rupees, foreign exchange outgo for import of balance crude oil is estimated to be about 1120 million.

Guidelines for Selection/Appointment of Non-Officials as Chairmen of Public Undertakings

2173. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there exist any guidelines for the selection and appointment of non-officials as Chairmen of the various public sector undertakings under his Ministry as regards their qualifications, educational and others, and their standing in the particular line of the industry/manufacture ;

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

(c) the authority which ultimately clears the appointment of such Chairmen—his Ministry or the Ministry of Finance under whom the Bureau of Public Enterprises functions ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) :

(a) to (c). The general policy is that the Board of Directors of a public enterprise should normally be headed by a Chairman-Cum-Managing Director, unless, in a particular case, it is considered expedient to have a part-time Chairman. No specific qualifications or experience or standing in a particular industry have been laid down by Government for selection of part-time Chairman. However, the selection of part-time Chairman is based on the recommendation of the Public Enterprises Selection Board and the appointment is made by the administrative Ministry with the approval of the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet.

Complaint Against Danapur Cantonment Executive Officer

2174. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH. Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of complaints received by the Patna Branch of CBI from

public and elected members of Cantonment Board, Danapur against Danapur Cantonment Executive Officer ;

(b) the number of cases disposed of; and

(c) the time by which the pending complaints would be disposed ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO):

(a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Oil Production

2175 SHRI MOHANLAL PATEL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether oil production is not keeping pace with the domestic demand ;

(b) if so, the actual gap between demand and supply at present ; and

(c) the steps taken to bridge this gap ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) to (c) : The production and requirement of crude oil in the recent past has been as under :—

	(Fig. in Million Tonnes)	
	<i>Production</i>	<i>Requirement</i>
1982-83	21.06	37.89
1983-84	26.02	39.55
1984-85	21.10	30.74
(Apr.-Dec)		

The shortfall in production is made up by import of crude oil and petroleum products.

Some of the steps to increase indigenous production are :—

(i) Use of enhanced oil recovery techniques ;

(ii) Intensification of work-over operations ;

(iii) Intensification of exploration in less precisely known geological regions

which may eventually lead to enhanced production ; and

(iv) Induction of advanced technology.

Closure of M/s. Bengal Paper Mill Co. Ltd.

2176. SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether M/s. Bengal Paper Mill Co. Ltd., Raniganj (West Bengal) is under closure since 1st November, 1983 ;

(b) whether efforts were made to re-open the said Mill ;

(c) whether the management have proposed anti-labour and unacceptable conditions for re-opening of the Mill ;

(d) the proposals of the workers' Union and the West Bengal Government to revive this Mill ; and

(e) whether Government are considering the proposal to take over the Mill's management and eventual nationalisation in the interest of country's paper needs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). In order to arrest cash losses, restore financial health and inject long-term viability it was agreed at a special joint meeting of the Central Government, Government of West Bengal, Financial Institutions and Banks held in September, 1983, to support a rehabilitation-cum-modernisation programme of the mill to be implemented in two phases. The institutions had also sanctioned term loans of Rs. 455 lakhs for financing phase I of the scheme. The scheme could not be taken up for implementation due to subsequent closure of the mill and Head Office. It has been reported that the management has been holding discussions with the workers' Unions for reaching a settlement and the negotiations are reported to be continuing. The management has denied that its policy is anti-labour, or that unacceptable conditions have been proposed by it for re-opening of the mill.

In the meantime, the Head Office of the Company was reopened in February, 1985 and the management is in the process of compiling information required for updating the rehabilitation-cum modernisation scheme for review and further consideration of the All India Institutions.

(e) No such proposal is under consideration of the Central Government at present.

ONGC Research Station for Cauvery Basin

2177. SHRI E.S.M. PAKEER MOHAMMED : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether O.N.G.C. propose to set up the Research Station for "Cauvery Basin" in Tanjore District of Tamil Nadu as it is yielding lot of petrol and gas (LPG); and

(b) the latest details about the Petroleum found in the Cauvery Basin ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Recently a well Kovilkallapal-I has produced about 31 barrels of oil and about 21000 cubic metres of gas per day through 1/4" choke. Further exploration is in progress.

Various Funds in Border Roads Organisation

2178. SHRI LALIT MAKEN :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether various funds called Regimental Fund, CE Trust Fund, Commander's Fund, Units Fund, Border Roads Special Relief Fund, GREF Benevolent Fund etc. are being maintained in GREF and civilian employees are being forced to contribute to these funds without any receipt ;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the total amount in each Fund as on date :

(c) the Government authority under which the Director General Border Roads is maintaining such Funds ;

(d) the details of contribution by various ranks of GREF to such funds ; and

(e) the details of the use of Benevolent fund and the total amount standing as on date ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P.V NARASIMHA RAO) :

(a) Chief Engineers' Trust Fund, Commanders' Fund and Unit's Fund are Regimental Funds and are being maintained in the General Reserve Engineer Force by the units/formations.

Border Roads Special Relief Fund and General Reserve Engineer Force (GREF) Benevolent Fund, which are not Regimental Funds, are being maintained centrally by Headquarters Director General Border Roads and General Reserve Engineer Force Centre & Records, Pune, respectively. All contributions to the Regimental Funds are voluntary. While there is no contribution to Border Roads Special Relief Fund, contribution to GREF Benevolent Fund is as per the instructions issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs. Issue of receipt for each individual contribution is not administratively feasible.

(b) Latest figures of the amount in each of the Regimental Funds, which are maintained at the unit level, are not readily available. However, the same as on 30th September, 1983, is as follows :-

(i) Chief Engineers' Trust Fund.	Rs. 13,55,746.67.
(ii) Commanders' Fund.	Rs. 2,59,904.34
(iii) Unit's Fund.	Rs. 27,51,288.10

The total amount in the GREF Benevolent Fund, as on 31-12-1984, is Rs. 14,37,658.39 and that in respect of Border Roads Special Relief Fund, as on 29th March, 1985, is Rs. 30,22,770.60

(c) The Regimental Funds are maintained as per the provisions of Defence Services Regulations and Border Roads Regulations. Border Roads Special Relief Fund was raised from the grants received from the National Defence Fund and subsequently augmented through donation received from Prime Minister's Relief Fund. GREF Benevolent Fund is maintained as per the

instructions issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

(d) Contributions to Regimental Funds by all ranks, including officers, are made at the rate of 0.40p per Rs. 100/- basic pay per month.

(e) The proceeds from General Reserve Engineer Force Benevolent Fund are used for the welfare and benefit of serving employees of the General Reserve Engineer Force, next-of-kin in case of deceased employees and those discharged from service due to disability. The total amount in this Fund has been stated against (b) above.

New Industrial Policy for Delhi

2179. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of **INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to introduce a new industrial policy for the Union Territory of Delhi ;

(b) if so, the main objectives of introducing such new industrial policy for Delhi ;

(c) whether Government have a proposal to introduce similar industrial policy applicable to all the Union Territories ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) :

(a) According to Delhi Administration, they have no proposal to introduce a new industrial policy for the Union Territory of Delhi.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Delay in Supply of L.P.G. to Consumers

2180. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of **PETROLEUM** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the numerous complaints about non-availability and considerable delay in the supplies

of LPG to consumers, with delay mounting to as long as one month in several cases ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Backlogs in refill supplies arise due to inadequate availability of LPG, limited bottling capacity, and local operational problems.

(c) Schemes for increased LPG production augmentation of bottling and transportation capacity and related infrastructural facilities are under implementation.

Oil Exploration Programme

2181. SHRI T. BALA GOUD : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) the amount spent by Government during the last three years for oil exploration programme ;

(b) the names of various organisations which were entrusted with this job ;

(c) whether the performance of these organisations were found to be satisfactory; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) :

(a) and (b) The Oil & Natural Gas Commission and Oil India Limited are engaged in oil exploration and production of hydrocarbons in the country. Their plan expenditure during the last three years was as follows :

	(Rs. Crores)
1982-83	1475
1983-84	1711
1984-85	1960 (anticipated)

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The balance recoverable reserves increase between 1982 and

1984 by approximately 98 million tonnes ; self sufficiency in crude oil increased from 56% in 1982-83 to 69% at present.

Auto Telephone Exchange at Kotkapura (Punjab)

2182. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether an Auto Telephone Exchange had been sanctioned for Kotkapura Town (Punjab) ;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in setting up the Auto Telephone Exchange there ;

(c) whether any representation in this regard has been received by him ; and

(d) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A bigger building for housing the main auto exchange is required to be constructed.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) 1500 lines auto exchange equipment has been allotted for automatization of existing manual exchange at Kotkapura and project estimate has been sanctioned to enable commencement of construction of building for housing the main automatic exchange.

Refund of Security Money by Andhra Pradesh Scooters Ltd.

2183. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Scooters Ltd. are not refunding the security money to the prospective buyers who are no more interested in the purchase of their scooter ;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to ensure refund of security amount with necessary interest ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) :

(a) M/s. Andhra Pradesh Scooters have reported that refunds are being made to the applicants within the stipulated three months period.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Opening of Petrol Pumps Around Transport Nagar, Kota.

2184. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to open a petrol pump around Transport Nagar in Kota in Rajasthan ;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A suitable site has yet to be earmarked by the Urban Improvement Trust, Kota for development of a retail outlet in the proposed Transport Nagar Complex.

Opening of Petrol Pumps in Rajasthan

2185. SHRI VISHNU MODI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have proposed any scheme for opening new petrol pumps in Rajasthan ;

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the time by which it is likely to be implemented ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) 67 locations in Rajasthan are included in the Oil Industry's Marketing Plan for 1984-85. The process for selection of distributors for these locations is under way. Considering the various steps which precede the commissioning of a petrol/diesel retail outlet, it does not seem feasible to indicate the time for such commissionings.

[English]

Disposal of Pending Cases

2186. SHRI SHANTA RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to enact any law to lay down specific time-limit for courts of law to dispose of judicial cases ;

(b) if not, how Government intend to effectively tackle the problem of pending litigations in the country ; and

(c) whether Government propose to amend procedural laws in the country for speedy disposal of judicial cases ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARADWAJ) :

(a) to (c) It is not practicable to impose time limits on the disposal of cases. The Government are aware of the position and are continuing to address themselves to this problem. A revised Code of Criminal Procedure was enacted in 1973 and amended from time to time. Certain amendments were also made in the Code of Civil Procedure in 1976 to expedite disposal of cases. Amendment to these Codes are considered as and when felt necessary.

Construction of Post Office and Telephone Exchange Buildings in Dinapur Cantonment, Patna (Bihar)

2187. SHRI ABDUL HANNAN ANSARI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the President, All India Urdu Press Correspondents' Association,

Dinapur Cantonment, Patna, has submitted memoranda on 13 January, 1985 and 20 March, 1985 regarding construction of post office building and telephone exchange building in Dinapur Cantonment, Patna ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) :

(a) Yes, Sir. Only representation of 20-3-85 has been received on 28-3-85.

(b) He has represented that new departmental buildings for Post Office and Telephone Exchange of Dinapur Cantonment Patna, may be constructed.

(c) Land for Telephone Exchange is not available. The Defence Authorities have been approached for leasing on long-term basis a suitable plot of land. At present there is no proposal to construct departmental building for Dinapur cantonment post office.

Prices of Penicillin, Ampicillin etc.

2188. SHRI D.P. JADEJA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the month-wise and unit-wise production of Penicillin G., Penicillin V, 6-APA and Ampicillin in our country during the last three years ;

(b) the comparative difference in the CIF price and the local price of these products; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to reduce the prices of these products ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEE-RENDRA PATIL) :

(a) A Statement is attached.

(b) Indigenous prices fixed under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1979 are given below :—

Sl. No.	Name of the product	Indigenous Price (Rs. Kg.)
(1)	(2)	(3)
1.	Potassium Penicillin G Ist Crystal	582.09 (BU)
2.	Potassium Penicillin V	885.69 (BU)
3.	6-APA	2100.00
4.	Ampicillin Trihydrate	1677.00

The imports of Penicillins are banned. The imports of 6-APA and Ampicillin Trihydrate are canalised through the State Trading Corporation and there have been no canalised imports of Ampicillin Trihydrate. The international price of 6-APA varies from time to time.

(c) Fixation of prices of drugs/intermediates in question under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, ensures their availability at cheap prices.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the item	Name of the producing unit	Total of monthwise production for the years		
			1982-83	1983-84	1984-85 (Ap.—Feb.)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1.	Ampicillin	IDPL	1.0	0.258	3.167
		Ranbaxy	44.89	45.04	61.19
		Alembic	2.42	2.48	1.65
		HAL	14.18	8.38	11.03
		Cadila Laboratories	Nil	0.286	11.55
		Lyphin Chemicals	Nil	Nil	6.37
		Ceeplam Laboratories	50.54	42.28	42.53

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6j)
		Dexo Laboratories	6.77	9.07	3.49
		Vogel Labs.	1.32	3.80	1.32
		Aceto Chemicals	0.131	0.099	Nil
		Synthochem	Nil	1.06	N.A.
		Pharmachem	Nil	9.70	7.44
		Calyx Chem	Nil	1.20	N.A.
		Poly Drug Chem	Nil	Nil	1.37
		Jatin Pharma	Nil	Nil	1.77
		Armour Chemicals	Nil	Nil	6.94
2.	6-APA	IDPL	3.75	17.10	22.90
		Alembic	Nil	2.25	1.70
		H.A.L.	Nil	Nil	13.40
3.	Potassium Penicillin G First Crystals	I.D.P.L. H.A.L.	Not available 95.513 (MMU)	123.1 (MMU) 110.12 (MMU)	122.5 (MMU) 149.42 (MMU)
4.	Penicillin V First Crystal	H.A.L.	6.93 (MMU)	20.63 (MMU)	13.24 (MMU)

[Translation]

Employees participation in Management of K.V.I.C. Institutions

2189. SHRIMATI VIDYAVATI CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Khadi and Village Industries Commission propose to give participation to its employees in the management of each of its institutions; and

(b) if so, by what time and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN):

(a) and (b) The workers/employees in institutions of KVIC are participating in the management of some of the institutions. Their participation is decided on merits, case by case.

[English]

Delhi Telephone Directory

2190. SHRI G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi Telephones Directory, 1984 has not been supplied to all the subscribers due to shortage of paper;

(b) whether paper for this purpose is to be imported;

(c) if so, the time-frame for making the copies of Directory available to subscribers who are still using 1982 Directory;

(d) the amount of expenditure, including that on staff incurred for the production of Delhi Telephones Directory; 1984 and

(e) whether Government propose to hand over this work to private parties for sale on fixed nominal charges as is being done for Railway Broadshaw?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA):

(a) The 1984 issue of Delhi telephone directory has been supplied to most of the subscribers through distribution centres opened at various telephone exchanges in Delhi.

(b) Though paper is not normally imported for printing of telephone directories, imported paper was used for the 1984 issues of the Delhi telephone directory.

(c) Subscribers who did not get their new directories through the concerned distribution centres can obtain them from distribution centre at Eastern Court, New Delhi. Newspaper advertisements have been published to this effect in leading dailies.

(d) The amount of expenditure incurred, including that on staff, for Delhi telephone directory 1984 is nearly Rs. 1.09 crores.

(e) Printing of Delhi telephone directory is already carried out through private parties.

Supply of Arms by China to Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka

2191. SHRI G. G. SWELL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether China has been supplying arms to Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka on a large and increasing scale;

(b) whether China has emerged as a major supplier of arms to third world countries and with it, is wielding increasing political clout; and

(c) whether Chinese arms are having an edge over western arms because of their durability and low cost ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) China is reported to be supplying arms to Pakistan and also to other countries in our neighbourhood.

(b) There are reports that China is exploring the world arms market for selling its equipment.

(c) The general level of Chinese military technology is not known to have an edge over western arms. However, some countries may purchase Chinese arms for considerations of their own.

Opening of Legal Hospitals

2192. SHRI R. ANNANAMBI : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the urgency for opening legal hospitals in every District Head-quarter just like civil hospitals to provide legal aid to the weaker

sections and down-trodden; and

(b) if so, the action being taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARADWAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government has constituted a Committee for implementing Legal Aid Schemes under the Chairmanship of Shri Justice P. N. Bhagwati, a sitting Judge of the Supreme Court. The form of legal aid adopted by the Committee is of two types :—

(i) Court or litigation oriented legal aid; and

(ii) preventive or strategic legal aid. The Committee lays greater stress on preventive form of legal aid which can be compared to legal clinics or hospitals. The Committee has also been setting up Legal Aid Clinics in Universities and Law Colleges with a view to providing para-legal and preventive legal assistance to the poor. The question of enactment of suitable legislation is also under consideration of the Government.

Liberalised Licensing Procedures

2193. PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have liberalised the licensing procedures regarding setting up of industries and expansion of capacities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) and (b) 25 industries have been delicensed for Non-MRTP/Non-FERA Companies subject to fulfilment of certain prescribed conditions. The Industrial undertakings engaged in the manufacture of any of these items will not require an Industrial licence and it will be enough if they register themselves with the concerned technical authority like

the Directorate General of Technical Development. Investment limits for small scale and ancillary industrial undertakings have also been raised to Rs. 35 lakhs and Rs. 45 lakhs respectively. Consequently, industrial undertakings whose investment in plant and machinery does not exceed Rs. 35 lakhs in the case of small scale units and Rs. 45 lakhs in the case of ancillary units, would not require an industrial licence. Government have also taken a decision to raise the limit of MRTP companies from Rs. 20 crores to Rs. 100 crores.

Apart from the recent liberalisation as mentioned above, the Government have already taken several steps to liberalise the licensing procedures and to ensure maximum utilisation of installed capacities. Some of the measures taken in this regard are the scheme of automatic growth, the scheme of regularisation of excess capacity in respect of certain selected basic and mass consumption industries, to treat exports as outside the licensed capacity, the scheme of 100% Export Oriented Units with facilities for duty exemption from import of capital goods etc., the scheme of re-endorsement of capacities based on the maximum production achieved during any of the previous five years, provision of incentives for setting up industries in 'No Industry Districts', provision of facilities for Non-Resident Indian investment and reservation of a large number of items for exclusive production in the small scale sector.

Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited

2194. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether at least 30 persons visited foreign countries from Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited during the last one year and that large number of machinery had been imported by M/s. B.H.E.L. but that are lying un-used; and

(b) if so, the details of persons from BHEL and their designations who visited abroad and the details of imported machinery and capital goods lying unused in various units of BHEL ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN) : (a) and (b) : BHEL has imported a large number of machinery, but these are not lying unused. Details of persons who visited foreign countries during the year 1984 are given in the statement laid on the table of the House. (Placed in Library. See No. LT—829/85)

(Translation)

Appointment of SC & ST Employees in Koyali Refinery

2195. SHRI C. D. GAMIT : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of employees appointed to class I, II, III and IV posts separately from 1980 to 1984 in Koyali Refinery, Baroda;

(b) the number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes who applied for all these posts and of those who were called for interview and the number of persons out of them who were given appointment;

(c) the reservation quota fixed for Scheduled Castes /Scheduled Tribes and the extent to which it has been filled up; and

(d) the reasons for not filling up their full quota and the time by which it will be done ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) to (c) : A statement is laid on the table of the House.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT- 830/85]

(d) In Koyali Refinery, Baroda, 7% and 14% of the posts are reserved for Scheduled Caste (SC)/Scheduled Tribe (ST) candidates respectively. The number of SC candidates appointed has on the whole been more than the prescribed quota.

The main reason for backlog in ST categories is non-availability of requisite number of suitable ST candidates inspite of repeated recruitment efforts. Even after issuing a number of advertisements exclusively for STs, required number of suitable candidates were not available for filling

reserved vacancies. Efforts are being made by Indian Oil Corporation to fill up the reserved vacancies for ST as early as possible.

**Installation of Microwave Tower at
Lakheempur Kheeri District,
Uttar Pradesh.**

2196. SHRIMATI USHA VERMA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the material for the installation of Microwave Tower in Lakheempur Kheeri District has been obtained; and

(b) the time by which the tower will be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir. But only partly received.

(b) Within a year, after full materials are received.

[English]

**Saroornagu Telephone Exchange,
Nalgonda District, Andhra Pradesh**

2197. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : Will the minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that the working conditions of Saroornagu Telephone Exchange in Nalgonda District of Andhra Pradesh are very poor;

(b) whether for many years no new telephone connection has been given to any one from this Exchange;

(c) whether Government propose to expand this Telephone Exchange and convert it into a new electronic Telephone Exchange;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the alternative arrangements being made by Government to meet the demand of subscribers for new telephones and improve the performance of this Telephone Exchange ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No, Sir. Working conditions of Saroornagu Telephone Exchange is generally satisfactory.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) There is no proposal to expand the capacity of the present exchange. This exchange is proposed to be replaced by an electronic exchange.

(d) 2000 lines electronic type exchange has been allotted for Saroornagu parenting it to Secunderabad in replacement of existing exchange of 600 lines during 1986-87.

(e) Question does not arise in view of (c) above.

(f) No alternative arrangement is possible to meet the demand of new telephone connections.

All efforts are being made to improve the existing services.

**New Telephone Exchange of Murbad
(District Thana, Maharashtra)**

2198. SHRI S. G. GHOLAP : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to have a Telephone Exchange at Murbad, district Thana, Maharashtra and to have telephone facility at Shivle, Saralgaon and Dhasai of Murbad Taluk; and

(b) the time by which Telephone Exchange will be opened at Murbad and telephone facilities provided at Shivle, Saralgaon and Dhasai ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b) :

(i) A 100 line small automatic exchange already exists at Murbad.

(ii) Proposal to provide telephone facility at Shivle is being examined.

(iii) Installation of Long Distance Public Telephone at Saralgaon is in progress and would be provided shortly.

(iv) Proposal to provide Long Distance Public Telephone at Dhansi is facing technical problem due to power parallelism. However, the proposal is being further examined.

(b) the total capacity of different fertilizer units, unit-wise;

(c) the number of fertilizer units that are likely to be established during the Seventh Five Year Plan, State-wise; and

(d) the installed capacity of different fertilizer units envisaged in the Seventh Five Year Plan ?

Number and Capacity of Fertilizer Plants

2199. SHRI R. P. GAEKWAD : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to lay a statement showing :

(a) the number of fertilizer units under construction at present in the country, State-wise;

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) and (b): **Requisite** details of the fertilizer plants under implementation/construction are given below :

Serial No. and Location of the Plant	Capacity per annum (In tonnes)	
	Nitrogen	P ₂ O ₅
1. Thal-Vaishet, Maharashtra.	683,000 (Plant has been mechanically completed)	—
2. Hazira, Gujarat.	668,000	—
3. Mangalore (Diammonium Phosphate plant), Karnataka.	24,850 (Plant has been mechanically completed)	63,500
4. Goa Expansion, Goa.	16,435 (Plant has been mechanically completed)	42,000
5. Hindustan Lever, Haldia, West Bengal.	28,800	73,600
6. Namrup-III Expansion, Assam.	152,000	—
7. Paradeep, Orissa.	117,000	300,000
8. Vijaipur (District Guna) Madhya Pradesh.	334,000	—
9. Aonla (Bareilly District), Uttar Pradesh.	334,000	—
10. Jagdishpur (Sultanpur District), Uttar Pradesh.	334,000	—

(c) In addition to the plants mentioned in parts (a) and (b) above, the following plants are also likely to be established during the Seventh Plan period :

Location of the Plant	Capacity per annum (In tonnes)	
	Nirtogen	P ₂ O ₅
1. Bilopa (Sawai Madhopur Distt.), Rajasthan.	334,000	—
2. Babrala (Badaun Distt.), Uttar Pradesh.	334,000	—
3. Shahjahanpur, Uttar Pradesh.	334,000	—
4. Nagarjuna Fertilizers, Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh.	228,000	—
5. Godavari Fertilizers, Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh.	54,000	138,000
6. Gujarat State Fertilizer Company, Porbander, Gujarat.	59,000	150,000
7. Southern Petrochemicals Industries Corporation, Tuticorin (Expansion).	18,900	48,300

(d) Seventh Plan programme for fertilizers has not yet been finished. figures will be laid on the Table of the House; and

Wool-based Cottage Industries run by K. V. I. C. in Rajasthan

2200. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the nature of wool-based cottage industries being run by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission in border districts of Rajasthan, the places at which they are being run and since when;

(b) the profit accrued to the Khadi and Village Industries Commission from these cottage industries from the year 1982 to date and whether a statement showing year-wise

(c) the provisions made by the Commission to further expand the activities of the said cottage industries during the year 1985-86 and the new industries to be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) is conducting Departmental production of woollen khadi in the border districts of Rajasthan for over two decades. The woollen khadi activities under the fold of KVIC are carried out in border districts of Rajasthan by

(i) Khadi Institutions which are independent legal entities;

- (ii) Rajasthan State Khadi and Village Industries Board; and
- (iii) Departmental Centres run by Khadi and Village Industries Commission.

The wool available in border districts of Rajasthan is relatively of finer quality suitable for production of apparel goods and as such production of woollen khadi has been organised to produce apparel goods, shawls and some quality of knit wear. These Centres are located as under :

- Bikaner District :
1. Bajju
 2. Bikrampur
- Jaisalmer District :
1. Nachana
 2. Vaikunthgram
 3. Mayazalar.
- Barmer District :
1. Bawari
 2. Dudhwa
 3. Baisala
 4. Baleba
 5. Harsani
 6. Shastrigram
 7. Gunga; and
 8. Gadhra Road.

Besides these there is one Bhandar at Karanpur in Ganganagar District.

(b) The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) is conducting its woollen khadi production and sales activity in these areas on 'no profit no loss' basis with the sole objective of sustaining employment opportunities in these sensitive areas.

(c) The target of production for the year 1985-86 for Khadi and Village Industries Commission's departmental activities has been tentatively fixed at Rs. 60 lakhs.

Expenditure incurred on Law Commission

2201. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state the expenditure incurred on the Law Commission for the year 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARADWAJ) : The year wise breakup of the expenditure is as under :

1982-83	Rs. 11,33,936.00
1983-84	Rs. 12,71,615.00
1984-85	Rs. 13,14,946.00

Exploitation of Discoveries made by O.N.G.C.

2202. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether during the past couple of years ONGC made as many as 75 discoveries which remain to be exploited as on date;

(b) if so, the reasons for not exploiting the new discoveries; and

(c) the steps being taken to exploit these at the earliest in view of the heavy drain on foreign exchange in importing crude oil ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) Since 1975, ONGC have made hydrocarbon discoveries in 73 places. Out of these 17 have already been put on production.

(b) After discovery of oil the structure has to be assessed for commercial exploitation. Reservoir engineering studies have to be made and production facilities commissioned, which take time before actual production begins.

(c) Continuous efforts are being made to reduce this time gap by proper planning and expeditious procurement of material for establishment of transportation and production facilities.

[*Translation*]

L.P.G. Connections for Rajasthan

2203. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of cooking gas (LPG) allotted to Rajasthan during 1984-85;

(b) whether Government are aware of the difficulties being faced by people because

of less number of cooking gas connections and non-availability of firewood in the state;

(c) if so, whether more gas connections will be sanctioned in each town having municipality, and if so, the time by which the additional connections will be provided; and

(d) whether a time-bound programme is being chalked out by Government to overcome shortage thereof in near future and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) to (d) No Statewise allocations of LPG are made. Release of new connections all over the country including Rajasthan are being made to persons registered for the same in keeping with availability of LPG and the available bottling capacity and infrastructural facilities. The oil industry's country-wide target for release of new connections in 1984-85 was 14.50 lakhs and is 17.50 lakhs for 1985-86. With a view to giving improved service to customers and meeting the targets for new connections, the oil industry is implementing schemes for augmenting LPG availability, bottling capacity and transportation facilities.

[*English*]

Export of Bombay High Crude

2204. **SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL :** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "Big loss on export of Bombay High Crude" appearing in 'Business Standard' of 12 March 1985 revealing that a big loss is now being sustained on export of good quality Bombay High Crude;

(b) whether the loss has further been accentuated by the fact that the country's imports cannot be cut down because of contractual obligation;

(c) if so, the estimated loss; and

(d) the reasons why sufficient refining facilities are not created within the country itself ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Additional refinery capacity of 7.75 million tonnes per annum is being commissioned during the year to process Bombay High Crude, leaving very little surplus for export.

[*Translation*]

Rules for Appointment of Judges

2205. **SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA :** Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry had framed any rules under which judges in the Supreme Court, High Courts and other Courts would be appointed on the basis of their ability and integrity; and

(b) the date on which these rules were framed and whether these are being followed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE : (SHRI H. R. BHARADWAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

The appointments of Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts are made in consultation with the authorities specified in Articles 124(2) and 217(1) respectively of the Constitution. The appointment of Judges in subordinate courts is the concern of the State authorities.

(b) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Branches of Maruti Udyog

2206. **SHRI CHITTA MAHATA :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any intention to open branches of Maruti Udyog in different parts of the country to meet public demand; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The existing plant, on reaching its full capacity, will be in a position to meet public demand.

Treatment of New Sindhudurg District of Maharashtra as Backward for the Purpose of Postal Communications

2207. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that after the break up of the former Ratnagiri district of Maharashtra into two districts Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg only the new Ratnagiri district is treated as 'backward' for the purposes of Postal Communications.

(b) whether the new Sindhudurg district is still not treated as backward, for postal purposes ; and

(c) if so, whether like the new Ratnagiri district, the new Sindhudurg district too will be treated as 'backward' entitling the district all facilities available to the backward areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) to (c) At the time of re-organisation of the two districts-Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg, with effect from 1-5-81 Gaganbavda Taluka of Kolhapur District was added to Sindhudurg district to form Vaibhavwadi Taluka. With effect from 29-9-81 these two districts were classified as normal rural areas excepting Vaibhavwadi Taluka as the rest of the districts did not qualify to be treated as backward for Postal development.

Industrial Licences Issued in Bihar

2208. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAIN SINHA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether only 25 Industrial licences were issued in Bihar in 1984 as reported in the 'Economic Times' of 11 March, 1985 ;

(b) if so, whether Government consider it satisfactory as compared to the licences issued to other States ; and

(c) the reasons for this low rate of establishing industries in Bihar ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN) : (a) 26 industrial licences and 21 letters of intent were issued in 1984 for setting up industries in Bihar.

(b) and (c) Grant of letters of intent/ industrial licences for setting up industries in any State depends upon the number of applications received for location of industries in that State. The choice of location for the establishment of an industry by the entrepreneur is influenced, inter-alia, by the availability of infrastructural facilities, raw materials, etc.

Setting up of Oil Terminal at Paradeep in Orissa

2209. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up an oil terminal at Paradeep in Orissa ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) A proposal for setting up an oil terminal at Paradeep is under consideration.

(b) Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited has been asked to prepare a feasibility report for the project.

Amendment of Drugs (Price Control) Order, 1979

2210. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to amend the Drugs (Price Control) Order, 1979 keeping in view the increasing prices of life-saving drugs in the country ;

- (b) if so, the details in this regard; and
 (c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) to (c) The prices of most of the medicines including life saving medicines are regulated under the provisions of Drugs (Price Control) Order, 1979. Such regulation ensures their availability at fair and reasonable prices,

Government have not yet taken any decision to amend the Drugs (Price Control) Order, 1979,

[*Translation*]

Setting up of cement factories in H.P.

2211. **SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of licences issued for setting up cement factories in Himachal Pradesh during the last 15 years;
 (b) the area of land for which leases or ownership rights were granted for mining limestone; and
 (c) the names of persons and the places leased with the approval of Union Government during the last five years for mining of limestone in that State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) In addition to 3 Industrial Licences, 6 letters of intent and 15 registrations with the Directorate General of Technical Development have been granted for setting up cement plants including white cement plants in the State of Himachal Pradesh.

(b) and (c) While granting Industrial Licences/Letters of Intent/Registration with Directorate General of Technical Development for setting up cement plants, availability of the main raw material viz. Limestone on a sustained basis is invariably taken into account. The applicants, however, make their own arrangements with the State Governments concerned for procurement of this raw material as in the case of other raw

materials. Precise details such as the area of land for which leases/ownership rights are granted, the names of persons and the places leased etc. are available with the State Governments concerned and are not, therefore, centrally maintained.

[*English*]

Setting up of Coir Industries in Karnataka in Public Sector

2212. **SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Karnataka is the best place for setting up of Coir industries in public sector in view of the availability of raw materials in plenty; and
 (b) if so, the action taken to establish coir industries in public sector in Karnataka ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) and (b) Karnataka is the third largest coconut producing State in the country with good potential for the development of coir industry. Programmes have been drawn up for the development of coir industry during VII Plan period in all Coir producing States including Karnataka. There is no proposal to set up Coir Units in the public sector.

Separate Postal Division for Kalahandi District in Orissa

2213. **SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Government are aware that Kalahandi District in Orissa fulfils all the pre-conditions to justify opening of a Postal Division; and
 (b) if so, the time by which Government propose to establish a separate Postal Division for this backward district of Orissa ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) Creation of new Postal Divisions inter-alia involves creation of new posts. In view of the extant ban orders imposed by the Government on creation of posts, it will not be feasible to create Kalahandi Postal Division at present.

Supply of paper to Kerala Education Department

2214. SHRI K. MOHANDAS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of paper applied for by the Education Department of Kerala for printing of notebooks, text-books and other educational purposes, and the quantity allotted;

(b) the reasons for inadequate supply of paper; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to ensure full supply to the Kerala Education Department ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) Government of Kerala had intimated the Ministry of Education its requirement of concessional white printing paper for educational purposes for 1984-85 as 12,111 metric tonnes. The total allotment made to Kerala during 1984-85 was 9,484 tonnes, out of which supplies made so far amount to 4375.3 tonnes.

(b) and (c) Some of the mills have reported power cuts shortage of raw materials etc. as the reason for shortfall in supplies. As and when complaints of short-supply or non-supply are received from allottees the matter is taken up with the concerned paper mills for stepping up supplies of paper.

Growth rate of Industry

2215. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : Will the Minister OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have fixed the growth rate of industry in 1985-86 at 10 per cent;

(b) if so, the actual growth rate during the past few months in this year; and

(c) if the results are not satisfactory, the steps Government propose to take to improve the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) The Approach Paper to the the Seventh Plan (1985-90) envisages an average annual growth rate of 7 per cent during the plan period.

(b) On the basis of Index of Industrial Production (provisional) from Central Statistical Organisation, the rate of growth of industrial Production during April-December, 1984 over April-December, 1983 was 6.2 per cent.

(c) The Government has been taking several steps to stimulate industrial production through appropriate changes in industrial, licensing and import policies as well as through monetary and fiscal measures and improvement in infrastructure.

LPG Connections

2216. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the scheme of supplying additional LPG cylinders is being implemented throughout the country;

(b) if not, the names of the cities which are having this facility;

(c) the number of persons in each state which are having additional LPG cylinder as on 31 December, 1984;

(d) whether there are a large number of persons who are not having LPG connections and on the other hand people are having additional cylinders; and

(e) whether Government propose to review their decision to supply additional cylinders to the consumers till all the wait listed persons get the LPG connections in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) All over the country the oil Industry is releasing second cylinders to customers of Pin type cylinders.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) The details are given in the attached statement.
- (d) Yes, Sir.
- (e) In view of the fact that provision of second cylinders does not in any way effect release of new connections, which is being implemented as planned. Government do not propose to review the decision about second cylinders.

24. Arunachal Pradesh	—
25. Chandigarh	22,829
26. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	—
27. Delhi	1,12,904
28. Goa, Daman and Diu	350
29. Lakshadweep	—
30. Mizoram	—
31. Pondicherry	3,208

Statement

The Number of Second Cylinders Released as on 31.12.1984

Name of the States :	
1. Andhra Pradesh	61,270
2. Assam	11,204
3. Bihar	5,272
4. Gujarat	32,536
5. Haryana	10,651
6. Himachal Pradesh	10,900
7. J and K	1,802
8. Karnataka	6,736
9. Kerala	5,926
10. Madhya Pradesh	6,716
11. Maharashtra	53,417
12. Manipur	—
13. Meghalaya	—
14. Nagaland	—
15. Orissa	1,291
16. Punjab	40,804
17. Rajasthan	11,954
18. Sikkim	136
19. Tamil Nadu	55,017
20. Tripura	—
21. Uttar Pradesh	62,537
22. West Bengal	56,610
Union Territories	
23. Andaman and Nicobar Islands	—

International Workshop for women industrial entrepreneurs

2217. SHRIMATI MADHURI SINGH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state : (a) Whether the first six day International Workshop for development of women industrial entrepreneurs was held recently in New Delhi;

(b) the steps taken by the Union and the State Governments, financial institutions, promotional agencies and voluntary organisations to induct more women into entrepreneurial development movement; and

(c) other relevant details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS : (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The information is not readily available and is being collected from all the State Governments and the agencies involved.

[Translation]

Review of Legal Aid Schemes of various States.

2218. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have reviewed the Legal Aid Schemes being run by various States ; and

(b) whether Government propose to bring about uniformity and wide changes therein in order to make these schemes more effective ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE : (SHRI H.R. BHARADWAJ) : (a) and (b) The implementation of the Legal Aid Schemes in the States, is, at present entirely with the State Governments. As such reviewing these Schemes by the Government does not arise. However, the Committee for Implementing Legal Aid Schemes constituted by the Government had evolved a Model Scheme on legal aid programme for adoption by the State Governments with a view to ensuring uniformity in the Legal Aid Programmes through out the country. The Government have several proposals under consideration to make Legal Aid Programme more effective and beneficial to the deserving people, namely, the weaker sections of the society.

Percentage of voting in elections

2219. SHRI KRISHAN PRATAP SINGH : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the average percentage of votes polled in elections during last five years and the reasons for less voting ; and

(b) the steps taken by Government for higher voting percentage to educate voters about the importance of voting ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARADWAJ) : (a) A statement as furnished by the Election

Commission and showing the percentage of voting at Central Elections to Lok Sabha and Legislative Assembly that took place between 1980 and 1984 is attached, The figures of percentage of voting relating to Lok Sabha elections held in December, 1984 and elections to Assemblies held in March, 1985 are not available with the Commission and the same will be laid on the Table of the House soon after they are made available by the Commission. The Commission has, however, stated that it cannot be said that the average voting can be regarded as low as compared to other democratic countries.

(b) The Election Commission has been taking a number of steps for educating the voters about the importance of voting. For example, during the General Election to Lok Sabha 1984 more than 20 lakh posters in 13 languages of the country were got published by the Directorate of Audio Visual Publicity, New Delhi, and supplied to the State and Union Territories. At the instance of the commission a documentary film entitled "Your Precious Vote" was prepared by the Ministry of information and Broadcasting and it was telecast. States and Union Territories have also got documentary and cartoon films on elections prepared and exhibited. The electors have been encouraged through the mass media like T. V., A.I.R., press, etc., to vote without fear. The Commission had also taken a number of steps to avoid chances of intimidation of weaker sections and to enable them to vote.

Statement

Statement showing percentage of voting at General Elections since 1980 to 1984

Year of General Election.	Total electorate	Total No. of electors who voted.	Percentage of votnig
1	2	3	4
General election to Lok Sabha, 1980	355,590,700	202,405,413	56.92
General			

1	2	3	4
elections to			
Legislative			
Assemblies,			
1980.			
(1) Bihar	39,826,772	22,804,404	57.26
(2) Gujarat*	16,501,328	7,981,995	48.37
(3) Kerala	13,263,837	9,587,663	72.28
(4) Madhya Pradesh	25,394,590	12,429,154	48.94
(5) Maharashtra**	33,677,974	17,949,372	53.14
(6) Manipur	909,268	749,404	82.42
(7) Orissa	13,909,145	6,549,074	47.08
(8) Punjab	9,857,270	6,341,549	64.33
(9) Rajasthan	18,062,012	9,421,870	52.16
(10) Sikkim	117,157	76,299	65.13
(11) Tamil Nadu	29,499,966	19,101,113	64.75
(12) Uttar Pradesh	58,552,572	26,288,276	44.90
Union Territory			
(1) Arunachal Pradesh***	258,112	180,052	69.76
(2) Goa, Daman and Diu	522,652	363,273	69.51
(3) Mizoram	241,944	165,344	68.34
(4) Pondicherry	319,237	256,603	80.38

Figures exclude the electorate of the following Assembly Constituencies.

*Gujrat : Election of 33-Kutiyana assembly constituency was uncontested.

**Maharashtra : Election of 153-Sironcha (ST) assembly constituency was uncontested.

***Arunachal Pradesh : Election in 29-Niausa-Kanubari assembly constituency was uncontested.

Year of General Election	Total electrote	Total No. of electors who voted	Percentage of voting
(i) General election to Legislative Assemblies 1982.			
(1) Haryana	7,152,281	4,997,435	69.87
(2) Himachal Pradesh	2,211,524	1,571,574	71.06
(3) Kerala	13,115,037	9,641,193	73.51
(4) Nagaland	596,453	443,972	74.44
(5) West Bengal	29,897,619	22,984,685	76.34
(ii) General Elections to Legislative Assemblies, 1983.			
(1) Assam*	7,284,812	2,385,190	32.74
(2) Andhra Pradesh	31,387,299	21,560,642	68.69
(3) Karnataka	19,832,133	13,246,269	66.79
(4) Meghalaya	682,079	495,023	72.58
(5) Tripura	1,134,257	941,785	83.03
(6) Jammu and Kashmir**	3,101,665	2,271,809	73.24
(7) Delhi (Metropolitan)	3,349,987	1,863,526	55.63
(iii) General Election to Legislative Assemblies, 1984.			
(1) Tamil Nadu			
(2) Mizoram	265,510	192,867	72.64
Union Territory			
(1) Arunachal Pradesh			
(2) Goa, Daman and Diu			
(3) Manipur			

*Poll was countermanded in one assembly constituency and adjourned in 16 assembly constituencies, 4 seats were declared uncontested. Hence figures are for 105 assembly constituencies.

**Figures exclude the electorate of 40-Doda assembly constituency.

[English]

**Manufacture of Nitrogen Fertilizer by
Nagarjuna Fertilizers and Chemical
Limited at Kakinada in
Andhra Pradesh**

2220. SHRI V. SOBHA-NADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Nagarjuna Fertilizers and Chemicals Limited, a Government Undertaking, which was given a licence for manufacture of 2.28 lakh tonnes of Nitrogen Fertilizer at Kakinada in Andhra Pradesh, had sent details on feasibility and economics to the Union Government in December 1982; and

(b) if so, the details and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) and (b) Nagarjuna Fertilizers and Chemicals Limited (NFCL) had entrusted M/s. Projects and Development India Limited (PDIL) with a study on the relative economics of fuel oil versus naphtha as feedstock for the proposed project to manufacture 2.28 lakh tonnes of nitrogenous fertilizer at Kakinada in Andhra Pradesh. The study made by PDIL indicated that naphtha was a possible and better alternative than fuel oil as feedstock for the project. In the circumstances, the party's industrial licences was renewed and the feedstock was agreed to be changed from fuel oil to naphtha.

Shortage of Molasses

2221. SHRIMATI N. P. JHANSI LAKSHMI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether distilleries are facing closure due to shortage of molasses;

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard; and

(c) whether it is a fact that Government have given permission to export molasses to other countries;

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) to (c) The All India Distillers' Association have reported that the distilleries are faced with closure due to shortage of molasses. The production of molasses during current alcohol year is estimated at 24.36 lakh tonnes as compared to 23.87 lakh tonnes in the last alcohol year. However, opening balance in the beginning of current alcohol year was much less as compared to the previous year.

No new permission for export of molasses has been given by the Government during current alcohol year. Only STC has been permitted to fulfil the nominal balance amount of its previous export commitment.

**Agreement between O. N. G. C. and
Employees' Unions for Winter
Uniforms**

2222. SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Oil and Natural Gas Commission, Dehradun, had entered into a settlement with its employees' unions/associations to provide summer and winter uniforms to all unionised workers/employees;

(b) whether so for no centralised orders have been placed by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission, Dehradun for procurement of materials resulting in dissatisfaction among its employees; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the action proposed to be taken by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission Dehradun for immediate procurement plan on centralised order basis ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A Committee consisting of representatives of unions and the management was constituted to work out and recommend the scale of uniforms, its frequency and other modalities. Based on

the recommendations of the Committee, tenders for procurement of uniforms are being invited. The progress in this regard is being monitored through periodical meetings with the recognised unions. As such the question of dis-satisfaction among the employees, does not arise.

Import of Tetracycline

2223. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that tetracycline imported by the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited in 1977 was sub-standard and the same medicine had been supplied to the public;

(b) whether his attention has been invited to the press report captioned 'Sarkari Karkhane Se Ghatiya Dava Ki Supply' (Supply of sub-standard drugs from Government factory) published in the 'Navbharat Times' of 10 March, 1985;

(c) if so, the full details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) to (b) Government's attention has been drawn to a press report captioned 'Sarkari Karkhane Se Ghatiya Dava Ki Supply (Supply of sub-standard medicines from Government Factory) which was published in the 'Navbharat Times' dated the 10th March, 1985.

Hindustan Antibiotics Limited purchased 8 batches of imported Tetracycline bulk drugs from Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited in May, 1977 and took delivery even before testing because of immediate requirement. The material was tested by Hindustan Antibiotics Limited in its Quality Control Laboratory and found satisfactory. Based on this, a part of the bulk drug was taken up for processing and capsules prepared were supplied to the Army. These were returned by the Army as they developed colour. In the meantime, the test report of the Drug Controller was received by the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited which indicated that four batches were of sub-standard. Part of the material was

returned to Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited and replacement received by HAL subsequently. The other part was reprocessed to Indian Pharmacopoeial (IP) specification and used for making human and veterinary formulations. The capsules returned by the Army were also reprocessed to IP specification and disposed of. No complaints were received in this regard.

Engines for Vijayanta and other Battle Tanks

2224. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the engines needed for vijayanta and other battle tanks are manufactured indigenously or acquired from abroad;

(b) whether any of the engines in use now are out-moded and obsolete; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to obtain more sophisticated engines for the battle tanks ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) to (c) Engines for Vijayanta tanks are being manufactured indigenously under licence from M/s Leyland of U.K. Engines for other battle tanks in service are currently being imported. Efforts are being made to improve the performance of existing power pack for Vijayanta tanks and also to select a suitable alternative power pack. In case of other tanks efforts to indigenise the engines are also being made through Department of Defence Research and Development and other agencies.

Recruitment of Reserve Trained Pool/ Short Duty Sorting Assistants in R. M. S.

2225. SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that people are recruited for reserve trained pool/ short duty sorting Assistants in Railway Mail Services;

(b) if so, the number of employees in R. M. S. throughout India in this category; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to make these employees permanent if they have worked for not less than 240 days per year consecutively or with break ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The services of candidates included in RTP are utilized to cope with contingencies like peak hour/seasonal traffic, absenteeism, etc. and are paid at hourly rates of wages till their absorption on regular basis. Such of the RIP candidates whose response to called for duty has been satisfactory are considered for absorption against future vacancies notified for direct recruitment. For these recruited as Short Duty Staff under an old (1971) scheme, the condition of 120 days service within the preceding six months had been stipulated. There is, however, no such condition in respect of those included in the scheme of Reserve trained pool staff introduced in October, 1980. The candidates who are still awaiting absorption will be provided on a regular basis as and when vacancies in outsiders quota become available and the ban orders on direct recruitment are lifted.

[*Translation*]

Telephone Connections in Bhandara Garhchiroli and Chanderpur Districts of Maharashtra

2226. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons in Bhandara, Garhchiroli and Chanderpur districts in Maharashtra who have not been provided telephone connections so far even after the lapse of a period of more than one year and the reasons therefor; and

(b) the time by which they will be provided telephone connections ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The waiting list in Bhandara, Garhchiroli and Chanderpur

Districts in Maharashtra pending for more than a year, is as under :

Name of District	Waiting list pending for more than a year.
1. Bhandara	267
2. Garhchiroli	Nil
3. Chanderpur	468

This waiting list at Bhandara and Chanderpur could not be cleared due to scarcity of equipment, cables and other resources.

(b) The present waiting list is likely to be cleared progressively over a period of about 2 years, subject to availability of resources.

Development of Ancillary Industries

2227. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the units established under the Government Undertakings have framed any policy for the development of ancillary industries;

(b) if so, whether this policy is also applicable to the units established by Defence Organisations; and

(c) whether this policy is being complied with by all Union Government establishments ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) to (c) Guidelines have been issued by Bureau of Public Enterprises, Ministry of Finance to all Central Public Sector Undertakings for Development of Ancillaries. These guidelines are also applicable to units established under the Defence Organisation, and are being followed in general, by all Central Public Sector Undertakings.

[*English*]

Extra Departmental Staff in Post and Telegraphs Department

2228. SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of E. D. Postal staff employed in the Department of Posts and Telegraphs;

(b) the hours of work of such E. D. Postal staff.

(c) the scales of pay granted to them;

(d) the other benefits which are granted to them; and

(e) the reasons for continuing them as extra departmental employees ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) 2,99 468 as on 31.3.1984.

(b) Hours of work of E. D. staff range from 2 to 5 hours except for ED Chowkidar who can be engaged up to $7\frac{1}{2}$ hours per day.

(c) Since EDAs are not regular Government servants, they are not borne on any Pay Scales but are paid only consolidated allowance with reference to the workload handled by them for the Government. Their allowances now range between Rs. 152 and Rs. 315.

(d) The EDSPMs/ED BPMs are granted an office maintenance allowance of Rs. 10/- per month. Other categories of ED Agents are granted a special allowance of Rs. 5 per month. EDDA's and EDMCs are eligible for grant of cycle allowance in addition to their consolidated remuneration. ED Agents are also eligible at the time of their relief from ED service to grant of ex-gratia gratuity upto a maximum of Rs. 1000/- provided they have put in a minimum of 18 years of service. They are eligible for absorption in the Departmental Cadres of Postmen and Group 'D' under certain conditions. An ex-gratia payment of bonus is also made to the ED employees.

(e) The ED system is mainly intended to provide postal facilities in rural and backward areas of the country on viable economic terms where regular departmental post office is not justified on cost considerations and want of adequate workload. For manning such ED Post Offices, local residents of the area are employed on part-time basis and they are expected to have other avocations in life so that they may not depend solely

on the remuneration that they get from the Department for the services rendered by them. The working hours of these ED agents vary from 2 to 5 hours. At places where the Postal traffic exceeds 5 hours, the ED post offices may be converted into Departmental Sub Offices subject to satisfaction of the prescribed norms. The ED system enables the Department to provide a relatively extensive service in the rural and semi-urban areas at a reasonable cost commensurate with the workload and other relevant factors. In view of the abgoe, it is considered necessary to continue with the system.

[Translation]

Exploration of Oil in Madhya Pradesh

2229. SHRI M. L. JAIKRAM : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) Whether any survey was conducted in Damoh, Jabalpur, Mandla and Chhindwara Districts in Madhya Pradesh for exploration of oil during 1984-85 ;

(b) the names of those districts in Madhya Pradesh, besides those Districts, where survey has been conducted for the purpose;

(c) whether there is any possibility of finding other minerals besides oil and if so, their names and the likely quantity thereof; and

(d) the details of the survey report and whether survey has been completed or it is yet to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) In 1984-85, surveys were conducted in Jabalpur and Chhindwara Districts of Madhya Pradesh.

(b) Parts of Hoshangabad and Damoh Districts were covered by surveys in 1983-84.

(c) ONGC is engaged in exploration of oil and natural gas only.

(d) The results of the geochemical surveys conducted in Satpura basin, part of which falls in Madhya Pradesh has given

some positive indications. However, further surveys are planned in the area.

[English]

Pending Applications for new Telephone Connections in Kerala.

2230. PROF. K. V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications for new telephone connections pending in Kerala; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken for the speedy installation of telephones ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) 41,996 applications are pending for provision of new telephone connections in Kerala Telecom. Circle as on 1-3-1985.

(b) It is proposed to expand the existing telephone exchanges wherever feasible and also to open new exchanges to clear the

pending waiting list in Kerala, depending upon the availability of equipment, Cables and other resources.

Petro-Chemical Plants

2231 SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal under their consideration to make massive investment in petro-chemical plants :

(b) if so, the number of such petro-chemical plants proposed to be set up in different parts of the country; and

(c) the progress made so far and the estimated cost of setting up each of the proposed petro-chemical plants ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) to (c) The following petro-chemical projects have been taken up for implementation in the Central Public Sector :

	Estimated capital cost (Rs./crores)
1. Maharashtra Gas Cracker Complex in Nagothane in Maharashtra (IPCL)	11.67
2. Benzene project in Cochin (Cochin Refineries Limited)	59.40
3. Benzene project in Bombay (Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited)	56.50
4. Caprolactam project in Udyogmandal in Kerala (Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Limited)	147.94
5. Expansion of plants to manufacture Polypropylene Acrylic fibre Xylenes DMT LAB	58.65 85.03 59.36 13.15 18.38
} IPCL in Baroda	
6. Polyester staple fibre project in Bongaigaon (BRPL)	139.39

The projects are at various stages of implementation.

**Encroachment of Ministry of Defence
Land in Greater Bombay**

2232. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) how many hectares of land in Greater Bombay belong to the Ministry of Defence;

(b) how many hectares have been constructed upon, how many hectares are lying vacant and how many hectares have been encroached upon by slums; and

(c) Government's thinking in respect of the lands encroached upon by hutments and slums ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO); (a) A total area of 771.737 hectares is owned by Defence Ministry in the Greater Bombay. In addition Ministry of Defence is holding 55.814 hectares of requisitioned land and 153.067 hectares of hired land.

(b) The area under encroachment out of the Defence owned land is 39.782 hectares and 8.484 hectares out the requisitioned/hired land. The information regarding the area constructed upon and that lying vacant is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(c) The modalities for removal of encroachments are being worked out in consultation with the Government of Maharashtra.

**Telephone Exchanges and Post offices
in West Bengal**

2233. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL, DR. PHULRENU GUHA : Will the Minister

of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of places in West Bengal where the existing Telephone Exchanges are proposed to be automatised and new Telephone Exchanges opened;

(b) the places to be linked by STD with Calcutta and other cities/towns in West Bengal and outside during the year 1985-86;

(c) the new Post Offices/Telegraph Offices to be opened in that State during 1985-86; and

(d) the steps taken to speed up communications system in West Bengal, particularly in the backward area of Sunderbans in that State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The information is given in Statement-I

(b) No new places are likely to be linked by STD with Calcutta and other cities/towns in West Bengal and outside during the year 1985-86.

(c) The information is given in Statement-II

(d) Joynager, Canning and Cakdwip are the principal stations in Sunderbans area. Joynagar is connected to Calcutta by two circuits. Automatised of Canning and Kakdwip is likely to be done in 7th plan. Provision of STD will be taken up depending on the traffic.

Statement-I

A. (I) The names of places in West Bengal where the existing telephone exchanges are proposed to be automatised subject to receipt of all stores.

Name of exchange.	Type Present	Proposed	Likely year of Auto-matisation
1	2	3	4
1. Alipurduar	CBM	MAX-II	1986-87
2. Aram Bagh	CBNM	MAX-II	1988-89
3. Amlagora	CBNM	MAX-II	End of 7th Plan
4. Bishnupur	CBNM	-do-	1986-87

1	2	3	4
5. Bankura	CBM	MAX-I	End of 7th plan.
6. Berhampore	CBM	-do-	-do-
7. Banarhat	CBNM	MAX-II	-do-
8. Birpara	-do-	-do-	1988-89
9. Baliachak	-do-	-do-	End of 7th Plan.
10. Basirhat	CBM	-do-	1988-89
11. Beldanga	CBNM	-do-	End of 7th Plan.
12. Bongaon	-do-	-do-	88-89
13. Contai	CBM	-do-	1986-87
14. Champadanga	CBNM	-do-	End of 7th Plan.
15. Diamond harbour	-do-	-do-	1986-87
16. Dinhata	-do-	-do-	End of 7th Plan.
17. Dalkhola	-do-	-do-	-do-
18. Dhuliyān	-do-	-do-	-do-
19. Dubrajpur	-do-	-do-	-do-
20. Gangarampore	-do-	-do-	-do-
21. Ghatal	-do-	-do-	1988-89
22. Guskara	-do-	-do-	End of 7th Plan.
23. Harishchandrapur	-do-	-do-	-do-
24. Hoismara	-do-	-do-	-do-
25. Habra	CBM	-do-	1988-89
26. Islampore (WD)	CBNM	-do-	End of 7th Plan.
27. Islampore	-do-	-do-	-do-
28. Jhargram	-do-	-do-	-do-
29. Jalpaiguri	CBM	MAX-I	-do-
30. Kaliachak	CBNM	MAX-II	-do-
31. Katwa	CBM	-do-	1987-88
32. Kolaghat	CBNM	-do-	End of 7th Plan.
33. Kalchini	-do-	-do-	-do-
34. Kaliganj	CBNM	MAX-II	End of 7th Plan.
35. Kalna	-do-	-do-	-do-
36. Kakdwip	-do-	-do-	-do-
37. Karimpore	-do-	-do-	-do-

1	2	3	4
38. Mal	-do-	-do-	1987-88
39. Mathabhanga	-do-	-do-	End of 7th Plan,
40. Memari	CBM	-do-	-do-
41. Navadwip	CBM	-do-	1989-90
42. Panagarh BZ	CBNM	-do-	End of 7th Plan.
43. Raghunathganj	-do-	-do-	-do-
44. Rampurhat	-do-	-do-	1987-88
45. Raiganj	CBM	-do-	-do-
46. Ranaghat	-do-	-do-	-do-
47. Sainthia	-do-	-do-	1956-87
48. Sonamukhi	CBNM	-do-	End of 7th Plan.
49. Santipur	-do-	-do-	-do-
50. Satgachhia	-do-	-do-	-do-
51. Simlapal	-do-	-do-	-do-
52. Tamluk	-do-	-do-	1988-89

(II) New exchanges to be opened

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. Campel Bay | 9. Lohapur |
| 2. Sabang | 10. Nishiganj |
| 3. Panchgram | 11. Rampur |
| 4. Dasagram | 12. Rajnagar |
| 5. Bhupatinagar | 13. Milki |
| 6. Goura | 14. Andi |
| 7. Guptipara | 15. Ranibandh |
| 8. Dhatrigram | |

Statement-II

(c) I-The new post offices to be opened in West Bengal in 1985-86.

A total of 1755 post offices in the rural areas is to be opened in the country during 1985-86. The target for West Bengal has not yet been finalised.

II. The new telegraph offices/combined offices to be opened during 1985-86.

Names of Departmental Telegraph offices (DTO's)

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Dumdum | Calcutta. |
| 2. Jadavpur University | Calcutta. |
| 3. Behala | Calcutta. |
| 4. Maniktala | Calcutta. |

Names of Combined Offices:

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Bheduasol | 8. Mathurapur |
| 2. Regent Estate-Calcutta. | 9. Bademsur-Calcutta. |
| 3. Boinchigram | 10. Mothabari |
| 4. Durgachak | 11. Ratna |
| 5. Bhaktinagar | 12. Mukdumpura |
| 6. Saluja | 13. Pandapur. |
| 7. Krishnaganj | |

**Oil drilling in Andaman Region by
Oil India**

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

2234. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Oil India is launching up an oil drilling programme in the Andaman region;

(b) if so, its broad outlines; and

(c) the capital outlay involved and the areas proposed to be explored in the above region ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) to (c) Oil India have proposed to drill six wells in the Andaman offshore area at an estimated cost of Rs. 140.71 Crores.

Telegraph Offices at Asansol

2235. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of telegraph offices functioning in Asansol town and location of those offices;

(b) whether Government are considering to open another such office there;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) At present, one Departmental Telegraph Office and two Combined P and T Offices are functioning in Asansol Town. The DTO is situated near Railway Station on G. T. Road. Of the two Combined Offices, one Combined Office is near Asansol Court and the other near Railway Station.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Government is considering to open another Telegraph Office, in Asansol.

The traffic justification and technical feasibility for opening Telegraph Office is being examined.

(d) Does'nt arise.

**Effect of Ban on Creation of New
Posts on Commissioning of
Automatic Exchanges**

2236. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the programme of Government to convert small automatic exchanges

into CBM/CBNM Exchanges, has suffered on account of the non-availability of trained telephone operators and other technical staff who cannot be recruited on account of the ban imposed by the Ministry of Finance on the filling up of existing vacancies and the creation of new posts;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry have pointed it out to the Ministry of Finance and sought the removal of this ban in the interest of operational efficiency and expansion in the sector of telecommunications;

(c) if so, the result thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

**Issue of Commemorative Postal Stamps
in 1985-86**

2237. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the programme of the Ministry to bring out commemorative stamps during the current financial year 1985-86 has been finalised;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the dates on which each of the stamps would be released; and

(c) if not, the likely date by which the programme would be finalised and whether literary, cultural and artistic themes and events would also be given adequate representation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b) Programme for issue of commemorative/special stamps is chalked out for the Calendar Year and not for the Financial Year. The programme of issues proposed for the year 1985 is given in the statement attached. In some cases the dates for the issues are yet to be announced.

(c) Not applicable in view of the above reply.

Statement

Programme for Issue of Commemorative/Special Postage Stamps During the Year 1985.

No.	Date of Issue	Particulars of the Stamps
1	2	3
1.	2nd January	Fergusson College, Pune
2.	10th January	Kakasaheb Gadgil
3.	15th January	The Regiment of Artillery
4.	31st January	Indra Gandhi
5.	2nd February	Minicoy Light House
6.	20th February	Medical College, Calcutta
7.	6th March	Medical College, Madras
8.	29th March	Assam Rifles
9.	1st April	Potato Research
10.	4th April	Baba Jassa Singh Ahluwalia
11.	12th April	St. Xavier's College, Calcutta
12-13.	12th April	Bougainvillea

1	2	3
14-15.	12th May	Performing Arts I
1617.	12th June	Festival of India
18.	24th July	Jairamdas Daulatram
19.	24th September	Performing Arts II
20.	1st October	Wild Life (White winged wood Duck)
21-22.	„ October	Festival of India
23.	26th October	St. Stephen's Hospital
24.	31st October	Indira Gandhi
25.	14th November	Children's Day
26.	19th November	Indira Gandhi
27.	19th November	International Astronomical Union
28.	19th December	Kakasaheb Kalelkar
29-32.	28th December	Centenary of Indian National Congress

Date and Months to be decided

33.	Kamakhya Temple
34.	International Youth Year
35.	Chess
36.	Swami Haridas
37.	Master Tara Singh
38.	Defence Theme
39-40.	Inpex-1985
41.	Jatindra Mohan Sengupta
42.	Ravishankar Maharaj

Opening of Public Call offices under Multi-Access Rural Radio System

2238. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Multi-Access Rural Radio system for the provision of telephone facility in the rural areas has made any head-way during the financial year 1984-85;

(b) if so, the salient features of this programme and the number of places in each State, where the Public Call Offices under

Multi-Access Rural Radio System have been provided so far;

(c) if not, whether Government are keen to extend this system in the rural areas; and

(d) the likely date by which the entire country would be covered under this system ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes Sir, there has been some marginal progress.

(b) and (c). This programme envisages

opening of Long Distance Public Call Offices under Multi-Access Rural Radio System.

The salient features of this scheme are :

- (i) This scheme has been launched to provide Telecom. Facility by opening Long Distance Public Telephones in the remote, tribal, hilly, backward, desert areas, dense forests and coastal regions, which are inaccessible and where conventional open-wire lines cannot be erected easily. It is not cost economic.
- (ii) Radio media is utilized for this system and it provides more reliable Telecom. service for the subscribers as compared to open-wire conventional methods.

(iii) It is useful where induction due to power parallelism makes the open-wire circuit technically unsuitable.

It had been decided to open LDPT's (under MARR scheme) in 12 selected areas of the country in the first phase utilising imported equipment. The LDPT's have been opened in various States as per given in the statement attached.

(d) As per the new hexagonal policy; all 5 Kms. side hexagons in the country, which are without Telecom. facility, are likely to be covered by 1890 subject to availability of funds and equipment from indigenous sources. All possible efforts are being made to procure equipment from indigenous sources and, subject to its availability, it has been planned to have 9000 LDPCOs with MARR System in the 7th Plan period.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the State	No. of LDPCO's Installed (under MARR scheme)	No. of LDPCO's commissioned (under MARR scheme)
1.	Gujarat	24	14
2.	Andhra Pradesh	9	9
3.	Tamil Nadu	12	12
4.	Maharashtra	28	12
5.	Uttar Pradesh	19	—
6.	Madhya Pradesh	3	—
Grand Total		95	47

Faulty Working of S. T. D. Service

2239. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the inconvenience and heavy financial burden caused to the subscribers by the faulty working of S. T. D. when the dialing results in getting 'wrong' telephone numbers at the other end;

(b) if so, whether any step has been taken to rectify this fault;

(c) if so, the results thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the likely date by which a solution would be found to this problem ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Wrong numbers are likely to be encountered in both local and STD calls. The occurrence of wrong numbers in STD calls is estimated to be less than 2%. In all such cases financial loss is likely to the extent equivalent to one to two local calls as calling subscribers will disconnect such calls immediately on response by the wrong party.

(b) Factors responsible for occurrence of wrong numbers are identified and attended on consistent complaints or by service observations. Continuous efforts are put in as per defined maintenance schedule to keep the occurrence of wrong numbers to the minimum.

(c) Incidence of occurrence of wrong numbers on STD has been, to some extent, controlled but in an expanding network the problem cannot be totally eliminated.

(d) Wrong numbers on STD calls are likely to arise from various causes and at various stages of call progress. The dial of the calling subscriber, incorrect dialling stronger switch response limits, digit storage and repetition in a crossbar local or Trunk Automatic Exchange, signalling channel distortion on a transmission circuit may all cause wrong numbers in the call chain. Subscribers complaints and service quality test observations are the main basis for estimation and analysis of occurrence of wrong numbers. Routine maintenance adjustments are the main method of keeping their occurrence in check besides any special investigations as the occasion may warrant.

[*Translation*]

Device to detect Adulteration in Diesel and Petrol

2240. SHRI R. M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have developed any device to detect adulteration in diesel and petrol in trucks, buses, cars, rail-engines and aeroplanes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps being taken to evolve such a device ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) No fool-proof device to detect adulteration in diesel and petrol has yet been developed.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) An experimental study is being made by doping furfural with kerosene at selected locations with a view to devising an effective and feasible method to detect adulteration of petrol and diesel with kerosene.

[*English*]

Printing Industry

2241. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether domestic printing industry has been asked to upgrade the technology;

(b) if so, whether any guidelines in this regard have been issued;

(c) if so, the details of the same; and

(d) the extent these have upgraded the technology ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) The need for upgradation of the technology has been impressed on the domestic printing industry.

(b) and (c). No specific guidelines have been issued in this regard. However, in order to facilitate modernisation of the Indian Printing Industry, the following measures have been taken :

(i) A Development Council was constituted to study the various aspects relating to the growth and development of the industry on modern lines.

(ii) Import of several printing machines and allied equipment have been placed under OGL.

(iii) Project import facility has been extended to the printing industry to enable it to avail of concessional rate of import duty on machinery imports.

(d) Technology upgradation is a continuing process. The Indian Printing Industry has been witnessing a steady pace of modernisation to enable it to achieve sustained growth.

Oil and Gas Reserves

2242. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) the estimates of prognosticated off-shore and-on-shore reserves of oil and gas in the different basins in India;

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to put these prognostic oil and gas reserves to production; and

(c) the progress and success achieved in the different basins, particularly in West Bengal in the matter of putting the prognostic oil and gas reserves to production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) The prognosticated hydrocarbons reserves of different basins in India are as follows :

(Fig. in million tonnes)

Onshore	6.1
Offshore	11.1

(b) Some of the steps are :

- (i) introduction of new seismic exploration technology;
- (ii) intensive exploration and development of areas with known hydrocarbon potential;
- (iii) extensive exploration of areas in less precisely known geological regions; and
- (iv) induction of advanced technology and increased use of computers for data processing.

(c) Hydrocarbons have not yet been discovered in West Bengal. The cumulative production in other areas till 1.1.84 was as under :

(Fig. in million tonnes)

Onshore

1. Gujarat	79.6
2. Assam	108.9
3. Nagaland	0.1

Offshore

56.8

Autonomous body for Welfare of Women entrepreneurs in Delhi

2243. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PAT-NAIK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up an autonomous body for the welfare of women entrepreneurs in Delhi;

(b) if so, when that proposal is expected to be implemented;

(c) whether the Ministry proposes to set up such women entrepreneurs' bodies in other places in the country; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) and (b). Delhi Administration are still working out modalities of setting up such an Institute.

(c) and (d). No, Sir.

Plan to set up one Major Industry in every District

2244. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposed plan to set up one major industry in every district in the country is only a reiteration of the 1983 plan for industries in all the non-industry districts;

(b) if so, whether the plan of 1983 has not been fully implemented and some drawbacks have been forcing Government for non-implementation of the plan;

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government during 1985-86 for fuller implementation of 1983 plan; and

(d) whether any programme has been chalked out in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) to (d). Industrialisation of various districts is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments concerned. The Central Government supplements their efforts by providing incentives for setting up units in industrially backward areas. The districts having no large or medium scale industries had been identified in November, 1981 and after the re-categorisation of backward areas with

effect from 1-4-80, all 'No industry' districts alongwith special regions have been included in Category 'A' of backward areas. The entrepreneurs setting up units in these districts are entitled to over-riding priority in Licences, highest rate of Central Investment Subsidy, Concessional Finance facilities and Central assistance for development of infrastructure by State Governments.

As the Scheme became effective only with effect from 1-4-1983, it is too early to determine whether this scheme has been successful or not.

[*Translation*]

Closed Industry in Almora

2245. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any industry in Almora district of Uttar Pradesh which is lying closed for the last many years;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry had furnished information to this House in regard to the arrangements to be made to re-commission the industry;

(c) whether the State Government have re-commissioned the industry after making all necessary arrangements in accordance with the information furnished by him; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which necessary arrangements would be made ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) According to report received by Government, there is one industrial undertaking, viz. Kumar Bronze Powder Ltd. in Almora District, which is lying closed since October, 1982.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Financial institutions do not consider that this unit can be revived and have, therefore, decided to recall the entire loan and also institute legal proceedings for recovery of outstanding dues from the Company, by sale of its assets.

[*English*]

Production Vacuum in Mazagaon Dock Yard due to Lack of Orders

2246. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there will be a production vacuum in Mazagaon Dock Yard (Bombay) due to lack of orders; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to obtain more orders ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Setting up of Mini Oil Refinery in Arunachal Pradesh

2247. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE : (SHRI WANGHPHA LOWANG : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to set up a mini oil refinery in Arunachal Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Linking of Devarkonda Taluka Telephone Exchange with Hyderabad by S.T.D.

2248. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that it takes a long time to get telephonic link from Devarkonda Telephone Exchange to Hyderabad and the subscribers have been facing a great difficulty on that account;

(b) whether Government propose to link Deverkonda Taluka Telephone Exchange with Hyderabad by S.T.D.; and

(c) if so, the time by which both the cities will be connected by S.T.D. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No Sir. The trunk calls from Devarakonda to Hyderabad mature withing reasonable time.

(b) At present there is no proposal link Devarkonda Taluka Telephone Exchange with Hyderabad by STD.

(c) Does not arise.

Construction of New Building for Miryalagunda Telephone Exchange in Andhra Pradesh

2249. **SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the building housing Miryalagunda Telephone Exchange in Nalgonda District, Andhra Pradesh is in a dilapidated condition; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to construct a new building for this Exchange ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. However a new departmental building is under construction.

Assistance provided to educated un-employed under Self-Employment Schemc

2250. **SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of educated unemployed provided assistance under the Prime Minister's programme for self-employment of educated unemployed after the scheme was introduced and how does it compare with the target;

(b) whether the programme is receiving a set back for delay in sanctioning of loans by the Banks; and

(c) if so, what is being done to rectify the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) to (c). During 1983-84 against a target of 2.5 lakhs, 2.42 lakhs educated unemployed youth were assisted under the self-employment scheme for Educated Unemployed Youth. The information from States/UTs about the progress of 1984-85 scheme is still awaited.

Telephones in Rajnandgaon (M.P.)

2251. **SHRI SHIVENDRA BAHADUR SINGH :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) how many places have been connected by telephones in district of Rajnangaon, from Jaunary, 1982 to December, 1984; and

(b) how many applications for telephones are pending with Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) 23 places have been connected by telephones in Rajanandgaon district in Madhya Pradesh, from January, 1982 to December, 1984.

(b) 168 applications are pending for telephone connectios in Rajanandgaon district.

Diversification of industries from urban to rural areas

2252. **SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the effective steps so far taken by Government to check the speedy growth of industrialization in urban areas;

(b) whether Government have envisaged any plan for diversification of industries from urban areas to rural areas; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Government in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) Government has recognised the need to prevent further concentration of industry around Metropolitan Cities and large towns and they have been

following the policy of not issuing new industrial licences for further industrial activity within the Standard Urban Area Limits of a Metropolitan city with a population of over 10 lakhs and within the municipal limits of a city with a population of over 5 lakhs and a relaxation of this policy is allowed only in certain specific categories of cases.

(b) and (c). With the adoption of the locational policy as mentioned above, new industries are encouraged to be set up in rural areas/less developed/backward areas. With a view to provide incentives for industrialisation of 'No Industry Districts' and backward areas, these areas in the country have been reclassified into three categories viz. Category 'A', Category 'B' and Category 'C' depending upon the level of backwardness and financial assistance is given for setting up units in these areas at different rates by way of Central Investment Subsidy, Concessional Finance, Transport Subsidy etc. Similar preference is also provided in grant of licences.

Shifting of Oil Refineries for protecting the Residents of Adjoining Areas

2253. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have started taking requisite action to safeguard and protect the residents of the areas where there are oil refineries;

(b) the preventive measures proposed to be taken in this behalf; and

(c) whether Government propose to evolve a formula to shift the refineries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA): (a) and (b). Refineries incorporate safety aspects in their units to avoid any foreseeable abnormality in operations. Also adequate fire fighting facilities are provided and all the staff are well trained to handle the situations. Adequate treatment facilities are also provided to ensure that effluent water meets the ISI specifications. The gaseous emissions are also maintained within the limits.

(c) This does not arise, in view of what is stated above.

Industrial licences issued for West Bengal since 1982

2254. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of industrial licences granted for West Bengal since May, 1982 to January, 1985;

(b) the number out of them which have been really implemented in terms of installation of industry during this period; and

(c) the number of those established in backward areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) 180 industrial licences were granted for setting up industries in the State of West Bengal between 1st May, 1982 and 31st January, 1985.

(b) and (c). Out of the 180 industrial licences granted for West Bengal, 29 industrial licences were for setting up industries in backward areas of the State.

An industrial licence is granted with an initial validity period of two years and further extensions of one year each can also be given on sufficient justification. It generally takes about three to four years for an industrial project to fructify. The actual gestation period, however, varies from project to project. Out of the 180 industrial licences issued for West Bengal between 1st May, 1982 and 31st January, 1985, 119 industrial licences were "Carry-on-Business" licences. Of the remaining 61 industrial licences, one licence has since been cancelled.

Appointment of arbitrators for Commercial disputes

2255. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to accept private sector demand that in case of any commercial dispute between a Government body and private enterprise, the arbitrator would be a person not connected with Government organisation; and

(b) if so, whether such arbitrators would be appointed from a panel of reputed lawyers of Supreme Court and High Courts.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARADWAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Disposal of Election Petitions

2256. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry is aware that it takes a long time for disposal of an election petition; and

(b) whether his Ministry propose to evolve necessary procedure for the disposal of every election within 90 days at the trial court *i.e.* High Court and within 30 days at the appeal court *i.e.* Supreme Court to ensure speedy justice to electorate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARADWAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to sub-section (6) of section 8 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, trial of an election petition shall, so far as is practicable consistent with the interests of justice in respect of the trial, be continued from day to day until its conclusion, unless the High Court finds the adjournment of the trial beyond the following day to be necessary for reasons to be recorded. Sub-section (7) of the same section provides that every election petition shall be tried as expeditiously as possible and endeavour shall be made to conclude the trial within six months from the date on which the election petition is presented to the High Court for trial. These provisions were made in 1966 and there appears to be little scope for achieving the objective through any further changes in procedure or through amendment of the laws. The Election Commission has urged that the appointment of *ad-hoc* Judges in the High Courts would ensure expeditious disposal of election petitions. While conveying its concurrence in principle to the proposal, Government has informed the Election Commission that proposals for appointment of *ad-hoc* Judges should emanate from the Chief Justices of

the High Courts having regard to the number of election petitions pending before those courts. The Commission has recently addressed the Registrars of all the High Courts to place the matter before the Chief Justice for appropriate action.

Performance of Electronic Telephone Exchange in Sena Bhavan, New Delhi

2257. SHRI KAMAL NATH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the new Electronic Exchange opened in Sena Bhavan, New Delhi converting '37' into '301' is giving satisfactory service;

(b) whether any complaint has been received about its failure; and

(c) the overall performance of the replacement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The performance of the New exchange is good.

Taluka Headquarters in Bihar without Trunk Telephone and Public Telephone Facilities

2258. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of taluka headquarters in Bihar without trunk telephone and public telephone facilities;

(b) whether these facilities will be provided in all the major villages and towns during the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Nil.

(b) and (c). All major villages and towns having population of 5,000 and above have already been provided with telephone facilities. It is the policy of the department to

provide telephone facility within 5 Kms. of the habitations by the year 1990.

Executives of the Tyre Corporation of India

2259. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Tyre Corporation of India is without a Chairman, Managing Director and other important functionaries as reported in the Hindustan Times of 9 March, 1985; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) and (b). The Board of Management of Tyre Corporation of India Limited consisted of a part-time Chairman and four part-time Directors. As yet, there is no post of Managing Director or any other full-time Director on the Board. The terms of part-time Chairman and two part-time Directors have expired on the 28th February, 1985 and the functions of the Board are being discharged by the other two part-time Directors, nominated by the Government. Government is proposing reconstitution of the Board of Management including induction of whole time Directors in view of the increasing work-load and responsibilities in managing Tyre Corporation of India Limited.

Leather Chemicals Industry

2260. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether liberal imports of chemicals have harmed the leather chemicals industry;

(b) whether these chemicals are being produced indigenously; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Government to help the producers of these chemicals and raw materials?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) No Sir. Import of Wattle Extract alone is permitted under O. G. L. Import of other chemicals is allowed under REP licence issued against export of leather and leather goods.

(b) Yes Sir. However, import is permitted on restricted basis to meet the shortfall in indigenously production.

(c) Setting up of additional capacity, even with foreign collaboration and import of technology and capital goods, is permitted. To encourage indigenously industry, imports are permitted on a restricted basis and against REP only except in the case of Wattle Extract which is in substantial short-supply.

Waiting list for L.P.G. Connections

2261. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :
SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL :
SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of L.P.G. connections released during the year 1984-85 upto 31st December, 1984 in each State;

(b) the number of persons on waiting list in each State as on 31st December, 1984;

(c) whether among the waiting persons, there are a large number of persons who are waiting for their turn for the last 4-5 years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof; and the action being taken to clear such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) and (b). A statement is enclosed.

(c) Only a small proportion of the persons has been on the waiting list for over 4 years.

(d) Does not arise,

Statement

Name of State	LPG Connections Released (31-12-1984)	Waiting List of Persons for LPG Connections on (31-12-1984)
1. Andhra Pradesh	1,42,866	2,95,299
2. Gujarat	1,33,342	5,57,652
3. Haryana	24,175	1,54,828
4. Karnataka	69,211	1,13,994
5. Kerala	36,082	28,092
6. Madhya Pradesh	79,705	2,54,052
7. Punjab	42,252	2,69,702
8. Maharashtra	1,81,279	8,39,764
9. Rajasthan	28,074	1,78,703
10. Tamil Nadu	1,39,966	97,431
11. Uttar Pradesh	1,16,089	5,34,384
12. Bihar	22,857	53,490
13. J and K	7,747	23,850
14. Orissa	6,741	27,399
15. West Bengal	38,241	50,118
16. Assam	2,699	1,400
17. Himachal Pradesh	6,834	9,713
18. Meghalaya	—	240
19. Nagaland	—	1,200
20. Sikkim	215	—
21. Tripura	272	—
Union Territories		
22. Chandigarh	9,301	57,192
23. Delhi	78,732	4,59,397
24. Pondicherry	2,133	1,305
25. Goa, Daman and Diu	7,158	23,408
26. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	120	1,200

Opening of new LPG Agencies in Orissa

2262. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of new LPG agencies likely to be opened during the year 1985-86 in the country, particularly in Orissa and locations thereof; and

(b) the details of Government policy to allot LPG agency ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) :

(a) The marketing plan of the oil industry for 1985-86 is under finalisation. The number of new LPG agencies in the country and the number and location for Orissa will be decided when the plan gets finalised.

(b) The locations included in the Marketing Plan are advertised in newspapers by the concerned oil company inviting applications from the eligible and interested persons in accordance with the preservation of distributorships for various categories of persons. Selection from amongst eligible candidates is done by the appropriate Oil Selection Board. The oil company concerned then issues Letters of Intent in accordance with the panel recommended by the Oil Selection Board.

Establishment of a big gas-based Fertilizer project

2263. DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Explosives Limited had proposed to establish a big gas-based fertilizer project;

(b) if so, Government's decision on the proposal;

(c) the place where the project is proposed to be set up by the company;

(d) whether the Company propose to get finance for the proposed project from Non-resident Indians abroad; and

(e) if so, the broad outlines of the scheme and Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal is being processed.

(c) Shahjahanpur District, U. P.;

(d) and (e). Details in this regard are yet to be worked out.

Five years' Law Course

2264. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken steps or propose to take for effective implementation of the programme for gradual replacement of the system of three years course by five years' course of professional legal education;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how long the two systems of five years and three years courses are likely to continue simultaneously ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARADWAJ) : (a) to (c). The advocates Act, 1961 contemplates a 3 year course of study in law from any University in India which is recognised for the purposes of the said Act by the Bar Council of India. The Bar Council of India has made some rules which *inter alia* envisage a 5 year course of study in law. These rules have been the subject matter of criticism from various quarters. The Government have not yet formulated its views in this regard.

Suggestion by Bar Councils for amendments to Advocates Act

2265. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received suggestions from the Bar Council of India and the State Bar Councils for amendments to be provisions of the Advocates Act, 1961 for making the present Advocates more effective;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken and/or contemplated in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARADWAJ) : (a) and (b). The Government have received suggestions from the Bar Council of India and some State Bar Councils for amendment of the provisions of the Advocates Act, 1961. Copies of the suggestions received are laid on the Table of the House.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-831/85]

(c) The suggestions received require in-depth study and examination. The matter is under consideration of the Government.

Gas Pipeline net work for Cities and Towns

2266. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have proposal(s) for setting up smaller cooking gas bottling plants and/or for replacing the system of door to door delivery of cylinders by pipeline net works in all cities and towns in the country to improve the delivery system of cooking gas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made in the matter so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLFUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

Issue of Identity cards to voters use of electronic voting machines.

2267. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY :
DR. A. K. PATEL :

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether people of Belgaum Assembly Constituency in Karnataka had demanded that identity cards should be issued to voters;

(b) whether by issuing identity cards

and by using electronic voting machines, many irregularities including bogus voting would be checked; and

(c) if so, the details of Government's proposals to check bogus voting ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARADWAJ) : (a) The Election Commission has informed that on the eve of the general election to the Karnataka Legislative Assembly, it received a report from the Chief Electoral Officer, Karnataka, intimating that a section of the people in Belgaum were about to prevent the poll being taken until the photo-identity cards were issued to the electors in that constituency.

(b) and (c). Before embarking on scheme like the issue of identity cards and introduction of electronic voting machines, a realistic view has to be taken in the light of the possible advantages and disadvantages of the schemes, their acceptability and practicability. So far as the photo identity card scheme is concerned, it may be mentioned that the Election Commission has, in the light of the experience of the implementation of the scheme in Sikkim, Meghalaya and Nagaland, come to the conclusion that having regard to the practical and administrative difficulties, failure to obtain 100% coverage, prohibitive cost in implementing the scheme an apathy of electors, etc; that the scheme may not be extended to any other State/Union territory until full coverage is achieved in Meghalaya, Nagaland and Sikkim. As regards electronic voting machines, the intention is that the machines should be tried on an experimental basis in elections to local bodies and that thereafter assessment should be made about their advantages and disadvantages. It may, however, be mentioned that that Election Commission has expressed the view that the introduction of electronic voting machines will help in eradication of bogus voting. Pending the use of electronic voting machines and the extension of the scheme of issuing identity cards, the Election Commission has issued standing instructions to the returning and polling officers to take various steps to safeguard against bogus votes, impersonation, etc. These instructions are being reiterated by the Commission in every election.

[English]

**Conversion of Single Cylinder
in D. B. C.**

2268. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken any policy decision last year to convert single cylinder connection into D. B. C. if desired by the consumers on making extra payment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether Government propose to convert single cylinder connections into D. B. C. shortly to mitigate the hardship of the consumers; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to give wide publicity to such a policy decision for the information of the public at large ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) All over the country the Oil Industry is releasing second cylinders to customers of Pin-type cylinders.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

Toxic Pesticides

2269. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether tests have shown that pesticides residues in human beings are far higher in India than in most countries and higher than the acceptable daily intake;

(b) whether this is posing a serious health hazard for millions of unsuspecting Indians;

(c) whether it is a fact that many toxic pesticides which are banned in many countries are allowed to be used in India and particulars thereof; and

(d) whether Government propose to take steps to replace dangerous pesticides by methods of biological control of pests ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) and (d). The import and manufacture of pesticides in India, is regulated, *inter alia*, under the Insecticides Act, 1968. Before allowing the import/manufacture of pesticides in the country, the Registration Committee, set up under the Act, takes into account all the relevant aspects like efficacy of the insecticide and its safety to human beings and animals with reference to Indian conditions.

It is already part of the Government policy to encourage and promote the methods of Biological Control and control by other non-chemical methods, so as to minimise the use of chemicals for the control of pests/diseases. Under a Central Sector Scheme, the Government have already established 11 Central Biological Control Stations and one Parasite Multiplication Unit for mass-rearing and release of parasites and predators for Control of pests.

High Court Judges

2270. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any policy has been evolved with regard to the appointment of Judges of the High Court of a State including the specific ratio of Judges from outside the State;

(b) whether any such policy is being implemented uniformly;

(c) the number of Judges who are acting as either Chief Justices or Judges of High Courts in the States other their own; and

(d) which are the High Courts where there are no Judges from outside the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARADWAJ) : (a) and (b). The Government have accepted the recommendation of the Law Commission that there should be a convention whereby one third Judges in each High Court should be from outside the State. This decision can

be implemented by making initial appointments from outside as well as by effecting transfers. A beginning has been made by implementing a policy of having Chief Justices of High Courts from outside in accordance with certain guidelines drawn up after consultation with the Chief Justice of India which was announced through a Press Note dated 28-1-1983 and it is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. Sec No. LT 832/85]. So far, appointment/transfer of 12 Chief Justices from outside High Courts have been made.

Four initial appointments of puisne Judges have also been made from outside. Transfers of puisne Judges, as such, have not been made.

(c) As on 6-4-1985 8 Chief Justices and 4 Puisne Judges are functioning in High Courts outside their own States.

(d) As on 6-4-1985 the High Courts of Allahabad, Andhra Pradesh, Gauhati, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, and Punjab and Haryana do not have Judges from outside the States.

Expenditure incurred on Offices of Attorney General of India and Solicitor General of India

2271. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state the expenditure incurred on the offices of the Attorney General of India and the Solicitor General of India for the years 1983-84 and 1984-85 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARADWAJ) : The expenditure incurred on the office of the Attorney General of India for the year 1983-84 was Rs. 80,606.34, while for the year 1984-85, it was Rs. 1,05,177. The expenditure incurred on the Office of the Solicitor General of India for the year 1983-84 was Rs. 18,929 while no expenditure was incurred in this behalf for the year 1984-85 as no one was appointed as Solicitor General.

Appointment of Supreme Court Judges from Bar

2272. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been no direct recruitment to the Supreme Court Bench from the Bar for the last ten years and more; and

(b) whether Government propose to evolve any scheme for recruiting directly to the Bench of Supreme Court so that at least one third of the Judges of Supreme Court are directly appointed from the Bar ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARADWAJ) : (a) The last direct recruitment to the Supreme Court Bench from the Bar was made in 1971.

(b) No, Sir.

Procurement of Rigs

2273. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether 75 per cent of our prognosticated reserves of 1700 billion tonnes of oil have still to be converted into geological in-place reserves;

(b) whether by 1989-90, 206 rigs will be required to drill as many as 634 wells; and

(c) if so, whether any detailed plan has been drawn for procuring the rigs from abroad or for manufacturing them within the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLIUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) Approximately 75% of our prognosticated reserves of 17 billion tonnes have still to be converted into in-place reserves.

(b) and (c). The details regarding the requirement of rigs and their procurement during the Seventh Five Year Plan period will be available only after the finalisation of the Seventh Plan.

Codification and Implementation of Law Commission Reports

2274. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of recommendations that have been implemented by Government so

far out of 106 Reports submitted by the Law Commission;

(b) whether any effort has been made to codify the recommendations of Law Commission's Reports; and

(c) if not, the details of institutional arrangement that exists for ensuring the implementation of recommendations of Law Commission's Reports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARADWAJ) : (a) Out of 110 Reports submitted by the Law Commission, 36 Reports have been fully implemented by enacting legislation. No action was considered necessary in respect of 5 Reports. 3 Reports have been partly implemented. Further action in respect of 11 Reports was dropped/deferred. The remaining 55 Reports are under various stages of processing towards implementation.

(b) and (c). On receipt of the Reports from Law Commission, the Implementation Cell which has been specially set up in the Department of Legal Affairs takes the necessary action for laying them on the Table of the House and simultaneously consults the administrative Ministries or other agencies concerned in regard to their implementation.

[*Translation*]

Theft of Anti-Tank Bombs from Kanpur Ordnance Factory

2275. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some powerful anti-tank bombs were stolen from Kanpur Ordnance Factory on 4 February, 1985;

(b) if so, whether such incidents of theft had taken place in this factory in the past also;

(c) whether material was supplied to the extremists in the country clandestinely from this factory; and

(d) the action being taken by Government to check recurrence of such activities in future ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) There is no information about any material having been supplied to the extremists in this country clandestinely from this factory.

(d) The security arrangements are being reviewed periodically. Security arrangements at this factory have been tightened.

[*English*]

Industrially backward districts of Rajasthan

2276. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the Industrially backward districts in Rajasthan;

(b) whether Chittorgarh is proposed to be declared as industrially backward district; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) The following districts of Rajasthan have been identified as industrially backward :

Category 'A' : Jaisalmer and Sirohi.

Category 'B' : Alwar, Jodhpur, Bhilwara, *Churu, Nagaur and Udaipur.

Category 'C' : Banswara, *Barmer, Dungarpur, Jalore, Jhunjhunu, Jhalawar, Sikar and Tonk.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Chittoragarh does not fulfil the criteria adopted for identification of industrially backward areas.

* Barmer and Churu Districts have been included in Category 'A' as 'No-Industry Districts' w. e. f. 1.4.1985.

L. P. G. Connections in 1985-86

2277. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL :
SHRI AMAR SINGH RATHAWA :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of L. P. G. gas connections to be provided to customers throughout the country during 1985-86; and

(b) the likely time by which customers can expect gas connections on demand ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) 17.50 lakhs.

(b) Release of new LPG connections is envisaged at the rate of not less than 16 lakhs annually in the coming years. An indication as to when across the country new connections will be possible every-where in the country does not seem feasible at this stage.

Linking of Veraval-Una with Microwave System

2278. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL :
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Veraval-Una telephone line in Gujarat is passing through forest area;

(b) whether Government are aware that this line remains out of order for a long time due to cyclones and heavy rains;

(c) whether there is a long standing demand to link Veraval-Una with microwave system; and

(d) if so the action taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. It gets interrupted during cyclone and heavy rains and action is taken to restore it immediately.

(c) There is a proposal to link Veraval-Una with UHF system.

(d) The scheme is under examination for technical feasibility and financial viability.

[Translation]

Pending Applications for New Telephone Connections in Pali District Rajasthan

2229. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA :
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of applications pending for providing telephone connections in Pali district;

(b) the number of applications out of those pending for more than six months;

(c) the time by which they will be provided telephone connections; and

(d) the reasons for delay in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) 1443 applications are pending for provisions of telephone connections in Pali District (Rajasthan) as on 31.3.1985.

(b) 1275 applications are pending for provision of telephone connections for more than six months.

(c) The present waiting list is likely to be cleared within a year.

(d) The reasons for delay are overall shortage of equipment, cables and other resources.

[English]

Promotion of Assistant Executive Engineers, Assistant Surveyors of Works, etc. in M. E. S.

2280. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA :
Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether all the appointments of Assistant Executive Engineer to Executive Engineer, Assistant Surveyor of Works to Surveyor of Works, Surveyor Assistant Grade I to Asstt. Surveyor of Works, Supdt. B/R and E/M I to Assistant Engineer and Office Superintendent to Administrative Officer in the Military Engineering Service have been made on *ad hoc* basis for the last three years with periodical extensions by Ministry of Defence;

(b) if so, the reasons why their appointments are being made on *ad hoc* basis when clear vacancies are there; and

(c) the time by which Government propose to make these appointments on regular basis ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) to (c). In the Military Engineer Service, *ad hoc* promotions have been made in the following cadres :

(i) **Executive Engineer :**

Due to the dispute on the seniority list of Assistant Executive Engineers in the Courts.

(ii) **Surveyor of Works and Assistant Surveyor of Works :**

Due to non-finalisation of revised Recruitment Rules.

(iii) **Assistant Engineer :**

These *ad hoc* promotions were made against vacancies temporarily made available against the vacancies of service officers.

(iv) **Administrative Officer GDE. II**

Due to stay order from the Court.

The Recruitment Rules have since been finalised and published. Regular promotions to the Grade of Surveyor of Works have already been made. Every effort is being made to make regular appointments to other cadres also. No time-limit can be given at this stage due to the administrative procedure involved in finalising the seniority list, non-availability of eligible candidates and the stay order from a High Court with respect to the appointments to the cadre of Administrative Officer Grade II.

Family Courts

2281. **PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :** Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Bill regarding setting up of the family courts was passed during the last session of Seventh Lok Sabha;

(b) if so, when the family courts are likely to be set up; and

(c) the composition and jurisdiction of such courts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARADWAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Under the Family Courts Act, 1984, the family courts are required to be set up by the State Governments/Union Territories in consultation with the High Courts. Composition and jurisdiction of such courts is also to be decided by the Governments/Union Territories. The State Governments/Union Territories have already been addressed to initiate early action for the establishment of family courts.

Transfer of Judges

2282. **SHRI SATYENDRA NARAIN SINHA :**
SHRI G. G. SWELL :

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to discontinue the policy of transfer of High Court Judges without concurrence of the Chief Justice of India; and

(b) if so, whether a new policy in regard to these transfers would be pursued in consultation with the Chief Justice ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARADWAJ) : (a) and (b). There is no revision as yet in the policy of the Government of having Chief Justices of High Courts from outside which was announced in the press note dated 28.1.1983. A copy is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-833/85].

This policy was formulated after consultation with the Chief Justice of India.

Transfer of Chief Justices of High Courts are made after consultation with the Chief Justice of India.

Production of Medicines by M/s. Glaxo Laboratories Limited

2283. **SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN :** Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state the details of fresh proposals of M/s. Glaxo Laboratories Limited for producing medicines and also any other product in India ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : No Industrial Licence application of M/s. Glaxo Laboratories for the manufacture of Drugs and Pharmaceuticals, is now under consideration of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers.

Production of Baby Food by M/s. Glaxo Laboratories Limited

2284. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state the details of fresh proposals of M/s. Glaxo Laboratories Limited for producing baby food and also any other product in India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : At present, no new proposal under the provisions of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 for the grant of Letter of Intent from M/s. Glaxo Laboratories Limited for producing baby food or any other product in India is pending consideration of the Government.

Enquiry into Cases of Gas Leakage

2285. SHRI NAVIN RAVANI :
SHRI AMAR SINGH
RATHAWA :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether gas leakage cases are increasing day by day after the tragic incident in Bhopal;

(b) if so, the number of such cases occurred after the Bhopal incident and in which unit;

(c) the details of loss of life and property; and

(d) whether any enquiry has been conducted to know the causes of gas leakage cases, if so, the findings thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) to (d). No data is readily available as will enable a comparison to be made of gas leakages

occurring prior or subsequent to the Bhopal incident.

Safety aspects in operating plants are, however, looked into under the Factories Act by the concerned Authorities of the State Governments.

Cities in Gujarat linked with Ahmedabad, Bombay and Delhi by S.T.D.

2286. SHRI NAVIN RAVANI :
SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the cities in Gujarat which are linked through STD facilities with Ahmedabad (Gandhinagar) and the names of the cities which are linked with Bombay and New Delhi by STD;

(b) whether there is any proposal to link more cities during the Seventh Plan period; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) :

(a) Following cities in Gujarat are linked through STD facility with Ahmedabad—Gandhinagar, Rajkot, Bhavnagar, Surat, Jamnagar, Nadiad, Bulsar, Mehsana, Baroda, Bombay and New Delhi are also accessible on STD to these stations.

In addition to above, point-to-point STD is working between Surat and Bombay, Surat and Baroda are also accessible for incoming calls via Bombay TAX.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Subject to the availability of appropriate type of automatic exchanges and availability of reliable long distance circuits, twenty three more cities are proposed to be provided with STD facilities progressively during 7th Plan period.

Conversion of Manual Telephone Exchanges into Auto-Telephone Exchanges in Gujarat

2287. SHRI NAVIN RAVANI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of manual telephone exchanges functioning in Gujarat State;

(b) the criteria adopted to provide auto-telephone exchanges in the country; and

(c) the number of names of the telephone exchanges likely to be converted into auto exchanges during the year 1985-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) 178 manual exchanges are functioning in Gujarat State.

(b) The criteria of progressive conversion of manual exchanges into auto exchanges is as follows :

(i) All district headquarters.

(ii) All manual exchanges of 1000 lines and above.

(iii) All manual exchanges in bigger telephone systems.

(iv) Other manual exchanges.

(c) The number and names of manual exchanges likely to be converted into automatic exchanges during 1985-86 are given in the attached statement, subject to receipt of all stores.

Statement

Name of the Telecom. Circle	Names of the exchanges likely to be converted into auto exchanges during 1985-86	
1	2	3
ANDHRA	1. Elluru 3. Tuni 5. Kothagudam 7. Armoor	2. Tanuku 4. Ravulpalam 6. Ramachandrapuram 8. Kovali
BIHAR	1. Gaya 3. Kichanganj	2. Sivan
GUJARAT	1. Porbandar 3. Surendranagar 5. Thangadh 7. Adipur 9. Derol	2. Junagarh 4. Mehmabad 6. Savarkundla 8. Atul 10. Khambalia
JAMMU AND KASHMIR	1. Leh.	
KARNATAKA	1. Dandeli 3. Bangarpet 5. Haveri 7. Kampli 9. Hoskoti 11. Sira	2. Channapatna 4. Gangaval 6. Alahanka 8. Srirangapattanam 10. Najjangud 12. Ramanagaram
KERALA	1. Changnacherry	
MADHYA PRADESH	1. Narsinghpur 3. Dhar	2. Shahdol

1	2	3
MAHARASHTRA	1. Ulhasnagar	2. Dulia
	3. Ahmednagar MIDC	4. Bassein
	5. Roha	6. Manmad
	7. Bicholim	8. Parbhani
NORTH EAST	1. Tinsukia	2. Jorhat
	3. Nowgong	4. Halflong
	5. Golpara	6. Hajai
	7. Mariani	8. Rangia
	9. Naharkatiaya	10. Kikrajhar
	11. Barpeta Road	12. Khonsa
	13. Imphal	14. Lungleh
	15. Williamnagar	16. Lunhoto
	17. Wokha	18. Agartala
19. Kumarghat		
NORTH WEST	1. Pathankot	
ORISSA	1. Sambalpur	2. Balasore
	3. Jeypore	
RAJASTHAN	1. Sriganganagar	2. Chittorgarh
	3. Sikhar	
TAMIL NADU	1. Tanjavur	2. Kumbakonam
	3. Karur	4. Shivakasi
	5. Somanoor	6. Gobichettipalm
	7. Palladam	
UTTAR PRADESH	1. Gazipur	2. Fatehpur
	3. Sultanpur	4. Ranikhet
	5. Pithoragarh	6. Orai
	7. Lalitpur	8. Pauri
	9. Banda	
WEST BENGAL	1. Bishnupur	2. Sainthia
	3. Diamond Harbour	4. Barrackpore

[Translation]**Telephone Connections at Concessional Rates to Social Organisation**

2288. **SHRI R. M. BHOYE** : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have formulated a policy to provide telephone connections to social organisations at concessional rates;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the expenditure generally involved in getting a telephone connection ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to part (a) above.

(c) Required information is given in statement attached.

Statement

Demands for telephone connections can be registered under 'OYT' and 'Non-OYT' categories alongwith the following deposits :

(a) Own Your Telephone (OYT)

10,000 lines and above	1,000 lines and above but below 10,000 lines	Below 1,000 lines
Rs. 8,000	Rs. 6,000	Rs. 5,000

(b) General and Special category (Non-OYT)

Metered Exchange				Flat Rate exchanges	
10,000 lines and above	Below 10,000 lines	100 lines and above	100 lines and below	Manual over 20 lines providing restricted hours of service	Manual of 20 lines or less providing restricted hours of service
Rs. 1,000	Rs. 800	Rs. 1,000	Rs. 100	Rs. 100	Rs. 100

After the installation of telephone, this amount alongwith the interest accrued upto the date of installation of the telephone, is adjusted against two months' advance rent, installation charges and one year's advance rental as security deposit in 'Non-OYT' category, and against OYT deposit, two months advance rent and installation charges in 'OYT' category.

[English]

Setting up Grievances Committees in Courts**Closure of Petrol Pumps on the day of Presentation of Budget**

2289. SHRI R. M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that almost all the petrol pumps were closed this year in the day even before the Budget announcement was done in the evening causing a lot of inconvenience to customers; and

(b) whether Government propose to take measures to stop this practice which is repeated every year so that customers do not face any difficulty due to apprehension of hike in prices ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

2290. SHRI G. G. SWELL : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up grievance committees in courts at every level;

(b) whether a scheme for this has been worked out; and

(c) if not, how he proposes to deal with the widespread complaints of abuse of the administration of justice in the courts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARADWAJ) : (a) to (c). The grievances committees in courts are to be constituted by the Chief Justice of India in case of the Supreme Court and the respective Chief Justices in case of High Courts, District Courts and subordinate Courts. The abuse of the administration of justice in relation to conduct of a Judge of the Supreme Court or a High Court could be

discussed only through a substantive motion under Article 121 of the Constitution. The control over District Courts and Courts subordinate thereto vests with the High Courts, under Article 235 of the Constitution.

Opening of Sainik School in Dagshai Cantonment, Himachal Pradesh

2291. SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to open a Sainik School in Dagshai Cantonment in Himachal Pradesh and if so, the time by which it will be implemented; and

(b) the details of the steps being taken for the development of the Cantonment ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) A Sainik School is established on the specific request of a State Government as the entire capital expenditure and a major portion of the recurring expenditure has to be born by the State Government. No request for opening a Sainik School in Dagshai has been received from the Government of Himachal Pradesh.

(b) During the year 1984-85 a sum of Rs. 8,97,750 was sanctioned by Government by way of grants-in-aid to the Dagshai Cantonment Board. Government have also advised the Board to formulate plans for development programmes and improvement of civic amenities.

Bench of Allahabad High Court in Western Uttar Pradesh

2292. SHRIMATI USHA VERMA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Uttar Pradesh Government had submitted thrice to the Union Government its proposal for setting up of a Bench

of Allahabad High Court in Western Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether the Commission constituted by Union Government for setting up of Bench of Allahabad High Court in Western Uttar Pradesh on 15th April, 1981 has not yet submitted its report; and

(c) if so, whether term of the Commission is to be extended beyond 15 March, 1985 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARADWAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Commission was set up by the Union Government on 4th September, 1981 and it has not yet submitted its report.

(c) Yes, Sir. The term of the Commission has been extended to 30th April, 1985.

Production and Import of Petroleum and Petroleum Products

2293. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated annual requirement of Petroleum and petroleum products in the country;

(b) the quantity of the same expected to be produced indigenously by the end of the current financial year; and

(c) the quantity of petroleum and petroleum products expected to be imported during the current year and countries from which to be imported ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) to (c). The requirement, production and import of crude oil and petroleum products during the financial year 1985-86 are estimated as under :

(Quantity in million tonnes)

	Requirement	Production	Imports
Crude Oil	42.14	30.14	14.40
Petroleum Products	40.77	39.00	3.80

Term agreements have so far been signed with Iraq, USSR, Iran, Abu Dhabi, Oman and Nigeria for import of crude oil and petroleum products during 1985.

Letters of intent and Industrial Licences issued

2294. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of letters of intent for industrial licences cleared during 1984 and how many were pending by the end of that year; and

(b) similar figures year-wise, during 1982 and 1983 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) 1064 Letters Intent were issued during 1984 and 1103 applications under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 were pending consideration of Government at the end of 1984.

(b) 1043 and 1055 Letters of Intent were issued during the 1982 and 1983 respectively. 765 and 757 applications under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act,

1951 were pending consideration at the end of 1982 and 1983 respectively.

Meetings of Hindi Advisory Committee

2295. SHRI KRISHAN PRATAP SINGH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of meetings held by the Hindi Advisory Committee of his Ministry during the year 1984;

(b) the resolution passed in those meetings; and

(c) the details regarding implementation of those resolutions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) One (12th November, 1984).

(b) and (c). Relevant information is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Decisions taken in the meeting

Action taken for the implementation of the decisions

1

2

(1) All such Offices, where Official Language Implementation Committees have not been set up so far should set up these Committees without any delay.

(2) The workshops should be organised in the Ministry and its subordinate offices.

(3) Description should be given in Hindi also on the products manufactured by the public sector undertakings. The name of Maruti Car manufactured by Maruti Udyog should be written in

(1) The Heads of the Offices, where Official Language Implementation Committees have not been set up so far, have been directed to constitute this Committee immediately.

(2) According to the directives issued in this regard, 13 workshops were organised in the Departments proper and its subordinate offices during the year 1984. A number of other offices have intimated that they will also be organising the workshops in the near future.

(3) According to the decision taken, many undertakings such as Khadi and Village Industries Commission Bombay, Nepa Mills, Nepa Nagar, Hindustan Salts Limited, Jaipur, Cement Corporation

1

2

- Hindi also.
- (4) Offices located in South India should be inspected.
- (5) To invite Local Member of Hindi Salahakar Samiti in the implementation Committee meetings.
- (6) Creation of the post of a Director in the Ministry.
- of India, New Delhi, Burn and Company, Calcutta, Jessop and Company, Scooter India Ltd., Lucknow. H.M.T., Bangalore, Bharat Wagon and Engineering Company, Patna, etc. have started giving description in Hindi also on some of their products.
- (4) The Offices, located in South, namely, Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Co. Ltd., Ootacamund and Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited, Bangalore were inspected.
- (5) As per the decision taken, two offices have nominated local members for inviting to the meetings of Official Language Implementation Committee. Other offices have been directed to take immediate action in this regard.
- (6) Proposal in regard to the creation of the post of a director is being examined with reference to the quantum of work involved.

Foreign Collaboration in non-priority Industries

2296. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are going to change its previous policy of not permitting foreign collaborations in non priority industry;

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

(c) the fields in which foreign technology will not be permitted in new policy; and

(d) whether such shifts in policies, if

any, will endanger the indigenosity of industrial development in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) to (d). Government's policy regarding foreign collaboration is selective. It is to be justified having regard to factors such as priority of the industry, the nature of technology involved, whether it will enable or promote export and the alternative terms available for securing the same. The ceiling for equity participation is 40% although exceptions can be considered on merits.

An illustrative list of industries where no foreign collaboration, financial or technical is considered necessary is enclosed.

Statement

Illustrative List of Industries where no foreign Collaboration financial or technical is considered necessary

1. Metallurgical Industries :

Ferrous : Ordinary Castings, Bright Bars, Structural, Welded C I Steel Pipes and Tubes.

Non-Ferrous : Antimony, Sodium Metal, Electrical Resistance Heating (Nickel free alloy), Aluminium litho plates.

2. Electrical Equipment :

Electric fans, Common domestic appliances, Common types of winding wires and strips, Iron Clad Switches, AC Motors, Cables and Distribution transformers.

3. Electronic Components and Equipments :

General purpose transistors and Diodes, Paper, Mica and Variable Capacitors. T.V. Receivers, Tape Records, Teleprinters, P.A. Systems, Record Players/Changers.

4. Scientific and Industrial Instruments :

Non-specialised types of valves, meters, weighing machinery.

5. Transportation :

Railway wagons, Bicycles.

6. Industrial Machinery :

Building and constructional machinery, Oil mill Machinery, Conventional rice mill machinery, Sugar Machinery, Tea processing machinery, General purpose Machinery.

7. Machine Tool :

Forged hand tools, General purpose machine tools.

8. Agricultural Machinery :

Tractor drawn implements, Power tillers, Foodgrain dryers, Agricultural implements.

9. Miscellaneous Mechanical Engineering Industries :**10. Commercial Office & Household Equipments of Common Use :****11. Medical and Surgical Appliances :****12. Fertilizers :**

Single super phosphate, Granulated fertilizers.

13. Chemicals (Other than Fertilizers) :

Acetic acid; Acetanilide; Ethyl Chloride; Viscose Filament Yarn/Staple fibre; Melathion technical, Sulphate of alumina; Potassium Chlorate; Fatty Acid and Glycerine; Butyl Titanate; Warfarin; Silica gel; Lindane; Endosulfan; Phanthoate; Nitrofan; Ethyl ether; Plastipeel.

14. Dyestuffs :

Benzidine; O-Toludine; Carbozole Dioxazine violet pigment; Cadmium sulphide orange.

15. Drugs & Pharmaceuticals :

Caffeine (natural); Phenyl Butazone; Tol Butamide; Para Acetamel; Phanacetin; Senna extract; Diasogenin; Clofibrate; 4-Hydroxy Cumarin; Xenthopotoxin; Calcium Gluconate; Choline Chloride; Glyceryl Gualacolate; Phenyl ethyl biguanide; hydrochloride; Scopolamine hydro-bromide; Niacinamide; Ortholelyl biguanide; Colchioine; Diazepam; Sorbitol from dextrose mono-hydrate; Berberine hydrochloride; Balladonna; Acriflavine; Calcium hyophosphite; Chlordiazep-oxide.

16. Paper & Pulp Including Paper Products :**17. Consumer Goods :****18. Vegetable Oils & Vanaspati :****19. Rubber Industries :**

Viscose tyre yarn; Metal bonded rubber; Latex foam; Rubberised fabrics; Bicycles Tyres and Tubes.

20. Leather, Leather Goods & Pickers :

Belting-Leather; Cotton and hair finished leather; Pickers; Picking bands; Vegetable tanning extracts; Fat liquors other than synthetic.

21. Glass & Ceramics :**22. Cement & Gypsum Products :**

NOTE : list is illustrative and not exhaustive. Clarification of details within the broad headings is the responsibility of Administrative Ministries.

Industries set up in backward areas of Kerala

2297. **PROF. P. J. KURIEN :** Will the Minister of **INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS** be pleased to state :

(a) the number of industries set up in the industrially backward areas of Kerala during the past three years; and

(b) the total employment generated through these industries ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) and (b). During the years 1982 to 1984, 45 Letters of Intent and 35 Industrial Licences were issued for setting up industries in the backward areas of Kerala. The Industrial licences are under various stages of implementation. 26 units having employment potential of 1341 were also registered with the DGTD during this period.

During the period 1981-82 to 1983-84, 18,581 Artisan based and 4,615 Small Scale Industrial Units were set up and these provided employment to 71,700 people.

Production of Cars

2298. **PROF. P. J. KURIEN :** Will the Minister of **INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the manufacturers of cars in the country have been allowed to expand their capacities; and

(b) if so, the percentage of increase in capacity allowed to each manufacturer ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) **Name of Company** **% of increase**

(i) M/s. Hindustan
Motors Ltd. 66

(ii) M/s. Premier
Automobiles Ltd. 59

(iii) M/s. Standard Motor
Products of India
Ltd. 85

(All types of
4-wheelers)

Price hike in Automobiles

2299. **PROF. P. J. KURIEN :** Will the Minister of **INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the auto manufacturers are going to increase the prices of vehicles; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) Some manufacturers have increased prices of their vehicles.

(b) There is no statutory control over prices of vehicles. Government, however, have been impressing on the manufacturers to follow a voluntary price discipline.

Manufacture of Alcohol from Tapioca

2300. SHRIMATI N. P. JHANSI LAKSHMI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether alcohol is being exported despite indigenous needs;

(b) whether Research and Development units have been making claims of success for

using tapioca etc. for alcohol manufacture; and

(c) if so, the details of industrial application of these findings ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Central Food and Technological Research Institute, Mysore, have informed Government that they have developed a process for the manufacture of alcohol from Tapioca.

(c) The details of the units registered with Directorate General of Technical Development for manufacture of Industrial alcohol from Tapioca are given in the statement attached.

Statement

List of units registered with DGTD for the Manufacture of Industrial Alcohol from Tapioca.

Name of the Unit	Location	Capacity	Date of Registration
1	2	3	4
1. M/s. Farina Chem. Ltd.	Tuni, E. Godavari Andhra Pradesh	3000 KL	26-6-81
2. Sh. K. R. Verghese	Trichur (Kerala)	6000 KL	20-2-82
3. Dr. (Smt.) Radha Thiagrajan Kappalur	(Madras)	6000 KL	21-10-81
4. Sh. M.M. Venkatachalam	Ramanatham Puram (TN)	6000 KL	20-2-82
5. Sh. N. Narasimha Reddy	Ashwaraopet Distt. Khaniman (AP)	3000 KL	29-1-82
6. Sh. P. B. Sriram	Gajulamondyan Distt. Chittoor (AP)	6000 KL	16-4-82
7. M/s. Kerala Disttl(P) Ltd.	Palghat (Kerala)	6000 KL	16-4-82
8. M/s. Ajantha Ind. (P) Ltd.	Peddapuram E. Codavari (AP)	2000 KL	15-4-82
9. Sh. P. K. N. Panicker	Distt. Alleppey Kerala	6000 KL	16-4-82

1	2	3	4
10. M/s. Qassava Dist. and Prod. (P) Ltd.	Kuttipuram Ponani (Kerala)	6000KL	12-5-82
11. Sh. M. Subha Rao	Yellamanchili Vishakhapatnam (AP)	3000 KL	9-12-82
12. M/s. Power Products	Sumaithangi Distt. North Arrot (TN)	6000 KL	4-3-83
13. M/s. Mariamma Industries	Idinjalam Allepey Kerala	6000 KL	31-5-83
14. M/s. Sreedharam and Co .Ltd.	Cannore (Karnataka)	3000 KL	12-1-84
15. Smt. K. Krishnakumari	Vundrajajvaram Tenuku (AP)	600 KL	5-2-84
16. Sh. C. S. Reddy M/s. Eureka Ethonal (P) Ltd.	Thatika Hazurabad (AP)	3000 KL	9-5-84
17. Sh. Nanda Veeraju	Yaman Distt. Pondicherry	3000 KL	12-6-84
18. S. Prasad Reddy	Bendepudi E. Godavari	3000 KL	15-11-84

Oil Field Equipment

(Rs. crores)

2301. SHRIMATI N. P. JHANSI LAKSHMI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

1981-82	680.00
1982-83	920.00
1983-84	982.00

(a) the amount of foreign exchange spent during the last three years by oil and Natural Gas Commission on the oil field equipments and other services imported from other countries;

(b) whether Oil and Natural Gas Commission propose to encourage entrepreneurs in joint ventures to get the equipment manufactured indigenously, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount spent on drilling and the returns ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) The amount of foreign exchange spent by ONGC on purchase of equipments and materials, hiring of services from foreign sources during last 3 yer as is as under :

(b) ONGC has been encouraging Indian entrepreneurs to go in for manufacture of oilfield equipments, where-ever necessary in collaboration with reputed foreign companies. For this, the ONGC have inter-alia published brochures, held exhibitions and meetings with interested Indian parties.

(c) The amount spent by ONGC on drilling during last 3 years is as follows:

	(Rs. crores)
1981-82	215.81
1982-83	408.21
1983-84	500.83

It would not be possible to relate returns to amount spent on drilling meaningfully.

Production-Import of Oil and Gas

2302. SHRIMATI N. P. JHANSI LAKSHMI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of oil and gas produced in the country and the quantity imported; and

(b) the quantity of gas being used and the quantity flared every day during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) :
(a) 1983-84

	Production	Import
Crude Oil (Million Tonnes)	26.02	10.45
Natural Gas (Million Cubic mts.)	5961	

(b) The details of average daily production, utilization and flaring of natural gas during the last three years is as under:—

	(Fig. in million cubic mts.)		
	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84
Production	10.6	13.5	16.3
Utilization	6.4	8.3	9.4
Flaring	4.2	5.2	6.9

Issue of Letters of Intent and Industrial Licences

2303. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether during the first eight months of 1984, 673 letters of intent and 612 industrial licences were issued;

(b) if so, to what extent licence issue percentage was increased over the corresponding period last year;

(c) if so, whether in 1983 and 1984 the licences and letters of intent issued were more than those issued in 1981-82;

(d) whether letters of intent issued during 1983 and 1984 have been fully utilised and licences issued to them; and

(e) the position in regard to the letters of intent issued during the first three months of the current year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) While there was an increase of 15% in the number of letters of intent issued during January-August, 1984 over those issued during the corresponding period in 1983, the number of industrial licences issued during January-August, 1984 was lower by 12.8% as compared to the corresponding period of 1983.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A letter of intent is issued with an initial validity period of one year and further extensions of six months each can also be granted on adequate justification. After the entrepreneur fulfils the conditions of the letter of intent, the same is converted into an industrial licence. Out of the total number of 2119 letters of intent issued during 1983 and 1984, while 230 letters of intent have already been converted into industrial licences, 143 letters of intent have since been treated as lapsed. The rest of the letters of intent would be at various stages of implementation.

(e) 451 letters of intent have been issued during January-March, 1985.

Shifting of Shriram Chemical Works and Hindustan Insecticides

2304. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Shriram Chemical Works and the Hindustan Insecticides, two highly hazardous industrial units located in congested areas lacking in adequate safety measures;

(b) whether these units have been asked to shift from their present location;

(c) whether a proposal in this regard was made by Delhi Administration to the Union Government;

(d) if so, whether the Union Government have accepted the proposal of Delhi Administration;

(e) if so, whether any location has been decided for the same; and

(f) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) Delhi Administration have reported that inspections carried out in the factory of M/s. Shriram Chemical Works revealed that prevention and control measures for the safety of the workers and the population around the factory were inadequate.

As regard Hindustan Insecticides Limited (HIL), senior officials of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers along with the Chairman, Central water pollution Control Board had visited the factory. Following the visit, HIL was advised to undertake an end to end survey for determining safety of operating the plant. HIL have since taken certain remedial steps.

(b) to (f). No such decision has yet been taken. However, in view of the inadequacies of safety measures, Delhi Administration is considering the need for relocating of Shriram Chemical Works.

Missing Cash from the Overseas Communications Service Building, New Delhi

2305. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a sum of Rs. 1,23,000,00 was found missing from the cash box in the Overseas Communication Service building in New Delhi on the morning of 31st December, 1984;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the matter was not immediately reported to the police;

(c) if so, the reasons thereof;

(d) whether the enquiry into the mysterious disappearance of cash has since been completed;

(e) if so, the outcome thereof;

(f) whether the responsibility for the loss has since been fixed; and

(g) if so, the details in regard thereto and the action taken against the persons found responsible for the fraud ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The actual amount of cash missing however, was Rs. 1,25,573,49.

(b) The matter was reported to the police immediately after the exact amount of shortage was determined.

(c) to (e). Investigations are still in progress.

(f) and (g). Do not arise in view of answer to (c) (d) and (e) above.

S.T.D. Facilities to Kumbakonam town in Tanjore District of Tamil Nadu

2306. SHRI E. S. M. PARKEER MOHAMED : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have proposals to extent S. T. D. facilities to Kumbakonam town in Tanjore district of Tamil Nadu as it is being developed as a business centre in that region; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is planned to provide S. T. D. facility to Kumbakonam by linking it with Trichy Trunk Automatic Exchange.

Reorganisation of Railway Mail Services

2307. SHRI LALIT MAKEN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of sections, sorting offices, sub record offices and posts that have been abolished till 28th February, 85;

(b) the number of new mail and sorting offices opened in lieu of sections abolished;

(c) the number of Class III and Class IV staff rendered surplus due to reorganisation

and how the surplus staff is proposed to be utilised;

(d) whether due to this reorganisation of RMS the delivery system in the post office has been adversely affected resulting in delay in transit;

(e) how the reserve trained pool candidates in RMS remaining unutilised at the end of five years are proposed to be utilised;

(f) whether it is being contemplated to utilise them in other wings of the department; and

(g) the net savings caused to the postal Department on account of RMS re-organisation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) (i) No. of Sorting Sections abolished/merged 24

(ii) No. of Sorting Offices abolished 5

(iii) No. of record offices abolished merged 40

(iv) No. of posts abolished *

(b) 14.

(c) Group 'C' — 1556

Group 'D' — 272

Surplus staff is to be absorbed in the existing/future vacancies.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f). This is under examination.

(g) The annual saving expected is Rs. 214.78 lakhs.

Production of Crude Oil

2308. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) the target set for the crude production during 1984-85

(b) the achievement made in the production of crude in the above year;

(c) whether Government have a proposal to increase crude production during 1985-86; and

(d) if so, the steps taken therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) 22.63 million tonnes.

(b) 28.99 million tonnes (tentative).

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Some of the steps are :

(i) Use of enhanced oil recovery techniques;

(ii) Intensification of work-over operations;

(iii) Intensification of exploration in less precisely known geological regions which may eventually lead to enhanced production; and

(iv) Induction of advanced technology.

Companies Benefited after raising Assets Limit Under MRTP Act

2309. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the immediate impact of enhancing the assets limit of the large industrial houses and delinking of some of them from the provisions of the MRTP Act as a sequel to the major decision announced in the General Budget, 1985-86 relating to the raising of the assets limit for MRTP Companies from Rs. 20 crores to 100 crores; and

(b) the names of the large industrial houses to benefit from this decision ?

*The posts rendered surplus are as follows :

Group 'C' posts.....1556

Group 'D' posts..... 272

However, these posts are to be actually absorbed as and when the surplus staff is absorbed against existing/future vacancies.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) and (b). After the MRTP Act is amended for enhancing the asset limit to Rs. 100 crores under section 20 (a) of the MRTP Act, as per the available information regarding assets for the year 1983, it is estimated that about 491 undertakings, at present registered under the MRTP Act, may get de-registered under section 26 (3) of the MRTP Act, benefitting about 112 Large Industrial Houses/single large undertakings.

De-registration of these undertaking under section 26(3) will, however, be decided after examination of their latest assets position as well as interconnections as defined in section 2 (g) of the MRTP Act, and as such it is not possible to indicate the names of the Large Industrial Houses who would actually benefit from the proposed amendment.

Use of Cordless Telephone in Delhi

2310. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) Whether it is a fact that a large number of affluent people in Delhi have been using cordless telephones for several years;

(b) the number of such cases which came to the notice of Government during the last three years;

(c) the action initiated against such persons; and

(d) the measures adopted to eliminate such irregularities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Large scale use of cordless telephones is not in the knowledge of Government.

(b) Two cases of use of cordless telephones in Delhi came to notice during last three years.

(c) The cordless telephones were disconnected and subscribers advised not to use them.

(c) Subscribers, premises are inspected

regularly to detect such unauthorised attachments.

Electronic Telephone Exchanges to be Set up during Seventh Five Year Plan

2311. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of electronic telephone exchanges set up in the country so far;

(b) the policy of Government in setting up of new electronic telephone exchanges;

(c) the number of such telephone exchanges proposed to be set up during the Seventh Five Year Plan and location thereof if identified; and

(d) the funds earmarked for the above purpose in Seventh Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The number of electronic telephone exchanges set up in the country so far are fourteen.

(b) It is proposed to introduce digital electronic telephone exchanges in high growth rate areas like metropolitan and major telephone districts. It is also proposed to build integrated digital networks in selected semi urban and rural areas.

(c) and (d). The Seventh Plan proposals of the Telecommunication Department are still under discussion with the Planning Commission and proposals would be finalised after fund allocations are decided by the Planning Commission.

Import of "Acetylene Black"

2312. SHRI B. AYYAPU REDDY : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether "acetylene-black" is being imported for the Union Carbide, while acetylene-black produced in the country is lying idle without a market;

(b) the number of units manufacturing acetylene-black in the country and their total installed capacity; and

(c) the amount of stock lying with them ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) to (c). In the import policy of 1984-85, Acetylene Black is under Appendix-IV *i.e.* list of automatic permissible items. M/s. Union Carbide are

importing certain quantity of Acetylene Black for their new Dry Batteries Plant.

At present there are three units in the country engaged in the manufacture of Acetylene Black. The requisite information in regard to these companies is as under :

(Figures in tonnes)

Name of the Company	Annual installed capacity	Stock as on 31-3-1985
1. Panyam Cements and Minerals Industries Ltd., Andhra Pradesh.	1,800	43
2. Travancore Electro-Chemicals Industries Ltd., Alwaye.	1,000	13
3. Union Carbide (India) Ltd., Bombay.	900	Nil

Import of special variety of paper

2313. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 82 on 19 March, 1985 regarding production of paper based on bagasse and state :

(a) the details of special variety of paper being imported;

(b) the cost of this imported paper; and

(c) the reason why the same variety of paper is not manufactured in India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) The special varieties of paper being imported include paper required for printing of currency note, cigarette paper, filter paper, base paper, crepe paper, electrical grade paper/board, record paper etc.

(b) The approx. value of special varieties of paper imported during 1980-81, 1981-82 and 1982-83 (upto December, 1982) is as follows :

Year	Value (approx) (Rs. in lakhs)
1980-81	626.34
1981-82	680.81
1982-83	484.23
(upto Dec., 1982)	

(c) Some of the large paper mills have started manufacturing special varieties of paper.

Suspension of defence vehicle drivers due to rash driving in Hyderabad

2314. SHRI G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of army drivers suspended due to rash driving of defence vehicles in the twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad; and

(b) the steps taken to reduce/eliminate the accidents due to rash driving ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) Six Army vehicles were involved in accidents in the twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad during the financial year 1984-85. No driver was placed under suspension since this is not required. Such cases are investigated in accordance with the provisions of Military Law. Disciplinary action has been initiated on these cases.

(b) Army Hqs have issued detailed instructions for ensuring safety on the road. These are being enforced strictly.

Improvements in Cantonment Hospital at Secunderabad

2315. SHRI G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken to meet the increased needs at Secunderabad Cantonment hospital;

(b) the patient doctor ratio as per standards laid down by the World Health Organisation; and

(c) whether the present arrangements will be improved in order to cover the entire population of the Cantonment ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) and (c). The Cantonment Board is conscious of the need to improve the medical facilities provided to the civil population. The Cantonment Board at present is maintaining a 54 bedded hospital with four qualified doctors to cater to the basic medical requirements of the population (90,117 as per the 1981 Census). Cases requiring special care are referred to the State Govt. hospital.

The major constraint in improving medical facilities was the lack of adequate funds. The Govt. have recently taken special steps to augment the resources of a number of Cantonments, and Rs. 1 crore has been allocated to Secunderabad Cantonment. With the availability of additional funds, the Cantonment Board will now be in a position to undertake, inter-alia schemes for improvement of medical facilities offered to the civil population.

(b) Information is being collected.

Elections to Cantonment Boards

2316. **SHRI G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO :** Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for not conducting the elections to Cantonment Board Secunderabad; and

(b) the position of holding elections to the Cantonment Boards in the rest of the country ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) and (b). The issue of holding elections to Cantonment Boards is under consideration of the Government. The electoral rolls in the cantonments are to be revised from 1st July 1985. After completing this revision, the dates for the elections will be notified by the Government in accordance with the provisions in the Cantonments Act,

Districts covered under Central Subsidy Scheme

2317. **SHRI G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of districts covered under the Central subsidy scheme indicating the present Statewise position districts covered and districts yet to be covered; and

(b) whether there is any proposal for the so far uncovered districts under the Seventh Plan, specially for Andhra Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) A total of 299 districts/areas, of the country have been identified as industrially backward eligible to Central Investment Subsidy. The State-wise break up of the districts/areas are contained in the booklet "Incentives for industries in Backward Areas" copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

(b) The Central Investment Subsidy Scheme is under review of the Government.

[*Translation*]

China clay industry in Ajmer

2318. **SHRI VISHNU MODI :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether raw material for making China clay pots is available in abundance in Nasirabad in Ajmer district of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to provide some special facilities to this industry in Nasirabad vis-a-vis such industries set up at other places;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) Raw materials required for making China clay pots are China clay, feldspar and quartz. In Nasirabad of Ajmer district feldspar and quartz are available in abundance, but China clay is not available in plenty and whatever little is available, is not of good quality.

(b) to (d). The area is covered under the District Industries Centre Programme launched on 1st May, 1978 for promotion of small tiny, village and cottage industries. Under this Programme all possible facilities pertaining to registration, finance, raw materials etc. are provided under 'Single Roof' as far as practicable at pre-investment, investment and post-investment stages.

[English]

Participation of N.R.I. in I.E.L.'s Fertilizer Project

2319. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Explosives Limited's fertilizer project is likely to have Non-resident Indians (NRI) participation

(b) whether the NRI participation is one of the several alternatives being examined by the IEL to finance the massive gas-based fertilizer project it proposes to set up;

(c) if so, the extent of NRI participation envisaged; and

(d) the countries which are in view for tapping NRI participation ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) to (d). M/s. Indian Explosives Ltd. (IEL) are not implementing any gas-based fertilizer project at present. However, they have applied for allocation of a gas-based fertilizer project. Details regarding Non-resident Indian (NRI) participation, if any, will no doubt be furnished by IEL once a final decision is taken in the matter.

Shortage of Diesel in Kota (Rajasthan)

2320. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that there is acute shortage of diesel in Kota, Rajasthan;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering to provide more quota of diesel to Kota and Bundi districts which are agricultural areas of Rajasthan;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) to (d) No report regarding shortage of diesel in Kota (Rajasthan) have been received. Diesel is available on free sale basis and no formal allocation of this product is made to States. The Oil Companies have instructions to meet the full demand of diesel.

Opening of Petrol Pump at Kota Railway Station

2321. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government have received any representation for opening a petrol pump at Kota Railway Station from people of that area ;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any action there on so far;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which Government propose to open a petrol pump there; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) to (d). Based on the feasibility studies conducted from time to time and taking into consideration the existing volume-distance norms, there is presently no proposal to develop any retail outlet (petrol/diesel pump) at Kota Railway Station.

Expansion of Cooking Gas Agencies Network in Rajasthan

2322. SHRI VISHNU MODI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to expand the cooking gas agencies network in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the names of the places proposed to be allotted new gas agencies;

(c) the number of these places in rural areas and the number of urban areas;

(d) the extent of population of Rajasthan to be benefited with the allotment of these agencies; and

(e) the names of the oil companies under which these gas agencies are proposed to be allotted and by what time ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The locations which are already included in the Marketing Plans of the oil industry for award of LPG distributorships are at different stages of selection/commissioning. They are given as in the Statement attached.

(c) Locations for opening of LPG distributorships are decided upon on the basis of sale potential and economic viability and not with reference to classification between urban and rural.

(d) Considering that about 5,000 families make for an economically viable LPG distributorship, the number of families to benefit from the distributorships at the 33 locations (for 51 distributorships) given in the Annexure is not likely to be less than 2,50,000.

(e) Indian Oil Corporation, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation and Bharat Petroleum Corporation will be allotting the distributorships concerned as and when the selections are completed by the Oil Selection Board.

Statement

1. Barmer
2. Abu Road
3. Hanumangarh
4. Kota (3 locations)
5. Hindaun
6. Ajmer (6 locations)
7. Ladnu
8. Gangapur
9. Ratnagarh
10. Nawalgarh
11. Karauli

12. Jaipur (9 locations)
13. Lachmangarh
14. Rajgarh
15. Dungargarh
16. Jodhpur (4 locations)
17. Balotra
18. Sardarshahr
19. Dausa
20. Alwar
21. Suratgarh
22. Bhilwara
23. Nimbahera
24. Deeg
25. Beawar
26. Chomu
27. Jhalarapatan
28. Udaipur
29. Bharatpur
30. Sawai Madhopur
31. Ramgarh
32. Nokha and
33. Chiwara

51 distributorships

Representation from M/s. I. G. P. Engineers Pvt. Ltd., Madras

2323. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any representation from M/s. I.G.P. Engineers Pvt. Ltd., Madras not to sanction any industrial licence to manufacture industrial Gaskets to multi-national monopoly company, M/s. Hindustan Ferodo Ltd., Bombay as this new company will depress the legitimate right of the small scale industrial units; and

(b) action taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Government have received representation dated 6th August, 1984 from M/s. IGP Engineers, Madras against issue of Industrial Licence to M/s. Hindustan Ferrodo for manufacture of Industrial Gasket etc.

(b) The matter is under consideration of the Government.

More Telephone Facilities in Rural areas of Nalgonda District of Andhra Pradesh

2324. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are giving more telephone facilities in rural and semi-rural areas;

(b) whether Nalgonda District in Andhra Pradesh is one of the districts selected for this purpose; and

(c) if so, the number of new lines proposed to be laid there in 1985-86, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF GOMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The policy regarding opening of small exchanges and long distance public telephones in the rural and semi-rural areas is given in statements I to III.

(b) Telephone facilities in Nalgonda will be covered according to the policies mentioned in the Annexures I to III.

(c) In Nalgonda district 4,25 line SAXs are planned subject to receipt of minimum demand of telephones as mentioned in Annexure-I and receipt of stores. These four stations are chimmiriyal connected to Kodad. Chirkupalli and Epuru connected to Suryapet, Kothapalli connected to Dwar-Konda.

Statement-I

Posts and Telegraphs Board

Policy regarding opening of new Telephone Exchanges in rural/backward and hilly areas.

Under the normal rules of the Posts and Telegraphs Department, projects for opening of Telephone Exchanges are sanctioned only after carrying out a financial appraisal of the project and ensuring that the annual recurring expenditure does not exceed the anticipated annual revenue. With increasing cost of equipment, stores and labour, however, it has been found that a large number of projects for small exchanges in rural areas prove unremunerative not only in the initial stages but also after the full connectable capacity is utilized. To permit extantion of telephone services in rural areas, following liberalised policy for opening/expansion of telephone exchanges upto 100 lines capacity has been adopted with effect from 1-4-1980. This is subject to availability offinance and materials.

1. (i) Small automatic exchanges may be opened and expanded in rural areas upto 100 upto lines, capacity without insisting on each individual project being remunerative. Instead the opening and expansion of such exchanges shall be governed by the demand for private and public (other than service) telephone connections.
- (ii) A 10 lines exchange may be opened, provided there is a minimum telephone demand for 5 (five) such connections in a village or group of villages within a radius of 5 Kms. of the central village subject to the anticipated revenue being at least 35 per cent of the anticipated annual recurring expenditure. (This is not applicable for the time being since a 10 lines small automatic exchange is still being developed, reference may also please be made to para (v) below.
- (iii) The 10 lines exchanges may be replaced by or a new 25 lines exchange may be installed if there is a demand for 10 such connections in a village or group of villages within a radio of 5 kms of the central village subject to the anticipated revenue being at least 40 per cent of the anticipated A.R.E.
- (iv) The 25 lines exchange may be replaced by a 50 lines exchange when the demand reaches 23 and a

50 lines exchange may be expanded to 100 lines when the demand reaches 46 subject to the anticipated revenue being 60 per cent and 70 per cent respectively of the anticipated A.R.C.

- (v) In general, the initial capacity of a small automatic exchange at a new station should not exceed 10 lines. However, in view of the fact that development work is still in progress on a 10 lines electronic SAX and the smallest exchange available as on date is of 25 lines exchanges till 10 lines SAXs are available freely, subject, of course to the minimum demand for 10 regular private and public connections (other than service).

The above liberalised policy is applicable for opening/expansion of automatic exchanges.

2. Opening of small manual exchanges involves employment of a minimum of 5 operators to provide round the clock service through out the week. As such opening of small manual exchanges involves much higher losses. It is, therefore, normally not envisaged that a manual exchange with less than 100 lines should be opened.

3. Thus at present Heads of Telecommunications Circles are sanctioning schemes for opening of 25 lines small automatic exchanges wherever at least 10 prospective subscribers register their demands with prescribed advance deposit of Rs. 100. For this purpose the prospective subscribers may contact the Sub-Divisional Officer Phones/Telegraphs of the area.

4. The opening of such exchanges involves renting out a suitable building and procurement of exchange equipment, power, plant, batteries, cables, line materials etc. It, therefore, may take upto about 24 months for the exchange to be commissioned once the scheme is approved.

Statement-II

Revised policy for opening of long distance Public Telephones (LDPTs) Combined offices (COs) in Rural Areas

The present policy of the Department for opening of Long Distance Public Telephones/Combined Offices on loss basis during the

6th Plan period (Annexure-II), has been under consideration of the P and T Board for some time. The studies under taken in this regard reveal that the policy of opening long distance public telephones without stipulating minimum revenue on the basis of population will result in disparity in the expansion of this facility in the rural areas, particularly in hilly and sparsely populated regions of the country. After a careful review of the present policy and with a view to ensuring a more uniform penetration of telecom facilities in the rural areas of all States with greater emphasis on reliability of service, the P and T Board has decided as follows :

- (i) While the present policy, as detailed in Annex. II will continue, the establishment of LDPTs accessible within 5 Kms. of most habitations in the country may be adopted as a policy objective to be achieved progressively by 1990 beginning from the current year. Stipulation of minimum revenue as a pre-condition for providing an LDPT may be removed for LDPTs required for meeting this objective of spatial distribution.
- (ii) Multi-access Radio Telephone System may be adopted as the technology to establish LDPTs to improve reliability and availability in hilly, coastal, forest and desert areas as well as tribal and scheduled areas and other regions where power induction makes the openwire line unsuitable and in plains where the place is connected by road beyond a distance where the Multi-Access Rural Radio System tends to be cost-effective also.
- (iii) Non-Departmental LDPT agents may be employed wherever necessary, either due to non-availability of Post Offices or where the working hours of the Post Office is inadequate. The selection of Non-Departmental LDPT Agents will be decided by the G.M.T. of the Territorial Circle.
- (iv) The remuneration for the Non-Departmental LDPT agent may be 40 (fourty) paise per call subject to a maximum of Rs. 250 (Two Hundred and fifty) per month.

The working hours of the LDPT may be atleast 8 hours. The remuneration so received shall not constitute the main source of income to the LDPT agent except in the case of handicapped persons.

The P and T Board have also directed that the entire country may be divided into clusters of villages forming hexagonal areas (with a symmetrical hexagon of 5 Kms. side), leaving out, of course, areas which are uninhabited, like mountainous region rivers, lakes deserts etc. and that the village to serve as the focal point in each cluster, where the LDPT can be located may be identified. The task of identifying village clusters, for the establishment of LDPTs to achieve the 5 Kms. accessibility objective has been

entrusted to the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), whose report with detailed maps, would be made available to the Circles for Planning Purposes.

On receipt of the detailed maps with the requisite data for location of LDPTs for the village clusters as per study by NCAER, Heads of Circles will arrange to draw up a detailed annual programme for opening of future LDPTs both on open wire system and Multi-Access Radio System with a view to implement the above decisions of the P and T Board.

The Project Estimates for the opening of LDPTs under the Multi-Access Radio System should, however, continue to be referred to the Directorate for the purpose of allotment of equipment etc.

Statement-III

Policy for provision of PCOs on loss categories of stations

1. District Headquarters.
2. Sub-Divisional Headquarters.
3. Tehsil Headquarters.
4. Sub-Tehsil Headquarters.
5. Block Headquarters.
6. Places with a population of 5000 or more in ordinary areas and 2500 or more in backward or hilly areas.

Condition for Provision of Public Call Offices.

Will be provided progressively irrespective of loss and without any condition of minimum revenue.

Condition for Provision of Combined Offices.

Will be provided progressively irrespective of loss and without any condition of minimum revenue.

-
7. Places with Police Stations under the charge of an Officer of the rank of a Sub-Inspector of Police or above.

Condition for Provisions of Public Call Offices.

The anticipated revenue should be at least 25% of the ARE (Annual recurring expenditure) in ordinary areas, and 15% of ARE in backward areas, and 10% of ARE in hilly areas.

Condition for Provision of Combined Offices.

The anticipated revenue should be at least 25% of the ARE in ordinary areas, and 15% of ARE in backward areas and 10% of ARE in hilly areas.

8. Out of the way places.

- (a) Should be beyond 40 Kms. (radial distance) from an existing exchange.
- (b) The anticipated revenue should be at least 25% of ARE in ordinary areas, 15% of ARE in backward areas and 10% ARE in hilly areas.

- (a) Should be beyond 20 Kms. (radial distance) from an existing Telegraph Office.
- (b) The anticipated revenue should be at least 25% of ARE in ordinary areas, 15% of ARE in backward areas and 10% of ARE in hilly areas.
- (c) The anticipated loss should not exceed Rs. 2000 p.a. in ordinary areas and Rs. 5000 p.a. in backward/hilly areas.

9. Tourist/pilgrimage centres/agricultural/irrigation/power project sites/townships.

Condition for Provision of Public Call Offices.

- (a) The anticipated revenue should be at least 25% of ARE in ordinary areas, 15% of ARE in backward areas and 10% of ARE in hilly areas.

Condition for Provision of Combined Offices.

- (a) The anticipated revenue should be at least 25% of ARE in ordinary areas, 15% of ARE in backward areas, and 10% of ARE in hilly areas.
- (b) The anticipated loss should not exceed Rs. 2000 p.a. in ordinary areas and Rs. 5000 p.a. in backward/hilly areas.

10. All other stations.

On the basis of financial viability or in the case of loss on rent and guarantee basis.

On the basis of financial viability or in the case of loss on rent and guarantee basis.

- Note : 1.** (a) For considering the population figures, the population of the town or village alone should be taken into account and not that of a group of towns or villages except in the case of tribal areas where a group of villages within a radius of 10 Kms. from a central village, can be considered. No two Public Telephones can be opened under this relaxed condition within a distance of 10 Kms. from each other.
- (b) When identifying important central villages for provision of Public Telephones, preference will be given in the following order :
- (i) Tribal Development Block Headquarters.
 - (ii) Places where LAMPS (Large Sized Multipurpose Co-operative Societies) are established; and
 - (iii) Centres identified by the local Tribal Development Deptts for development of rural industries and/or irrigation projects for intensive agricultural development.
2. No Telegraph Office should be opened on loss if another telegraph office is already working within 8 Kms. of the proposed office.

Pending applications for new Telephone Connections in Saroor Nagar Telephone Exchange in Hyderabad

2325. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Saroor Nagar Telephone Exchange in Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh) is equipped with Automatic Telephone Exchange facilities;

(b) if so, the capacity of the exchange and the number of connections there at present;

(c) whether there are many applications pending since many years;

(d) if so, the time by which all pending applicants will be given telephone connections; and

(e) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Capacity of Saroor Nagar Telephone Exchange is 600 lines and number of connections working there as on 28-2-1985 is 561.

(c) Number of pending applications are as follows :

(i) General category 799 since June, 1978.

(ii) Special Category 129 since November, 1980.

(iii) O.Y.T. category 85 since October, 1980.

(d) and (e). It is planned to open a 2000 lines Electronic Telephone Exchange at Saroor Nagar in replacement of existing exchange in 1986-87, and pending applicants will be given telephone connections in 1986-87.

Procurement of dress materials for officers uniformed by Indian Oil Corporation, Bombay/New Delhi

2326. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) the total length in meters of dress materials for officers uniform procured by the Indian Oil Corporation Ltd., Bombay/New Delhi;

(b) the source from which procured, private or public sector;

(c) whether the Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. has been reluctant to procure the said materials from public sector unit;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action proposed to be taken to ensure that the Public Sector Units are given preference on the lines indicated by the Bureau of Public Enterprises in the matter of supplies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) No cloth for uniform for officers has been procured so far by the Indian Oil Corporation.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Price preference to the offers received from public sector units will be considered in accordance with the guidelines of the Bureau of Public Enterprises.

Price control on Drugs

2327. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to extent price control to drugs;

(b) if so, by what time; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) to (c). The prices of most of the medicines are already controlled under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1979, which was issued under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

[*Translation*]

Representation of employees in Khadi and Village Industries Commission

2328. SHRIMATI VIDYAVATI CHATURVEDI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state whether Government propose to include an employee among the members to be nominated for 'Khadi Gromodyog Ayog' (Khadi and Village Industries Commission) so that the representative of the employees could also contribute equally to Commission's proceedings ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : No such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

[*English*]

Proposal to revive Steel and Allied Products Limited in West Bengal

2329. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have received a proposal from Government of West Bengal to revive Steel and Allied Products Limited in West Bengal by giving certain relief and concession and fresh input of about Rupees Five Crores during next 3-4 years; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) and (b). The Prospects of revival of M/s. Steel and Allied Products, including the proposals of the Government of West Bengal, have been considered by the financial institutions. A conclusion was arrived at that the unit had lost its viability and there were no prospects of its revival.

Mail Sorting Staff

2330. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether consequent upon the abolition of mail sorting sections, a number of sorters have been absorbed in the stationery sorting offices rendering a number of daily wage/temporary sorting assistants surplus, especially in Delhi Postal Circle;

(b) if so, the number of such sorting assistants in each circle as have not been given any duty during the second half of financial year 1984-85;

(c) whether Government would ensure that no hand once recruited after having been given the necessary training is without work simply on the ground that some sorting sections have been abolished; and

(d) the total number of sorting sections abolished, circle-wise and number of sorters who have been (i) given (ii) not given the alternate duties so far, circle-wise as on 31st March, 1985 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The staff rendered surplus due to the abolition of sorting in running sections has been attached to the stationary sorting offices. No retrenchment of permanent or temporary regular staff has taken place on this account in Delhi or elsewhere. However, as a result of attachment of surplus staff to stationary sorting offices, reserve staff, who have been recruited in the past for utilisation on payment of wages on hourly basis with a prospect of absorption in regular vacancies in due course, are not in a position to be absorbed against regular vacancies in the near future.

(b) The number of reserve staff who are awaiting absorption in regular vacancies is being ascertained and the information will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) As the reserve trained staff have been recruited not against current vacancies but against future vacancies, they will have to wait till such time as vacancies become available after surplus staff already attached to stationary sorting offices get absorbed.

(d) Details are furnished in the statement attached.

Statement

Name of Circle	Converted	Abolished/ Merged
Andhra	22	7
Bihar	29	1
Gujarat	23	—
Kerala	7	—
Karnataka	9	—
M.P.	20	2
Maharashtra	17	—
North Eastern	3	4
North Western	22	1
Orissa	8	2
Rajasthan	15	
Tamil Nadu	16	6
U.P.	27	1
West Bengal	13	—
Total	231	+ 24 = 255

- (i) No. of Sorting Assistants given alternate duties = 1556
- (ii) No. of Sorting Assistants not given alternate duties = Nil

Enquiry Conducted by Tata Institute of Social Sciences, etc. regarding Gag Poisoning in Bhopal

2331. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether on-the-spot studies into the effects of gas poisoning in Bhopal have been conducted by the Tata Institute of Social Services as well as the Society for Participatory Research in Asia;

(b) if so, whether its findings will be made public in the interest of scientific knowledge; and

(c) whether many victims are no longer in a position to perform the manual labour which had been their main source of income earlier ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) to (c). The State Government have reported that such a study has been undertaken through the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Bombay, along with the participation of the Indore School of Social Work, Kashi Vidyapith School of Social Work, Varanasi, Faculty of Social Work, M/s. University, Baroda, Tirpude School of Social Work, Nagpur Matru Seva Sangh Institute of Social Work, Nagpur, Kerve Institute of Social Services (Poona) and Nirmala Niketan College of Social Work, Bombay University. The complete findings and the analysis of the data collected during the survey has not been received from the State Government so far.

[Translation]

Retail Prices of Medicines

2332. SHRI R. M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have fixed the retail prices of certain medicines for the benefit of common people; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) and (b). Retail Prices of price controlled Medicines are regulated under the provisions of Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1979. Price fixation-revision is a continuous process and after the promulgation of the said Order, prices of a very large number of formulations have been fixed/revised.

[English]

Import of Soda Ash

2333. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have been urged for immediate import of one lakh tonnes soda ash through the State Trading Corporation of India and distri-

bute it among the small user units in the country in order to meet the rising demand;

(b) whether the domestic soda ash market is facing a major crisis with production stagnating at around 8 lakh tonnes while the demand has shot up to 9 lakh tonnes a year;

(c) If so, whether Government have agreed to import the soda ash; and

(d) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) No Sir. However, certain complaints have been received regarding shortage of Soda Ash in the country.

(b) to (d). As per the estimates made at the beginning of 1984-85, it was expected that the indigenous production of Soda Ash, by and large, would meet the demand. However, while there has been a spurt in the demand of Soda Ash, on the one hand, there has also been some shortfall in anticipated production, on the other. It has now been estimated that the demand of Soda Ash during 1984-85 would be of the order of 9.0 lakh tonnes, as against 8.50 lakh tonnes estimated earlier, and the likely production during this period would be of the order of 8.62 lakh tonnes, as against 9.04 lakh tonnes estimated earlier. However, the estimated production in 1984-85 would still be higher by 10.37% over the production in 1983-84.

Under the existing import policy, import of Soda Ash under Open General Licence (OGL) is allowed to the actual users. Government have recently substantially reduced duty on import of Soda Ash to enable the actual users to import the same at a reasonable price.

Shortage of Doctors in the Medical Corps

2334. **SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOJ ALI KHAN :**
SHRI SURESH KURUP :
SHRI KAMAL NATH :
SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the senior doctors of the rank of Colonel and Lieut. Colonel are seeking early retirement from the Army Medical Corps and that the Armed Forces Medical College, Pune, has failed to attract the best talent in the country to take up army service;

(b) if so, the details thereof, stating the number of doctors of the rank of Colonel and Lieut. Colonel who took retirement during the last three years (year-wise):

(c) the reasons therefor;

(d) the percentage of shortage of doctors in the Medical Corps as a result thereof; and

(e) the steps contemplated by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. There has been nothing abnormal in the number of senior Doctors leaving the Army Medical Corps (AMC). The Armed Forces Medical College, Pune, continues to make valuable contribution to man the posts in the AMC. Year-wise details of the officers of the rank of Colonel and Lieutenant Colonel who left the service prematurely in the last three years is given below :

Year	Colonel and equivalent	Lt. Col. and equivalent
1982	4	15
1983	4	15
1984	2	21

(c) The officers are allowed to leave the service prematurely in terms of the extant orders for reasons such as :

- (i) Supersession in service;
- (ii) Permanent Low Medical Category of the Officer;
- (iii) Extreme compassionate grounds due to family circumstances; etc.

(d) The percentage of shortage due to the officers leaving the Army Medical Corps prematurely is negligible and has no impact on the functional efficiency of the AMC.

(e) Does not arise.

**Offer by Italian-Japanese Consortium
to take up three segments of Gas
Pipe Line Project**

2335. SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether offer of the Italian-Japanese consortium led by Snamprogetti to take up three segments of the project of seventeen hundred Kilometer long gas pipe line on a turnkey basis is being considered by Government; and

(b) if so, whether consideration of this offer is not in contravention of Government's earlier decision to entrust it to the Gas Authority of India Limited (G.A.I.L) and Engineers India Limited (EIL) ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLIUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) and (b). Offers received in response to the tender for construction of the Hazira-Bijaipur-Jagdishpur gas pipeline are in process and consideration; it will not be in the public interest to disclose the details in this regard at this stage.

**Representation from All India Graphite
Crucible Manufacturers' Association**

2336. SHRI SRI HARI RAO : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any representation from All India Graphite Crucible Manufacturers Association, Rajahmundry (A.P.) concerning threat to the indigenous small scale industry by proposed entry of an industrial giant covered under MRTP Act, if so, redressal steps taken or proposed; and

(b) whether it is a fact that as per Government policies, existing indigenous industry with know-how both locally developed technology and foreign collaboration, are to be encouraged and supported and if so, the reasons for permitting a foreign-based firm in this well organised industry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) The All India Graphite Crucibles Manufacturers Associa-

tion Rajamundry have submitted a representation against the entry of M/s. Greaves Cotton and Co. Ltd., an MRTP Company, for the manufacture of clay and Silicon Carbide Crucibles in collaboration with M/s. Morgan Crucibles of U. K. appropriate action would be taken on it.

(b) Foreign technology is inducted in areas where there is need to upgrade the existing technology and thus improve the quality of the product.

Re-organisation of Railway Mail Service

2337. SHRI R. ANNANAMBI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that due to withdrawal of sorting sections in the running trains in the name of re-organisation, serious delay is caused in the delivery of mail to the villagers in remote corners; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to restore all the sorting sections that stand abolished on date ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Due to elaborate alternative arrangements made for sorting and forwarding of mails, there has been no delay except in very marginal cases.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

**Cases against illegal construction of
Houses in Danapur Cantonment Board**

2338. SHRI ABDUL HANNAN ANSARI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons who filed appeals with the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief (G. O. C.) Central Command, Lucknow against the decisions of Danapur Cantonment Board from 1980 to 1984 and the number of cases out of them decided in favour of the Danapur Cantonment Board; and

(b) the number of illegally constructed houses demolished so far and the number of house owners prosecuted in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) Twenty appeals have been filed before the GOC-in-C, Central Command between 1980-84. Out of these, two cases have been decided in favour of Cantonment Boards.

(b) No illegally constructed house has been demolished. However, in 79 cases, house owners have been prosecuted under Section 184 of the Cantonment Act, 1924.

[English]

Sale of Centurian Tanks

2239. **SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :**
SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the January 1985 issue of a Swiss journal "International Defence Review" published an advertisement for sale of 1150 Centurian Tanks by the Indian Defence Ministry;

(b) if so, whether the tanks are proposed to be sold as scrap or as fighting vehicles to the highest bidder; and

(c) whether Government are not concerned as to the desirability or otherwise of the probable purchaser(s) ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) to (c). An advertisement has been published in the December, 1984 issue of "International Defence Review" offering 173 Centurian Tanks and 15 Centurian Armoured Recovery Vehicles which are obsolete, along with the related spares and ammunition for disposal. The vehicles were offered for sale in "as is" condition. Adequate safeguards have been built in the conditions of the Tender to ensure that these vehicles do not land in the hands of any undesirable party. No worthwhile response has so far been received for the tanks.

Report of Law Commission on the protection of Consumer Interests

2340. **SHRI K. PRADHANI :**
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Law Commission recently submitted a report on the protection of consumer interests; and

(b) if so, steps Government propose is take to evolve a foolproof system to protect the interests of the consumer ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARADWAJ) : (a) The Law Commission submitted its one hundred and fifth Report on "Quality Control and Inspection of Consumer Goods" on 27th October, 1984 to the Government;

(b) Copies of the report have been sent to the Ministries/Departments concerned for their views including the question of enactment of suitable legislation.

Production of black and white roll film in the country

2341. **SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total production of black and white roll film in the country and the total domestic demand;

(b) whether the Hindustan Photo Films Company does not have adequate capacity to produce the required quantity of this film; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to meet the demand ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) Hindustan Photo Films Mfg. Co. Ltd. have informed that the current demand for black and white 120/620 size roll film is of the order of 100 lakh spools per annum.

Production of black and white roll films during the last 7 years by the company has been an under : (the sales and inventory figures are also given for comparison)

	Production	Sales	Inventory
	(in lakhs spools)		
1977-78	101.50	97.36	8.28
1978-79	109.97	108.79	9.07
1979-80	119.63	109.97	23.45
1980-81	100.71	87.90	46.91
1981-82	109.78	87.99	73.31
1982-83	107.02	84.61	87.00
*1983-84	46.71	77.71	44.94
1984-85 (Projected)	46.47	70.00	33.00

* On account of huge accumulation of inventory, the Company had to regulate its production to avoid further accumulation of inventory, especially because of the perishable nature of the product (roll films) and its restricted shelf life. As can be seen from the figures for 1984-85, the company still holds an inventory of 33 lakh spools valued at about Rs. 3.5 crored.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Ban on import of black and white roll film

2342. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the import of black and white roll film has been banned;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof:

(c) whether this step has caused a spurt in the domestic price of black and white roll film; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to check the price of this film ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) NO, Sir.

(b) Dose not arise.

(c) and (d). Hindustan Photo Films Mfg. Co. Ltd., a public sector undertaking, has always been selling products at list prices which are regulated under the formula laid down by the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices.

Shortage of black and white roll films

2343. SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN SHRI K. KUNJAMBU :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the all Kerala Photographers' Association has sent any representation requesting for immediate steps to relieve the shortage of black and white roll film; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) and (b). A representation was received by Hindustan Photo-films Mfg. Co. Ltd., Ootacamund (HPF) which related to the supply of films in the half of 1981 consequent upon labour unrest in the company during May and June last year. HPF has, however, informed that even though there was labour unrest leading to a lockout in the factory, it was able to meet the demand for roll films since it had enough stocks in its sales depots all over the country. Further, the marketing division was not covered under the lock out and hence supply of roll films was freely

available to the consumers even during this period. With the resumption of work in stages from 11 June, 1984, and fully from 2nd July, 1984, the company has been able to step up its supply of roll films to the consumers.

12.00 hrs.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have raised a very important question regarding the freedom of the press. Yesterday, Sir, you were very kind enough to express your feeling that nothing should be said about the dignitaries. There we all agree, Sir. But, today, I find that the Delhi based Correspondent, the AP Correspondent, because of his voice of dissent on the question of Operation Blue Star, is being harassed by the Government and even the Union Government have expressed...
(*Interruption*)

MR. SPEAKER : You give a notice.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : His passport is cancelled. His name is...

MR. SPEAKER : You just give it in writing. I cannot take it up like this. I will have to find out.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I have given notice, I never rise unless I give notice.

MR. SPEAKER : I will find out.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I have given a calling attention and a 377 notice. I did not want to embarrass you by giving adjournment motion because it cannot be a recurring phenomenon.

MR. SPEAKER : I have to find out.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Please direct the Government. Please give us your ruling.

MR. SPEAKER : I will find out the facts and decide.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Please find out from the Minister.

MR. SPEAKER : That is what I can do.

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour) : A number of Calling Attention Notices are pending.

MR. SPEAKER : One by one they come. I cannot take more than 3.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : But you have not admitted.

MR. SPEAKER : There is no question of admitting. I admit them one by one. They are with me.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY (Buxar) : Some very dangerous developments are taking place in Punjab. Sir, today you might have read in the newspapers that Jagjit Singh Chauhan has declared a Government in exile. After the release of Longowal, there is an interview granted to *Sunday*. If you go through the interview.

MR. SPEAKER : You give me something.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : He has been shouting pro-Bhindrawalle slogans. The situation is developing in an explosive form.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Why don't you give an Adjournment Motion? It is a fit case.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : Calling Attention I have given. Adjournment Motion is not necessary. The Minister must come out with a statement.

MR. SPEAKER : We will see.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : There is the case of the Delhi High Court Judge. It has come in the newspapers; we must know the position.

MR. SPEAKER : I will see whatever is possible. You give me something; I will look into it.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla) : I have given Calling Attention Motion on 'Growing Terrorism in Punjab'. In the meantime you may kindly allow.

MR. SPEAKER : We will see.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (Dausa) : I have given 193 Notice.

MR. SPEAKER : We have to discuss that in the Business Advisory Committee.

We will consider your suggestion also.

Now, Papers laid. Shri Vasant Sathe.

12.04 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

Detailed Demands for Grants of Ministry of Steel, Mines and Coal for 1985-86

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Coal for 1985-86. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-655/85].

(Interruption)

SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK (Kalahandi) : I wish to draw attention regarding news item Anti-India Groups back Khalistan at London Meet. Sir, It involves country's security and sovereignty. The attention of British Government should be drawn to this.

MR. SPEAKER : You give me notice. You give me something. I shall see.

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour) : Sir, in metro railway, in Calcutta, they are plying trains over heavy subsidence which will cause death to thousands of people, if it is not stopped immediately. I have given a Calling Attention notice on this.

MR. SPEAKER : Calling Attention is not to be discussed here.

(Interruptions)

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE—Contd.

[English]

Notification under Chartered Accountant Act 1949, Reviews on the working of and Annual Reports of Burn Standard Company Ltd. Calcutta for 1983-84 and Bharat Wagon and Engineering Co. Ltd. Patna for 1983-84 and two statements for delay

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COM-

PANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : I beg to lay on the Table—

1. A copy of Notification No. 1-CA (126)/1/81 (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th October, 1984 making certain amendments to regulations 63 and 112 of the Chartered Accountants Regulations, 1964, under section 30B of the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-656/85].

2. 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) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Burn Standard Company Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1983-84.

(ii) Annual Report of the Burn Standard Company Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-657/85].

(b) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Bharat Wagon and Engineering Company Limited, Patna, for the year 1983-84.

(ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Wagon and Engineering Company Limited, Patna, for the year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

2. Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) and (b) of item (2) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-658/85].

Central Excise (Fourth Amendment) Rules, 1985 and Notifications under Customs Act, 1962

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : I beg to lay on the Table :

1. A copy of the Central Excise (Fourth Amendment) Rules, 1985 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. GSR 333(E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th March, 1985 under sub-section (2) of section 38 of the Central Excises and Sales Act, 1944. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-659/85].

2. A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962 :

- (i) GSR 329(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th March, 1985, together with an explanatory memorandum extending the validity of Notification No. 111/84-Customs dated the 21st April, 1984 upto the 31st March, 1986.
- (ii) GSR 330(E) and 321(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th March, 1985, together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to prizes, won by any member of an Indian team participating with the approval of the Government of India in any International tournament of competition in relation to any sports or games, when imported into India from the whole of the basic, auxiliary and additional duties of customs leviable thereon.
- (iii) GSR 337(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st April, 1985 together with any explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to lead glass tubings and rods imported for the manufacture of components for electrical lamps and fluorescent tubes from basic customs duty in excess of 45 per cent and valorem.
- (iv) GSR 338(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st April, 1985 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into India currency or *vice-versa*.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-660/85].

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES SUMMARY OF WORK

[English]

SECRETARY GENERAL : I lay on the Table a copy of the 'Parliamentary Committees—Summary of Work' (Hindi and English versions) pertaining to the period 1st June, 1984 to 31st December, 1984. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-661/85].

12.07 hrs.

MONOPOLIES AND RESTRICTIVE TRADE PRACTICES (AMENDMENT) BILL*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Veerendra Patil has asked for special permission to move his Bill before the Business at item No. 8 is taken up. I have given him special permission.

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969.

MR. SPEAKER : Motion moved :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969.”

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajpur) : Sir, I rise to oppose the introduction of this Bill at the very introduction stage. Sir, the Bill seeks to extend the scope of the MRTP Houses from Rs. 20 crores to Rs. 100 crores. So, even some greedy industrialists expected that this Government may rise the limit from Rs. 20 crores at the most to Rs. 50 crores. Now, it has gone to Rs. 100 crores. The most objectionable part is that this Government which is committed to the interest of the common man on the one side—leave aside the consumers and the workers—and on the other hand even in relation to the small scale industries which have been insisting that in Tariff Item No. 68 they should be able to have the exemption

limit increased from Rs. 30 lakhs to Rs. 40 lakhs has not given such exemption to them. But when it comes to the MRTP houses, they are going up right from Rs. 20 crores to Rs. 100 crores. This will lead to greater and greater concentration of wealth and also economic power. This runs totally counter to the concept of dispersal of industries. This also runs counter to the concept of de-concentration of wealth and therefore the basic objectives which have been laid in our planning are sought to be defeated by this particular measure. Of course, this is only a by-product of the policy announced by the Finance Minister during his budget proposal. During his budget proposal, he has already announced that they want to increase this MRTP House exemption limit from Rs. 20 crores to Rs. 100 crores and the Bill that is being brought forward now is only the consequential Bill to give only a legal shape to the pronouncement of the Finance Minister in the Budget. I am totally opposed to it from the point of view of egalitarianism, from the point of view of decentralisation of the industry, from the point of view of de-concentration of wealth and also from the point of view of avoiding an unhealthy competition between the MRTP houses and the small-scale and medium-scale industries. Therefore, I totally oppose the Bill at the very introduction stage and I feel that sanity will down on the Ministry even at this stage withdraw the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER : I think you have done it for the second time now. The first one was in the budget discussion.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : I would like to submit that the convention of this House has been that at the time of introduction of the Bill, generally no discussion takes place. I am sure the hon. Member and the entire House would agree that whatever proposal I have brought forward in this regard is not in the interest of the MRTP houses or big capitalists. I can convincingly argue. But that stage has not yet been reached. At the time of consideration of the Bill, whatever the hon. Member and the Members on the opposite want to know, I will prove that it is in the interest of not those people who are already having a monopoly, but it is in the interest of the nation, it is in the interest of the dispersal of industry

and a proper methodical growth of industries in the entire country. The hon. Member mentioned about the small-scale units. As we have raised the limit of the MRTP houses, we have also raised the limit in the case of small-scale units.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : How much ? I am interested in knowing the limit.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : From Rs. 20 lakhs, it is raised to Rs. 35 lakhs in the case of small-scale industries, and in the case of ancillary industries, it has been raised to Rs. 45 lakhs. If there is a case for further increase, Government is proposed and has got an open mind with regard to this.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : The hon. Minister has mentioned about the MRTP houses not gaining by this. Why not give an inkling of this proof at the introduction stage itself so that I may change my mind even now ?

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : If it is done today itself, what shall we do tomorrow ?

[English]

The question is :

“The leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969.”

The motion was adopted.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : I introduce the Bill.

12.12 hrs.

HIGH COURT AND SUPREME COURT JUDGES* (CONDITIONS OF SERVICE) AMENDMENT BILL

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI A. K. SEN) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the High Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Act, 1954 and the Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Act, 1958.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That I leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the High Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Act, 1954 and the Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Act, 1958.

The motion was adopted.

SHRI A.K. SEN : I introduce* the Bill.

12.13 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

**Situation arising out of the closure of
a number of Jute Mills in West Bengal**

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura) : Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Supply and Textiles to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that the may make a statement thereon :

"Situation arising out of the closure of a number of jute mills in West Bengal and the steps taken by the Government in regard thereto."

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : Sir, The Motion seeks to draw the attention to the fact of closure of a number of jute mills in West Bengal resulting in unemployment of workers and the action taken by the Government in this regard. At present, 15 jute mills with a total complement of 54,400 workers are lying closed. (This is besides the 3 permanently closed units involving 6,900 workers). The details of the units involved are given in a list which is placed on the Table of the House.

Sir, the reason put forward by the mills generally for recent closure of jute mills is industrial dispute. Under the Industrial Dispute Act, the State Government is the appropriate authority for dealing with industrial disputes. The Labour Minister, Government of West Bengal has already held tripartite meeting on 26-2-1985 involving the industry, labour unions and the State Government.

The shortage of raw jute coupled with its high prices and financial stringencies of mills are reported to be contributory factors

for such closures. As a result four successive short jute crops, there is a shortage of raw jute in the country with accompanying price rise. There is indeed global shortage of raw jute at present. In order to tackle the situation, the Government have regulated the stock holdings by mills of raw jute under the Jute (Control and Licensing) Order, 1961 to bring about more equitable distribution of raw jute, particularly among weaker mills. The Government have also arranged imports of raw jute from abroad. A package for financial rehabilitation of jute industry has also been worked out by the Reserve Bank of India.

The Central Government has been taking various steps from time to time to improve the working of the jute industry. I proceed to enumerates the important steps taken by the Central Government for improving the viability of the jute industry and encouraging exports.

- (i) Purchase of jute goods by Government (DGS and D) from Jute Industry on cost plus basis;
- (ii) Introduction of compulsory use of 100% new jute bags by cement industry;
- (iii) Setting up of a Standing Committee under the auspices of RBI to study viability of jute mills and to suggest a package of financial measures for the rehabilitation of potentially viable units;
- (iv) Providing higher cash compensatory support to the dynamic sectors of jute goods;
- (v) Involving STC in assisting the exports of carpet backing cloth to North American markets by forming STC—Jute Industry Consortium on 50 : 50 loss sharing basis;
- (vi) Constitution a new Jute Development Council and a Jute Fund out of the proceeds of Cess to give boost to R and D efforts and export promotion;
- (vii) Encouraging development of exportable products through intensification of R and D efforts.

*Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

Sl. No.	Name of Mills	Closed from	Approx. No. of workers	Remarks
1.	Shree Gouri Shanker	9-12-81	2000	
2.	North Brook	27-1-82	3500	
3.	Hasimara (Waverly)	19-8-84	2300	
4.	Agarpara Co.	14-1-85	3600	
5.	Delta	5-2-85	5000	
6.	Shree Ambica	14-2-85	3500	
7.	Empire	2-2-85	3000	
8.	New Central (Albion)	11-2-85	4500	
9.	Kanaknarras	8-2-85	4100	
10.	Fort William	8-3-85	3200	
11.	Eastern Mfg. Co.	7-3-85	1900	
12.	Victoria	14-3-85	3800	
13.	New Central (Lothian)	13-3-85	6000	
14.	Shri Hanuman	19-3-85	3800	
15.	Gondalpara	27-3-85	4200	
			54,400	

The following three jute mills are permanently closed.

16.	Naskarpara	17-4-81	2300
17.	Premchand	6-4-77	3100
18.	Sri Ram	6-8-81	1500
			6900

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Sir, with a very heavy heart I read the statement made by our newly appointed Minister for Textiles and Supply. Unfortunately, this whole statement does not have even one line of sympathy towards the workers of jute mills of West Bengal. The hon. Minister has surprised me, particularly because the largest percentage of them come from Bihar. That being the case, it is actually surprising that you do not have even one word of sympathy for them.

MR. SPEAKER : May be he was afraid that he might be accused of nepotism.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : He may be having sympathy very very deeply inside or underground that I did not feel it. Anyway, Sir, about the figures given by him

now, it says that along with the three jute mills mentioned, it works out to 61,300 workers. According to my information it is nearly 70,000 workers. If you take four and a half units per family, then three crores of people are affected by this. I would like to register this magnitude in the mind of the Minister.

Secondly, I really expected something. This, I am not saying out of spite, but with a very heavy heart. All the members from West Bengal are here. I would like to inform our friends on the other side from West Bengal with regard to these closures and lock-outs that actually out of these 18 jute mills, 13 were locked out after the Parliamentary elections. I am saying this and let them all remember that one of the big promises made

by the ruling party here, while winning some of the seats in the election in West Bengal was that the ruling party will effectively intervene into this lock-out and closure of mills.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI (Howrah) : Which is the ruling party in West Bengal ?

SRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : It is not a ruling party's question. I did not say ruling party in West Bengal. I said hon. Members from West Bengal on the other side. I said about the ruling party's promise in Parliamentary elections. Who were the ruling party in Parliament ? That is what I said.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : The responsibility lies with the State Government. You do not try to twist politics in this manner. It is absolutely wrong.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Munsii, the Minister will reply to that. It is for the Minister to reply.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Do not record whatever they are saying. If you are going to have a match, go outside and have it. I cannot allow you to have it here. Take your seats. Sit down.

Mr. Munsii, when your turn comes, you can say something, but not like this.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : I should not have said it; I am sorry. I apologize to you, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : The onus lies not on you. The Minister will reply.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : I still insist that the fact that such assurances were given on behalf of the Congress (I) makes it incumbent on them to take a greater responsibility; and that is what I expected, on behalf of the people of West Bengal, whether they had voted for Congress (I) or for us. That was my precise question.

MR. SPEAKER : Ask the question please...

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : In the statement it is said :

"...the reason put forward by the mills generally for recent closure of jute mills is industrial dispute."

And so, it is left to the West Bengal Government to do whatever it can. This means passing the buck. I would like first to tell the House...

MR. SPEAKER : Please ask the Minister...

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Thereafter, I will ask the Minister. The fact remains that whatever demands were made by the workers of jute mills generally were not made by CITU or AITUC alone. I would also like to thank INTUC since they were equal partners in making all these demands. There are certain demands of the West Bengal workers. But Industrial disputes are not, really speaking, at the heart on this jute industry crisis. This is what you must please understand.

The Minister was saying in the statement :

"The shortage of raw jute coupled with its high prices and financial stringencies of mills are reported to be the contributory factors for such closures."

About this question of shortage of raw jute, it is true that it is there generally; but I would like to quote the relevant portion relating to the production of raw jute, from the Economic Survey of the West Bengal Government. I quote :

"Against the average of about 40 to 45 lakh bales of raw jute production, in 1982-83 the production was 37.82 lakh bales, and in 1983-84 it was 39.77 lakh bales. In 1984-85, the raw jute production at 43.33 lakh bales was still below the average production in the State."

It is true that it is still below the average, but the point to note here is that as against 44 to 45 lakh bales, in the year 1984, the production actually increased, compared to the production of 1983-84. As against 33.77 lakh bales, it is 42.33 lakh bales. This

information is there at paragraph 4.6 of the Economic Survey of the West Bengal Government. That being the case, this year it was not a question particularly of shortage. Extreme shortage was there last year; but how is it that this year there is such a concentration ?

Secondly, what is really happening in respect of high prices ? During this year, who were responsible for pushing up the prices of raw jute to such an extent that it went up to between Rs. 800 and Rs. 900 a quintal, when we had been clamouring in earlier years for a price of Rs. 400 at the most for the peasant ? Is it not true that when the peasants had sold this year had gone up to Rs. 400 to Rs. 500 ?

It was the big houses which corner the raw jute stock; and it is they who push up the prices among themselves; and actually the weaker mills suffered because of that evil. What was the Government of India doing at that time ? what was JCI doing at that time ? If it is a question of financial stringency, if it is a question of market, sure this may be a contributory factor, but this is not the decisive factor because I quote the experience of the nationalised jute mills. The nationalised jute mills who were given jute by the JCI are running all right; there is no problem; it is not like that. There are certain management problems. If workers' cooperation is ensured, it will do even better. They are also producing jute goods. What was the JCI doing, what was the Government of India doing, when jute barons were cornering the entire raw jute stock ?

You say in your own statement that you took certain measures by an executive order and all that. I do not know what were actually those measures and what was the result of those measures. We saw a huge raw jute stock being cornered by big industrialists. Where from did they get money ? Surely they got bank advances. What was actually done to prevent cornering of raw jute by big houses ?

Actually, these mills want to reduce the number of shifts so that they can take more work by running only 10-15 shifts. This is the reality. They want the workers to do more work without paying more to the workers, reducing their number. They are trying to introduce nationalisation not without tears as the government committed to

but with great tears. Jute item comes under the central subject. What was the Government of India doing in this context ? Here they have mentioned that the Government of India wants to give a large number of concessions to the jute industry and their type. I charge that the jute industry has created an artificial crisis this year. It not have been like that because the production has not gone down as such. Through this method, they have increased production this very year. Generally 10-12 lakh tonnes of jute is manufactured in the whole of the year.

In December 1984, it was one lakh and seven tonnes. So was it in January 1985. That being the case, the production which the workers have given, is not less. If there is some market trouble, workers are not responsible for that. So this is the creation of jute barons. What was the Ministry doing for canalization of the entire raw jute trade through JCI ? Without that, this problem cannot be solved. In view of this fact, the jute barons have always been looking after their own interest and profit. What would the Government of India do about taking over these jute mills and through that process about the nationalisation of the jute industry.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH : I must make it clear to the hon. member and the House that we share the concern of the House and the workers and the people of West Bengal. We have been taking steps to remedy the situation. This is problem the magnitude of which we are fully aware of and the State Governments have to take certain initiatives.

We have also to make right responses and I would like to assure her that as before we shall not be lagging in coming forward to help the jute industry and the jute workers at the moment. I would not like to reply to her charge with a countercharge but I would like to explain the situation to the hon. Member.

The hon. Member has been referring to production figures of raw jute in West Bengal not the whole of India. For the entire country the production figures are as follows :

1980-81	82 lakh bales
1981-82	74 lakh bales
1982-83	63 lakh bales

1983-84	66 lakh bales
1984-85	73 lakh bales

The availability position is like this : We started this year 1984-85 with a carryover stock of 9.50 lakh bales. The estimated production this year is 73 lakh bales, and imports are envisaged at 3 lakh bales this year. This makes a total of 85.50 lakhs. The requirement for mill consumption is 75 lakh bales and for rural consumption it is 4 lakh bales, which makes a total of 79 lakh bales, which really means that for the next season the carryover stock would be 50 lakh bales which is roughly one month's requirement of the mills. So, the critical shortage is only of 3 to 4 lakh bales this year. We are looking into the question, not from the angle whether it is the CPM Government that is functioning in West Bengal or whether it is the Congress Government that functioning. We look at it from the angle that we are deeply involved in the welfare of the people of West Bengal and we wanted to assure them that the Government of India would take every step to see that corrective measures are undertaken in time.

The reasons for this situation are not only just shortage of or availability of jute. It is also due to increase in jute prices because of so many factors. The 1980-81 crop was a good crop, but for the last four years we are faced with adverse weather conditions and jute production was not of the required level. Flooding took place in Bangladesh also and there is a global shortage of raw jute in the year 1984-85. It is because of this that jute prices have leapt up and we feel that the hon. Member was referring to cornering of stocks by the big houses. Not that we are not aware of this situation. We have undertaken, as I have tried to explain, regulatory measures so that jute mills are required to reduce their stocks and orders were passed on 17-10-1984, later on 1-4-1985 to reduce their stocks from six weeks to five weeks; and to four weeks. But the workers themselves have suggested at the tripartite meeting that there might be some stock lying hoarded with some of the big farmers. That may be the situation or one of the reasons that prices have gone up so high. The support price has been only Rs. 275 per quintal. But prices went up in January to Rs. 1000 per quintal. There is a declining trend during the last two months.

But it is still as high as Rs. 840 or something like that.

So far as the functioning of JCI is concerned, it is saddled with the responsibility of ensuring support price to the farmers. This year the situation was just opposite. The support price was Rs. 275 while the market prices were two to three times higher than the support price. The JCI entered into the market. They made some purchases on behalf of certain organisations.

12.36 hrs.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker in the Chair]

But its main role in this sector to ensure support price to the farmers was not called for. Even this year JCI has not much role to play except when certain proposals come up. I would like to tell the hon. Member that we have undertaken certain measures like regulating stock holdings of the jute mills to effect more equitable distribution of raw jute. Then we have imported raw jute. Government has authorised import of five lakh bales of raw jute of which 2.9 lakh bales have contracted from Bangla Desh. Out of this 1.6 lakh bales have already arrived. We have also decided to release one lakh bales of jute from the mill sector of NJMC to the weak or closed units so that they may start functioning. We have also taken certain steps to see that demand is stimulated and the jute mills start functioning. We consider that the next season is going to be much better for the jute industry and the jute growers. For the last two months the prices have shown a declining trend. We expect that this would be further strengthened. Since the first consignment of raw jute from Bangla Desh would start arriving in Calcutta by June we envisage that we have only two more months to tide over. The situation might ease after that. We also expect that production next year would be much better and prices will certainly come down. So with the measures we have adopted like import of raw jute, regulation of stock holdings, release of one lakh bales of raw jute from the stocks of the Government mills and the expected decline in prices and expected rise in availability of raw jute during the next season, we think that after two months the situation would be much better and in the coming months the prices also will decline.

[Translation]

SHRI LALIT MAKEN (South Delhi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this problem, which has rendered one lakh workers jobless is a very serious problem. I want that all the Members of the House, whether they belong to the ruling party or the Opposition, should take this matter seriously. So far as shortage of jute is concerned, I think that it is mainly man-made. The owners of these jute mills deliberately create shortage of jute and create such conditions in which mills could hardly be operated for four or six months and would remain closed for 6 months in a year. Not only that, they also resort to hoarding of jute goods or jute products and whenever there is shortage of jute products, they earn maximum profits by selling their hoarded jute products at high prices. Also, the profits to the tune of lakhs and crores of rupees earned through jute mills is being diverted to other factories and the money is not being utilised for modernizing jute mills and other such purposes.

Of all the jute mills in West Bengal, four are being run under the Government's control and the rest of the mills are being run by private mill-owners. The jute mills under the Government's control are being run properly, but the condition of the mills under private mill-owners is not satisfactory. Now the question arises what is the reason why the mills under the Government's control are operating properly these mills are not closed. There is no shortage of jute goods, but in the private jute mills, there is shortage of jute goods and they work only for 4 or 6 months in a year. The main reason for this situation is that the mill-owners deliberately create artificial shortage so that jute goods and jute products could be hoarded so as to earn maximum profit by selling the hoarded stock at the highest price at the time of shortage and also by avoiding the payment of wages to the workers during the closure period.

The question of equitable distribution of jute was also raised here. It has also been mentioned in the statement of the hon. Minister that the international and domestic market for jute is also being developed. I would like to say in this connection that there is no marketing problem before the jute industry at present. The problem of

marketing would arise only when jute would be available with us. When raw jute is not available and jute goods are not available in the market, the problem of marketing does not arise. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the biggest problem before the jute industry is the steep rise in the prices of raw jute. The increase in the prices of raw jute last year was 200 per cent and according to the figures of the last year, consequent on 200 per cent increase in the prices of raw jute, the prices of jute goods increased by 80 per cent. As a result, nobody is prepared to purchase jute goods in the market today. I am sure if prices are reduced, there will be no problem of marketing.

The hon. Minister has mentioned in his statement that certain steps would be taken. I would urge him to fix the prices of raw jute, in the first instance, so that the prices of raw jute and jute goods could be stabilised. So long as the Government do not fix the prices of raw jute, the shortage would persist in the market and the capitalists would hoard it and earn huge profits by selling it at the time of shortage. Due to increase in the prices of jute goods, people prefer to purchase synthetic goods. If you compare the prices of synthetic goods and jute goods, you would find that the prices of jute goods are 40 per cent higher than those of the synthetic goods. It is a matter of great regret that despite all this. High Density Polypropylene worth Rs. 100 crores is being imported, which we do not require. Nobody is prepared to purchase jute products due to lower price of synthetic products which are prepared by using High Density Polypropylene, because the prices of jute products are 40 per cent higher. I, therefore, demand that Government should stop the import of High Density Polypropylene worth Rs. 100 crores and synthetic production should be produced by using the H. D. P. produced within the country so that it would not adversely affect jute products and the consumption of the jute products in the market could be increased.

I would also suggest that with a view to reduce the prices, not only should the prices be fixed, but the excise duty on jute products should also be abolished. If the prices are reduced, all the problems would automatically be solved.

The Finance Minister had announced

in his Budget speech that the bad management would be thrown out. I want to know how many such managements have been thrown out? I would also like to know the number of companies whose net worth after deduction of arrears is zero. Would the management of such companies be thrown out and are Government prepared to nationalize such companies? Are Government prepared to take over the three companies which are lying closed for the last three years?

It is quite necessary to lay down as to how much of the imported raw jute would be used in the domestic market and how much in the international market.

Our report of jute goods in the international market has been going down. The report of jute goods, which was 3,26,000 tonnes in 1982-83, had gone down to 2,64,000 tonnes in 1983-84. The main reason for this is that the imported jute is sold in the domestic market and is not used for the manufacture of jute goods. I would, therefore, urge the hon. Minister that the quota for this purpose be fixed.

Now I would like to ask two or three questions. First of all, I would like to know the number of companies where net worth after deduction of arrears is zero. Would Government nationalize the companies which have been lying closed for the last many years and which have been mentioned by the Minister in his statement?

Secondly, will the Minister fix the prices of raw jute and fix the quota of raw jute for the domestic and the international markets?

I had just now referred to the import of Polypropylene worth Rs. 100 crores. Will the hon. Minister assure us that its import would be stopped so that it will not have any adverse effect on our domestic market?

In the end, I would like to know whether it is a fact that the five Government mills are running properly and there is no shortage, whereas the private mills have been closed down? What are you doing about man-made shortages?

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member

has mentioned many things here. I do not consider it necessary to refer to all of them, because this matter is limited to the jute mills in West Bengal only and we are discussing the immediate issues which have emerged before us. To describe the financial condition of so many companies would be a very lengthy statement.

SHRI LALIT MAKEN : I have asked about West Bengal.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH : It is not possible to give the details here.

AN HON. MEMBER : It is confidential?

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH : It is not confidential, but the entire information is not available here and I do not know if it is available in the Department also. There is no question of secrecy in it. The hon. Member has presented a correct picture in the House. Until the prices of jute are stabilised, the economy of this industry would remain unstable. Any industry, which does not have definite and assured supply of raw materials and is not sure about prices and the availability of raw materials and other resources, would always face difficulty.

It has been said that the prices which prevailed in the market were a bit higher than the support price, but the price had gone very high due to certain reasons and it had gone higher than Rs. 1000. The mills did not corner any stock and if these mills had cornered any stock, we would have been informed of it and in that case, we would have forced them.

(Interruptions)

Even if they had kept it at other places, it would have been under their control. If jute had been available with them, it would have been in their own interest to use it and to run the mills. But the greatest bundle, as reported by them, is the non-availability of jute and the prices in the market are so high that goods produced with such a costly jute could not be sold at a reasonable price.

The Government mills are operating because these mills have maintained sufficient buffer stock in time and the Government mills will not have any difficulty in

their operation. This is the situation. The surplus stock with Government mills is one lakh bales which is more than their requirement. Government have decided to sell that stock to the weak mills or the closed mills and this decision would be implemented within one or two days.

So far as the question of regulating H. D. P. is concerned, a steering committee is considering this question as to how long would it be necessary to utilise it here and whether any limit should be fixed for this purpose so far as allocation and import of jute is concerned, it is also utilised for the production of jute products. As I have already said, efforts are being made to increase the production of jute.

An the hon. Member just now intervened to ask a question. The question is not one of allowing this situation to continue for the next two months. As I have said, during the next two months, by regulating jute stock and by making available more jute, efforts would be made to restart the mills. We hope that the West Bengal Government would be able to find out a solution by having consultations with the representatives of the mills and the workers.

I had mentioned two months, because if anybody is holding stock in the hope that the price would increase further and then the stock could be sold, I think it necessary to make it clear to them that in the coming days the prices would go down due to various reasons. It is, therefore, in their interest also that if anybody is holding jute stock, it should be brought into the market so that the mills could have an opportunity to utilise it.

SHRI LALIT MAKEN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to ask a very important question. I am speaking about West Bengal only and not about the entire country. It is a matter of principle, you have figures with you or not, as a matter of principle I want to know if you would take over these three mills which have been closed and other mills, whose net worth is zero after deduction of arrears ?

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH : Take-over can not be resorted to on this basis alone. The first basis necessary for take-over is the viability of the unit and whether it could be operated or not. It has

to be examined from various points of view and if any such question is raised by the State Government, the Government of India would consider the issue.

[English]

SHRI LALIT MAKEN : Sir, it is a very simple question. The Finance Minister had made a statement when he was presenting the Budget that any management which was bad management would be thrown out. I want to know, in what manner the bad management would be thrown out. When its net worth is zero, is it not a bad management ? How are you throwing them out ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You asked the question, whether the Government is interested to take over that mill or not. For that, the Minister has replied that he has to consider many factors.

SHRI LALIT MAKEN : If the Government is not intending to take over the mill, then in what manner is the Government going to over-throw the management.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : For that, he has already replied.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Barishat) : He has asked a relevant question.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You can put the same question in your speech.

SHRI LALIT MAKEN : Let him reply. It is a very important question. Mr. Deputy Speaker, what is the use of discussing it in the calling-attention, if the reply is not given ? This is the most important question which has been left unreplyed. I will make a request to the Minister to reply to this question because the Finance Minister has made a statement and has already made a commitment that the bad management would be thrown out. My question is, if you are not going to take over the mill or take over the management, then in what manner are you going to throw out the management ?

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH : I make it amply clear. This is not specifically relating to these jute mills. But the principle is this. If an undertaking is closed just because of the factor of mis-management, then the Government would

intervene and take action. But as explained to you, this cannot be just one factor leading to such a situation.

SHRI LALIT MAKEN : You are not going on the basis of facts. I am asking the question, on the basis of principle. My question is very simple.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH : The answer is very simple. The answer is equally simple. Wherever a single factor of mismanagement will be there, the Government would certainly consider intervention. But if there are many factors, the Government will take into consideration all the factors leading to such a situation. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat) : From the overall attitude of the Government, it seems to me—I would like the Minister to either confirm or deny what I am saying—that in keeping with the present fashionable talk about Calcutta being a dying city, do you consider the jute industry to be a dying industry also? I would like to know what is the view of the Government? The whole attitude is not at all one which shows any sign of urgency to get these closed mills reopened. No concrete measure has been taken or is being suggested now as to how these mills which have been closed down are to be re-started, reopened and brought back into production.

The hon. Minister while replying a little while ago said that, it is not within their knowledge that any of the big companies or mills hoard stocks of jutes. I think, you ought to know that anybody who knows anything about the jute industry over the past years, knows that they do not hold their stocks in the mill godowns. The stocks are held outside the mills and they are held in *banami* and false names.

13.00 hrs.

So, you are not in a position to identify this at all.

I can tell you that one of your nationalised mills which was the biggest jute mill not only in India but in the whole of Asia, that is, the National Jute Mill, when it was in private hands, at that time they were once given a loan of about Rs. 30 lakhs or Rs. 40 lakhs by the State Bank of India against the security claimed by them of a certain amount

of raw jute lying in their stocks, in their godowns. After the loan had been sanctioned it was discovered that there was no stock lying in the godowns at all. Yet the State Bank of India gave them about Rs. 30 lakhs or Rs. 40 lakhs against that.

So, I am saying that the machinery of the Government and the will of the Government to ascertain actually the various types of malpractices which go on in the jute industry do not exist at all. Neither the machinery nor the will exists at all over the years. If they consider this to be a dying industry and let it die peacefully, that is a different matter.

I am really avazed that after all these prolonged closures, nobody on behalf of the Central Government has thought is necessary even today to call a meeting a high level conference either in Delhi or in Calcutta, where the State Government, the jute mill owners and the representatives of workers working in those mills are called together to try to devise through a discussion some early solution for this crisis. Nobody is bothering; nobody is taking the initiative.

I am thankful to him that he at least has not trotted out that excuse that due to labour troubles these mills have closed down. He at least did not say that. The labour disputes have nothing to do with these closures at all. As Mrs. Geeta Mukherjee correctly pointed out, it is a strange thing that the majority of mills have closed down only after the Lok Sabha elections, that is, in January, February and March. The mills closed down are: Agarpara Co., Delta, Shree Ambica, Empire, New Central (Albion), Kanaknarrab, Fort William, Eastern Mfg. Co., Victoria, New Central (Lothian), Shri Hanuman and Gondalpara. All these mills have closed down only after the Lok Sabha elections were over.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : A massive mandate.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Why was it so? I will tell you why. It is because these big business houses feel that the present new Government—it has been confirmed now by the Budget—is interested in giving the private sector more benefits, more concessions and a push. One object of closing down the mills is to use this as a sort of pressure on the Government also to get more concessions,

more subsidy for export and more tax relief and, incidentally, to reduce the working force and to make fewer workers to do more work.

Now, if the Government is really interested in finding out what is going on, how is it that to Minister of Commerce, no Minister of the Central Government, cared to go to Calcutta even once. It is less than 2 hours flight from here. You can go there and call the State Government, the IJMA and the representatives of workers, sit together and try to devise not some means of re-opening the mills. You have just not bothered about it. Therefore, I say, you consider it to be a dying industry, though it is one of the major exporting industries and one of the major foreign exchange earning industries. It was always so in the Past. You now want to call it as a dying industry. Remember that neither the owners are Bengalis nor the majority of workers are Bengalis. We are not pleading any case from a narrow chauvinistic point of view...

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH : Why are you obsessed with that ?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I am not obsessed with that. You do not bother about those poor landless people from the eastern districts of U.P. and Bihar who have got no other means of livelihood except to go to work in jute mills in West Bengal as *badli* workers...

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH : We love Bengalis much more than anybody else.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Please show your love a little instead of talking about dying city and dying industry.

PROF. MADHU DANAVATE : You will have to pay for that love.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Now, I come to my question. What has been said already is enough to prove that there is not at present an equitable distribution of raw jute. It is proved by three things, and one of them is the statement itself which refers at page 2 to the necessity to bring about more equitable distribution of raw jute particularly among weaker mills. That means that at present there is not an equitable distribution.

In the recent annual meeting of the

Indian Jute Mills Association which was held last month in Calcutta, the Chairman Mr. K. K. Bajoreia is quoted as having said :

"He urged the Government should evolve a Scheme to consume the available stocks of raw jute on an equitable basis."

So, even the Chairman of the IJMA is also admitting that there is no equitable distribution of the raw jute stocks.

The hon. Minister has said that there is so much surplus raw jute stock with the nationalised mills that they are even in a position now to give one lakh bales out of that to the weaker mills.

What is the proof ? It proves what I am saying that some mills have got stocks. We need not go into the question of how they got them and how they cornered them.

There are a number of other mills which are described as weaker mills and which are in a very difficult position.

Whose job is it to regulate the supply of raw jute ? I want to know what is your Jute Commissioner doing in Calcutta. Your Jute Commissioner, the Jute Corporation of India and your Ministry of Commerce are the authorities which are responsible for seeing that there is some regulated supply and stock of raw jute which can be equitably shared between all the mills. Why have you not done it ? You have totally failed in this task. Now you are saying that you are very much concerned and all that. All these years we used to hear from the jute mill-owners—you will excuse me I have been associated in one way or the other with this industry for the last 30 years—always we used to hear about competition from Bangladesh, competition from substitute fabrics, substitute material and synthetic material. This was the main problem, according to the mill-owners. This is the first time after so many years that we are told of scarcity of raw jute and high price of raw jute has created a crisis. No doubt, there is high price of jute this year.

I will tell you why there has been so much high price this year. Even after the jute had passed out of the hands of the peasants, out of the hands of the farmers, into the hands of the middlemen, the price went up still higher. Anybody who knows

anything about the jute trade and industry knows that it is one of the most speculative businesses in the world. Terrific speculation takes place. The Fatka market, the futures market in this industry and trade, is absolutely unregulated and uncontrolled. And that is why prices have pushed up to speculative heights by the people who corner these stocks.

Over the past few years, raw jute prices have been depressed. They are always depressed. At the time when the crop comes, the mill-owners say "We are not going to buy." The prices fall. And then they buy stocks at a depressed rate from the peasants and over the years the peasants have begun to feel that now it is better we divert some of our land to other crops. Instead of growing jute, why not we grow paddy and other commercial crops? It is better than growing raw jute crops. It is because there is no mechanism by which any minimum price can be ensured. It is also a contributory cause.

Therefore, I would like to say that now something has to be done on urgent footing. These mills have got to be opened. 60-70,000 people with their families cannot be left to starve on the streets like this. Please bestir yourself a bit and come to Calcutta. If you are afraid to go to Calcutta, then call all concerned people here. We are quite prepared to come and give you our suggestions and our advice on what is to be done.

The NJMC nationalised mills have also bought jute at the same price. How did they manage it? They did not buy jute at any lower price or cheaper price. They have bought in this prevailing market. The JCI has bought at prevailing market and given them the jute and they are managing all right. It is these private owners who deliberately create artificial conditions which, in the long run, will profit them or help them to get more concessions out of the Government. You have gone to the extent of allowing them to share their losses with the S.T.C. on carpet-backing when they make loss, 50 per cent of the loss is to be borne by the State Trading Corporation of India. What greater benefit or facility could you give to any group of industrialists, I do not know. Still they are not satisfied.

May I also ask why all these years they have not taken advantage of the loans which were offered to them at very concessional

rates for modernisation? Always we are told that this industry must be modernised. Who prevented them from doing it? The JDBI was offering them loans year after year at concessional rates for modernisation purposes. But these mill-owners never took those loans, never took advantage of those loans, because it pays them more to carry on with their old and ancient machinery, make profits and take those profits out of the State and invest them in other enterprises in other places. These jute mills have started cement units, chemical units and so many other units outside West Bengal, draining these mills dry. No wonder, Mr. Maken is saying repeatedly that there are a number of mills whose net worth has gone down to zero. We cannot leave this where it is because, after all, the hon. Finance Minister has won much applause in the country by making such a bold statement that the present managements of those companies whose net worth is found to have gone down to zero will not be allowed to handle those units any more and that they will be changed. That is why, he has legitimately been asking as to what you propose to do about them. I can give you a list of those mills whose net worth has gone down to either zero or 50 per cent. If that has gone down to 50 per cent, the Finance Minister says, they have to get a fresh mandate from the Board of shareholders. But those whose net worth has gone down absolutely to zero, why are you allowing them to carry on? Why don't you appoint an immediate inquiry and have these managements turned out from here? Then you have to decide where you will get the new management from or whether you will incorporate them in the NJMC or what you will do. But certainly they cannot be allowed to go on like this playing ducks and drakes with this industry.

I do not want to take up more time. Some concrete assurance must be given to the House as to what steps they are going to take within the next few weeks to see that these mills are opened, are restarted. For that, are they willing to convene a conference of all the concerned interests, sit together, put their heads together and devise some way-out or are they just going to allow things to go on in this way, drifting away? What is the position, I want to know.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH :
Sir, we do not consider, as I explained a few

minutes earlier, that the jute industry is a dying industry. Repeated references to this would made me wonder whether the particular political party is still seized with the death-wish; they are all the time referring to the word 'dying'. We do not consider it a dying industry.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Say it with some conviction.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH : I have just now explained that the situation, even as it is today, is going to improve, and for the next two-three months we are taking these steps to relieve the situation. He has referred to so many things about which there is not much dispute. I fully agree, as I explained, as I admitted, there is inequitable distribution of jute stocks between the different mills. The NJMC mills will be able to work throughout the season without any hindrance. In fact, they have been able to off-load something to relieve the present closed-mills-condition and give them raw jute for their consumption. I would like to explain that, even earlier, we took certain steps to regulate the jute stocks under the Jute Control and Licensing Order, 1961.

The order issued by the Jute Commissioner on 17-10-84 directed the mills to reduce their stocks to 6 weeks' consumption by 31-12-84. Subsequently, orders have been issued on 1-4-85 advising the jute mills to limit their stocks to 5 weeks' consumption requirements by 30-4-85 and 4 weeks' consumption requirements by 31-5-85.

Regarding stocks lying benami or otherwise with either the big farmers or the jute mills, the State Government have declared jute as an essential commodity under the Essential Commodities Act and we hope that the State Government would take steps to unearth those stocks and if necessary, the Jute Corporation of India shall be able to intervene and help them in making purchases of the unearthed stocks at the moment. But I also feel that all these steps that we have taken are not fully adequate to meet the situation. They may [relieve the pressure a bit but under the present circumstances the coming three months are going to be months of distress for the workers and those engaged in the jute industry. So I fully agree and we are prepared to take the initiative in the matter and discuss with the representatives

of the State Governments, the Association and the Workers.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Why have you not done it all this time ?

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH : I must tell you. There is no question of throwing blame. In fact I must tell you. That is the issue. I would like to make it very clear that the State Government convened a tripartite conference on 26-2-85, but they did not do anything on that. They did not take any follow up measures there after and did not evolve any package of measures to ease the present situation.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Then why didn't you step in ?

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH : This is a matter primarily concerned with the State Government because it relates to so many workers engaged in West Bengal. So the State Government had to take the initiative. But since they have not taken the initiative in the matter in an adequate measure ...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : What initiative did you take ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I do not want anybody to interfere. Let the Minister reply. I request the members to be silent.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : The jute mill-owners are not at all listening either to the State Government or the united demands of INTUC, CITU, AITUC, etc.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH : I must explain to the hon. Lady Member. You have also referred to hoarded stocks. Mr. Gupta also referred to hoarded stocks. What steps did the State Government take to unearth those stocks ? They did not move in the matter and we have not received any reports from them. On many other points we have not received any concrete proposal from the State Government. But this is not an occasion where we want to blame either the State Government or some other organisation. We have to come forward to help the workers and the people in this industry. So I happily agree with the suggestion that we shall try to convene a meeting with the representatives of the State Government, the Association and the workers and try to see if any other measure can be agreed upon by

all of them so that necessary action can be taken in time to fulfil our promise of giving all help to the workers of West Bengal.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapore) : Convene it soon.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore) : Sir, I fully agree with my hon. friend, Shri Indrajit Gupta, that this industry is a great foreign exchange earner. You will be surprised to know that the foreign exchange earnings of jute industry are getting reduced day by day. In 1978-79 the foreign exchange earned was to the tune of Rs. 337.4 crores whereas in 1983-84 it came down to Rs. 163.7 crores and in 1984 it may be even less than that. In this industry about 40 lakh families including farmers and about 2.5 lakh labour families are engaged. So, this is a very burning problem before us and we have to find an amicable solution to this problem, otherwise this huge mass of people will be put to lot of difficulties.

Shri Indrajit Gupta has said that after Lok Sabha elections all these mills were closed to obtain some facilities or concessions etc from the new Government. I fully disagree with him. I even contradict him. One of the most important reason is that in the Tandon Committee report it has been laid down that the credit for keeping stocks should be for a minimum of 10 weeks but because of credit stringency the mills are holding stocks only for a fortnight or even less than that. Further the present credit limit was fixed in the year 1982-83 when the price of raw jute was only Rs. 240 per quintal whereas now the price has gone up to Rs. 900 to Rs. 1000 per quintal. That is one of the most important reasons why many small industries who are dealing in jute have been compelled to close down their industry apart from labour disputes and other reasons.

Sir, another reason for closure of these mills is stiff competition and low grade of fibre. India was the biggest jute exporting country to Japan but the other day the Japanese have told us that they will not import jute products from our country because of higher rate and low grade. I shall give some figures. They are importing more products from Bangladesh and Thailand than India. In 1983 Japan had imported about 5040 MT of jute products from Bangladesh whereas in 1984 they have increased it to

13,200 MT. Similarly, in case of Thailand the figures are that in 1983 they had imported 2218 MT whereas in 1984 they have increased it to 2384 MT.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You put only questions because we have already discussed at length, You put only questions which you want him to reply.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Is it one of the reasons for closure of the mills ? Is it because of high competition and low grade ? Is it due to poor quality and less durability of jute products of our country that packagings of cement and fertilizers in synthetic bags are available at lower cost; is it one of the reasons why the price of gunny bags etc, is going down day by day ? Is it one of the reasons why others are not agreeing to procure jute products from us ? If so, what is the Government's reaction ? What action do they propose to take so that necessary subsidy may be granted to them for this purpose ? I must congratulate the Government that, they have abolished export duty on carpet. Even than, Indian carpets are not able to compete in international market. What is the Government's reaction on this issue also ?

Sir, a few months back, China has announced financial assistance of 50,000 U.S. Dollars for improvement of technology, for enforcement of quality control, for carrying out of research and development activities resulting in improvement of productivity and quality. Now my question is this. What action has the Government of India taken to get this finance from China ? The Jute Mills Association has decided to buy machinery from China to have knowledge about know-how, about improved technologies, etc. What is the Government's action on this issue ? The survival of jute industry depends upon modernisation of jute mills. The credit limit of jute mills should be increased in consideration of the prices of raw jute. They have to keep the stocks to run the industry for at least 2 months. The strategy for export of jute goods need to be fixed, which will be helpful to the jute mills. The STC, as the Minister has stated, were asked to assist in the export of carpets but unless the STC comes to the rescue of all exportable goods these mills cannot survive. The Minister, in his statement, has told us that Government have also arranged for the import of raw

jute from abroad. The import of raw jute is costing Rs. 740 per quintal; indigenous production is costing Rs. 900 to Rs. 1,000 per quintal. If we encourage the import of raw jute, the farmers who are engaged in jute growing may not be encouraged to grow more jute. So, our country will not become self-sufficient in raw jute. So, in view of all these considerations, what is the reaction of the Government? May I know whether the closure of jute mills is due to frequent strikes in the Calcutta ports? These strikes are going on very frequently, they come within a month, within a week and so on. May I know whether that is one of the reasons?

The hon. Minister has already stated in his statement that the Labour Minister of West Bengal Government had a tripartite meeting on 26th February 1985. But what is the outcome of that meeting? May I know from the hon. Minister the outcome of this meeting? The other day, the hon. Labour Minister had stated in the Rajya Sabha that they cannot close down the jute mills without the knowledge of the Government. But before closing the mills, may I know from the hon. Minister whether they have taken permission or have they given any information to the Labour Ministry for the closure of the mills? In case they have not done so, what is the action to be taken against them for not informing the Union Government? These are the questions which may kindly be replied to by the hon. Minister.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH : There is absolutely no doubt that jute industry occupies a very significant position in our national economy, particularly in the Eastern region. There are some 40 lakh families of jute growers and 2.50 lakh industrial workers are sustained by this industry. This is very much in our view and we have taken steps to see that the crisis is adequately met. The hon. Member has raised so many valid points and given so much information to which no reply is needed. I am thankful to him for those points.

As for imports, we have been contemplating this year which is a one-time operation, that imports shall have to be undertaken when there is shortage of raw material in any industry or raw jute here and in view of this situation, we took a decision to import

raw jute from abroad. This will not and cannot affect the local production. In fact, the prices are so high that local production of raw jute is going to get a good boost in the coming year.

As for the outcome of the tripartite meeting held by the Labour Minister of West Bengal Government on 26-2-1985, I have already explained that no concrete decision emerged out of that meeting and the State Government found itself unable to take any effective concrete measure to meet the situation. I have already explained that the Government of India have undertaken certain measures like evaluation of stock holdings, imports of raw jute from Bangladesh and the release of raw jute from the NJMC mill stocks which would go to some extent to relieve the situation. But we shall engage ourselves and consider what other measures can be undertaken with the consent of all, the groups and the parties involved in the industry so that something can be done effectively to ease the situation in the coming months.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER (Ghazipur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, In my view, this Calling Attention notice should have been addressed to the Labour Ministry, because the main reason for the closure of mills, which has been mentioned in the statement, is industrial dispute.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat) : Where has it been mentioned?

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : If you have not read the statement, you please go through it first. It has been mentioned therein that the reason for the closure of jute mills is the industrial dispute.....(*Interruptions*).

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : It is the mill owners who have said so...

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : The mill-owners might have said, but Government say that there is industrial dispute. That is the reason. I think that the first and the foremost reason for it is what has been mentioned in the statement. Government have said that the first reason is industrial dispute and the second reason is less production of jute and rise in the prices of jute. All these things

have been discussed here just now, but I would like to say that if all the jute mills there have been closed down due to industrial dispute, the entire responsibility lies in the West Bengal Government and effort, have been made to side track this responsibility by both the sides in a nice way. One side is interested in disowning its responsibility and on the other side, I think our Minister is taking too much responsibility. On himself and relieving the West Bengal Government of their responsibility. When the entire matter pertains to industrial dispute, then why and how is he owning the responsibility? Even if you increase the availability of jute or take all those measures which you have mentioned for the promotion of the jute industry, would the strike in the jute mills be called off? Would you take the responsibility of ending the strike there, because the main reason of the strike is industrial dispute?

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : There is no strike, there is lock-out...

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : I am sorry. I wanted to refer to the lock-out and not the strike. How is it that State Government allowed the industrialists to declare a lock-out?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : No permission is required for declaring a lock-out...

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : Is there any such law...

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : It is not in the law, and laws have been framed by you...

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : If there was no provision in the law, why did you not take action? Have the West Bengal Government even sent any proposal to the Central Government recommending nationalisation of jute mills?

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Wonderful!

[*English*]

The West Bengal Legislative Assembly has several times unanimously passed this resolution and forwarded it to the Central Government.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Three times.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : If the West Bengal Government have sent a proposal to the Central Government asking it to nationalise all the jute mills, you should inform the House about such a proposal. I would like to know when such a proposal was received and what your reaction there to is? What action was taken by you after the declaration of lock-out?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this matter is entirely related to industrial dispute and the West Bengal Government have totally failed to solve this problem. The West Bengal Government are a very strange Government. On the one hand, the State Government the members incite the workers to go on strike and call Bengal Bandh and stop trains, and on the other hand, it they ask the industrialists to declare lock-outs and create an atmosphere for the declaration of lock-outs.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Your Government also is a very competent Government...

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : Ours is, of course, a competent Government, because the people have elected. People have sent us here.

13.35 hrs.

[*Mr. Vakkom Purushothaman in the Chair*]

I do not want to say anything else except that if there jute mills are nationalised, the West Bengal Government would fall... (*Interruptions*)... the Government would be thrown out. It has to be seen now that cannot deceived the people of West Bengal. The people of Bengal cannot be deceived for long. Elections are at hand and the fraud being perpetrated by them against the people will be exposed. I am surprised to know how efficiently you are owning this responsibility. The fact is that the Government of West Bengal have totally failed in this matter.

I remember when the textile workers had gone on strike in Bombay, the entire blame was thrust upon us and the Maharashtra Government by Shri Indrajit Gupta and others. But now when lock-out has been declared and the mills have been closed down in Bengal, we are being blamed and not the West Bengal Government.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : We did not say so. We said that it should be solved through mutual consultations.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : It should be settled there.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Let us go there. The persons rendered unemployed include persons from Ghazipur also.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : Please tell them that I am very much concerned about them.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am very much concerned about them. It is a question of the livelihood of 60,000 of 65,000 people and the West Bengal Government are not serious about it. I intend go there and tell them this thing. You need not tell them. I would myself go there and tell them. The question is how it should be settled.

Our hon. Minister has agreed to go there. I thank him that he has agreed to your proposal. He would call their representatives and other interested people, whether they are in Delhi and Calcutta and have consultations with them, but the most important thing is to reopen these mills and how soon these people numbering 60 or 65 thousand could be re-employed. No clear reply has been given as to what is being done for them.

In my view, the permanent solution of this problem is the nationalisation of these jute mills. When you are incurring a loss of Rs. 1,20,00,000 in the National Textile Corporation simply to provide employment to the workers and five mills which have been nationalised are running properly, then there mills could also be operated properly.

The Finance Minister is reported to have said that when assets of these mills would come down to zero, these mills would be taken over and the management of these companies would be removed and that is the policy of the Government. To say that a decision would be taken in the totality of things is not clear to me. Government should take a decision to nationalise these mills.

You can also ask the West Bengal Government to find a solution to the industrial dispute. You should take some action, if the West Bengal Government are unable to find a solution.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please wind up now.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : I have taken very little time, Sir. The previous speakers have taken so much of time. You are not doing justice to me. You just sat on the Chair and started ringing the bell. It is not fair, Sir.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Yes. I sympathise with you.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Okay. Please conclude now.

[Translation]

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is a question of the livelihood of 60,000 to 65,000 thousand people. I again say that it should not be brushed aside after a discussion on it. Many questions were asked and the reply was that it should be nationalised. I want to know when the West Bengal Government requested you to nationalise these mills and what your reaction in regard thereto is? Secondly, when do you propose to re-open these mills, as this matter relates to the livelihood of 60,000 to 65,000 workers?

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Member has raised a number of issues, but in particular, he has sought information about the role of the West Bengal Government in the matter. I have already stated that the Labour Minister of West Bengal had called a tripartite meeting on 26th February, 1985 in which this issue was discussed. The representatives of the Association were of the view that there should be a 5-day week because there was no stock of jute. The representatives of the workers were of the view that the argument of shortage of jute was baseless. According to them Jute is available and it has been hoarded by big farmers and some mill-owners, which should be brought into the market. But no consensus emerged at that meeting. After that, we could not take any step as a result of which the situation became more serious during the last two months. So far as the question of bringing out the stock or giving some concrete suggestion is concerned, no proposal was received by the Central Government from the

West Bengal Government. We did not receive any proposal for nationalisation after declaration of the lock-out. Earlier, on 25-6-83, a Resolution was passed in the West Bengal Legislative Assembly. No proposal was received from the West Bengal Government in the context of the present situation.

I have made it clear that it is not the approach of the Government of India to this question to see how far the West Bengal Government have discharged their duty. I feel it is the responsibility of all of us to find a solution to this problem.

The hon. Member has suggested nationalisation. As I have said earlier also, there are different aspects of the problem and I do not consider myself competent to express my views off-hand. Whether, the present calling Attention Motion relates to the immediate aspect of the situation. Its long-term aspect also deserves attention. Government have that aspect also under consideration and would finalise their viewpoint before formulating their jute policy so that this industry may become viable in the years to come and make progress. But the immediate problem before us has to be tackled first. That is why I had agreed that if with the initiative of the Government of India, the problem could be solved, I am ready to take the initiative.

I want to assure this House, the workers engaged in this industry and the people of West Bengal that I do not view this problem as relating to Bihar workers, Ghazipur workers or Bengal workers. I consider it my responsibility to help all the workers and we shall not spare any efforts to fulfil this responsibility.

13.52 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[*Translation*]

- (i) **Non-payment of wages prescribed under the Minimum Wages Act to Industrial Workers in the Country**

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI (Khalilabad) : Complaints are being received that all the workers working in the industries of the country are not getting their

wages as per the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act and they are being exploited by their employers. In certain industries, 90 per cent of the total workers engaged are still being forced to work as daily wage workers. The facilities provided under the Industrial Act are also not available to them. In this connection, I want to draw the attention of the hon. Labour Minister particularly to the Printing Mill and Sanjay Paper Mill of Khalilabad in district Basti, U.P. where large scale exploitation of workers is going on. I want to submit to the Government that a strict watch should be kept on such anti-worker industries in the country and defaulter industries should be punished.

[*English*]

- (ii) **Drought conditions in Warangal and other districts of Andhra Pradesh and need to provide lift irrigation scheme on Kakatiya Canal**

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY (Hanamkonda) : In Warangal district, Jangaon, Cheryal, Gharipur a part of Suryapettah in Nalgonda district and a part of Karimnagar district, Husnabad and Huzanabad (Bheemvelrapatty) have been affected by a chronic drought condition. People who are living in those areas are not getting even drinking water. Day by day, the above places are becoming a desert.

The only way to solve this problem is by providing lift irrigation scheme on Kakatiya Canal.

Our late Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi also visited the above places in the month of October 1984 to see the drought conditions, and she declared then and there to provide water from Kakatiya Canal, by lift irrigation. She promised to include the scheme in Seventh Five Year Plan.

Hence I request hon. Prime Minister to get the report from State Government and to include it in Seventh Five Year Plan, and to provide sufficient funds to complete the Lift Irrigation Scheme on Kakatiya Canal.

The above scheme is a long-cherished desire of the people, and it will fulfil the last promise of Shrimati Indira Gandhi also.

If the scheme is not taken up, the people who are living in these areas may be engulfed by desert.

- (iii) Need to erect barbed wire fencing along the border of National Tiger Project, Siraska, District Alwar to save Tiger Population

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV (Alwar) : The National Tiger Project, Sirasha, District Alwar, is a prestigious project of our country. A large number of foreigners as well as domestic tourists visit this project throughout the year. But at times the tiger population becomes prey in cruel hands of poachers who stealthily trespass the project area as the boundary is not protected by any wall or barbed-wire fencing.

Also, the wild life constantly goes out of the project area to the neighbouring and adjacent fields of local farmers and cause substantial damage to their crops. Those farmers are thus completely ruined in every season and their children are compelled to live a life of hardship and sometimes of starvation.

I, therefore, urge upon the Union Government to take up the work of erecting barbed-wire fencing along the border of the National Tiger Project, Siraska, District Alwar, Rajasthan State.

- (iv) Need to regularise and make permanent all Causal Labour

DR. A. KALANIDHI (Madras Central) : Casual labourers are being employed in different departments of Government of India and in its undertakings under different names, viz. Extra Dept. Employees, Outsiders, reserved trained pool, casual labourers, Mazdoor, Workcharged Employees, Nominal Muster Roll employees, etc. These employees are working for many years without any hope of permanency and job security. They are being paid Rs. 2 per hour and some are paid on daily basis and some on monthly basis. Totally, they will be earning only Rs. 150 p.m. on an average, which will not be enough even to meet the individual's requirements. Government should not exploit the prevailing unemployment among the youths of our country. I would request the Government of India, as a model employer to order the authorities concerned all over India, to make all casual employees permanent. If necessary, the twenty-point programme can be enlarged and implemented in true spirit.

- (v) Sodium Thiosulphate treatment for de-toxification of Bhopal gas victims as suggested by ICMR

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia) : While ICMR studies have clearly established the efficiency of sodium thiosulphate treatment for detoxification of Bhopal gas victims, till date no efforts are being made to use this treatment in Bhopal. Union Carbide's report indicates that the MIC storage tank temperature was more than 200 C. which is close to the dissociation temperature of MIC for which hydrogen Cyanide Sodium Thiosulphate is textbook treatment. It appears that attempts are being made to minimise the effects of gas poisoning. Along with MIC, other poisonous gases like Hydrogen Cyanide and Carbon Monoxide have been released. In this context immediate efforts should be made to give Sodium Thiosulphate to the gas victims as per guidelines given by ICMR. I would request the Health Minister to make a statement in this regard.

[Translation]

- (vi) Demand for a high-powered T.V. Transmitter at Chittorgarh

PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT (Chittorgarh) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Under Rule 377, I draw the attention of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting towards providing Doordarshan facility to Chittorgarh, Rajasthan. The target of the Government was to cover 70 per cent of the population by television network. Chittorgarh is a historical place of tourist importance but it is not covered by Doordarshan network. The surrounding places like Udaipur, Bhilwara, Kota and Ratlam are covered by television network. Only Chittorgarh has been deprived of this facility. I forcefully urge the Government that a high-powered transmitter be installed on the hills of the famous Chittorgarh Fort so that certain other places of Rajasthan, which are still without this facility may also be covered. You are thinking of installing a high powered transmitter in Rajasthan. I request that the same may be installed at Chittorgarh. This will link with the Doordarshan network, many of the places which are still without Doordarshan facility. For example, with the installation of this transmitter, the Adivasi areas of Pratapgarh,

Dungarpur-Banswara and Mandasaur and Neemuch of Madhya Pradesh will be linked with it. Geographically, this area is a centrally located area in the Udaipur Division. The Government should, therefore, consider this matter.

14.00 hrs.

(vii) **Unsatisfactory working conditions of workers in Mica Processing Factory, Giridih and need to transfer MITCO Headquarters from Patna to Giridih**

SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD (Giridih) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the Giridih area of Bihar, processing of mica is the only industry, but due to lack of attention by the owners and the Government, the condition of the workers has become pitiable. The factory owners do not make the workers permanent. After every three months, either they are re-employed with different names or are replaced by other employees. This is resulting in increase in unemployment. As per the rules, 50 per cent of the outside orders are to be placed with the public undertaking, MITCO, but it too does not make supply against these orders by opening its factory and employing workers. Instead, it supplies only 50 per cent of its orders through those factories. Thus MITCO, contrary to the wishes of the Government, is only serving the purpose of removing unemployment of a few persons only.

MITCO's Head Office should be in Giridih. As per Government rules also the Head Office of any company should be at the place where the work is being done. On this basis also MITCO's Head Office should be in Giridih. This will not only be economical, but the workers too will have an opportunity to present their problems to the officers. I, therefore, request that in public interest and to check the wasteful expenditure of Government money, the aforesaid Head Office should immediately be shifted from Patna to

Demand for Grant 1985-86 in respect of the Ministry of External Affairs submitted to the Vote of Lok Sabha

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant on account voted by the House on 25th March, 1985		Amount of Demand for Grant submitted to the vote of the House	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
1	2	3	4	5	6
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
	Ministry of External Affairs				
	28. Ministry of External Affairs	33,90,92,000	7,11,33,000	1,69,54,62,000	35,56,67,000

Giridih. Also, it should be either decanalised or taken over so that the condition of the workers could be improved.

14.01 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL),
1985-86

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demand No. 28 relating to the Ministry of External Affairs for which eight hours have been allotted.

Hon. Members present in the House whose cut motions to the Demand for Grant have been circulated may, if they desire to move their cut motions, send slips to the Table within 15 minutes indicating the serial numbers of the cut motions they would like to move. Those cut motions only will be treated as moved.

A list showing the serial numbers of cut motions treated as moved will be put up on the Notice Board shortly. In case any member finds any discrepancy in the list he may kindly bring it to the notice of the Officer at the Table without delay.

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 the Consolidated Fund of India to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come to course of payment during the year ending 31st day of March, 1986 in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand No. 28, relating to the Ministry of External Affairs."

SHRI N. V. RATNAM (Tenali) : Mr. Chairman, the foreign policy of India has been inheritedly stable, static from the grandfather to the mother, and from mother to the son. I would like to submit whether we may begin that Jawaharlal Nehru was the father of Panchsheel at the Bandung Conference. That was a strange tale, born to two fathers, to the mother of Peace, the strange fathers being Jawaharlal Nehru and Chou-En-lai who were not friends at a later stage and were sorry for the situation. The same policy was enunciated by our beloved Prime Minister, the late Prime Minister. There were so many occasions where she enunciated the foreign policy. I quote only one or two, to clarify the foreign policy of India, rather than my explaining the thing as it is better to quote her. Just before her tragic assassination she said—I quote from her speech as follows :

“We inhabit a fragmented world, caught in the clash of wills and objectives. The utter mistrust between the militarily strong has gone so deep that even the word ‘peace’ is looked upon as a dangerous trap. But human-kind can survive only if the big powers learn to co-exist. We must help to create an atmosphere conducive to discussions and the will to find solutions. The other divide is between the developed and to developing. For the first time in the human history, we have the technological means to end hunger and want, yet the benefits of all this knowledge reach only a few. Levels of living remain uneven. These are our most urgent concerns. India has been working to bring closer together what are called East and West, South and North.”

And this policy was enunciated by her.

On 22 may, 1984 together with the Heads of Government of State of Argentina, Greece, Mexico, Sweden and Tenzania, it was stated :

“As leaders of nations, member-States of the United Nations, we have a commitment to take constructive action towards halting and reversing the nuclear arms race. The people we represent are no less threatened by nuclear war than the citizens of the nuclear weapon states. It is primarily the responsibility of the nuclear weapon states to prevent a

nuclear catastrophe but this problem is too important to be left to these states alone.”

Immediately on assuming office, our beloved Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, reiterated his commitment to the basic approach and principles of foreign policy like this :

“We have always believed in working for peace. Our policy is to be friends with all countries on the basis of reciprocity and mutual benefit. Our commitment to non-alignment and new economic order based on justice, equality and mutual cooperation is unshakable. This means a total dedication to the twin causes of peace and development. We also believe in safeguarding the independence of states and upholding the principles of non-interference and non-intervention.”

These are two major principles of *Panchsheel*.

The Heads of the six nations decided to meet in January 1985. They did meet and discuss various means for the follow-up measures. I am glad to say that this was presided over by no other person than our Prime Minister himself. An important follow-up decision was taken to form a Committee to negotiate and convince the big powers towards ending this arms race. The Committee has already gone into action. We hope to have better results of this. In the Conference itself an alarming note was give to the people that global military expenditure was rapidly approaching the staggering figure of US \$ 1000 billion a year. It was taken note of and decided in the Conference that it was the duty of the industrialised countries not only to stop the arms race but to help the developing and poor nations. Our country has taken this line of approach. India is doing a lot of service as far as foreign policy is concerned. Unfortunately, the efforts made by India are not being allowed to bear fruit by the unhelpful attitude of some industrially developed countries. I wish to give some examples on this. India has been striving for a long time to make the Indian Ocean a zone of peace. The question of convening a conference on the Indian Ocean and Antartica has ended in a fiasco because of the unhelpful attitude of some industrially developed nations.

As you know, Sir, UNESCO is a very helpful organisation for the entire world. But recently we find that USA and Britain have threatened UNESCO to withdraw from it if it did not review or revise its stand. That is the most tragic event which we have to take into consideration. Of course, they have not yet withdrawn but the threat is there by the two great powers.

Another effort that has been stalled by the big powers is the COPUOS (the Committee on Peaceful Uses of Outer Space). That has also ended in a stalemate due to non-cooperation of the Western powers. However, strange it may seem, they are not even halting at that but our great friend USA is now going in the direction of stars war (*Interruption*).

SHRI G. G. SWELL (Shillong) : Is there quorum in the House, Sir? You may please check.

MR. CHAIRMAN (SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHGTHAMAN) : If anybody raises that issue, I will consider, otherwise not.

SHRI N. V. RATNAM : I have heard, Sir, that there is a tradition in the House that during the Budget session the question of quorum cannot be raised.

AN HON'BLE MEMBER : They are supposed to observe so much decorum as not to raise the question of quorum.

SHRI G. G. SWELL : In all fairness to the Member, we should have more Members to hear him.

SHRI N. V. RATNAM : Sir, as President of the Group of 77 and as President of NAM, India has tried to help the poor and the under-developed nations through the UNIDO the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation. This has also ended in a fiasco without any big steps having been taken because of the unhelpful attitude of the big powers.

As far as the international relations in our foreign policy are concerned, I am glad to say that our country has been doing its best to have peace in the entire world, and we have to thank our Prime Ministers in sequence, from Jawaharlal Nehru to Indira Gandhi and now Rajiv Gandhi for that. But I am sorry to say that the prudence requires that it is not sufficient for us to be

friendly with the nations too far situated from us, the prudence requires that, as far as possible, we must be very friendly with the neighbouring countries. That, is very essential for the success of the foreign policy. But unfortunately we are more friendly with the countries which are very far from us but not so friendly with our immediate neighbours. That is an unfortunate situation that has developed very recently. Our very immediate neighbours who are not so friendly with us as we expect them to be, can be classified in two categories. Those nations are either born of our soil or born of our culture. Take Sri Lanka for example. Sri Lanka is born of our culture. The entire nation is a cultural bit of our country. But the Sri Lankan problem has become the main source of headache for our country. This needs to be solved.

Next I come to Pakistan and Bangladesh. Pakistan is born out of our soil, but unfortunately it is not at all friendly with our country. Though Pakistan's problems are now being tried to be solved, but we note when we try to solve the problems, they become more hard. Anyway, our prudence, our requirement and our necessity demands that we must find out a solution with our neighbouring country Pakistan.

Now, let us take Bangladesh. Hon. Members think that our country had made sacrifice towards the cause of Bangladesh, but unfortunately that country is not friendly to us as we had expected.

So also China. China, as I have already said, was a partner in Panchsheel, but we had a bitter experience with China and there is nothing left to compromise with that country.

Now, take Burma. During the British regime, it was part of India. Now, we find that there is a great exodus of unruly elements from Burma and those unruly elements are operating on our North Eastern region. There too a very unhappy situation is developing.

So, our foreign policy must be so modified as to make all these very neighbours of our country as our friends.

We understand that the Ministry of External Affairs is responsible for the conduct of India's external relations. Its

main objectives are : to project India's image abroad, to promote India's economic and political relations with other countries, to render consular service to Indian nationals and to foreigners visiting India, to provide assistance in the economic and technical fields to the neighbouring and other developing countries and to project India's point of view in various military and international organisations. These are its projects. The main activities of this Ministry today are given in the very note. That is policy making and administration, India's representation abroad, external publicity programme, passport and consular activities, technical and economic aid to the neighbouring countries and other developing countries, participation in the international organisations like the UNO etc., development of cultural relations with other countries. Looking to all these activities it seems that the Budget allotment to this Ministry is very discouraging. You know external affairs policy matters are very very important for any country. Therefore, I think in the Budget a very little amount has been allotted to this Ministry.

It would like to submit that even though our country is not rich enough to help others, but purely for the sake of friendship it has been helping Nepal, Bhutan and Bangladesh. The records go on to show that Budgetary allotment to help Nepal has been Rs. 20.56 crores, for Bhutan it is Rs. 15.53 crores and for Bangladesh it is Rs. 13.20 crores. And in the shape of Indian technical and economic cooperation programme we have been helping so many countries and the Budget for this amounted to Rs. 9 crores. Unfortunately for the amounts being spent by us and the help rendered by us, I think we are not reaping quite right fruits because the response from those countries cannot be said to be friendly. So, all these things must be gone into by the Government as to why this is being done. In spite of our help and assistance, why are we not able to reap good consequences from these countries. It is a matter for the Government to take into consideration and it is very important because these are the very immediate neighbours of our country.

Let us not be content with the good results from far off countries. We may be satisfied that almost all the nations except one or two are very friendly with us, but

it will not be good or prudent for us to be satisfied with the friendly attitude shown by other countries. We may be prudent enough to make the very neighbouring countries friendly to us because if at all there is any threat, it is only from the very neighbouring countries, but not from the far off countries. So, I would like to submit that the budgetary allotment is very small.

Another thing I would like to submit that we have been following the policy of non-alignment. I would like to suggest to the hon. Minister and also the Government to think about this. We have got Austria, a very small country in Europe which has been practising permanent neutrality. and 'permanent neutrality' is a positive policy, and by adopting this policy of permanent neutrality, Austria is progressing well in world affairs. There are some people who argue that permanent neutrality is nothing more than our policy. So, in order to clarify what exactly is meant by permanent neutrality, I shall quote from *Austria Documentations*, where it is stated :

"The obligations imposed by Austria's neutrality are clearly defined. They require adherence to the laws on neutrality set out in the Hague Convention of 1907 in the event of war and, during peace-time, the avoidance of any commitments which might prejudice strict observation of the convention's terms."

× × ×

"Austrian neutrality, constitutionally guaranteed and internationally recognised, is military neutrality and means independence from the major military and political blocs. It is neutrality on the part of the State and not of the individual citizen; there is no question of ideological or economic neutrality. The possibility of working together with other states in the framework of the international organisations is by no means ruled out; indeed, such co-operation is one of the principal supports and at the same time one of the main duties of Austrian neutrality. This is why the commitments that Austria has accepted as a neutral country have led it to increase its economic co-operation with the other countries of Europe rather than otherwise."

× × ×

"In a 1973 public opinion poll, for example, 90% of those asked, a representative cross-section of the population, held that permanent neutrality brings Austria more advantages than disadvantages, 80% that they feel safer in a neutral state than in an alliance, and 76% that the high esteem with which the country is regarded by others is thanks to its neutral status."

So, it seems to be that adoption of the policy of permanent neutrality goes a long way and if we can think and adopt a 'permanent neutrality' policy rather than the present policy, it will be better. We have been progressing from Panch Sheel to the NAM and then disarmament at this stage, and here I would like to suggest to you to think seriously about two things. One is, what is our approach, with respect to our foreign policy, towards our immediate neighbours, and the second is about the adoption—of permanent neutrality policy. These two aspects deserve serious thinking on the part of the Government in order to make our country progress economically and internationally.

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY (Alipurduar) :
I beg to move :

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of External Affairs be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to take steps to normalise relations with Sri Lanka and other neighbouring countries.](7)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of External Affairs be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to increase economic cooperation with Bangladesh in the field of industry, transport and communications.](8)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of External Affairs be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to ensure proper compensation to Indian nationals whose property has been declared as vested by Bangladesh Government.](9)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of External Affairs be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to meet the demand of Bhutan for setting up a high power transmitter at Thimpu as early as possible.](10)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of External Affairs be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to give more aid for rural electrification in Bhutan.](11)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of External Affairs be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to have joint efforts with Bhutan to check floods and soil erosion caused by rivers like Raydak, Sankos. Paglee-Tunsa and Jainti Dima.](12)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of External Affairs be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to give more aid for the development of Bhutan.](13)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of External Affairs be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to take steps to link Bhutan with the National Highway No. 31 at Barobisa.](14)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of External Affairs be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to persuade U.S.A. to stop arming of Pakistan.](15)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of External Affairs be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to make efforts for establishing cordial relations with Bangladesh.](16)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of External Affairs be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to take steps to repatriate refugees from Bangladesh.](17)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of External Affairs be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to improve trade, cultural relations and communications with Bangladesh.](18)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of External Affairs be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to give more assistance to Bhutan for development of cottage industries.](19)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of External Affairs be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need for cordial and brotherly relations with Nepal.](20)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of External Affairs be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need for a political settlement with Sri Lanka to check influx of Sri Lankans of Indian origin.](21)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of External Affairs be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to ask Pakistan to vacate occupied Kashmir to end the Kashmir problem.](22)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of External Affairs be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need for early commissioning of Chukha Hydel Project.](23)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of External Affairs be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need for expediting the work on Indo—Bhutan Micro-wave link and transmission line.](24)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of External Affairs be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to give financial assistance to Bhutan for constructing an aerodrome at Thimpu.](25)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of External Affairs be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need for propagation of Hindi in Indian Mission in Bhutan.](26)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now Mr. Faleiro.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO (Mormugao) : Well, Mr. Chairman, I am

very glad that you are in the chair.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahbubnagar) : Sir, is he glad that the Minister for External Affairs, *i. e.* the Prime Minister is not in the House ?

MR. CHAIRMAN (SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN) : The Minister of State is here.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : After all, this is a debate on External Affairs. Should not the Prime Minister when he is handling the portfolio himself be present in the House ? Does it mean that the Prime Minister is not interested in the External Affairs ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : That is all right. The Minister is already here.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : Sir, my friend Mr. Reddy and I both of us, do know that the country has a lot of problems which require Prime Minister's attention. I am sure Mr. Reddy as well as I and everybody appreciate the way the Prime Minister comes here during Question Hour so often even when he does not have Questions on the Agenda to be discussed by him. It is really a commendable regard the Prime Minister has for Parliament.

Mr. Chairman, I was saying that I was very happy because you do not cut the time of the Members and you give sufficient time and I will not take undue advantage of your goodness.

Mr. Chairman, this Government Coming to power on such an upsurge of enthusiasm and such a popular support, has outlined its broad approach to the administration of this country in these pithy words, continuity with change and that is how it should be. The concept of continuity is relevant, of course, in all aspects of administration but it is particularly relevant in the realm of foreign policy.

As my colleague from the Telguc Desam has just now mentioned the fundamental tenets of our foreign policy were enunciated by Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru and were then restated by Shrimati Indira Gandhi. They are Non-Alignment, anti-imperialism, anti-colonialism and anti-racism. If you are to be put rather than in a negative into positive form, then our fundamental goals have been

the pursuing of peace and of economic development.

Now, we would not like to take credit for our Party when I mentioned Pandit Nehru or Indira Gandhi. I do not mean to say that this is the policy of Congress Party alone. It is the result of a national consensus. This is the policy of this nation and it so happened that even during the Janata period—though we differed with them on many aspects of domestic issues—when it came to foreign policy, even Mr. Vajpayee, such an acerbic critic of Jawahar Lal Nehru and Indira Gandhi had to follow the path which was laid down since independence. Now, I will hasten to compliment the Prime Minister and I think, my humble compliment counts because behind it is the support of the nation. On all sides he has reached out to the neighbouring countries, as my colleague has again pointed out. That is where the change perhaps comes in. The change does not come in the perception of basic principles. It comes in the strengthening of the instrumentalities to carry the basic objectives in motivating these vehicles of furthering policy objectives. That is where the change comes. And the change is welcomed by this country and by all of us, in this House of Parliament. I compliment the Prime Minister and the Foreign Minister...

(*Interruptions*). Mr. Khurshid Alam Khan is the Minister for External Affairs. He is in-charge of this Ministry. I compliment the Foreign Office also. The Minister of State for Foreign Affairs himself has gone to these countries. It is not enough to sit and formulate policies. If policies will be something more than empty political rhetoric, we have got to reach out. We have got to strengthen the instrumentalities. That is what the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs himself has done by going to these countries. That is what the Foreign Office has done through its Secretary and other senior officers by going there. That is what all of them have done under the guidance by the Prime Minister. This is very much welcome in the context of friendly relations with neighbours. You can talk about friendship; you can talk about peace. But if you are not friendly and at peace with your own neighbours, then what is the meaning and content of all these noble ideas ?

The initiative taken by the Prime Minister of India, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, and, before him, by Indiraji, to have the six-nation peace

initiative is really a thing of great merit. One cannot see anything very positive coming out of this immediately except building public opinion. After all, the nuclear arms are not in our hands. They are not in the hands of third world countries. They are in the hands of the super powers. However if five or six countries of our stature who can make nuclear weapons but refrain from doing so, if six nations from different parts of the globe who are regional powers in their own right make a call for nuclear disarmament, for a test ban treaty—that is specifically what they have asked for—then the super powers must take notice of the call. I am sure, if the Gromyko-Shultz talks did take place, it was no small measure due to the call given by the six Nation peace initiative. The initiatives for peace undertaken by the Government are commendable. These initiatives have made a tremendous impact on world public opinion. They augur a new beginning in our relations with our neighbours and in the whole world.

Now, I would like to concentrate today on one aspect of our foreign policy which, I think, is sometimes neglected. As I have submitted the main objective of the foreign policy of this country are the pursuit of peace and of economic development, the pursuit of peace is the political side, the political objective of the foreign policy. The pursuit of economic development is the economic side, the economic objective, of our foreign policy. I have been in this House for a few years. I sometimes feel that I have committed the sin of concentrating on the political aspect of the foreign policy, ignoring an economic aspect of the foreign policy. I do believe that the political aspect cannot be properly pursued, properly followed, unless it is backed by the pursuit of the economic aspect of the foreign policy of a country.

If we are discussing today the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of External Affairs, we are discussing them as budgetary demands, as the demands, of the Budget. The Budget expresses its objectives in terms of growth and productivity without prejudice of course to social justice. The question that arises in the course of this debate is : How is the Ministry of External Affairs going to contribute for the growth and economic productivity set out in the Budget demand ? I would like to say that the international economic situation, as it looks at the moment, is as grim, perhaps worse, grimmer, than it

looked to us when we were discussing the Demands last year. The developing countries as a whole have suffered tremendously and have been really the major victims of recession that has swamped the entire world, including the industrialised countries.

Let me quote a few figures. The rate of growth in developing countries, in 1981, was 0.3 per cent; in 1982, it went down to 0.2 per cent and in 1983, it took off very slightly to 0.8 per cent as compared to the rate of growth of 5 per cent in '70s. As far as industrialised countries are concerned, their performance slightly better. The figures for industrialised countries were higher by about then 2 points for the same period, 1981-83, and last year, in 1984, there has been a recovery in the industrialised countries, particularly, in the United States. The United States economy has picked up over the last one year. But what an unfortunate paradox is that whilst the economy of the United States has picked up and picked up strongly over the last one year, and to less extent the countries of Western Europe and Japan have also improved their economic performance. The same reasons that have led to this recovery of the Western world are contributing to the deteriorating situation in the developing countries. And what are these reasons? The reasons are the tightening of the fiscal policies by the Reagan Administration, then the flight of capital from the Western countries and even of Japan even to the United States, the strengthening of the dollar with concomitant sharp increase in the rate of interest. There is no way out of the commercial bank but we must avoid them unless we want to go the South American way.

As far as trade is concerned, protectionism has increased. The protectionist barriers of the Western countries and industrialised countries as against the developing countries are stronger than ever before. They have cut us off from trade.

As far as aid is concerned, just as an example, IDA 7 at present, is short by 3 billion dollars over the previous IDA 6. Now, IDA 7 contemplates 9 billion dollars as against 12 billion dollars for the previous period of IDA. This is obviously on nominal terms, less in real terms and now, if you consider that you have additional recipients to aids like China, such a large new comer,

then you will find that their concessional finance is also not going to be available in any significant measure for the developing countries.

In this grim situation, what do we do?

I would immediately submit that the figures that I have given have been for the developing world as a whole. As far as India is concerned, our rate of growth has been substantially higher than the average for the developing world. Therefore, seeing this indifferent, even antagonistic attitude of the developed and industrialised countries towards us, what we have to do is to pull out our boots by the straps,...(*Interruptions*)

What I mean is that we must get in to strengthen the instrumentalities of the Foreign Ministry and our foreign policy. We must reach out in the realm of political and economic relationships.

Our embassies do not necessarily have eminent people like Prof. Swell. They have eminent people of other types, not of Prof. Swell type. And these eminent people are trained in that school of diplomacy that arose and was created just before independence. The main objectives then were again political objectives. To find out, for instance, what is happening in the countries where they were posted what were the political developments in those countries and then report back to the Ministry.

I think that you often here when you go abroad or to international forums as to how our diplomats are always sought after for in drafting or are invited to draft then resolutions to be passed at international forum. Our diplomats are there at every international committee and they excel as far as drafting goes. This is sometimes told to me as a great compliment. I think it is a compliment but I do think that we can do much better. We can definitely do much better than that. Apart from the good political role that our embassies and diplomats have been playing, we can also reach out, as I have said, on the economic field and try to improve trade and business for our own country.

We see so often, the United States ambassador, for instance, going out and helping in some deal for his country or, the British Ambassador, for that matter. The question is "whether our own Ambassadors or Heads or Missions behave in a similar

fashion? What happens is this. In our embassies, very often economic relations are relegated to a lower level. There is an officer from the Ministry of Commerce sitting in our major embassies and everything concerning economies, all the business deals are left entirely to him and the Ambassador or the Head of the Mission thinks that it is below his dignity to get involved in this type of work.

This is not how diplomacy should be practised at the present time. This is a waste of talents. If the Indian Ambassador himself, if the Indian Head of the Mission himself, gets involved as the Ambassador, as the Head of the Mission, with other countries in getting some good business or some deals for India, what is wrong? This is really what is required. What is required is not to leave all the commercial relations, all the economic relations, for the officers of the Commerce Ministry alone but the Head of the Mission himself should take advantage of his status and prestige and get our business going in those countries. If you look at the figures of trade, compared to our size it is very small; it is not heartening at all. We must fix targets for our Missions to get a certain amount of business for the country; we must reach out.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please try to wind up.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : I would like to point out what has been said here in an opinion poll commissioned by Compass News Features from NOP Market Research Ltd. of London. It is this ignorance about our country which has got to be dispelled by our Embassies. This market research was carried out in three countries simultaneously in December, 1984, and the countries reflected three different expressions of the industrialised world—the United States, Britain and Norway. They were first asked whether the industrialised countries should do more for the third world or whether what they were doing was enough, and in the process they were asked, "What is the 'third world'?" Mind you, there were a substantial number of people in the United States who said, "The third world is the world that will emerge after the Third World War." This is the finding that has emerged. There were others who said that the third world was the

world of outer space—the first world was land, the second was water and the third world was the world of outer space. So, this is the knowledge or ignorance they have in those countries about developing countries. So, much more has to be done and since we are in the age of publicity, in the age of media, our country must be projected not merely as a land of snake-charmers or a country of impoverished people but as the land industrialising and becoming, hopefully, the tenth largest industrialised country in the world, going very fast in high technology areas like space research and the expedition to Antarctica and so on. All these must be projected so that the people in those countries can themselves bring pressure on their Governments to enter into business, to enter into commercial and economic relationship, with India.

I will conclude with some remarks on this very important aspect South-South relationship. From the North-South dialogue we cannot expect much because of the indifference, even hostility, with which the North has reacted to this urge for dialogue; in spite of the fact that Shrimati Indira Gandhi had informal talks at the time of the highest level the last General Assembly Session in New York, in spite of her initiative at the time of the meeting of the Commonwealth Heads of Government, nothing much has come out. We cannot give up that dialogue but then we must pay more attention to the South-South dialogue. We keep on talking all the time about South-South dialogue, but we talk only in generalities. And when we come to specifics, for example, this is the type of answer that the hon. Minister for Industry gave this morning, I was asking the hon. Minister for Industry as to why we should not give preferential treatment in imports from the South countries which are developed and which can give us quality goods : the hon. Minister replied that they were not concerned with any preferential treatment and that they will take just the 'best'. With utmost respect to the hon. Minister, I would like to say that 'best' is a very subjective concept. You have different types of technologies. Will the hon. Minister, will the Government, look into every type of deal for import of technology or commodity and see what it is covered under the word 'best' ?

How is it arrived at—the conclusion that it is the best? Then many other things are there like credit facilities. It should be an accepted position that we must give preferential treatment to other developing countries in terms of commodities. If you go on saying that the best will be taken without any preferential treatment, so will the other developing countries do to air goods and, then the centres will remain USA, London, France and so on and we will not be able to break the colonial relationship and we may as well forget the idea of creation of a new international economic order.

Sir, I end with this plea that we must concentrate not merely on the political aspect of our foreign policy but let us give some thought and action—thought we give enough, but action is wanted to further our economic objectives so that the purpose of the budget, that is productivity and growth are achieved. I end with this plea that whilst purposes are very good, whilst the machinery we have is among the best not only in the developing countries but it can compare very well with that of the developed countries also but it should be geared and mentalised towards attaining the economic objectives. Let them get us business. Let them bring us trade and let them try to reduce the imbalance of trade and on these lines economic development will be really a strong arm of the objectives of peace which so successfully and in such short space of time this government has been able to pursue.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHURY (Katwa). While taking part in this debate, the first thing about which I want to say is the general condition in which our humanity is living today. Human civilisation is hanging precariously between existence and extinction and this is due to the disastrous nuclear policy that is being pursued by USA in order to achieve global domination. This is for that we are faced with such a horrible situation of our existence also.

Now, to reduce tension in this regard the initiative taken by our Government to call the six nation summit, we all welcomed it and we want this type of initiative to yield positive results. In this respect I want to say that we are taking initiative in the

Foreign Ministry level in the international fora and that we have to take. But the vital fact that has been very effective and that we would like to see also is the mobilisation of people for peace and against war in different parts of the world. That is very dismally absent in our country—the mobilisation of people against war. That we have to do in our own country. In this respect, the ruling Party and the Government have been failing and I am very much pained to point out this in this House. But thanks to the left and democratic parties they have tried to organise mobilisations of people for peace and against this nuclear holocaust that is seriously threatening our world civilisation.

We are happy that the call of the six nation summit to ban nuclear weapons and to ban deployment of nuclear weapons in outer space has been favourably responded to by Soviet Union. If we look at the past we will see that the Soviet Union time and again have been responding to the genuine aspiration of peace of the world humanity. They have declared that they will not be the first user of nuclear bomb but from the other side—USA—we had never seen any such commitment. Two days ago the Soviet leader has declared unilateral moratorium on the deployment of counter missiles in Europe. Uptil November it will be there. That is a good gesture. We have to see as the leader of NAM—convener of six nation summit—that this gesture and the favourable condition that is created does not go in vain. I support the initiative taken by the government to end the horrible gulf war which is really mutually destructive for both the countries. We also support the stand taken in respect of Palestine, that is, Arab people and all other progressive issues. Those are really very much deserving our support and support from the people of the world.

Now, I come to a few aspects that are very much related to our country. In this Annual Report of the Ministry of External Affairs we do not get a clear direction as to where to pinpoint our actions, that is, the people of our country should direct their initiatives and understand who are responsible for the deterioration in the situation. It is very natural that we are concerned to maintain world civilisation to which our country is a part. In the back-

ground of the alarming global conditions in our own soil we are confronted with certain machinations of certain countries who are trying to destabilise our country. Who are those? One may say this particular aspect is connected with our Home Ministry affairs but these external things are very much disturbing our mind. Who are those forces who are supporting the secessionist activities in our country? I do not know why it did not find a place here in this Report but in this debate I would very much like to mention it—the situation in Assam and Punjab. Wherefrom are they getting support? Why is it that their name is not mentioned! Who was there in London city abetting those forces in Punjab? Who granted them visa? These are all questions which are annoying the people in our country. It is a matter which is very vitally linked with the integration of our country. Who are those people who invented Brahmaputra Project to dis-member our country in the North Eastern region? We have seen that study by Prof. Hargrave of Texas. With the help of one Mr. Griffin he was in India. Mr. Griffin was declared persona non grata by our country. What did it predict? It predicted if Mrs. Gandhi disappeared from the political scene, namely, if before Lok Sabha polls she is out then destabilising forces could get more favourable soil. Now, it actually co-incides. Strange enough! She had been killed. Now what are we to understand? Who are those people I want to know? For some days we have been hearing about the international terrorists gangs trying to set their feet in our country.

There is the incident of the killing of the Soviet Embassy staff. There is the so-called defection of the Soviet Embassy staff to the USA. All these cases are very much disturbing. There is a reason behind it. These are the work of nefarious decisive forces which want to divide our country, to dismember our country and want to mar our relation with our most reliable friends. They are very much active. So, this is the reflection of the international situation which we see in our country today. Our hon. Members talked of economy. There is an economic reason behind it. They want their markets to flourish; they want to plunder the third world countries. These imperialist powers want to create their own bases in the third world countries for their

activities. In this context it is very necessary that we should have good relations with our neighbours. There is no doubt about it. It is very much desirable. Are we to be blamed that we don't have good relations with our neighbours only? No. We don't have good relations with some distant countries also. For good neighbourly relations we require good neighbours. In the neighbourhood countries, the people are good; they are also fighting for a good society. But the ruling clique there is anti-people and anti-peace. Our neighbour Pakistan is trying to destroy the peace in the sub-continent. US imperialism is trying to aid Pakistan in various ways. They are supplying all kinds of arms to Pakistan. I don't know what kind of dangerous consequences will follow. USA is supplying Pakistan with F-16, Harpoon missiles, OV-10 Mohawks and Hawkeye missiles. There is moreover, the recent supply of Sidewinder Missiles to Pakistan. And now over and above that, they are helping Pakistan with the making of the atomic bomb also. They are sharing their intelligence with Pakistan. We are not so naive as to believe that there is no danger to this country from all these developments! Now, Sir, Pakistan is offering land in its country to set up military bases for the USA. These forces are trying to subvert the integrity of our country. There is encirclement from Pakistan, Bangla Desh, Sri Lanka and Diego Garcia. These are all calculated moves. In Sri Lanka what is happening? The USA has been successful in roping in Sri Lanka into its fold. They are opening up centres in Trincomalee for the Voice of America. But that is only a ploy. What they are doing is, they are setting up extra low frequency base there. We have to understand this situation. Mr. Jayawardhane has been saying that there is no ethnic problem at all but that it is a Marxist revolution. He wants to cover up the crime that is being committed by the State Power in the ethnic minority. We have seen the massacre of Tamils going on there; he is trying to divert the attention of the people of the world from the massacre that they are perpetrating. Again the US is trying to have Bangla Desh very strongly on their side. Indeed, there are reports that Chittagong has been offered to America for naval base there.

15.00 hr.

In Diego Garcia, they having nuclear weapons. They are planning to operate their outer space nuclearisation programme from the Diego Garcia base. Sir, I have a book written by Julius Mader, once a CIA man, later defected, who published that book in 1968-69. He wrote 'Who is Who' in C.I.A. There, he mentioned the names of those three persons as C.I.A. agents, who after more than two decades have become Ambassadors in India, in Bangladesh and in Pakistan. These three persons are very much there now as Ambassadors in this sub-continent. What does all this signify? Is it in the interest of the security of our country? Sir, the US Imperialism is spreading in our country. We have to take enough precaution and tell our people to unite and fight against the US imperialism.

Sir, one other plea I want to make with the Government is that S.A.D.R. established by the fighting Polisario Front in Western Sahara should immediately be recognised.

SHRI DINESH SINGH (Pratapgarh) :
Mr. Chairman, Sir, India is a large country and large countries tend to become inward looking isolationist in some ways. I have watched debates on foreign relations in this House over several decades and I notice that we here, even in this House, are becoming a victim to isolation. Looking at the empty benches on both sides of the House, I feel that we may take a turn in global relations for the worse. For a developing country like ours, international relations are very important because we depend on assistance from outside and if we do not have strong relations outside, then the tendency will be that those who would be in a position to assist us would demand a price which may not be acceptable to us. Therefore, through you, Sir, I would wish to urge that we begin to take greater interest in the conduct of our foreign policy in our external relations so that we are able to be an active participant in international affairs. The Prime Minister has taken a welcome step, trying to lessen global tensions and promoting friendship with our neighbours. In this, he deserves our congratulations and I am sure of the full support of this House. The Six Nation

Summit held in Delhi over which the Prime Minister presided, produced an important document, the Delhi Declaration, which called for urgent steps to prevent arms race spreading into outer space and for ban on testing of nuclear weapons and ended with, I quote: "The hope that this year of 1985 would be the year when hope begins to prevail over terror". The appeal, though well received by the international community, has not created an impact on the United States which continues with its programme of 'Star Wars'. However, the possibility of the Soviet Union and the United States resuming their dialogue at the highest level gives us some hope that the Super Powers might heed to reason. There has been much talk about nuclear disarmament, arms control and may I say with respect, that nuclear disarmament or arms control will be illusory without a global understanding for peace. I am reminded of the words of Salvador de Madariaga :

"Nations don't distrust each other because they are armed; they are armed because they distrust each other. And, therefore, to want disarmament without a minimum of common agreement on fundamentals is as absurd as to want people to go undressed in winter."

A way has, therefore, to be found to reduce global tension, to create a climate of cooperation in which economic cooperation can also develop. We need to create a new value system, a new world order and only then, a new international economic order has any meaning. My hon friend Shri Eduardo Faleiro—I am afraid, he has left—laid great emphasis on India's economic relations and I cannot disagree with him at all. I fully support him that we need to strengthen our economic relations with the outside world. But may I say that economic relations cannot be built up in isolation. Without a political climate for cooperation, economic assistance can at best be giving away some charity, but it cannot lead to closer economic cooperation which is what we are seeking.

There has been talk of Super Powers possessing nuclear weapons threatening the destruction of the world and I beg to disagree not that they do not have the

capacity to destroy the world several times over, but 'I do not think that they have the will to do it. More than us, they are conscious of the annihilating capacity of their nuclear arsenal, and therefore, it is unlikely that they will use it against each other and get totally destroyed. The real dangers are now emerging in new forms of weapons, laser category of weapons and the weapons in space, which will be to that extent clean weapons and will have much greater destructive power. It is here that we have to be careful and it is here that we have to work hard to restore balance in international cooperation.

I am reminded of the situation which Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, the then Prime Minister, faced immediately after independence. We were on our own, newly independent, trying to build a new life for our people, seeking cooperation and assistance from outside and there were the larger powers wanting to dictate their terms to us. We must give credit to Shri Jawaharlal Nehru for engineering to transfer the prevailing global climate of colonialism into a climate of decolonization and the whole process of decolonization was a great achievement of which we are not perhaps fully aware.

History will recall the efforts made by Jawahar Lai Nehru and his colleagues, chiefly Shri Krishna Menon, who laboured hard to create a climate in which half of humanity achieved freedom from colonial bondage. It is a similar situation perhaps which we are facing today. I am aware of the critics who have accused Panditji of globalism in preference to national interests and I am sure they would wish to persist in their criticism of this Government too. But Sir, can we think of national interest when the powers which have the capacity to destroy us, which have the capacity to destroy our economies are not found in a climate in which assistance would be possible? No country would wish to divert its resources for arms. But if you have a global climate of conflict, then meagre resources are diverted to arms instead of feeding hungry mouths or eliminating poverty. Therefore Sir, I fully congratulate the Prime Minister, as I said earlier for his efforts in lessening global tension.

In this regard, may I add that another group of countries, the European Economic

Community has emerged as a powerful economic entity? It is also emerging as a powerful political entity. We should strengthen our relations with them in the hope of lessening tensions in Europe which will have its overflow in lessening the tension in other parts of the world.

Welcoming the Prime Minister's initiative to engage in a meaningful dialogue with our neighbours, may I take this opportunity to congratulate the Foreign Secretary and his colleagues for their efforts in building up this dialogue? His visits to South Asian countries, to Sri Lanka, to Nepal and to Pakistan have been successful and I hope that there will be similar dialogue with the other neighbours of ours.

Sir, it should be a matter of satisfaction for all of us that South Asian cooperation which went through a phase of great difficulty, is now beginning to take shape. South Asia is, perhaps, the only region in the world which is without a regional institution and the building up of a South Asian Regional Organisation will be of great assistance to us both in terms of our economic development and in terms of creating a cooperative political climate. In this regard, we should remember that India is the largest country in South Asia and it is the only country which has common borders with all the others. No other South Asian country in this region, has a common border with any other country, except India and therefore the pressure is on us because we share common borders with many countries. Also Sir, there is expectation from us and in this regard, it is important that we build up our economy to assist our neighbouring countries in areas where they require assistance. If our neighbouring countries are not in a position to derive meaningful economic cooperation with India and if Indian economy itself is weak or dependent on foreign collaboration, then there would be no incentive for them to come to us. They would rather wish to go to the original country from which we are seeking constant assistance. Therefore, South Asian cooperation will have meaning only if we are able to strengthen our economy and be of assistance to them. In this regard, may I say that fortunately, India's major differences are only with one of our neighbours? And I can only hope that the Government will leave no stone

unturned to search for lasting peace. The benefits of cooperation and the disadvantage of confrontation are well-known and I need not repeat them. But I would say that when we are talking in terms of 'no war pact', in terms of 'friendship treaty' can we not add a clause for mutual assistance, that in case there is an aggression on one country, it will be regarded as aggression on both the countries? Sir, I am not unmindful of the political differences. I am not unmindful of the divergent perspectives in the national capitals of South Asian countries. But, we in our own country have learnt to live with variety and in that variety we have sought an identity. Could we not seek this identity of purpose in the variety of South Asian nations?

I am also aware of the nuclear bomb, that Pakistan is reported to be manufacturing or may, even have it in its possession. But I dare say that even the bomb could lose its meaning if there were better cooperation between India and Pakistan. Should Pakistan announce its possession of the bomb, what will we do? What are the options for us? Are we also going to go nuclear, or are we are going to leave ourselves unprotected, or are we going to seek a nuclear umbrella? To these three options, I would add a fourth one. Let us come to an arrangement with Pakistan. Again, I say that I am not unmindful of the difficulties. But then, these difficulties will persist in international relations and we have to find an answer to them. Sir, there was a suggestion that I had the honour to make many years ago about setting up an Asian Council of Ministers under ECAFE. I believe a meeting took place in Kabul also. Thereafter, we have not heard of it. Unfortunately, Mr. Chairman, there is no Asian organisation except the Asian Games Committee. While we welcome healthy competition in games, I think that it is time when we build up other Asian institutions of cooperation. And I hope that the Government will take active interest in this.

Mr. Chairman, I cannot move away from South Asia without a reference to Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka was a peaceful island. It is very beautiful. All of us at times sought to go there for a holiday. That island has now been converted into an area of violent confrontation amongst the

people themselves. I cannot believe that there is no fall out of the growing importance of the Indian Ocean and the Super Power confrontation in this area into the problems of Sri Lanka. Now, there is no doubt we can understand the urges of the people to seek equality and have protection in their country. We also would not wish to interfere in the internal affairs of a friendly country. Therefore, I can only hope that Sri Lanka will, on its own, seek more effective assistance from the neighbouring countries, from India, may be from other countries, in finding a solution to this very difficult problem. But our hearts do go out to the people in Sri Lanka who are suffering today, who are being killed and who are being denied the opportunity to live with their families.

15.20 hrs.

[SHRI SOMNATH RATH *in the Chair*]

'There are other areas of security interest to India, to which I would have wished to refer, but unfortunately, we are now tending to do away with debate on international relations, and we are combining the Budget of the External Affairs Ministry and the debate on international affairs into one. Therefore, I will have to deny myself the opportunity to refer to some other matters. You have also pressed the bell.

I would just wish to refer very briefly to two aspects of the functioning of the Ministry of External Affairs. As I understand it, there is no clear-cut policy objective conveyed to India's Missions abroad, either for their countries of accreditation, or regional or global requirements. We have now a senior person as Head of the Policy Planning Division of the Ministry of External Affairs; and it is my hope that specific policy objectives, both in political and economic terms, would be conveyed to our Missions, so that they can have all greater purpose, and also produce time-bound results.

I would also suggest incorporating in the Ministry of External Affairs the concept of area specialization with adequate compensation in difficult posts, so that there is a greater continuity in our policy, and also flow-back of information.

May I, with your permission, take this opportunity to congratulate our Minister of State for External Affairs for the efforts he has been making to find peace in West Asia? West Asia has been an unfortunate region which has gone through many upheavals in the course of history. Today again it is in the throes of serious conflict, not only between Iraq and Iran, but also in Lebanon, which draws a lot of other Arab countries. I hope India, with its traditional friendship with Arab countries, will assist them in finding a peaceful solution, and a new life.

In conclusion, I wish to support the Demands of the Ministry of External Affairs.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI (Howrah) : First of all, I congratulate the Minister of State for External Affairs for his initiative, at the instance of the Prime Minister, to visit West Asia in recent times, at least to persuade Iraq and Iran to end the war.

I will not be able to speak about all the countries, because time is short; and the scope of this debate is also limited. I will mostly confine myself to our relations with the neighbouring countries.

This is the Congress Centenary Year. The Indian National Congress from the very beginning had the concept of anti-imperialism and anti-colonialism. Ultimately, they became the concept of the people of this country from the days of the national struggle. I wish that in this Centenary Year, much more vigorously we exhibit ourselves in the international scene, especially in the case of Namibia, with the help of the non-aligned movement.

The foreign policy which was founded in our country actually by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, and later on strengthened by Indira Ji, received wider response from other countries. The torch has now come into the hands of our Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi. In his first speech, his emphasis was on the improvement of our relations with the neighbouring countries.

As you know, whatever theorizing we may do about the concept of international relations, the basic thing is that no country in the world can afford to have any luxury in international policy at the cost of nation-

nal interests—no country in the world, whichever you may name. I feel strongly that the time has come for us also to consider first the national interest of India in this sub-continent, and then to determine our framework in the international global policy which we would like to pursue. Sometimes it happens. I do not blame anyone. It happens due to our magnanimous approach to every matter, due to peace missions from the days of Lord Buddha. We sometimes do not give that priority to our national interest concerning neighbours as we have done in the past.

The relations nowadays between a country and a country is mainly dependent on certain matters, conflicts, disputes, treaties and settlements. But the fact remains that the relation is built between people to people to focus aspirations of the people from one part to other part. I feel much more diplomatic stranglehold can be sorted out by this Ministry and the government: and in that field, I will refer to one aspect of the Annual Report, that is cultural relations between countries. We have in our possession the rich heritage of Indian culture and that too by a person whose eminence was recognised for the welfare of the State and for the contribution of world peace. But, I am sorry to say, whenever I travelled in any part of the world, I hardly felt the impact on behalf of the Indian people in that part of the world. The result is that I feel that we are missing something in our cultural link; and that cultural link is the link of Tagore. I have seen in many parts of the world that they know India's culture right from the days of Lord Buddha upto Tagore. Whenever I visited any part of the world, I found that in our cultural cooperation between the countries, Tagore always remained absent. I do not know what are the reasons. I have travelled in many parts of South East Asia. I have travelled in Japan. I have found that they feel like that. But I do not know what our Ambassadors are doing there. They hardly try to negotiate with the people or involve themselves in their aspirations through this cultural link. The result is that the younger generations which are coming up in the modern days in various parts of the world, they remain busy with the nuclear tension, with the United Nations deliberations; they forget

the tradition and cultural heritage of their countries. If that could have been sorted out, I think much more contribution we can make for the revival of peace movement in the world. When the Soviet Union talk to the people of other countries, they do not talk of the revolution of the Soviet Union and they talk of Maxim Gorky and other great people; they talk of many other great cultural heroes of their nation. But while we talk with the people of the other parts of the world to maintain our cultural link, we talk of everything; we send folk dance troupe; we send Bharatnatyam troupe; we talk about many other things but don't talk about Tagore's philosophy of Indian cultural link with some personality with those countries. The result is—it is my feeling—that they misunderstand us; they take it as a casual visit to their country for mere cultural link. These aspects, you kindly look into them.

In regard to our neighbourly relations, I share the agony of our friends in Tamilnadu concerning developments in Sri Lanka. The fact remains that there were days when the concept of the united India was very much there. We never felt in those days—years and years before; thousands and thousands years before—that Sri Lanka, Burma, the present day India, Bangladesh and Pakistan who were members of the common fraternity will face this kind of situation. But due to political compulsions, national struggle and many other developments, we are now different independent sovereign country. But we cannot afford to ignore the aspirations of the Hindus inside Pakistan and Bangladesh; we cannot afford to ignore the aspirations of the Tamilians inside Sri Lanka; we cannot afford to ignore the aspirations of the Hindi speaking Hindus inside Nepal or Bhutan. They also feel like this, I personally feel that these ethnic problems and many other problems are not the problems of one day. I am sorry to say, if you would have laid much more emphasis long back on this and concentrated on these issues, bipartite relations between countries and countries in the neighbouring areas, suddenly, these kinds of things would not have developed. For that, I do not blame anyone. I only feel that we should have done it earlier for maintaining much more improved relations with our neighbours.

I will highlight two or three aspects

about Bangladesh and Pakistan in the recent times. The people of Bangladesh and the people of Pakistan, in their heart of heart, like to be friends with the people of India.

There is no denying the fact. Similarly the people of India feel, and I personally feel that our functioning in those countries, especially those friendly countries must improve. Our Embassies and our Foreign Ministry officials and our Ambassadors should build people to people relations, a field where everyday we are failing, whether it is in Pakistan, or in Bangladesh.

Mr. Chairman, our Foreign Office has been functioning in its own way, I do not want to blame them. But I would like to highlight a few things. I had been to Los Angeles for the Olympics. I found several Khalistan activities, but I did not find any protest on the part of our Embassy. I came back and reported to our Prime Minister. There, in Los Angeles I did not find anybody talking about India's interest among the people there. On the day of the Hockey Match I found only ten Indian boys wearing some T-shirts, with the writing across the chest "We feel proud, being Indians". I asked them how they got those things, whether they got them from the Embassy. They told them that nobody talked to them. Nobody protested against anything, nobody stood by them I do not know what the Embassy people were doing.

But when I went to China, with the foot-ball team, I found the opposite there. The entire Embassy staff, including the Ambassador came out openly with the Indian boys and the Chinese team, and they mixed together. Shrimati Gandhi sent a special message for that occasion also. I have seen such things. I want these things to be taken care of by our foreign missions.

Mr. Chairman, coming to our relations with the neighbours, I want to say a few things. I am grateful to my friend Shri Saifuddin Chowdhury, that he has rightly pointed out that our relations with our neighbours really do not depend on our interests, but powers from distant parts of the world interfere in the matter and try to create problems. It is a fact that there are imperialist designs about the sub-continent

and Bangladesh, Pakistan, and also about Sir Lanka by some other countries. That situation is compelling us to take some steps with regard to our neighbours. I request the Government to concentrate much more on the bipartite relations with those countries and to persuade them to come to an understanding to evolve a common formula. This is so not only for the people affected near the Indian Ocean but for other neighbours also. Otherwise, I feel that the machinations of Masad, of CIA and such activities will be felt by us. It will be difficult for us to face them, or protect our territory against all the intrusions they are making. For example, let us look at the Chittagong Fort in Bangladesh. We have been hearing of many designs about it. So also about the Karakoram line, Nepal border also we hear about some designs. I therefore request the Minister that even if we feel that Pakistan or Bangladesh or Nepal for their national interests have their own compulsions, and may be apprehending something from us, it is for us to take the initiative to convince them and do it convincingly—that we are their friends. We should do it not by talk but by certain activities.

Let us take the issue of Ganga. I had been to Dhaka with the football team. I thought that they might be unhappy about the problems regarding Ganga. But I found that it was absolutely different. They said, "We shared Ganga when it was united. We would like to share it even now." I felt that there was no problem which we could not mutually settle. But if we allow the United States to play a role in between, then Bangladesh will lose the Chittagong Fort, or something. We will lose something. These are the matters to be taken up together by mutual friendship. I, therefore, request our hon. Minister to educate our foreign officials properly. They are good, educated, literate people but they should be trained to build people to people relations. That is most important. In many countries our foreign office officials just go to the parties when they are invited, by local associations; that will not help. They should build people to people relations which should make a positive impact on the people there.

I request our hon. Minister that in this centenary year of the Congress, we should fight against imperialism and neo-colonial-

ism and India should once again take the prime initiative. I hope that as the Head of the NAM we should be able to do it. Before I conclude, I hope that we should be able to help Namibia also. I wish our Indo-Soviet friendship will continue to grow strongly against the imperialist forces and in making the Indian Sub-continent strong.

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE (Bombay North Central): I rise to support the Demands of the Ministry of External Affairs. While doing so, I would like to make certain observations regarding the policies of this Ministry.

It has been pointed out that there are several tenets of the foreign policy of this country. According to me, there are mainly three tenets on which our foreign policy has been based. These are our firm commitment to disarmament, world peace and our leadership in the Non-Aligned Movement.

As far as disarmament is concerned, there has been much misconception about this idea. Many people think that with this disarmament talk merely nuclear powers are concerned, and that as far as the developing and small countries are concerned, they will not be affected by this mad arms race and the failure of disarmament talk. It is absolutely a misconception. We shall have to take a lead among the smaller countries and especially among the people of our country to arouse their awareness that unless this disarmament race is not halted, complete annihilation of the human race is awaiting us. Seriousness of this problem will have to be shown. This movement should not be merely on the Government level but it may be converted into a people's movement as far as our country is concerned. Many people merely feel that it is unlikely that there would be any nuclear war; this is only the war of nerves and ultimately nobody will strike as far as nuclear weapons are concerned. But I submit that this is also a wrong conception. Any moment nuclear war can start. Especially a fanatic head of a Government may take a wrong decision and the chain of disaster may begin at any time. Therefore, this problem should be very seriously viewed. More vigorous efforts will have to be put in especially by the developing countries like ours. I need not emphasise that disarmament, peace and development

are very much inter-connected. If we fail in one of these items, there will be no development. And as far as the developing countries are concerned, that is the end of the whole world. Therefore the developing countries like us should pay more attention to the mad arms race and try our best and put in all our efforts to halt that. By this I do not mean that our country is not doing anything in this direction. What I want to emphasise is that still more vigorous efforts are necessary in this direction. And more necessary is awareness among the people so that the whole world will be aware of this disastrous race and this problem. As I have stated, connected with this disarmament race is world peace and I am glad to know that, not only as the Prime Minister of this country but also as the Chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, our Prime Minister has been doing whatever is possible in this direction. Take, for example, the conflict between Iran and Iraq which has been going on for the last about four years and which is taking a very disastrous turn. Even the civilian population has been very dangerously hit and a lot of damage has been caused. Our Prime Minister rose to the occasion and issued an appeal to both these countries. Especially since both these countries have friendly relations with our country, it was possible for our Prime Minister, as the Head of the Non-Aligned Movement, to make an appeal for peace or to stop the aggression as far as these two countries are concerned. Not only an appeal was made but I am glad to know that even Secretaries from the External Affairs Ministry also visited these countries and tried to persuade the Heads of both the countries to stop this mad war which may not end in the victory of either of them. And this was done in spite of the fact that we had also received damage during this war. So far nine Indian ships, including Garware Shipping's 'Rishi Vishwamitra' have been sunk, falling prey mainly to Iraq's French-made super standard fighter bombers armed with the dreaded Exocet missiles; twelve vessels, including VLCC Kanchenjunga and tanker Jag Pari, have also been damaged. Over 35 dhows were also lost. In spite of all this loss which we have suffered, we were gracious enough to appeal to both these countries for halting the war and to enter the era of peace and come to the negotiating table.

As far as our neighbours are concerned, from the very beginning we have been unfortunate to have unfriendly neighbours. When we achieved freedom, we thought we were having friendly relations with China but unfortunately we got a bad experience and we were attacked by that very friend with whom we thought we were having friendly relations. Similarly, to Pakistan also, who is our neighbour, we have always been extending our hand of friendship, but on several occasions we had a bitter experience. Even today also, though very sweet words are being used by the Head of that State, the action has always been anti-Indian. Therefore, we have to be alert as far as these neighbours are concerned.

I may finally refer to Sri Lanka. As far as the Sri Lanka problem is concerned, though it is an ethnic problem we have to be very alert in this respect. Nearly 40,000 refugees have come to our country...*(interruption)*.

SOME HON'BLE MEMBERS : One lakh, not 40,000.

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE : It may be one lakh. It is the feeling of the common man in this country, though it may not be correct, that when so many refugees are coming to our country and when Tamil inhabitants have been suffering there, we should take some stern action. After my election to this august House, I was felicitated in Dharavi colony of Bombay and there some common people who were Tamilians, made an appeal to me that when I go to Parliament, I should plead for stern action as far as Sri Lanka is concerned. So, this is the feeling of the common man. Therefore, even though in this respect political solution is necessary, I urge upon the Government to pay proper attention to it and if necessary use diplomatic pressure on Sri Lanka so that the Tamilians do not suffer any more.

With these words I support the Demands.

SHRI KOLANDAIVELU (Gobichettipalayam) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the outset I welcome the Demands of the Ministry of External Affairs. There is a dictum saying : 'To be fore-warned is to be fore-armed.'

Foreign policy of this Government has

been well-built for the last three decades from the days of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru up to this day. We have to maintain well the foreign policy because some foreign powers just like the United States and other countries want to spoil our image in some manner or other.

I had been to Togo, the West African country, for attending the Inter-Parliamentary Union Conference in the last week of March. The team was headed by our hon. Speaker. Myself and six other Members of this House and the Rajya Sabha had been there. Item No. 4 in that Conference was actually brought by our Hon. Speaker and a resolution was passed to that effect. Our Speaker and myself spoke on the Disarmament Policy in that Conference. When the Resolution was about to be passed, the United States and other countries wanted to have a voting on the Resolution. That resolution was passed by a majority of 702 votes against 167 votes. That itself make clear that almost all countries want peace, but the United States and other countries want to spoil the image of India.

Later I went to West Germany. There some of the Indian people had informed us that the West German Government itself was taking steps to tarnish the image of India. They were showing so many pictures from India depicting the prevalence of beggars etc. to the West German people and to the non-resident Indians there. Not only that some of the Punjabi Sikhs are taking asylum there. They are given incentives and even accommodation in five-star hotels and thousands of rupees are being sent from West Germany to Punjab to encourage anti-India activities there. I want to call the attention of the hon. Minister what actually his department is doing to stop such unfriendly acts on the part of a foreign country. These happenings clearly show that we are doing some mistake in our foreign relations and that that must be set right.

Now I come to the Sri Lanka issue. Actually this issue is not a new one. For the last two decades this issue has been alive and you are aware that the Indian sea is now inundated with Tamil blood. Actually the Tamilians are suffering a lot there. You may be aware of this but you

want that this problem should be settled by dialogue. You must also not lose sight of the fact that in spite of your conciliatory attitude the problem is not being solved. Therefore, I would call upon the Prime Minister and the External Affairs Minister to solve the problem immediately and see that there is a settlement of the Tamilian problem in Sri Lanka at the earliest.

SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL (Erandol) : Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the External Affairs Ministry. At the same time I would like to make some suggestions.

Sir, as my friend, Mr. Faleiro has mentioned earlier, in some countries India is considered to be a country of snake-charmers. In other countries, specially in the developed countries, some people think India as a country of beggars, while some African countries think that India is a country of shopkeepers. Our propaganda media should be evenly spread to paint a good picture of our country. With millions of people living in India we have become self-sufficient in food and we are in fact giving food aid to other countries just as wheat is given to Mauritius. About 10,000 tonnes of wheat was given to Mauritius recently, as announced by the Prime Minister. As Chairperson of non-aligned nations we have assumed more responsibility in the matter of external affairs. But as we see, the strength of the staff in our Embassies in different countries has not increased much since Independence. Of course, the task of the External Affairs Ministry had started in right earnest after the Independence and our High Commission in London is having some staff which runs into hundreds, but in our other High Commissions and Embassies we do not have sufficient staff. Even our Scientific Advisers are there only in four countries. So, I would suggest that there should be sufficient strength so that whenever we talk about mutual cooperation, economic and social cooperation, we have our infrastructure to coordinate these activities.

Sir, this century has witnessed so many important world events and the relations between the countries have been complicated since World War I and World War II. Before World War I there were no wars on

a large scale to be called as World Wars and after the Second World War we have seen the holocaust which has prompted all the countries in the world to think about peace. And with the invention of latest nuclear missiles we are thinking more in terms of avoiding the Third World War and for that, different agencies are making sincere and serious efforts to avoid the Third World War. But the nuclear tests are continued by the developed countries and these nuclear tests have to be stopped at any cost. As Chairperson of Non-aligned Nations India has assumed more responsibility of acting seriously in this direction. Sir, in the Ministry of External Affairs, we think of mutual friendship with neighbouring countries developed through mutual cooperation and peace. The friendship with our neighbouring countries is one of the aspects which is occupying our mind in recent years. Our neighbouring countries, most of them, are small as compared to the population of India and the size of India. That is why, in some countries, they have got a fear in their mind about India's population and India's vastness. Therefore, our relations with them should be friendly and cordial and we are trying to give aids and economic assistance to them. Recently, Bhutan has been given assistance in different areas. Bangladesh is also given economic assistance. But Bangladesh is having a stiff attitude about the construction of fencing wire along the border which also requires our attention. We can give assistance to Bangladesh by providing hydel power station on the river Teesta. We can increase our economic assistance to other countries also.

But in Pakistan because of the provision of arms by America—F-16 bombers—development of Islamic bomb and the training of extremists inside the Pakistan territory, we are having a little strained relation with her. Let us hope that over the years the relation would improve further. With our neighbouring countries like Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Nepal and Bangladesh, we have good relations.

Within the Non-Aligned world, we need to know each other more thoroughly for having mutual cooperation in economic development and for this, the idea of NAMEDIA is very good because the picture

given in a developed country, in a Western country about the developing countries is not true to its nature. The Western media agencies are subject to the control of their powers like A.P. and U.P.I. These agencies of America have lost the credibility. In 1973, the credibility was 30%. In 1981, it had come down to 16% as reported in the world news report. But the people in the developing world still tend to believe what is written in the newspaper of those developed countries regarding the developing countries.

I would like to suggest to the External Affairs Minister one thing. We are entering into the new field of space. We are having a mission to Antarctica and we are exploring the ocean. In these fields also, new treaties and new laws at the international level are to be framed. New treaties are to be entered into and we should not lose time in entering into new treaties and new agreements as far as the use of space and exploration of ocean is concerned. Expedition to Antarctica should not be confined to expedition only. We should make use of the resources available there along with the other countries which have made such expeditions.

At the end, I would like to commend the efforts made by our late Prime Minister when she was the Chairperson of NAM and afterwards by Shri Rajiv Gandhi, who is now occupying the chairmanship of NAM.

Lastly, coming to Iran-Iraq wars, we are trying to bring about peace in that region. The hon. Minister and the Delegation that went with him made their efforts to bring them together on one table. But there are other countries also which are worrying us. The challenges before the Ministry of External Affairs are many more. I would suggest that let us face these challenges in a proper perspective and, as the Chairperson of NAM, let us be hopeful of bringing about peace in the world.

SHRI G. G. SWELL (Shillong): Mr. Chairman, Sir, in an annual debate on the Demands of the Ministry of External Affairs, one is tempted to make a survey of the world situation and to find out whether the Ministry has succeeded, where it has failed, where it has done a good job and where it has done a bad job.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): A former Ambassador is the best person to review it.

SHRI G. G. SWELL: The Ministry would of course like to say that they have done a good job despite the problems, despite the difficulties. In the present regional situation in which we find ourselves, one is tempted also to lash at certain groups and parties and to say that the difficulties, the problems, would have been resolved but for the man on the other side of the fence. However, I would not like to be dragged into these areas. They are big subjects by themselves.

I would, however, make cursory references to our relations with our immediate neighbours. Pakistan is not the friendlier, is not the readier, to settle differences with us despite the to-ing and fro-ing at high level and all the namby-pamby about no-war friendship and cooperation. We have in our hands tens of thousands of Sri Lankan citizens as refugees in our country. Thousands more are coming every day which is disquietingly reminiscent of the days before the liberation of Bangladesh. In Bangladesh itself, after the suppression of civil and political rights of the people of Bangladesh, we see evidence of increasing sabre-rattling across the border from Assam, from Meghalaya, from Tripura and from Mizoram. One has only to read the daily papers to know what is happening there. I have a feeling that all this is being built up to solve certain internal problems in Bangladesh. The problem has spilt into India; it has spilt into my part of the country. You know it better than anybody else.

With our great neighbour, China there is temporarily a kind of *gemutlichkeit* but the relations simmer. The rivalry is inbuilt and it would appear to me that we are losing out to the Chinese almost in every sphere of activity. We are losing out to them in oil production; we are losing out to them in food production; we are losing out to them in family control, in population control. One has only to listen to the news of yesterday that the world's population has been significantly reduced because, they say, of the success of China to curb its population growth.

We are losing out to them in sports, in exports, in political clout, including in relation our immediate neighbours.

It may be news to you but it is not news to many that in the last one year itself, Chinese exports in terms of small arms and ammunition to the third world including our immediate neighbours Bangladesh, Pakistan and Sri Lanka amounted to one billion dollars.

I am surprised to learn that behind the present Iranian durability and the present resilience of Iran in its war with Iraq, it is the Chinese arms funnelled through North Korea. It is the Chinese trainers in Iran who are behind the strength and the resilience of Iran. Where are we? We do a lot of talking. I am not against that. But I want to put it to you that our status, our standing in the world, our solution of problems even with our neighbours, can never be solved by high falutin phraseology. It is through hard-ware and it is the hard-ware that speaks and conveys the message. The Minister of State is here. I hope he will convey it to his Ministry and I wonder if he can give us some light as to why we have fallen so much behind China in every respect. I say this but. It does not mean that I have a recipe that you have to do this or you have to do that. The situation is bad enough. Nobody can have a recipe but what I say to the hon. Minister and the Ministry is this. If you cannot control the situation, hold on if you can but, do not try to increase your troubles, do not try by your actions, by your commissions or omissions, open new frontiers of trouble for yourselves.

In this connection, I would like to read out a small news item which was serviced by the Associated Press from Rangoon. It says this :

"Burmese leader Ne Win, "a highly-esteemed old friend of the Chinese people" as described by Chinese President Li Xiannian, is to pay another visit—his twelfth—to China as Sino-Burmese ties reach new heights.

Ne Win spent 75-minutes with the 76 year old Chinese President, whom President San Yu described as "a good friend of Burma for many years," during his recent week long State visit here early this month.

Li, who said Ne Win has all along taken a keen interest in enhancing Sino

Burmese friendship, flew into Rangoon on the eve of the Burmese 'tabaung' (full moon night) festival, leading a 40-strong entourage plus a 27-man media corps.

There were immediate results during the visit described by Li as "most rewarding." China made a gift project, a national theatre, and may increase its purchase of rice and teak from Burma."

The press in India practically took no note of this. I am sure the Ministry of Foreign Affairs also did the same. You may ask this. What is the significance in the visit of one Head of State to another country?

"The Chinese President visits Burma. So what?" You may say that. But the significance is here. It is well known that Chinese top leaders do not move out of their country; They are not globe-trotters. But whenever they move out, it is according to a well-laid out plan, according to their priority. And if I am not mistaken, this is the first time that the President of China has moved out from China on a State visit to another country, and he chose Burma as the first country to visit.

Second, Sir, the strong man in Burma today is U Ne Win. His word is law...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please try to conclude.

SHRI G. G. SWELL : How can we participate in a discussion like this? If you want, I can just sit down. I have just started.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please continue.

SHRI G. G. SWELL : I am just saying, I am warning, I am telling you here today that, if we are not careful, the next invasion to India, if we come into conflict with China, will not only be down the Himalayan escarpment, but through Burma, by land and sea. The shadow of China is dominating on Burma today. Do you like it? Are you aware of it? Sir, I will beg of you to give me five minutes more. Let me clarify this point.

The strong man in Burma today is still U Ne Win. After he had relinquished his Presidentship in 1983 and retained for him-

self only the Chairmanship of Burma's only legal political party, the Burma Socialist Programme Party, he had refused to meet any other Head of State on a visit to Burma; he refused to meet the Hungarian President in 1983; he refused to meet the President of Yugoslavia who paid a visit there before coming to Delhi to attend the Non-Aligned Conference at that time.

AN HON. MEMBER : Why does he refuse?

SHRI G. G. SWELL : Because he had his own ways. That is a different matter and I do not have the time.

But in the case of the President of China, he not only received him which is a departure and, therefore, amazing to the world, but also decided to pay a return visit to China in return for this visit.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have many things to say. But let me say this that Burma is our immediate neighbour, that Burma is the third largest neighbour-country that we have, that our boundary with Burma, land and sea together, is the second longest—if you do not know—after our boundary with China. But whereas our boundary with China runs along high, snowy, inaccessible mountain region, our land border with Burma runs through low hills and meadows and down through the sea. We have the largest sea-boundary with Burma, and I put it to you, Mr. Chairman, and through you to the Ministry that the sea-boundaries, in the near future, are going to be much more important than the land-boundaries. With the Burmese, we have to settle the questions of fishing, we have to settle the questions of the hydro-carbons under the sea-bed, we have to settle the questions of polymetallic nodules of the sea-bed. We are entering that frontier. Is Burma less important than any other country? Burma is the largest single land mass in the whole of South East Asia. It is naturally, potentially, the richest country. Oil is there. It is a rice-exporter. The Food & Agriculture Organization says that it has the capacity of being the largest rice-exporter in the world in the near future. It has the highest stock of hard and valuable wood in the world. It has precious stones. It has oil, on-shore and off-shore.

It has hydel power. It is one country in the world that can be said to be truly

self-sufficient What is our presence in Burma to-day ? Non-existent, nothing. Commercially, the Japanese dominate the scene. Then, the South Koreans and then the French are there and politically the Chinese dominate the scene. This is the picture. What is our national interest ? I want to ask. What is the course of our foreign policy till today ? We have been doing too much the work of a fire brigade. That is what we are doing. We do not anticipate the troubles and when troubles occur we all run helter-skelter and get into each other's way and make a lot of noise and make the situation worse. We face no troubles. We have no problem with Burma. But that does not mean that there will not be troubles tomorrow. We have not anticipated what should be our role in that country. I would ask the Minister of State to take over the brief since you are nodding your head and I am grateful to you that you have given me this much time. Otherwise, I was a little bit confused because of the shortness of time. I would ask you that even today if you want to make up, wake up. If you don't, then let it be written today in this House at this moment that one Member of Parliament has mentioned this. But what you are going to do, I really do not know. There were many opportunities. I had the good fortune of being the Ambassador of this country in Burma. Therefore, I speak with some knowledge. I knew what was being done. I also know that if I had not taken up certain issues directly with the Prime Minister herself, the late, lamented, beloved Indira Gandhi who understood, I would have got nowhere if I had gone through the normal bureaucratic processes. There is a lack of imagination here. I think the minds of the External Affairs Ministry are all too Euro and America centric. Even when we talk about our neighbours, it is only from the lips. The real interests perhaps lie somewhere in Europe or America. I think it is time that we change our attitude that we have more of national pride. We have more of national commitment, that we think more of our own national interests. After all it is in terms of what you are in relation with your neighbours that will determine your status or your success in the world.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY (Puri) : I support the Demands. At the outset, I must submit that since I would

have no time to make speeches, I would only refer to certain problems we see in our international diplomacy.

Our commitment, as it has been defined, is to strengthen the United Nations system. How far is it possible to do it ? Certain super powers—here I mean the USA has categorically stated that countries which do not support them in the United Nations Organisation will not be entitled to American aid. Their whole purpose is to cripple the UN organisation, the UN system itself and they want that it should become another wing of the White House. This is a new phenomena that mankind has to confront with.

16:19 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*]

If the UNO goes out of the picture and it is controlled by one super power, then what will happen ? In the particular background of a nuclear war which is just hanging over our heads, and in an atmosphere where there is a proposal for star war that is defence research programme in space to which the NATO countries' administrations have agreed, and even they, because the people of those countries are opposed to it have a fear that they will be thrown out of power because it is the people's voice—What will happen to mankind ? In that background one can imagine the fate of mankind and how we can serve the cause of peace. I would submit before you how USA wants to cripple UNESCO. Not only USA but Canada is also trying to come out of it and stop contributions. They are opposed to international economic order and international information order. The problem is how to strengthen the UNO. ?

Now, Sir, what is happening in South Africa ? There black people are being butchered. They are being butchered by black police. One tribe has been set against another tribe. In that country what is the policy of USA. ? The policy is non-punitive constructive engagement. Should there be not economic sanctions against South Africa ? Blacks are being dumped in one area so that the white minority can rule over them. The situation is very distressing. There must be all out economic sanctions against South Africa. Our Prime Minister must take steps in that direction.

As far as West Asia is concerned I congratulate the Prime Minister. The Minister of State for External Affairs visited both the countries -Iran and Iraq—to bring about an end to war. Although both Iran and Iraq welcomed his visit yet it has not been possible to end the war. As a matter of fact the war has escalated. The problem is how to end the war between Iran and Iraq. My submission would be that let Soviet Union persuade both Iran and Iraq as both the countries are receiving military assistance from Soviet Union.

Now I come to Sri Lanka. There the problem is different. Indian government has been persuading Sri Lankan authorities for a political negotiation but this has not become possible because some other forces which are working against peace and UNO system itself are working there. Heads of State of U.K., USA and other heads of State should persuade Sri Lanka for a political solution of the issue. Sri Lanka should be persuaded to come to negotiating table. Tamilians cannot be eliminated. Ultimately the Tamil people must get their legitimate right to live in that country and share the responsibility.

As regards Pakistan there is this third Secretaries conference. Now, there has been consensus to bring about a change in the atmosphere of confrontation and hostility but only in today's papers I have seen the American weaponry which Pakistan is getting and that is being amassed in Islamabad. Photos of this weaponry were shown to the Prime Minister. So, both the things cannot go together. My submission is that inspite of our effort for cordial relationship with Pakistan we should not forget the basic consideration that so far as Pakistan is concerned it is attached to USA and the basic policy of Pakistan is influenced by USA and not formulated in Islamabad. So, the danger to peace and existence to mankind comes from one source of which we have to be careful. Now, Sir a few days ago, the subject of 'Aid to India' was being debated upon. The explanation of the U.S. Administration was that they are trying to improve the relationship with India so that this year's American aid may be okeyed. But we must be careful where the danger to peace and human existence is coming from. USA has all along subordinated its ideology to diplomatic strategy.

Sir, who does not know that Pakistan is now about to manufacture (or, has already manufactured) nuclear or atomic weapons? Who does not know that they are in possession of the most sophisticated delivery systems in the world? All the time America is supplying the most sophisticated weaponry to Pakistan. Recently there are reports that 500 missiles have been supplied by America to Pakistan to be fitted in F-16 and Chinese-supplied Fighter-Planes. This is what is happening. So, my submission is this. Let there be all effort made for having cordial relationship with Pakistan. But we must be very cautious of the limitations of Pakistan Government itself.

Regarding Bangladesh, there are many problems with us. Water problem is there. The problem of territorial demarcation is there. Boundary disputes are there. The problem of properties of Indian nationals is there. But the basic factor is this. Bangladesh itself is in difficulties. An attempt is made to transform secular State into a theocratic State. That is what is happening there. That is why popular unrest is growing more and more in Bangladesh. The democratic upsurge of people is being suppressed there. This is a period in which it is rather difficult for them to settle any problem with India. We are only putting up fences within our own territory. But why should they come forward and object to it? This is not correct.

Regarding Soviet Union, the declaration about the deployment of missiles should be unilaterally stopped. But what is the response of USA to it? The Soviet Union deserves our congratulations and the congratulations of the people of the world as a whole for their contribution to the cause of peace and the survival of mankind. We want war to be eliminated from the world for all time to come. That is why the Soviet Union deserves our congratulations. But the response from the USA is nil.

PROF. N.G. RANGA (Guntur): They are going to meet now.

SHRI BRAJA MOHAN MOHANTY: What is the harm if the deployment of missiles had been eliminated in between these talks? Actually, by that step, the possibilities of negotiation would have been enhanced. But that was not done.

'Star War' and other preparations are in fact threatening mankind.

Regarding Nepal and Bhutan, they are very friendly to us. There is no doubt about it. But one thing we must remember. There are forces working inside Nepal and Bhutan which are trying to alienate these countries from India. We should not forget that. But today what we find is that there are forces working within Nepal and Bhutan which are directly working against India. I would request the hon. Minister of External Affairs to be very cautious about it and to guard against these forces. In spite of our best efforts to give all economic assistance, these forces are working against us. Therefore we should be very, very careful.

With these words I support the Demands and I congratulate the hon. Prime Minister for his really positive efforts to establish peace and to end war and conflict in various parts of the world,

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Bansi rhat) :
Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is no need, I think, for any of us to repeat the fact that in general the foreign, policy pursued by this Government and the previous Governments has the general support of the House and of the country because broadly speaking this policy, I think, has been serving the national interest and so, as far as that goes, I have nothing to say, but when we are having a debate on the Demands for Grants, there are some aspects. I cannot, of course, refer to everything in this limited time. There are some aspects on which we have some doubts and some questions and I hope the Government will take the opportunity of this discussion to give us some more information about these matters. For example, Sir, a few days ago, we read in the paper that the Prime Minister had criticised the way in which the United States of America was surreptitiously encouraging the Pakistani authorities to go ahead with the development of a nuclear weapon. He said that the USA appears to be looking the other way while Pakistan is going on with its plan of making perhaps a bomb and it may be that we will suddenly be one day faced with a *fait accompli*. This is in fact a serious statement to make. I want to know if the Government has reliable information if you don't think so, Why should the Prime

Minister talk like this? If this is the situation, why do I find that Shri Romesh Bhandri having just returned from Islamabad has given a glowing certificate to the friendly intentions of President Zia and has said that he found there during his visit every sign that a new chapter of understanding is about to usher in? I wish it were so. But these two statements I can't reconcile very easily with each other. Of course, if we are ever to make headway, material headway in the quest for friendship with Pakistan, I think that would be the best insurance for us against the possible conflict in the future and against the threat of a possible nuclear capability being developed by Pakistan. But about the progress of these we know very little. Also, Sir, at page 2 of this report, it says and I quote :

"Detailed discussions on the two drafts of the 'Friendship Treaty' proposed by India and the 'No-War Pact' proposed by Pakistan resulted in a convergence of views on certain aspects, though differences continued to remain on some of the basic concepts."

This kind of a diplomatic sentence can mean anything and can mean nothing also. This is a normal kind of sentence which you use to confuse people. I am glad that Mr. Ranga is here to encourage me with all his comments. This is one thing on which we would like some clarifications now because you have sent your Foreign Secretary to Pakistan, he had talks and he has come back and in the background and the other kind of statement made by the Prime Minister warning us that something else is going on, where exactly do we stand now and what is the position regarding these two drafts? We would like to know something more concrete and more detailed. A question has already been posed and it is going to be posed more and more in the coming days and I don't expect the Government to give a clear answer here and now. But they must be thinking ahead. If a stage comes where all our efforts at friendship and cooperation with the present Pakistani Government are frustrated, and if it comes about that Pakistan is on the verge of really developing a nuclear weapon, then what is the stand the present Government of India is thinking of adopting? There would be three options open

to us. One option is that we remain as we are. In the past we have taken a firm stand against developing any kind of nuclear bomb, though we have the technical capability, if we so desire. We have stuck firmly to our position that we will use our nuclear knowhow only for peaceful purposes. We can continue to stick to that. The second option may be that we can also join the race, join the nuclear club as it were, if Pakistan joins. The third option is that we depend on somebody else ; we go under somebody's umbrella. I do not know, you may say that it is too premature to think of these things now, but the reports that keep pouring in certainly point to the need of the Government thinking ahead, planning ahead and sooner or later telling this country what is the option that they would prefer.

As far as Sri Lanka is concerned, Shri Jayawardene has recently paid a visit to Pakistan and there has been some sort of a joint communique which claims that the two Presidents have reached an accord against use of violence and terrorism. On the other hand, we have also been active in talking to the Sri Lankan Government and authorities and we are told that we have also reached a joint stand with Sri Lanka and that seems to include one item which is that until terrorism and violence stop, there can be no fruitful dialogue for a peaceful solution. I do not know if this is a correct report which has appeared. For terrorism and violence in Sri Lanka who is the main culprit? Whose leg is in the boot? It is one of the few countries in this part of the world, where the army itself is perpetrating the worst type of terrorism and violence against Tamilians in Sri Lanka. What exactly are we proposing to do, I do not know. I am against this talk of our taking very strong action without spelling out what people want. Some people a few months ago were advocating that we send our armed forces to invade Sri Lanka. We should not do that; we should not be provoked into that, whether one likes it or not. But something has to be done. Flow of refugees into our country is threatening to turn into a flood. One report that I have read said that Mr Bhandari on his visit to Colombo had suggested some sort

of a package formula to Shri Jayawardene for a solution of this crisis in Sri Lanka, which includes that the army should return to its barracks in the Tamil majority areas. On the other side, the terrorist acts should stop and district councils, whatever they are, should be set up and amnesty should be declared for people who are arrested and lying in prison. I do not know whether the TULF would agree to such terms, but I would like to know whether some type of package formula like this has been suggested from our side and if so, what is the reaction of Sri Lankan authorities so far?

I would like to know what is the work that we are doing among the overseas Indians. I am referring, of course, particularly now to the problem of Sikhs who have settled abroad, in Canada, the USA and Britain. We know that among them a great deal of disquieting propaganda is going on and we are seeing the fruits of it also and plenty of reports are available now as to what kind of sentiments are being worked up or have been worked up among them. Mr. Jagjeet Singh Chohan wrote a letter to Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, which has been released to press in London on the 27th of March. In that letter there is one sentence, which I quote:

"I have been re-assured by the stand of Her Majesty's Government in respect of my domicile as well as my activities and statements in this country."

I do not know what assurance was given by Her Majesty's Government. But Mr. Jagjeet Singh Chohan says that he is reassured by what Her Majesty's Government has told him about his activities and statements. On the other hand, we are being assured repeatedly, and I believe Mrs. Thatcher is paying a flying visit to this country in the near future, we are told that they have assured our Government that they will try to put a curb or a restriction on this type of anti-Indian activities in the United Kingdom. But, please tell us, what is the position. Some work has got to be done independently among the Indians who are living abroad. Of course, many of these people have ceased to be Indian citizens. They have become UK nationals. That is a different matter. But we must inten-

sify our independent work among the Indian community living abroad and not depend only on our High Commissions or our Embassies who have to do some official work now and then. Some initiative should be taken for mobilising people. There are plenty of people there, our own people, who are thoroughly opposed to this kind of terrorist, extremist and secessionist activities. What does Government of India do to encourage active participation and mobilisation of Indians there against this type of activities ?

Then Sir, our young Prime Minister is shortly going out on his formal, official, shall I say, Odyssey to the Soviet Union and to the United States and so on. He has said in an interview to the *Hindustan Times* on the 2nd of this month, and I quote :

“Referring to his visit, when asked about the goals of his visit to the USA, next June he has said, ‘I think one of the most important things would be to get to know each other on a personal level so that misconceptions can be removed.’”

That means that some sort of personal equation with President Reagan might help to remove what he admits are misconceptions. Of course, I do not know. But in age I am rather senior to the Prime Minister and I do not think you will object to that. His father was a friend of mine and he used to study with me in England in the days before Rajiv has born. I would just like to give a piece of friendly advice to the Prime Minister, about how things operate in the United States system today. I have no objection to his going and trying to have some sort of personal talk with the President of the United States. But I can assure him that all these problems which we are facing, which are emanating from the United States are not going to be solved on the basis of any personal equation or on a personal level. It has nothing to do with personal level at all. We are, traditionally, historically, always in favour of disarmament. But we know that one of the biggest hurdles to bringing about some kind of environment for disarmament is the fact that the United States Government and the President of the United States, his advisers and his cabinet, include a number

of representatives of the biggest arms manufacturers. These monopoly armament manufacturers in the United States whose interest is always totally against disarmament, who are making billions of dollars of profit through enormous orders that they get directly from the United States Administration and the Pentagon, it is they, who are insisting that this programme, this mad programme must go on and more and more types of lethal weapons must be manufactured.

This is the system there. In the Soviet Union at least, there are no private manufacturers of weapons who can make profit out of them. The more the Soviet Union is compelled to go in for sophisticated arms, the more they are having to generate funds which can be spent for peaceful economic development. But in the United States, it is the direct interest of these big, well known firms who are making billions of dollars of profit out of the armaments race. And they are represented on President Reagan's Cabinet. They are occupying top positions of Advisers to the White House. So, I hope the Prime Minister will not go with any illusions, and think that by personal talks and personal cordial relations with the President of the United States, this environment can be changed. It cannot.

It is a very good thing that we have done, as the leader of NAM, that the six-nation meeting was held in Delhi, and the appeal was issued. We know what the response has been, though this blue book will, of course, never spell it out. It is very diplomatic. It says :

“.....excepting that in one case, we did not get a favourable response.”

That one case we have to guess : who it was.

Here, there is a proposal referred to just now; a proposal which was made two days ago by Mr. Gorbachov suggesting a moratorium upto November on the deployment of missiles in Europe. What is the reaction of the Government of India ? They do not say a single word about it. Do they welcome it ? Do they appeal to others also to fall in line ? Are they doing anything to try to see that this initiative is helped by generating more

public opinion in its favour? Upto now, I do not see any official reaction at all.

The irony of the situation is that while being firmly in favour of disarmament as we have to be in the interests of humanity and in our own interest, we in this sub-continent have also got involved willy-nilly into a mini arms race. Such is the balance of forces in the world today and around our borders, that we who have not got enough resources to provide the basic necessities of life for our people, are willy-nilly compelled to spend Rs. 7000 crores or Rs. 8,000 crores a year on Defence, simply because of the environment around our borders, particularly the threat emanating from Pakistan, and what is going on in the Indian Ocean. We stand for disarmament, and we are ourselves trapped in a mini arms race, which has become like a vicious circle. We cannot get out of it. Therefore, it is of greatest importance that apart from our general stand, posture and our campaign for world disarmament, we should do everything possible to see that in our own region and in our own sub-continent, some relaxation of tension and some move towards a more friendly and peaceful atmosphere is created, so that we do not have to waste so much of our resources on things which may, of course, never be required to be used, perhaps. But we have to go on keeping our gunpowder dry; and developing countries can never afford to do this kind of a thing.

Finally, a very important aspect which has been referred to several times in different places in this Report but which has not got much attention here, is the economic aspect. It is very correctly being pointed out here that ultimately, a stable peace and international cooperation cannot be achieved, unless the present international economic order is changed. This was one of the main foundations on which NAM movement has been built. This was the basis of the Economic Declaration of the NAM Conference, of the Heads of States Conference held here two years ago under the chairmanship of Mrs. Gandhi. That Economic Declaration makes it quite clear, and this Report also bears it out that there has been no kind of relaxation in the attitude of the Western industrialized countries towards the requirements of the developing world. It is getting worse: the high inter-

est rates, the enormous debt obligations which these countries are being burdened with the protectionist policies being followed by them in respect of their own markets, the fall in our commodity prices which is being imposed upon us, and all these things. This is a struggle, a struggle against an unjust and exploitative global financial and economic order which is being imposed on us by a handful of rich, affluent countries.

This in today's conditions is a new struggle against a new type of exploitation and colonialism. The Government of India has done a little bit to try to promote cooperation between South and South countries as it were. But I don't think that is enough. The time has come when the Government of India, so long as it remains the leader of NAM at least we would not remain a Chair Person of NAM for ever; it is not a permanent post; I do not know whether it is for three years or four years; while we are still in this vantage position, The Government of India which has an added advantage that our country among all the developing countries is economically the most advanced country, we have the strongest economy among them all; we have more resources and varied resources than they have; why not take this opportunity to try to bring about some concerted action, some collective concerted action among the NAM countries, among the developing countries to put pressure on the advanced capitalist countries, particularly in respect of debt repayment obligations. This question has been raised now in many quarters of the world that the poorest countries, those which are the poorest, their debt should be written off; and those which are not the poorest, may be like us, some relaxation in the schedule of debt repayment should be sought to be achieved by putting some collective pressure on these countries. It is not all a one-way traffic I may tell you. I have no time to go into that now. But the position in America now is that if a number of these poorer countries are not in a position to repay their debt on time as per schedule, if they default on their payment, I do not know, what will happen to them. But many American banks will fail, they will have to close their doors. It is not as though they can extract a pound of flesh

somehow or other under all circumstances.

Finally, I will say this long frustrated conference on the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace, it has been deliberately sabotaged and postponed repeatedly. We know who it is; it is mainly the United States which is mainly objecting. Now, it is planned for next year, 1986. There is nothing to give us any confidence that it will not be sabotaged again. I would humbly suggest to the Government of India that we may not be able to get a universal conference like that under the auspices of the United Nations. If the power like the United States are determined to scuttle, why not our government take the initiative to organise an Indian Ocean Conference of the littoral countries bordering the Indian Ocean and which are vitally interested in this concept of zone of peace in the Indian Ocean. Let them meet together and hold their own conference and project some specific concrete ideas, some concept of how this zone of peace is to be created. What does it mean after all? What are the requirements which will make a zone of peace? If they get together and organise a conference of the Littoral States and project certain ideas and certain strategy of their own, I think it will contribute to build quite powerful world public opinion in favour of us, that is to say in favour of this concept and strengthen the hands of the developing countries in forcing the recalcitrant powers to come to the table, as far as the Indian Ocean is concerned.

These are some of the ideas. There are many things one could speak of, but there is no time. I hope we will get some clarification, some new knowledge, some information and some assurances from the Minister when he replies.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH (Aska) : I support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of External Affairs. In spite of trying phase through which India has undergone it has been wedded thoroughly to the basic principles of our foreign policy such as our assured commitment to the policy of Non-alignment and to promotion of global cooperation and understanding.

We have unhesitatingly performed our responsibilities playing an accountable role in fostering peace, security, disarmament and development in the world and we are against any type of colonialism.

Our Prime Minister emphasised that the country has inherited a 'well-tested and consistent foreign policy' which has served the national interest. He has appropriately stated, "We have always believed in working for peace. Our policy is to be friends with all countries on the basis of reciprocity and mutual benefit. Our commitment to non-alignment and a new world economic order based on justice, equality and mutual cooperation is unshakeable."

The Six-Nation Summit met under the Chairmanship of our Prime Minister on the 28th January, 1985 and it reaffirmed the appeal of 22nd May, 1984. The Six-Nation Summit had urged upon the five nuclear states by unanimously adopting the New Delhi Declaration calling for an all-embracing halt to the testing, production and deployment of nuclear weapons as also prohibition or use of the outer space for such weapons. Parallel to this process it is urgently necessary to transfer precious resources, presently wasted on military expenditure, to social and economic development. The strengthening of the United Nations system must be an important part of this effort.

The Year 1985 will be the year when hope begins to prevail over terror and by October 24 this year the 40th anniversary of the United Nations, the first concrete steps to avert the threat to the survival of humanity would have taken.

Our Prime Minister has emphasised many times that although India has the capacity it would not go in for nuclear weapons. It had exploded a peaceful nuclear device in 1974 and since then no further test has been done.

Immediately on assuming office, our Prime Minister has pledged his commitment to the basic approach and principles of foreign policy bequeathed by Jawaharlal Nehru and Shrimati Indira Gandhi. He has emphasised that we believe in working for peace and our policy is to be friends with all countries.

We also believe in safeguarding the independence of state and upholding the

principles of non-interference and non-intervention.

We had been to Fiji and there the Indian people have contributed a lot to that country, for its development. What is the trend there now? Similarly in Nairobi also we found several Indians who had contributed to the development of that country. You will find everywhere that Indians have gone to other countries, developed those countries and later they were forced to leave those countries. Take, for instance our neighbouring country, that is Sri Lanka. In Sri Lanka long ago, in 500 B. C. one of our Indian Kings preached Buddhism and it continued up to 200 B.C.

17.00 hrs.

Now in Sri Lanka Indian Tamils are facing great difficulties. About one lakh of families have come to India. Certainly India does not want the disintegration of Sri Lanka. But it cannot be a silent spectator to all that is happening there. We have bitter experience with Pakistan. The stockpiling of sophisticated arms by Pakistan and its involvement with Punjab affairs certainly warn us that we should be very very careful. Coming to Bangla Desh, for obvious reasons it ought to be friendly with India. But the question of fencing the border, which in no way lower the prestige of Bangla Desh, has been made an issue by it. We find that Government is one thing and the people another. Certainly the people of Bangla Desh, Sri Lanka and Pakistan do not want to have any conflict with India. But it so happens that when there is some internal conflict, the Governments in those countries, in order to divert the attention of the people there, raise some issue against their neighbouring country i.e. India. When we think of our relations with China, we have got a border dispute with it. And the road between China and Pakistan is certainly within the legitimate territory of India which is now under the illegal occupation of China and Pakistan. When all these countries—Pakistan, China, Sri Lanka, want to join together for well known reasons, we must be careful. In this context, our Government is leaving no stone unturned to have good relations

with our neighbouring countries. With those countries, the dialogue is going on and the bilateral issues are to be solved by negotiation. Steps taken by our Government under the leadership of our Prime Minister, will bear fruit.

17:03 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

When we talk of the Indian Ocean, India has been urging all along that it should be declared a zone of peace. The U.N.O. has to consider this aspect and do it for the betterment of mankind.

It is said that India is tilting towards Russia. This is mis-reading the facts. Russia, on many issues, has sided with India. It is quite natural those who are friendly to us we are friendly to them. Our relations with America are strained only because they are supplying sophisticated weapons to Pakistan. This matter requires consideration. The Prime Minister will be visiting U.S.A. for the inauguration of the Festival of India. After discussion, it may take dimension. India stands for peace in all parts of the world. It is not a nation which depends on production of armaments and unless there is war in any part of the world, there will be unemployment in the country. It is a nation which has adopted the principles of Buddha and Mahatma Gandhi. So, we are trying our best to bring peace in the world. Our Prime Minister has sent emissaries to put an end to Iran-Iraq war. Our foreign policy is to see that not only peace prevails in the world but also to see that all the issues with our neighbouring countries are settled by discussion and also to see that mankind grows in the world.

There has been a steady improvement in India's bilateral relations with Bangladesh, Pakistan, China and Sri Lanka and we may reach some understanding.

The continued tension and uncertainty in the region of Central America has also caused concern to us. Our Prime Minister, who happens to be the Chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, had issued a statement on 14th November, 1984 on the Central American crisis, expressing concern over the escalating tensions and threats of armed conflicts in and around Nicara-

gua. The late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi had pointed out a few days ago before her tragic assassination that humankind survives only if the big power learn to co-exist. India believes in creating an atmosphere conducive to discussion and the will to find out solutions, for which our Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi has been steadfastly striving.

SHRI D. P. JADEJA (Jamnagar) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Demand for Grants under the Ministry of External Affairs and while doing so, I will restrict my observations to Chapter VII and that too, to a part of Chapter VII—a part of the world from where we can have no fear or aggression or war or even economic domination. I am referring to that part of the world which is known as Latin America, including the Caribbeans with whom almost two decades ago our relations were only marginal to the conduct of our foreign policy. Today, India's links with these countries have reached new significant heights. In this task of forging closer and meaningful relations with what is often said as the third largest constituent of the developing world, namely, Latin America, the pioneering and painstaking efforts of the Ministry of External Affairs, under the able guidance of our Prime Minister and the External Affairs Minister are undeniably creditable.

It is almost sixteen years ago that our beloved Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi visited almost ten countries of Latin America and it was she who laid the foundation of India's policy for Latin America. Following her historic visit to as many as ten countries in this distant region, Mrs. Gandhi gave a sense of direction and support to a positive policy approach which I am happy to say has blossomed today into a mature partnership with major Latin American countries. Evidence of the growing mutuality of interests between India and Latin America are not hard to perceive. In the past twelve months important exchanges of visits at State level between India and Latin America have taken place. Several useful agreements to establish and promote co-operation in a variety of fields ranging from science and technology, trade and culture have been signed between India and major Latin American countries.

Of these two things are of major importance. One is our President's visit to the two leading democracies in that region—Mexico and Argentina. In fact, it is the first ever State visit by an Indian Head of State to Latin America. In addition, our President took that opportunity to meet the President of yet another ancient democratic country—Peru.

The other noteworthy event is the visit of the leaders of both Mexico and Argentina in January this year. They not only participated in the Six-Nation Disarmament Summit called by our Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, but also exchanged useful protocols to promote co-operation in science and technology, trade and cultural fields between our country and theirs.

The high esteem with which our late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi was held by the people of Latin America was amply reflected when a large number of dignitaries and official representatives participated on the occasion when we paid our last respects to our departed leader. To many a Latin American undoubtedly Shrimati Gandhi was a moving spirit and the real voice and representative of the aspirations of the people of the developing world. It was for this consideration that when she presided over the Seventh Non-aligned Summit in New Delhi almost two years ago, a large number of Latin American countries participated in that Conference. In fact, the largest representation was from Latin America; justifiably so because of Shrimati Gandhi's genuine interest and personal involvement in the affairs of Latin America. It was not surprising to me, therefore, when I read recently an Indian scholar on international affairs writing about our late Prime Minister :

“What most Indians do not know was Shrimati Gandhi's lively interest in Central America, indeed the entire geopolitical region of Latin America and the Caribbean. She had regarded this vast region as an area of every significant development in the contemporary world.”

No wonder Shrimati Gandhi often lamented that we cannot ignore this vast region and that much more needs to be done as far as this distant region was concerned.

Needless to say Latin America offers both challenges and opportunities to our global policy and approaches, just as large Latin America and the Caribbean look to us for inspiration, guidance and direction.

Restoring peace in Central America is as imperative as rehabilitating the debt-ridden Latin America--both issues pose a challenge to the cause of non-alignment as a basic diplomatic principle for developing countries. Evolving a new world order calls for diffusing the Central American crisis and resolving the economic crisis that confronts the Latin American countries.

In this context the initiative taken by our Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi is credit-worthy. Hardly three weeks following his assumption of office as Prime Minister one of his first tasks to which he attended was holding a high-level meeting of the Ministry of External Affairs where he emphatically stated India's continuing commitment and dedication to the principles and objectives of the non-aligned movement and expressed grave concern at the escalating tension in the Central American region: that the Central American crisis is an important matter of concern is further underlined by the numerous initiatives that Shri Rajiv Gandhi, as leader of the non-aligned world, has taken.

Equally significant is the offer of economic assistance particularly to Nicaragua. Alongside, before long, effort should be made to open an Indian Mission in Nicaragua. To this end an assurance was made by our Minister of External Affairs some two years ago. I trust this matter will be given utmost importance now.

This brings me to yet another matter regarding Indian missions in Latin America. You may recall that some years ago, we had agreed to exchange missions with yet another Latin American democracy in the Andean region, namely, Ecuador. In response to this understanding, Ecuador set up a mission some time in the Seventies which functioned for a couple of years and later on it was withdrawn. But we have not reciprocated. Again, some two years ago, the Government of Ecuador has re-established its mission on an understanding given by us to the President of Ecuador at the United Nations in Septem-

ber, 1983. I strongly command that we take the necessary steps at the earliest to establish our Mission in Quito, Ecuador. Apart from that promoting useful economic cooperation that such exchange of missions is, in my judgment, a very necessary reciprocal gesture. Given our expanding relations with several other countries of Latin America, it is equally necessary for us to appoint honorary consuls in countries where we have no missions as yet. In this connection, I suggest that we consider immediately such arrangements in countries like Bolivia, Belize and in cities like Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo in Brazil. When I visited Belize in 1983, I met a large number of Indians settled in Belize who expressed their great difficulty in dealing with our Mission in Jamaica which also caters to Belize. In the event establishing an independent mission in Belize is not possible in the near future, at least it is worthwhile considering our Mission in Mexico accredited to Belize instead of Jamaica for logistic convenience.

Bilateral joint commissions to explore and identify areas of economic, technological and educational cooperation with countries such as Mexico and Argentina have already been established and some useful work has also been accomplished. Time is now ripe for setting up such joint commissions with other major Latin American countries. In this connection, I suppose priority must be given to Brazil with which country we have completed preliminaries.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : What about Argentina ?

SHRI D. P. JADEJA : We have already dealt with Mexico and Argentina. Two-way trade between India and Latin America calls for developing on a firm footing shipping facilities. It is encouraging that with Argentina we have worked out transportational infrastructure which, I am given to understand, will cater to our trade with Atlantic coastal ports. At the same time, we should take necessary initiative to bridge our lacunae with the Pacific countries of Latin America.

In the realm of economic cooperation a matter that has not yet been given adequate consideration, is the rich opportunity that obtains in the field of agriculture.

While at present, India has almost achieved self-sufficiency in food and food-stock, our agricultural specialists are already worried about how we are going to feed our increasing population at the turn of the present century specially when we would have practically exhausted all possible agricultural lands. In contrast, the pressure of population on land is still insignificant if not, non-existent in Latin America. Some of the Latin American countries especially in the southern cone such as Argentina, Paraguay, Bolivia and parts of Southern Brazil are rich with agricultural resources and they welcome agriculturists to settle in their countries. During my visits to these parts of Latin America, I have gathered that these countries are equally keen to work out some arrangements mutually beneficial to both of us to develop their rich agricultural resources. Specifically, northern regions of Argentina are suitable for coffee culture; officials of Argentina consider whether our Government will be willing to offer skilled labour in coffee culture to develop these lands. This would help Argentina to import less of coffee. So also, there are lands which are well suited for a variety of pulses which India needs in increasing quantities. Similarly, potential exists in other areas for promoting livestock in a variety of Latin American countries—from Belize to Brazil. It is, therefore, my earnest request that appropriate Ministries in consultation with the Ministry of External Affairs launch at least a study-group to explore the possibilities of cooperation in the field of agriculture, plantations and aqua-culture.

Two more points which require immediate attention are the following: We all know that the general political climate of Latin America is fast changing, undergoing a transformation to the good. I refer to the democratic trend in Latin America. Only a decade ago, most Latin American countries were under the spell of military rule. Today the picture has changed. In the last twelve months, democratic elections have taken place in most parts of Latin America heralding a leadership chosen by the people. It is but inevitable that the people of Latin America, just as we in India, are committed to the cause of democracy as both of us are to world peace. It is their commitment to this twin princi-

ple that has brought a host of Latin American countries closer to us and to join the Non-Aligned movement. They have had a great tradition of parliamentary democracy which is why they spearheaded the Inter-parliamentary Convention. This year in June, the Latin American Parliament is meeting in Brasilia, the capital of Brazil and I believe that India has been invited to participate in the Convention. It is my earnest desire that we offer our whole-hearted support to this cause and participate in the Convention. At the same time, we should organise more parliamentary delegations visiting the different legislatures of Latin America. At present the number is more on their side.

I would like to make one final comment. One of the ideas dear to our departed leader, Shrimati Indira Gandhi was promoting scholarship in our country about Latin America. Shrimati Gandhi herself was greatly fascinated by ideas that had emanated from the region on a variety of subjects including importantly liberation theology native to Latin America. It was for these reasons, soon after her return from Latin America, she announced on the floor of the House that the Government would establish a Centre for Latin American Studies in this country. To my regret, so far no such centre has yet been set up. There is only one modest programme of Latin American studies in the School of International Studies of the Jawaharlal Nehru University that is presently in existence. In contrast, in many of the Latin American countries, Indian studies and languages are carried out in their leading universities. I, therefore, urge upon the Government to take necessary steps on a top priority basis to establish a centre for promoting Latin American Studies in J. N. University where already exists the much-needed infrastructure.

While concluding my speech, I support the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of External Affairs. I would make a request that more funds should be provided for this vital Ministry because the stand that India is taking today in the world situation is something unique. To keep up this stand and to keep up the aspirations of the people of the world, we need more funds and more missions abroad with adequate staff at all centres.

SHRI C. P. THAKUR (Patna) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of External Affairs.

First of all, I congratulate our Prime Minister on his achievements during the shortest span of time in regard to the way in which he is handling the Ministry of External Affairs, the way in which he is very cautiously moving towards normalising tension in Sri Lanka, the way in which he is talking with Pakistan, assessing the arms aid given to Pakistan and at the same time trying to be friendly with Pakistan, the way he has sent the Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs to solve the Iran-Iraq problem and the way the Chinese problem is also moving towards some solution.

So, in a short span of time, he has handled the External Affairs Ministry very well. When I was going through an American newspaper report on the 100th day of the present Government, I found that they were no doubt praising this Government. But one thing that they said was that the Government under Mr. Rajiv Gandhi is going to emerge as a strong Government. That reminded me of two incidents of ancient India. The first is that when Alexander the Great came to India and when he heard that Nanda Kingdom was very powerful having a strong army he returned and did not advance further. The second is that the King Ashoka could send his emissary to different countries and could maintain good relations only when he was intensely strong.

From these incidents, we have to learn one lesson that, no doubt, we have a policy of non-alignment, but we have to be very strong. India has to emerge as a strong country if it has to be positively, a non-aligned country. Therefore, the approach of our foreign policy should be positive; it should be persuasive; it should be preventive; it should be pervasive and, last but not the least, it should bring some profit to the country also.

I will take up these approaches to our foreign policy one by one. Firstly, I take up the concept of positive non-alignment. As I have said earlier, unless we are strong nobody is going to honour us.

This is what Dinkar once said :

Kshama sohi us bhujang ko gis ke pas garal bhi ho "

We have to be strong. Otherwise, nobody will listen to a weak nation. So, we have to emerge as a very strong country at this juncture. When Pakistan is being armed with all sort of sophisticated weapons, when there is danger all around our country, we have to do some re-thinking on our nuclear policy. Some of the hon. Members have suggested that there are three alternatives. I think, there is only one alternative and that is to go nuclear. Unless India goes nuclear, nobody is going to listen to us ; nobody is going to look towards us. India has to emerge as a very powerful and strong country.

One hon. Member asked as to why our Prime Minister is going to America, whether he has to clarify some of the misconceptions there. Yes ; certainly, there are certain misconceptions in the minds of the Americans and the American Government. They have always backed wrong regimes ; they have always backed Governments headed by dictators, not by democrats. This is a wrong conception and it has to be clarified. If our Prime Minister succeeds in that, it will restore democracies in many countries of the world.

As regards the positive approach to our foreign policy, the Ministry of External Affairs must create a positive image of India in other countries. They must create an image that at this juncture we are not at the snake charmer's stage. Our growth in industry, agriculture, education and science and technology should be projected in foreign countries. Coming to another aspect of pervasive approach, we must get all information from other countries, not only information which is political but also developmental information and all those information should be fed back to our country so that we can also rapidly grow in those directions. We are not doing that at the moment.

As regards preventive aspect, as some of the hon. Members have pointed out, the slogan of Khalistan was started about 10 or 12 years ago. But nobody bothered about that, in those days. There are many things which we have to prevent. We can-

not request either America or other countries not to do espionage in our country. Nobody will listen to that. So, we have to be preventive on all fronts. That is one of the functions of the Foreign Affairs Ministry.

Somboddy said that our Foreign Ministry should also bring some profit by way of trade. Yes, that is one of the aims of the Foreign Ministry these days and in that we have to be explorative.

I was once travelling with a South Korean from United States. He was studying the tastes of people and he said "I am going to study just the tastes and likings of the people of the different countries and I am going to report back to our country so that we can produce goods suitable to their tastes" That type of system is not developing in our country.

We have also to study the tastes, trends and likings of people of different countries and we can earn a lot of foreign exchange if we suitably modify our export. That should be actually one of the functions of the Foreign Affairs Ministry.

Coming to our neighbours, somebody has raised a great alarm about China. But we should not be alarmed at that. We have to be always careful about all our neighbours. What Chanukya long back said about our neighbours is this :

"Always you have to be careful with yours neighbours and the countries next to your neighbour will be friendly."

That holds good today. We have to be careful about our borders whether it is Himalayas of North, Burma in the East or the vast sea in the South and partly in the West. For that purpose, we have to build ourselves strong, militarily and industrially.

Unless we do that, no country in the world will honour us. That is the key or corner-stone of our foreign policy. We have to develop better relations with certain countries of the world as has been emphasised by some of the learned speakers earlier and I have some personal experience of it.

Possibly, we are not paying much attention to South-East Asia. All the South-East Asian countries are looking towards us. *(Interruptions)*

These countries have got two alternatives, India and China, to look forward to. Only if India emerges as a stronger country, these countries will look towards us. Therefore, we find that strength is the key of success to our foreign policy. But certainly we should explore and we should establish more cordial relations with these countries and with some of the rich African countries. The trade relations have not got explored very much with those countries.

One of my learned friends has mentioned that we should be more explorative with the Latin American countries. India, as a leader of the non-aligned countries and a leader of the countries that live in non-alignment and peaceful co-existence we should be more persuasive in North-South dialogue in anti-nuclear talks and in solving the problems of the black in South Africa.

India, no doubt, should revise or should do some re-thinking on its nuclear policy. It is good that our Prime Minister is going to strengthen our relations with Russia but with Russia also we should try to be equals and behave as equals but not as an inferior or weak country. Our aim should be to be equal to those super powers and then everybody will respect us. So, the key of our foreign policy should be to make India a very strong country, militarily, economically and industrially.

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU (Madras North) :
Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you for having permitted me to express my sentiments in this debate. In the Annual Report of the Ministry of External Affairs on page 1, it is stated :

"The ethnic disturbances in Sri Lanka in July-August 1983 and the continued violence against Tamils caused deep concern in India. India continued to emphasize the urgent need of finding a political solution which would restore ethnic harmony in Sri Lanka and enable the communities there to live in amity and peace"

At the outset I want to say that the Central Government did not take immediate and effective steps to stop the Tamil

genocide in Sri Lanka. Thousands of Tamils were butchered daily, but this Government has been simply watching and issuing statements.

There is a notion among some of the people who run the Government here that the Tamils are immigrants to Ceylon. It is a wrong notion ; I want to say this most emphatically. I want to say with all the emphasis at my command that the Tamils are the original inhabitants of Sri Lanka. Dr. Paul E. Peris, the Sinhalese historian, has written that the Dravidians were the original inhabitants of Sri Lanka. Their 'Mahavamsa' and 'Culavamsa' admit that their history in the island commences only after the arrival of Prince Vijaya from an upper kingdom in the overhanging sub-continent *via* the Indian Ocean. As a matter of fact, the Ceylon Government in 1956 issued a commemorative postal stamp which depicted the scene of 'Arrival of Vijaya' which was subsequently withdrawn in a hurry.

During the days of Raja Raja Chola, Eelam was the name with which Sri Lanka was identified. The rule of the Tamils spread extensively extending to the entire 'Eelam'. Therefore, Sinhalese historians themselves accept that the Tamils were the original inhabitants there...

PROF. N. G. RANGA (Guntur) :
Sinhalese also.

Dr. A. KALANIDHI (Madras Central) :
The rest of the people were settlers. The Tamils were the original inhabitants.

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU : The Dravidians were the original inhabitants and they included mostly the Tamils, the Andhras, the Kannadigas and the Malayalees.

Because of colonisation by the Portuguese, the Dutch and the British people, a new name, Sri Lanka, came to be given. Among the three colonial powers which ruled the people of the island, the British alone were able to conquer, colonise and control the entire island which till then had been shared by the Tamils and the Sinhalese with their clearly demarcated sovereign territories ruled by their respective kings.

Having established themselves as the sole master of the island, the British

sought to streamline the separate administrative and judicial systems for the Tamils and Sinhalese and to strengthen their hold over the island by integrating its politically divided territories. In 1829, the British Crown appointed the Colebrook Commission to "examine the ways to implement in Ceylon the political philosophy and administrative system" of the British. The Commission in its report submitted to the Crown in 1832 said that there was no need for continuing the separate administrative systems in different parts of the country and that differences among the people inhabiting the island should be minimised and the British administrative methods adopted. It had further submitted that the island should be integrated, separate administrations abolished, common laws for both the Tamils and Sinhalese enacted and a British type unitary government be established for the whole island. On 18th February, 1833, the British King issued a charter to render justice in the island of Ceylon by which the recommendations of the Commission had been made laws. Thus Ceylon—a single political State—came into being. This was how the Sinhalese got 'their' country ! The British continued to rule the island upto 1948.

"...During the British rule the Tamils were not discriminated or treated as a minority people.

But after the exit of the British in 1948, the Sinhalese became obsessed with their numerical superiority and set in motion a cruel process of racial discrimination interspersed with periodical violence against the Tamils. Political rivalry between the Sinhalese leaders in which success depended on the extent to which one was able to carry the majority of the Sinhalese people, made them blind to the need to keep the Tamil population content by giving them equal rights with respect to their language, religion, education and other vital matters.....

It was to ensure their survival and progress that the Tamils in 1976 decided to demand a separate and sovereign State. A separate Tamil State for the Tamil people means revival of the pre-1833 territorial boundaries of the traditional Tamil areas and

integrating these areas into one State. There is nothing wrong in this demand for a separate State since the July genocide has amply demonstrated the vulnerability of the Tamils to the frenzy and fury of the Sinhalese. If the Tamils are not acceptable as equals to the Sinhalese, it is only fair that the Tamils should be granted a separate and sovereign State. It is worth noting that in Singapore the Tamils have been granted equal ethnic, linguistic, religious and cultural rights even though they are a mere seven per cent of the population. In Finland the Swedish people who form three per cent of the population have also been enjoying equal rights."

But, in Sri Lanka the Tamils form 25% of the population.

How did the Sinhalese and the President, Jayawardene get the courage to butcher the Tamilians? In the year 1983—on August 5, 1983, our late Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi spoke to Jayawardene on the telephone stating that "India would not interfere in Sri Lanka's affairs in any way." This gave them the boldness to butcher the Tamil community. At the same time, during the Bangladesh crisis, Mrs Gandhi heralded in this august House on 31st March 1971 and I quote :

"This House expresses its deep anguish and grave concern at the recent developments in East Bengal. A massive attack by armed forces, despatched from West Pakistan has been unleashed against the entire people of East Bengal with a view to suppressing their urges and aspirations...."

The people of East Bengal are being sought to be suppressed by the naked use of force by bayonets, machine guns, tanks, artillery and aircraft.

The Government and people of India have always desired and worked for peaceful, normal and fraternal relations with Pakistan. However, situated as India is and bound as the people of the sub-continent by centuries old ties of history, culture and tradition, this House cannot remain indifferent to the macabre tragedy being enacted so close

to our border. Throughout the length and breadth of our land, our people have condemned, in unmistakable terms, the atrocities now being perpetrated on an unprecedented scale upon an unarmed and innocent people....

Bearing in mind the permanent interests which India has in peace, and committed as we are to uphold and defend human rights, this House demands immediate cessation of the use of force and the massacre of defenceless people. This House calls upon all peoples and Governments of the world to take urgent and constructive steps to prevail upon the Government of Pakistan to put an end immediately to the systematic decimation of people which amounts to genocide."

I request you to compare the situation of Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. Both are the same. Not only that, I want to say that no less a person than our then Foreign Minister, Sardar Swaran Singh after a visit to many foreign countries had this to say :

"Between 6th and 22nd June, 1971, I visited Moscow, Bonn, Paris, Ottawa, New York, Washington and London, in that order. In each of these capitals I had detailed discussions, with the head of Government and the Foreign Minister. At the UN Headquarters I had discussions with the UN Secretary General U-Thant and his colleagues. I also met in every capital a number of other Government leaders, Legislators, Editors, Social workers and leaders of public opinion."

Why not our present Foreign Minister takes such a tour of Ceylon? Adding insult to injury when our hon. Narasimha Rao visited Ceylon he was not even permitted to visit the refugee camps. The ex-Foreign Minister further spoke and I quote :

"We are aware of the feeling in the country on the question of recognition of Bangla Desh. Our Prime Minister has explained Government's stand on the matter on more than one occasion in the House and outside. There is nothing to add to what the Prime Minister has said on the subject. One thing is however clear : The indomita-

ble courage of the freedom fighters of of Mukti Fauj will ultimately succeed in establishing Bangla Desh."

I want to ask one question why this Government is taking an attitude of discrimination and double standard. Why is there this partiality between Mukti Fauj man and Tamil Tiger. According to a reliable source Tamils have lost 100 factories; 1000 shops, 18000 houses and 200 crores of rupees. The real figure would be much more. The loss of human life is innumerable. Tamil girls and women have been raped ruthlessly. The belly of a pregnant Tamil woman was cut open and the yet unborn child pulled out and dashed to the ground. This kind of torture is still going on and our Government is watching as a silent spectator. I ask you one question. Touch your heart and tell me. If these victims had been from Hindi belt would you be so silent like this? We have sent Mr. Parthasarathy and Mr. Bhandari. Did they stop the butchery? No. Not at all. Instead it is on the increase. I want to say in September, 1984, sixteen Tamils were pulled out from a private bus travelling from Colombo to Jaffna, lined up and shot dead near Vavuniya. In December 1984, 107 Tamils were shot dead in the streets, inside houses, in schools and even in places of worship in Mannar. Again, 10 employees of a Post-office were ordered out of their place of work, lined up and shot dead. A Methodist priest and two others were shot dead near the Army camp at Mannar. Their bodies were thrown into the van and burnt along with the van. A Catholic priest and two young orphans residing with him were shot and killed in the Church itself and their bodies taken away and burnt at Vankalai in the Mannar district. In December 1984, 89 political detainees were shot dead and burnt in two Army camps in Vavuniya. Tamils were driven out by the armed forces from 10 villages in Trincomalee, and Mullaitivu. They fled in fear of Army terror. 20,000 Tamils are refugees housed in schools, churches and temples. 17 persons watching television in a house were shot and killed by the Army at Mulliawalai on 16-1-1985. On 30-1-1985, 30 persons in the village of Vattakandal were shot dead. When mothers went to claim the bodies of their sons, they were told to sign a document that their sons

were killed by tigers. In early February 52 farmers who had gone to harvest their crops were shot dead from a helicopter in Mullativu district. Men are victims of killings. Women are the victims of rape. More than 100 cases of rape have been reported from Mannar, Jaffna and Trincomalee. When committing this crime these men gloat "You will bring forth not Tamil Tigers, but Sinhalese lions". Indiscriminate and mass arrests continue apace. Torture often of a vile and cruel nature, is a routine process. There have been instances of snakes being introduced into the mouths of young men and of pythons coiling around them.

I want to ask did you have such a torture anywhere in the world? Our hon. Prime Minister is also reported to have stated in the Press when asked whether he would agree to the solution of Sri Lanka crisis on the basis of a substantive measure of autonomy that it is really something that the Tamils and the Sri Lankan Government should discuss. I am surprised about this. During the days of the Bangla Desh crisis, no Prime Minister told us that to solve the problem of Bangla Desh both people of Bangladesh and the Pakistan Government should sit together and discuss the problem. No Prime Minister said it.

Now, just think about the Tamils placed in Sri Lanka today :

Do you know what is their condition is?

In Police, there are 16,050 Sinhalese. But there are only 940 Tamilians.

In the Army, there are 9,780 Sinhalese. But there are only 220 Tamilians.

In the Navy, there are 2,024 Sinhalese, But there are only 146 Tamilians.

Now, in this situation, how can there be any sort of co-existence between the Tamilians and the Sinhalese ?

Therefore, it is no wonder that they want their home back. It is not separation but restoration. Our party, the D.M.K. Party, has launched so many agitations. So many people have been arrested. Our party has announced that during the end of this month there will be another agitation by resorting to picketing. This has been announced by our party leader, Dr.

Kalaingar Karunanidhi. Our respected leader has stated that because we still believe in Indian unity, 'the D.M.K. Government has donated a sum of Rs. 6 crores for the Bangla Desh war'. My leader adds—

'Only the attitude of the Central Government in the Ceylon Tamils problem creates a doubt whether the Central Government has any belief in Indian unity.'

He further warns you—

"If the Tamil race in Ceylon is exterminated, people will think what is the use of Tamil Nadu remaining in the Indian Union."

Sir, we have got every right to ask this Government to recognise separate EALAM, to send military forces to Sri Lanka immediately, as was done in the case of Bangla Desh, because, by Language we are Tamilians; by Race we are Dravidians; by Nation, we are Indians.

I warn the Government categorically—Please don't be a silent spectator to these events,

I quote a poem which has been quoted by Mr. Justice V.R. Krishna Iyer. It says as follows :—

"First they came for the Jews and I did not speak out—because I was not a Jew.

Then they came for the communists and I did not speak out—because I was not a communist.

Then they came for the trade unionists and I did not speak out—because I was not a trade unionist.

Then they came for me and there was none left to speak out for me."

Now, before I conclude, I wish to say this :

The latest information coming from Sri Lanka reveals a tragic atmosphere wherein the Army and the Police brand and Young Tamil in the age-group of 20 and 30 as a 'Tiger' and thereafter his fate is known to God only :

I want to quote this before I conclude ;

"There is a price for all these realities: the redemptive blood which continues to flow everywhere, especially in Lebanon, Northern Ireland, South Africa and Central America. In Sri Lanka it happens to be mostly Tamil blood, not to mention the sweat and tears of the Indian Tamil labourers.

Those who shed their blood for a just cause can at least take heart that in some way they are called to fulfil the words the Son of Man spoke in an Upper Room in Palestine two thousand years ago :

'TAKE, EAT, THIS IS MY BODY
BROKEN FOR YOU;

TAKE, DRINK, THIS IS MY BLOOD
THAT IS Poured OUT FOR YOU.'

.....One may try to kill the body and burn the property of Tamil nation; but its soul will ever remain to bring renewed life to the wounded body and the pillaged home."

Now, Sir, I want to warn the Government—Let not the Government sleep.

Let the Government be awakened to immediately sent army to stop this genocide on our Tamil brethren who are mercilessly killed and butchered. I am addressing this august House now. I do not know how many Tamil women by this time would have been raped. I do not know how many Tamil 'Tigers' would have been killed. I do not know how many Tamil children would have been killed in the mother's womb itself.

With these words I conclude. Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA (Salem-pur) : Sir, I am thankful that an ordinary person like me has been given a chance to speak on a serious subject like the Ministry of External Affairs. I rise to support the Demands for Grants presented by the hon. Minister.

I have listened carefully to the speeches of both the ruling party Members and the Opposition Members. I am going to express the views of the people in villages and cities. I am reflecting their views.

At present there are two big powers and the entire world is polarised into these two camps. One is the American lobby and the other is the Russian lobby. We are greatly thankful to our late Prime Minister, Shri-mati Indira Gandhi that she had created such a situation that a Third Power came into existence and a hundred nations joined together to form a third bloc. India provided leadership to this bloc. This is causing anguish to both the big powers. India's population is equal to the combined population of America, Russia, Britain and France. When they saw that a vast country like India was progressing fast and had formed a third bloc of hundred nations, they apprehended that the day might not be far off when this bloc might become equally powerful or even leave them behind.

Sir, it is correct that our Minister has reiterated time and again that it is not our policy to attack any country or to enslave any country. At the same time we want that no country should attack us or should enslave us. This foreign policy is very good. But what is the situation today? One of our neighbouring countries is Bangladesh whom we helped a lot. When we were putting barbed wire fencing on our borders for our protection, she resisted this step. On the other side is Pakistan. We have been extending our hand of friendship to Pakistan through our statements within the House and outside and by sending delegates and Ministers there, but so far we have not been able to establish friendship with her. China is also our neighbouring country.

We still remember the days when before the Chinese attack, slogans of Sino-Indian brotherhood used to be raised in our country. Amidst those slogans, China attacked us. Our border area is still under Chinese occupation. Shri Chavan had declared that no negotiations would be held with China till she vacated our occupied area. But nothing has been settled till today. The same China has set up posts on the Kashmir borders and other borders of India. It is our earnest desire

to have friendly relations with all other countries and not to entangle ourselves in disputes, but others are not cooperating.

We have been crying hoarse for quite a long time that the Indian Ocean should be declared a zone of peace. I do not understand how America has built bases in an area which is our territory and in our territorial waters. Who is at fault for this?

We want friendship with America and Sri Lanka, but in Sri Lanka thousands of our people are being killed. I am not expressing my anger here but expressing my views. It is our country which has been tolerating all this. If some American, British or Sri Lankan citizens had been killed here, they would not have tolerated. But in Sri Lanka the people of Indian origin are being killed and we are sitting like silent spectators. For this, we shall have to reconsider our policy.

In Bhojpuri, there is a couplet :

*"Terah jani shanka sab kahu
Vakra chandrama duse na rahu."*

18.00 hrs.

It means that the lunar eclipse occurs on *Poornamashi* when there is full moon and not on the fourteenth day when the moon is not full. Everybody says that India is the land of Ashoka and believes in non-violence. Even if some of her territory be grabbed, even if a number of her people be killed she will always remain non-violent and would just go on beseeching with folded hands and not do anything else.

Sir, the total world population is 400 crores.

[English]

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You may continue tomorrow.

18.01 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, April 10, 1985; Chaitra 20, 1907 (Saka).