

(d) Reservation in distribution of petrol pumps, kerosene depots etc.
During the last 3 years, the following

handicapped and physically handicapped persons including blind were placed in Employment by Employment Exchanges:-

	<i>Employment provided</i>
1987	5403
1988	5475
1989 (January to June)	2045

Special Recruitment Drive for the Handicapped

Government have launched special recruitment drive. In the first phases, approx. 500 hearing handicapped and visually handicapped persons have been given placement and in the second phase i.e. during the current year 1991, another 500 hearing handicapped and visually handicapped persons may be given placement.

The special drive is intended to clear the backlog of vacancies reserved for the handicapped.

Proposed Legislation for Welfare of the Handicapped:

The following bills have been introduced in Parliament in this regard:

- (i) Rehabilitation Council of India Bill, 1990.
- (ii) The Board for Welfare and protection of Rights of the Handicapped bill, 1991.
- (iii) The National Trust for Welfare of persons with mental retardation and Cerebral Palsy Bill, 1991.

Updated Design Facility for Leather Garments

*107. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:
SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA
MURTHY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Leather Research Institute (CLRI) has submitted a proposal to the Union Government for creating an updated design facility for leather garments and footwear with the assistance of the United Nations Development Programme;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have since examined the proposal of the CLRI; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and other assistance proposed to be given to the CLRI to boost their production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) to (c). Central Leather Research Institute (CLRI) has submitted a proposal for seeking UNDP assistance for establishing and reinforcing its activities in the field of applied research, product and

technology development. These pertain to various aspects of the leather industry.

At present, a composite (Umbrella) programme proposal for the Leather Industry is in the process of being formulated in consultation with UNDP/UNIDO. The proposal of CLRI would also be considered while finalising this programme proposal.

Insurgency in Manipur

*108. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to a report in the 'Indian Express' dated January 13, 1991 suggesting that certain insurgent outfits like the people's Liberation Army operating in Manipur have established links with Burma and Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether these insurgent outfits of Manipur have links with other such groups in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Attention of Government has been drawn to the information contained in the newspaper report. However, it is not in the security interest of the country to give details.

(b) and (c). The question does not arise.

White Paper on Public Sector

*109. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have finalised the white paper proposed to be issued on the performance of the Public Sector; and

(b) if so, when it is likely to be issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) and (b). The matter is under consideration of the Government.

Problem of Child Labour

*110. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of child labour has increased in different States in recent years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether International Labour Organisation in its reports has recently drawn attention to the problem of child labour;

(d) if so, the details of the observations in respect of India; and

(e) the specific steps taken by the Government in this regard to keep the Children away from employment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI RAMJILAL SUMAN): (a) to (e). Statements I and II are given below.

STATEMENT — I

According to the Census reports of 1971 and 1981, the number of child workers in the country upto the age of fourteen years was