

and English versions) of the Public Accounts Committee

13.07¹/₂ hrs.

(1) Forty-Fifth Report on Avoidable extra expenditure on import of sugar

STANDING COMMITTEE ON
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
First Report

(2) Forty-Sixth Report on Action Taken on Third Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) on Non-materialisation of the Scheme for construction of staff quarters

[English]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) Sir, I beg to present the first Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on External Affairs on Demands for Grants (1993-94) of the Ministry of External Affairs

13.07 hrs

COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF
SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED
TRIBES
**Sixteenth Report
Nineteenth Report
Twentieth Report
and
Minutes**

13.08 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE
AND TECHNOLOGY, ENVIRONMENT AND
FORESTS

First Report

[English]

SHRI K PRADHANI (Nowrangpur) Sir, I beg to present a copy each of the following Reports and the Minutes of the sittings relating thereto (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes -

[English]

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDAS (Udupi) Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the First Report of the Department Related Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests on Demands for Grants (1993-94) of the Department of Space

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER Shri Chedi Paswan

SHRI CHEDI PASWAN (Sasaram) Mr Deputy Sepeaker Sir my name is 'Chhedi Paswan and not 'Chedi Paswan'

- 1) Sixteenth Report of Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs-Banking Division)-Reservations for and employment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in State Bank of India and credit facilities provided by the Bank to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

13.08¹/₂ hrs.

- 2) Nineteenth Report on Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Department of Civil Aviation)-Reservations for and employment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in National Airports Authority

COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON
THE TABLE

**Seventh and Eighth Reports and
Minutes.**

- 3) Twentieth Report on Ministry of Steel-Reservations for the employment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Visakhapatnam Steel Plant

[Translation]

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN (Sasaram) Sir, I beg to present the Seventh and Eighth Report and the Minutes of the sittings relating thereto

[Sh. Chhedi Paswan]

(Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Papers laid on the Table. (Interruptions)

13.09 hrs.

At this Stage, Shri P.G. Narayanan and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Narayanan, kindly go to your seats. The zero Hour is not taken with seriousness. If you were to be here, it cannot be recorded. So, kindly go back to your seats.

(Interruptions)

At this stage, Shri P.G. Narayanan and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Kindly take your seats. Shri Arjun Singh to make a statement now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN (Gobichettipalayam): Sir, we are walking out in protest because we are not given an opportunity to speak.

13.10 hrs.

At this stage, Shri P.G. Narayanan and some other hon. Members left the House.

13.11 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

[English]

Setting up of the Rashtriya Mahila Kosh

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise with pleasure to

announce the setting up of a National Credit Fund for Women, called the Rashtriya Mahila Kosh. This proposal has been under the consideration of the Government for some time and I am happy to statement that we have now finalised the matter.

Institutional credit is known to be an important tool for social change. Unfortunately, however, access to such credit has usually been quite limited for the poor, particularly for poor women. usually these women in the formal sector need repeated doses of credit through informal grass root mechanisms at minimum transaction costs. Since the formal banking structure is not always geared to respond to this need, it was decided to set up the Rashtriya Mahila Kosh. I am confident that this Kosh will meet the long-standing demand for better funding of the credit needs of poor women in the informal sector. The Kosh will be extending credit to non-governmental organisations established in the field of credit and allied activities and these NGOs, in turn, will be extending credit to poor women at the grass roots level. The Kosh will formulate suitable criteria for NGOs to be eligible to receive credit assistance under this scheme. I am happy to announce that we have kept the credit structure on par with other soft lending schemes of the Government. The ultimate beneficiaries will be getting this ensure that the Government remains an activist partner in the economic empowerment of women. I am happy to announce that an amount of Rs.31 crores has been released in the year 1992-93 for this Kosh. This amount of Rs. 31 crores is expected to generate substantial lending during the next five to six years to benefit poor women. The Kosh has been set up as a registered society with a General Body and a Governing Board to manage its affairs. The Government Board will have representatives from Government Departments, Ministries, NGOs and professionals and experts in the field of credit. The Kosh will provide for the creation of a risk fund, will extend credit education and ensure Group Insurance cover for the loanee women. The Kosh will commence its operations shortly.