

LOK SABHA

DEBATES

(Fourth Session)



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**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Friday, March 10, 1978/Phalguna
19, 1899 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Expenditure on Decoration of Ministers' Bungalows

*245. DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the amounts spent by his Ministry and/or its ancillary departments in decorating various Ministers' bungalows in 1977 (over and above what was spent by the Works and Housing Department and reported in the last Parliamentary Session); and

(b) the amounts, against each Ministerial address, separately?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री
(श्री पुरुषोत्तम काUSHIK): (क) वर्ष 1977 में किसी भी मंत्री के बंगले की सजावट पर पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्रालय भ्रष्टाचार इसके विभागों द्वारा कोई भी राशि खर्च नहीं की गयी।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: Has the Minister got any proposal from any of the other Ministries to utilise the ITDC or other organs of

his Ministry for decoration of offices and bungalows of Ministers?

SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK: We have not received any proposal. Primarily it is the duty of the Works and Housing Ministry.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: I have no second supplementary.

Popularity of Gandhi Caps in U.S.A.

*246. SHRI S. S. SOMANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Gandhi Caps are getting popularity in U.S.A.:

(b) if so, whether any order in this regard has been received by the Indian Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) No report about Gandhi Caps getting popularity in the U.S.A. has come to Government's notice.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

श्री एस० एस० सोमानी : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय गांधी कैप हमारे राष्ट्रीय आन्दोलन से जुड़ी हुई थी और लाखों लाख लोगों की भावनाओं से भी जुड़ी हुई है। क्या माननीय मंत्री जी बताएंगे कि गांधी कैप हमारे देश में जनपापुलर हो गई है ? यदि हाँ, तो उस का क्या कारण है ?

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : अगर जनपापुलर होती तो यहाँ पर गांधी कैप दिखाई नहीं पड़ती

श्री एस० एस० सोमानी : क्या गांधी कैप के उपयोग के बारे में कोई नियम है ?

श्री आरिफ बेग : कोई नियम नहीं है ।

श्रीधरी बलबीर सिंह : क्या मंत्री महोदय बतायेंगे कि कांग्रेस वालों ने गांधी कैप को जिस ढंग से जबर्दस्ती चपरासियों को पहनाना शुरू कर दिया उसकी वजह से इसके लिए लोगों में जो श्रद्धा थी वह खत्म हो गई और उन्होंने जो करप्ट काम किए उसकी वजह से भी गांधी टोपी के लिए श्रद्धा कम हो गई, वह श्रद्धा नफरत में बदल गई—क्या इस बात में सच्चाई है ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I do not think that question arises because चपरासी भी आदमी होते हैं ।

श्रीधरी बलबीर सिंह : मैंने कहा कि जिस ढंग से पहनाना शुरू किया उसकी वजह से ऐसा हुआ । वे अपने तौर पर पहनें और ये अपने तौर पर पहनते वह तो भलाहदा बात थी लेकिन जिस ढंग से पहनाना शुरू किया उसकी वजह से श्रद्धा कम हो गई ।

Uniformity in Sales Tax on various Items in different States

*259. SHRI KACHARULAL HEM-RAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that the policy of imposing sales tax in Madhya Pradesh and its neighbouring States like U.P., Maharashtra, West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa on various items is not uniform and different rates of taxes are charged in different States; and

(b) whether Government propose to suggest to the Government of these States to try to bring uniformity in the matter of sales tax on various items in consultation with each other?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE
(SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Levy of tax on sales or purchases of goods taking place within a State is a State subject of taxation. It is, therefore, proposed to discuss the question of rationalisation and uniformity as between States of their respective sales tax rates, with the State Governments.

श्री कच्छवाल हेमराज जैन : माननीय उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आज देश की आजादी को तीस साल हो गए और केन्द्र के द्वारा ही हमारे प्रदेशों के साधन चलते हैं लेकिन टैक्स की भ्रमण भ्रमण प्रणाली के कारण सारे देश में इतना असंतोष है और एक बड़ा भारी नारा लग रहा है कि भ्रष्टाचार मिटना चाहिए । इसका एक उदाहरण मैं आपको देना चाहता हूँ कि महाराष्ट्र में मिर्चों पर टैक्स नहीं है लेकिन मध्य प्रदेश में मिर्चों पर 7 परसेंट टैक्स है और जूट बाईर लगा हुआ है इसलिए लोग टैक्सों की चोरी करते हैं । इस सम्बन्ध में मेरा निवेदन है कि आप सभी प्रान्तों के लोगों को बुलाकर सेल्स टैक्स के मामले में सलाह करें ।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : आप सवाल पूछें ।

श्री कच्छवाल हेमराज जैन : मेरा सवाल यह है कि क्या देश में टैक्स की नीति समानता के आधार पर होगी ? यदि हांजी तो कब तक हांजी ?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: It is a State subject under the Constitution and therefore we cannot change anything until we persuade all the State Governments to agree to its abolition, and its replacement by some other form of tax. We have to live with it. But, in the meantime, as I have said earlier, our efforts to persuade State Governments to forego the tax and accept some other arrangement are continuing.

श्री कचकलाल हेबराव जी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, जिस समय लोक सभा के चुनाव चल रहे थे, उस समय जनता पार्टी ने अपने चुनाव घोषणा पत्र में स्पष्ट रूप से कहा था कि सेल्ज टैक्स से काफ़ी छ्रष्टाचार व्याप्त है, हम इस में लचीलापन लायेंगे। जनता को दिये गये इस वचन को दृष्टि में रखते हुए, मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि जहाँ-जहाँ जनता पार्टी की सरकारें विद्यमान हैं, उन प्रदेशों में आप इस को कब तक लागू करने जा रहे हैं तथा इस में कितना समय सवेगा? जहाँ आप की पार्टी की सरकार है, उन राज्यों में आप यह लचीलापन कब तक लायेंगे?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: This matter has to be dealt with on an All India basis, and we shall have to try to persuade all the State Governments before we can take any effective steps.

DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: Will the hon. Finance Minister kindly inform us whether the Central Government is considering a proposal to have a turn-over tax at one stage and a tax based on the VAT system, that is, Value-Added Tax and whether these two schemes have been discussed with the various States, to abolish both the octroi and sales tax?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: The question of Value-Added Tax and Turn-over tax was considered. The Committee presided over by Shri Jha has submitted some recommendations in that respect. We are examining those proposals. But these have no relationship with sales tax. Sales tax stands on its own. The Jha Committee has also said that it will be difficult to get the State Governments to agree to the abolition of the sales tax and therefore the next best thing which ought to be attempted, and which we shall also attempt, is to see if in selected commodities State Governments could be persuaded to have certain form of uniformity. This also is another line which we shall be pursuing.

श्री श्रीम प्रकाश त्यागी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, जनता पार्टी ने सिद्धान्ततः इस बात को माना है कि हम सेल्ज-टैक्स का एबालीशन करेंगे; यह भी ठीक है कि यह स्टेट सव्जैक्ट है, लेकिन क्या आप ने कभी स्टेट्स के चीफ़ मिनिस्टर्स को बुला कर उन को इस बात के लिये पर्सुएड किया है? उन में से कौन-कौन प्रान्त इस के लिये तैयार हो गये हैं और कौन-कौन तैयार नहीं हुए है—क्या इस प्रकार की चेष्टा आप ने की है तथा यह भी बतलाइये कि इस के लिये आप ने कोई प्राल्टरनेटिव भी सोचा है?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: There is no question of having an alternative until such time as we can get the State Governments to agree to its abolition. Now, the General situation is, even those States and State Government which might be willing to consider their abolition are really reluctant to do so.

श्री श्रीम प्रकाश त्यागी : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा सवाल निम्न है। मैंने पूछा है—क्या सरकार ने ऐसी चेष्टा की है?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I have met all the Chief Ministers of State Governments and discussed this question with them but the general response has been most discouraging.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Sir, the hon. Finance Minister is aware that sales tax is the only elastic source of revenue to the States and that, by levying a discriminating tax either by way of a single point tax or a multi-point tax, they are able to increase their revenue so as to suit the needs. If the hon. minister says that there should be uniformity in tax, would he insist on a single point tax in all the States in which case he may take away the States' right to manipulate their income?

Or if you say that there will be only a multi-point tax, this will

create some difficulty. So, I would like to know from him when he says that he would like to have a uniform tax, what is the uniformity in taxation that he has in mind?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: There is a little misunderstanding in this matter. First of all, my efforts must be for the abolition of the sales tax as such. I am fully aware of the fact that this is the only elastic form of tax which the State Governments have. And that is why in my discussions what I have said is not that if they are to be compensated, they will be compensated only to the extent of their revenue as on the date of agreement for abolition. But, the incremental rate in the salestax will also be taken into consideration in trying to arrive at such a figure.

But, since there is a general reluctance to accept this thing, we may pursue one of the suggestions of the Jha Committee.

Their suggestion was that there are some commodities in respect of which we shall try to see if there could be uniformity in rates in different States. Variation in the rates create certain difficulties. I was not suggesting any other form of uniformity like whether there should be a single point tax or a multi-point tax. These are alternatives for sales tax. These can be considered only after we come to the conclusions that there is just no possibility of persuading the State Governments to the abolition of the sales-tax.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: May I ask a question? The Minister has said that he has not so far succeeded in persuading all the State Governments. Possibly it would mean that he has now come to a stage that he does not want to pursue this question. I think this would be a right thing for him to do. In the case of salestax, this is not purely

a taxation measure. There are certainly political aspects involved in that. At the present moment, there are problems between the States and the Centre the main aspect of which is financial and economic.

With this background, is it ever wise to consider giving up the only flexible source of tax that the States have? Would it not create a more complicated position? Minister himself says, he has not succeeded so far to persuade all the State Governments. I do not think there will ever be a Stage when all the State Governments will agree to this position. So, it is much better and wiser for the Government to come forward and say that they have given up this point.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: This is an advice which I will certainly give due weight to. Since this has come from an experienced person.

श्री कंवर लाल गुप्त : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, श्री माननीय मंत्री जी ने कहा है कि सेल्स टैक्स तब तक समाप्त नहीं हों जब तक राज्य सरकारें इस को समाप्त करने के लिए नहीं मानती। माननीय चट्टाण गहबर ने श्री कहा है कि इस को खत्म कर दिया जाए क्योंकि सॉर्स ग्रॉफ इन्कम बहुत है। जनता पार्टी का मैनीफैस्टो फरवरी 1977 में बना था और तब आप को यह मान्य था कि सब स्टेट्स की मर्जी के बिना यह सेल्स टैक्स एबोलिशन नहीं हो सकता। मार्च 1977 में जब आप ने इस को प्रोबाइड किया तो कांस्टीट्यूशनल एम्बेडमेंट नहीं हुआ। तो मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या आप प्रधान मंत्री जी से इस बारे में कहेंगे या जनता पार्टी के अध्यक्ष से बात कर के यह देखेंगे कि जनता पार्टी की जहाँ सरकारें हैं वे सेल्स टैक्स को समाप्त करें। दूसरा मामला यह है कि आया आप सेन्ट्रल सेल्स टैक्स जो है, उस को समाप्त करेंगे

या एक दो आइटम्स से, कहीं से तो शुरुआत करेंगे जिग से यह मालूम हो कि हम सीरियसली इस चीज को परसू कर रहे हैं ?

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: This is a very good suggestion.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I do not know what the suggestion is. If the suggestion is that I should proceed State-wise, that if some States agree I should ask those States to abolish it then that suggestion is not practicable. Difficulties will arise because I have to proceed on finding an alternative form of Central tax. The excise duties which I levy in order to compensate the loss to the States of the sales tax revenues will call for constitutional arrangement. This is not possible unless all the State Governments agree. There are these difficulties. Therefore, if you say that I may pursue with the Janata Party now to consider all these difficulties and think again, I have no objection. But I think it is not necessary as all of you are here and, I am sure, you will be communicating these difficulties to the Party. I have said that I am still not giving up the hope that I may be able to persuade them. It may be one of the impossible hopes according to the Leader of the Opposition but we certainly wish to make an effort. Perseverance and patience is still our answer.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): May I make it clear? My hon'ble friend does not have a conception of the change. It has been said that Sales Tax should be replaced by excise. I stand by it. I tried to do it fifteen years ago. I could succeed in three items and those three items were converted but afterwards they said, they want to withdraw their consent. That was not allowed. It is a question of replacing Sales Tax by Excise. When only some States agree and others

do not agree how am I going to do it? It cannot be done in parts.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: We don't want it to be done.

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: That is true. I am trying to explain.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: What about our own Governments!

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: Why are you so much provoked by your own ideas? Why don't you look at it little dispassionately? How can I introduce it only in Janata party governments or in few other governments? Suppose all agree but one does not, what am I to do? I abolish the sales-tax there and levy excise? How will that apply to other States? They will have additional excise and sales-tax as well. What will be the burden? You do not see the difficulty. It is very well to say "do this and do that." We want to do that. I would like to do that but there are conflicting interests. They have also to be taken into account.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: It is impolitic now to try to abolish sales-tax because it will create political complications. Sales-tax is the only flexible source of income to the States. So, this item of the manifesto of the Janata party is unrealistic. Therefore, please give up this idea of replacing sales-tax with certain excise duties.

श्री रामानन्द तिवारी : अध्यक्ष जी, मैं केन्द्रीय सरकार से जानना चाहता हूँ कि जब जनता पार्टी ने अपने चुनाव घोषणा-पत्र में जनता को यह आश्वासन दिया कि जब हम सत्तारूढ़ होंगे तब विक्री-कर समाप्त करेंगे तो यह तो उस वक्त भी मस्तिक में रखना चाहिये था कि स्टेट्स इस का पालन करेंगी कि नहीं। तो फिर क्या कारण कि है आज केन्द्रीय सरकार यह जानते हुए आदेश नहीं देती कि विक्री-कर समाप्त किया जाय ?

श्री मोरारजी देसाई : तभी मैंने कहा जब मैनीफ़ेस्टों में लिखा था कि यह तभी हो सकता है जब सब स्टेट्स कबूल करेंगी। इसके लिये मेहनत करेंगे। कैसे कहते हैं कि मैनीफ़ेस्टो में हमने कह दिया।

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: So, Sir, it is clear that Mr. Chavan does not want abolition of sales-tax.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have to draw your own inference.

SHRI VINODBHAI B. SHETH: Sir, is the government thinking of changing the definition of the word 'sale' so as to cover the consignment sales as inter-State sales as there is lot of evasion of inter-State sales-tax and as the goods are despatched under the garb of consignment sale? Actually, they are inter-State transactions. There is loss of revenue to the tune of Rs. 4 crores in Gujarat alone on this account.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: We will give serious consideration to this.

SHRI HARIKESH BHADUR: There is a lot of corruption in the Sales Tax Department and, if I say, almost all the officers of this Department are involved in serious corruption, I think I will be correct in saying so; though it is a bad thing but it is correct. I would like to know from the hon. Finance Minister whether he is going to suggest some ways and means to the State Governments so that the corruption may be minimised.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: Yes, we will certainly look into that.

SHRI RAGAVALU MOHANARANGAM: The States were persuaded for abolition of sales-tax and octroi I would like to know from the hon. Finance Minister—when the sales-tax is considered as a 'Kamadhenu' for all the States—what is the necessity of taking away this tax from

the States. Is it the first step to remove more power from the States and hand it over to the Centre?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: Sir, again the question is why should such an attempt is made to persuade the State Governments. Now, I recognise that this is a 'kamadhenu' for the State Governments and that is why if any alternative is going to be proposed, we will see to it that the alternative will also serve as a 'kamadhenu'. Therefore, the hon. Member must rest assured that nothing will be done in haste and no State Government's position will suffer.

श्री राघवजी : राज्य सरकारें जो सेल्स टैक्स हटा नहीं रही है या महमत नहीं हो रही है इसका एक मुख्य कारण क्या यह नहीं है कि उनको इसका कोई आल्टरनेटिव सोर्स ऑफ इनकम नहीं बताया गया है ? क्या आप कोई इसका आल्टरनेटिव बना सकते हैं उनको ताब्रियह सेल्स टैक्स हट सके ?

क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार स्वयं पहल करके सेंट्रल टैक्स हटाएगी ?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I have already said that we are suggesting an alternative. What we will do is for us to think, not the State Governments and therefore, the point that the State Governments to be assured of is the income that they get from the sales-tax and that they should not suffer from. Central Sales tax is the same as the States sales-tax because it also goes to the State Governments and that will also be taken into account. As and when they agree to abolition, the question of compensation will be considered.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT: May I submit what the Leader of the Opposition has said is incorrect? Even the Janata Party Manifesto has said that in consultation with the States, sales-tax will be abolished. That was provided in the election manifesto. Se-

Secondly, the whole idea is that if the sales-tax as now imposed is continued, the income to the States would be less. If it is one point system, the States will get more than what they are getting now, because at present corruption is there and there is more expenditure on staff and other things. So, the States will get more if it is one point tax system rather than the method that is being now adopted. The whole exercise of the Government will be to see that the sales tax abolition is done in such a way that the States get more revenue than what they want. Moreover corruption and various other malpractices and more spending on the staff will also be removed.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I think what Mr. Krishan Kant has said is quite correct. I think the hon. Members have received the explanation from Mr. Krishan Kant as to what was the thinking that went on when the drafting of the manifesto was being done. And as he says rightly, in the manifesto whatever is done, would be done in consultation with the State Governments.

PROF P. G. MAVALANKAR: I quite see the point of the hon. Finance Minister and also of the hon. Prime Minister that this problem is very difficult and it cannot be solved unless all the State Governments agree to it. But since he says—and also adds that he is an eternal optimist—that he will go on persuading the State Governments, I want to ask him—when he says that he will first want the State Governments to agree to abolition of sales tax and then discuss the alternatives—what is the point of his saying that the State Governments must first agree to abolition and then discussion will start? Has the Government taken any concrete step by having consultations with them, providing alternatives, and what is his strategy for persuading the State Governments? He goes on telling us that there will be abolition first and then he will do something.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: My hon. friend wants that I should tell him all the arguments that we advanced to the state governments. Certainly, I have done all that he says. It is not a question of suggesting to somebody: abolish this, and then telling him in which way it is going to be done. What I said in answer to different questions, he should have put them all together and he would realise that I have really in sum total given all the answers to all the points that he has mentioned. When we try to discuss such a thing, when we try to persuade anybody to accept some proposition, we also naturally put to him all that is necessary in order that he is persuaded which means that if he wants to know how he will be compensated, we also try to tell him. It is the quantum which worries him most.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: This question has taken 20 minutes and it has been agitating the states. I put a straight question to the government. The object and political motivation of this party is to make the states not only weak financially but also economically and make them municipalities, get hold of their power and use the central authority over them. This is nothing but political motivation. Is it not a fact that your motive is ulterior, to make the states subordinate to the Centre and make them municipalities with the object of holding power in the Centre for a long time? Is it not a fact. (Interruptions)

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I did not realise that the Opposition Members will be so quick to take up the hint given by the Opposition Leader, how quickly political motivation would be given to a very simple genuine economic proposition.

श्री बिजय कुमार मलहोत्रा : अध्यक्ष महोदय, 3 प्राइटम ऐसे हैं, जिन पर सेल्सटैक्स नहीं है, सिर्फ एक्साइज है। नेशनल डेवलपमेंट काउंसिल में यह तब हुआ था कि इसमें

एक दो ब्राइटम घीर बढ़ाई जाये। मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या वह इस बात पर विचार करेंगे कि एक, दो ब्राइटम घीर बढ़ा कर एक्सपैरिमेंट किया जाये ? अगर स्टेट्स को फायदा नजर आता हो तो फिर वह एक्सपैरिमेंट सक्सेसफुल हो सकता है। क्या मंत्री महोदय स्टेट्स से पूछेंगे कि क्या वह एक ब्राघ ब्राइटम बढ़ाकर एक्सपैरिमेंट करने के लिये तैयार हैं ?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I think the hon. Member is not well informed in this matter. Anyhow, even if this suggestion has to be advanced, that does not take us very far.

SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: In persuading the state governments what is the alternative put forth by the hon. Minister before them?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: The alternative is excise; I have already said so.

SHRI V. ARUNACHALAM: Formerly the state governments have agreed to give up the right to levy tax on textiles, sugar and tobacco and the income from these things is frozen to the states. Has the government any proposal to increase the share to the state governments?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: The whole of it goes to the state governments.

Inquiry against Allahabad Bank and Central Bank of India

*262. SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to lay a statement showing:—

(a) what is the report of the inquiry made by the Government against the Allahabad Bank and the Central Bank of India;

(b) who made the inquiry and what action has been taken on it; and

(c) is it a fact that no action has been taken against the defaulters?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) to (c). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c). Government have made no enquiry against the Allahabad Bank. If the Hon'ble Member is referring to the transactions in the Allahabad Bank which were the subject matter of the Short Notice Question No. 14 answered by me in this House on 8th July, 1977, the answer is that the bank deputed an officer from its Head Office to enquire into these transactions. A Committee of the Board of Directors has also looked into the matter. The Bank is taking disciplinary action against the concerned officers.

Government have similarly made no enquiry against the Central Bank of India as such. However, a One-Man Committee consisting of Shri D. N. Ghosh, a senior officer in the office of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India, was appointed by Government to look into the credit facilities granted by the Bank to the Kohinoor Mills Ltd.. The report of the Committee has been received by Government and is under examination.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: In the statement the hon. Minister has stated that a Committee of the Board of Directors had looked into the matter and the bank is taking disciplinary action against the concerned officers. This is relating to the Allahabad Bank.

Regarding the Central Bank he has stated that somebody has been appointed by government to look into credit facilities granted by the Bank to Kohinoor Mills Ltd. and that the report of the committee had been received and is under examination. My question is, what was the report in the case of Allahabad Bank and what was the report in the case of Central Bank and what action has been taken

by you in both the cases? Why somebody else other than an Officer was not appointed to make an inquiry?

SHRI H M PATEL: I think so far as the Allahabad Bank is concerned, the Parliament Street Branch of the Allahabad Bank had accepted deposits aggregating sum of Rs 645 crores for a period of one year during December 76 to March 77 at 17½ per cent interest against the Bank's Association's guideline of 13-1/2 per cent and on payment of a brokerage of Rs 122 lakhs. In addition, the branch agreed to pay interest on current account of the Kangra Co-operative Bank against Reserve Bank's directions. During July 76 to May 77 the same branch lent funds aggregating Rs 344 crores to the Punjab & Sind Bank Limited both in participation certificates and in fixed deposits bearing a lower rate of interest than the borrowing rate from the Kangra Cooperative Bank. It was found that only one broker was patronised in all these investments. This subject had been gone into and appropriate action was taken. So far as the Central Bank is concerned

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: What is the action taken on it? That is what he asked.

SHRI H M PATEL: So far as the Central Bank is concerned an Officer has been asked to go into the matter and then submit a full report to see what was the state of the textile unit, the management of which has substantially been taken over by the Bank, and in regard to its lending.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: My second part of the question was what action has been taken? He has not replied to that.

SHRI H M PATEL: So far as the Allahabad Bank is concerned, the Officers concerned were placed under suspension and inquiry is continuing.

That is all. So far as the second case is concerned, it is still under consideration.

श्री कंवर लाल गुप्त : मैंने पिछले सत्र में यह सवाल पूछा था कि पिछले तीन सालों में नेशनलाइज्ड बैंकों में पाच लाख रुपये से ऊपर के मिसएप्रप्रिएशन और एम्बेजलमेंट के कितने केसिज हुए हैं। उस के जवाब में बताया गया है कि पिछले तीन सालों में नेशनलाइज्ड बैंकों में पाच लाख रुपये से ऊपर के एम्बेजलमेंट की टोटल रकम करीब 8 करोड़ रुपये बनती है। नेशनलाइज्ड बैंक जिस तरीके से रुपये का वर्बाद करते हैं और वहां जिस तरह एम्बेजलमेंट, मिसएप्रप्रिएशन और फेवरेटिज्म चलता है, वह एक बहुत गम्भीर मामला है। वहां पाच लाख रुपये में नीचे के एम्बेजलमेंट के केस भी होंगे। मेरा एग्स्टीमेट यह है कि पिछले तीन सालों में नेशनलाइज्ड बैंकों में करीब 15 करोड़ रुपये का एम्बेजलमेंट हुआ है। कर्प्शन के भी बहुत केसिज सामन आते हैं। इस सब का कारण यह है कि डायरेक्टर्स मैनेजिंग डायरेक्टर्स और मैनेजर्स का बहुत डिसक्रीशनरी पावर मिली हुई है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि मंत्री महोदय इस तरह की बातों का राकने के लिए क्या बंदबं उठा रहे हैं। क्या वह इस बारे में कोई कमिटी बनायेंगे या उन्हें यह मुझसे द कि ये बातें कैसे राकी जा सकती हैं?

SHRI H M PATEL: These matters are certainly the matters which are being looked into by us. A committee was appointed by the Reserve Bank to go into this question of rapid branch expansion, what are the consequences how to see that whatever difficulties are noticed are put right.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: About embezzlement.

SHRI H M PATEL: Embezzlement as such need not be looked into.

because embezzlement results from dilution of the standard of the Officers, etc. Now the dilution has resulted from the fact that there has been a rapid expansion of branches. It has to be viewed as a whole. Embezzlement is a symptom, one of the things which comes to the surface to indicate that something is wrong. Thereafter, we have to go into the matter, the causes may be different. There may be a number of causes. These, we shall go into and they are being gone into. We are endeavouring to see that the quality of the staff is improved by training institutions, the various other steps to be taken to see that the right motivation is there and adequate supervision, etc. All these things are being gone into now.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Here the question is very specific about the Central Bank of India. But the Minister has mentioned only about advances to Kohinoor Mills. The allegation was levelled, even on the floor of the House, by some of the hon Members against the Chairman himself, because about Rs 16 crores have been advanced—I am subject to correction....

AN HON. MEMBER: Rs. 28 crores.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Rs 28 crores have been advanced to these Kapadis especially through another important man who was influenced by the extra-constitutional authority of those days; and allegations were specifically against the Chairman. When you are making an enquiry against the bank, keeping the Chairman, I am afraid Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, is it not proper. Moreover, Government has changed Chairman of many nationalized banks; and only this Chairman remains. May I know from the hon Minister why he allowed this Chairman to remain while such a serious allegation was levelled against him and an enquiry was conducted? Will he make the enquiry more fair by removing the Chairman from that post?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: Allegations continue to be made; and if we proceed to remove people or change people on the basis of allegations, there would be no end to it; but we have given serious importance to the allegations made; and, therefore, appointed an one-man enquiry committee.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: I know the Chairman can influence you through Mr. Palkhivala. We know it. That is why I am asking, Mr. Palkhivala is influencing you.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I have said that the report has been received, and that I shall place a statement here; and place it on the Table of the House.

श्री किशोर लाल : मैं मंत्री महोदय से मालूम करना चाहता हूँ कि जितने नेशनलाइज्ड बैंक्स हैं इन में एंटरटेनमेंट पर, फर्निशिंग पर या ट्रेवेलिंग पर कितने परसेंट एक्सपेंसेज होंगे क्या इस की कोई लिमिट मुकर्रर की है ? मैंने उन के पास फोटो स्टैट भेजे हैं कि जो इन के मैनेजर हैं उन के शराब के बिल और फाइव स्टार होटल के बिल, अभी रिमोटली जनता सरकार के धाने के बाद कितने एमाउंट के बने हैं और वाउचर पास कर के उन का पेमेंट कर दिया गया है । दैट बाज़ इन थाउज़ैंड्स । तो मैं यह मालूम करना चाहता हूँ कि जो इन के मैनेजर या अधिकारी हैं उन के लिए कोई लिमिट मुकर्रर की है कि कौन-कौन सी फैसिलिटीज या और इस तरह की चीजे उन को दी जायेंगी, कौन से होटल में जाएंगे, कितनी शराब पियेंगे, कितने मुँह खाएंगे, कितने एक्सपेंसेज इनकर करेंगे, इस की कोई लिमिट है या जितना चाहे करते जायें और फाइनेम मिनिस्टर साहब यह कह दे कि हां, हम ने उस की एन्क्वायरी करायी है, उसकी रिपोर्ट पेश कर देंगे । यह देश का एक एक पैसा वहां से चलता है और फिर उस के बाद वे उस को खर्च कर दें बिना किसी बात को

देखे हुए कि कितना परसेटेज है, कितने उस के ऊपर धोवर भाल एक्सपेंसेज है, कितना लेडिंग में है, कितना बारीडिंग में है और कितना इस प्रकार से है ? मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि कोई लिमिट नेशनलाइज्ड बैंक के लिए है कि जा इस के गम्पलाईज हागे उन का कितनी ज्यादा फंसिलिटीज होगी और जा मैंने उन का फोटोस्टैट भेजे है उन पर क्या ऐक्शन लिया ?

SHRI H M PATEL The hon Member has mixed up a number of points. He has raised a number of questions. The first point was about the one on which he says he has sent photostat copies etc. This is regarding expenditure incurred at the time of holding a Bank's Board meeting to which labour representatives were called and they were given certain facilities. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA What facilities? Payment for liquor was made. I sent it to the Prime Minister, and the Prime Minister sent it to the Finance Minister. That was a photostat copy. I think the Prime Minister will bear me out that I sent a photostat copy where payment for liquor was made. At least stop that.

SHRI H M PATIL Don't get excited because I am saying that such photostat copies were sent to me relating to certain items of expenditure. The fact that I did not mention that it contains 'sharab'—is that an important point? Let me finish the reply. (*Interruptions*)

बोधरी बलवीर सिंह : यह बड़ा इम्पार्टेंट प्वाइंट है। यह इम्पार्टेंट क्यों नहीं है ? आप के प्रधान मंत्री कहते हैं कि शाबाब बन्द करेंगे ।

श्री एच० एम० पटेल : बन्द करेंगे तो जो ऐसा हुआ है उस पर मैंने क्या कदम उठाए हैं, वह भी तो सुनिए । जिस

काटेक्स्ट में मैंने कहा कि इम्पार्टेंट नहीं है वह भी तो समझना चाहिए ।

I have said that it is shown as an item of expenditure. It does not mean that anybody has approved it or said that this should be allowed, or that should not be done. We have drawn attention of the Chairman of that Bank and said this should not happen in future. We have also said that any wasteful expenditure in meetings etc. should also be eschewed. This is the directive which we have given. Regarding the other points about lending rate etc. I just do not know what the hon Member has in mind.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN In reply to the question about the Allahabad Bank, the Minister has said that action has been taken. Now the malpractice that he has read out is of a very serious nature. Therefore, I would like to know whether the Minister is setting up a Committee to go into such malpractices and make recommendations for safeguard against such very serious malpractices where you give brokerage to a monopoly non-existent broker where a non-existent bank has taken money at a lower rate of interest and lend it at a higher rate. Is it going to end with action against one or two members of the staff?

SHRI H M PATEL I think the whole trouble has arisen because the full reply was not given. I said that the officers were suspended. The further point is that one of the officers went to the Supreme Court and obtained a stay order in so far as his suspension is concerned. This matter has been referred to the CBI, which is going into this matter.

AN HON MEMBER CPI?

SHRI H M PATEL They are so anxious that the CPI should convert itself into CBI, that is why they heard it that way. I said "CBI". The investigation is still going on and

whatever information the CBI requires, the Bank is required to furnish. In addition to this, the Reserve Bank has also issued a directive to all scheduled commercial banks, clarifying that payment of brokerage or commission by banks for securing deposits from other banking companies, including cooperative societies and companies is prohibited. This is something which they should never have done at all. Therefore, it is being gone into quite seriously.

SHRI YADVENDRA DUTT: The hon. Finance Minister has just now said it is a serious matter and serious action is being taken. Has he suspended the Chairman of the Allahabad Bank and the Central Bank, who are ultimately responsible for all these irregularities.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: We have not done anything of that kind because, if we proceed on that basis then nobody could remain in their office or position at all. The Chairman of the Allahabad Bank has his headquarters at Calcutta. This particular incident happened in a small branch. There are hundreds of branches for that Bank and you cannot possibly blame the Chairman for everything that happens in the various branches of that Bank, unless it is found that when a matter came to his notice, he took no action. We have gone into this matter seriously. So also in the other case. If one has to act in a certain manner and he has not acted in that way, certainly we shall take action.

श्री रामशर्मा : क्या मंत्री जी को मालूम है कि ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में बैंक खोले रहे हैं और उन बैंकों में दिल्ली और लखनऊ से साफिस्टिकेटेड टीक का फर्नीचर जाता है जिसका वहां के सीधे मादे लोगों पर बहुत बुरा असर पड़ता है, इसको रोकने के लिए क्या उनके दिमाग में कोई खयाल है ?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: If the rural branches of banks are equipped with expensive type of furniture, we shall instruct the banks not to do so in future. But utility furniture will be necessary though they will still be something which the villages might not be accustomed to, because the banks have to be run as banks are run. Therefore, we can avoid conspicuous type of expenditure, but not necessary expenditure.

श्री हकूम देव नारायण यादव : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, वित्त मंत्री जी ने बतलाया कि मामला सी० बी० आई० को जाच के लिए सुपुर्द किया गया है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि सी० बी० आई० को यह मामला कब सुपुर्द किया गया और अब तक सी० बी० आई० द्वारा कितनी दूर तक कार्यवाही हो पाई है ?

मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हूँ—100-200 या 400 रुपये की गड़बड़ी करने वाला पकड़ा जाय, तो उस के लिए आई० पी० सी० और सी० आई० पी० सी० ई० जिस के अन्तर्गत उस का पकड़ कर जेल में बन्द कर दिया जाता है, लेकिन यदि कोई बैंक का अधिकारी लाखों या करोड़ों रुपये का गोलमाल कर दे तो वह उस को पचा जाता है, वह बैंक को भी पचा जायेगा और पता नहीं लगेगा, यदि पकड़ा गया तो सम्पण्ड हो जायेगा, कांटे में जायेगा ता बड़ा गण्टी-सिपेटरी बेल है। इन सब उड़े लागा का हर जगह तालमेल होता है, जिस में वे पकड़े नहीं जाते हैं। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ—इन लोगों को आई० पी० सी० या सी० आई० पी० सी० में मुकदमा चला कर, गिरफ्तार करके जेल भेजने में सरकार के सामने क्या कठिनाई है ?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: In this matter there has been no loss of money at all. It is merely that certain transactions took place which were not in

accordance with the rules of the bank. A larger interest rate was paid which is from the bank's point of view an imprudent and unwise way of behaviour because if you borrow at a higher rate of interest and lend it out at a lower rate of interest, that is not what you might call a wise business transaction. So, these are the matters and they have been gone into to establish as to why this was done and so on.

Investment Policy of Life Insurance Corporation of India

*264. SHRI R. KOLANTHAIVELU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the policy of L.I.C. regarding investment;

(b) a break-up of the investment made during the last twelve months; and

(c) the extent of contribution made by L.I.C. in the field of housing construction for the weaker sections?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) to (c). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Section 27A of the Insurance Act, 1938, as applied to the Life Insurance Corporation contains the statutory framework for the L.I.C.'s Investment policy. The Government have approved the following pattern for the investments of the net addition to the Controlled Fund of the L.I.C. during the Fifth Plan period:—

(a) Socially Oriented Sector

Percent-
age of the
Controlled
Fund

(i) In Central Government
marketable securities
not less than . . . 25%

(ii) In Central and State
Government securities
including Government
Guaranteed marketable
securities indling (i)
above being not less than 50%.

(iii) In Socially Oriented
sector including Public
sector, Cooperative
sector, House Building
by Policy-holders, OYH
scheme etc. including (ii)
above being not less than 75%

(b) Other Investment.

(i) In Private sector . . . 10%

(ii) Loans to policy holders . . . 8%.

(iii) Construction and Acquisi-
tion of immoveable pro-
perty by LIC . . . 2%

(iv) Funds in pipeline not
available for investment . . . 5%
100%

The gross investments of LIC in various categories during the period 1976-77 and for the period from 1-4-1977 to 31-1-1978 were of the order of Rs. 593.79 crores and Rs. 530.06 crores respectively. Statements showing the break-up of investments made by the LIC during the above period are placed at Annexe. 'A' and 'B'.

Contribution made by the LIC upto 31st March, 1977 in housing develop-
ment is given below:

Description	Amount advance (in crores of rupees)
1	2
(i) Loans to State Govts. for financing their various Social Housing Schemes .	263.33
(ii) Loans to Apex Co-op Hous- ing Finance Societies (in- cluding loan to Govt. of Karnataka for housing Co- ops. of Scheduled Castes/ Tribes) . . .	274.82

1	2
(iii) Loans to State Housing Boards	10.15
(iv) Loans to HUDCO	33.00
(v) Loans disbursed under LIC's various Mortgage Housing Schemes	129.61
(vi) LIC's own building construction for Staff Quarters and Township development	17.65
TOTAL	728.56

LIC's contribution to the development of housing by way of financial assistance to the State Government institutions listed at (ii) to (iv) does not provide for any specific allocation of funds for construction of houses for people belonging to weaker sections of the society. It is for the State Governments and the Institutions to apportion the loans given to them by the LIC into one or more schemes for people belonging to Middle Income, Low Income and economically weaker sections of the society. Information relating to the proportion of the LIC's loan for building houses for weaker sections of the society by these institutions is not available with the L. I. C.

ANNEXURE 'A'

Statement showing category-wise Gross investment made in India during 1976-77

(Rupees in Crores)

Category	Gross Investments
1	2

A. (I) Socially Oriented Sector

(I) Central Government Securities	172.40
(II) State Govt. and other Govt. Guaranteed Marketable Securities	
(1) State Govt. Securities	41.41

1	2
(2) Municipal Securities	0.49
(3) Electricity Board Bonds	*45.05
(4) Land Dev. Bank Debts	14.92
(5) Financial Corp'n. Bonds including IFC, AR & DC, CWC, IDBI & ICICI	24.85

(2) Other Investment in Socially Oriented Sector

(1) Loans to State Elec. Boards	*83.83
(2) Loans to State Govt. for Housing Schemes	22.06
(3) Loans to Mupl. Committees for W.S. & D. Schmes	30.62
(4) Loans to Zilla Parishads for R.W.S. Schemes	5.01
(5) Loans to Co-op. Hsg. Fin. Societies including HUDCO	44.50
(6) Loans to Co-op. Sugar Factories	5.54
(7) Loans to Industrial Estates	1.78
(8) Loans to Co-op. Spg. Mills	0.10
(9) Loans to Policy holders under OYH & OYA Schemes, etc.	8.85

B. Other Investments

(I) Corporate Sector

(1) Term Loan to Companies	18.78
(2) Shares & Debentures of Companies	19.01
(3) Participating Loan	19.93
(II) Loan on Policies	27.79 Not investment

*Including Mysore Power Corp'n. Ltd.

1	2
(III) Loans on Mortgage of property for residential/commercial housing	2.92
(IV) House property & Land in India	2.79 Net investment
(V) Fixed Deposits with Banks etc. . . .	1.16
	593.79

ANNEXURE 'B'

Statement showing categorywise Gross Investment contracted during the period 1-4-1977 to 31-1-1978.

(Rupees in crores)

Category	Gross Investment Contracted
A. (1) Socially Oriented Sector	
(I) Central Government Securities	223.32
(II) State Govt. and Other Government Guaranteed Marketable Securities :	
(1) State Government Securities	55.61
(2) Municipal Securities	1.56
(3) Electricity Board Bonds	45.05
(4) Land Dev. Bank Debts	17.39
(5) Financial Corp. Bonds including IFC, AR & DC, CWC, IDBI & ICICI	14.79
(2) Other Investment in Socially Oriented Sector :	
(1) Loans to State Electricity Boards	33.83
(2) Loans to State Govt. for Housing Schemes	

1	2
(3) Loans to Mupl. Committees for W.S. & D. Schemes	12.40
(4) Loans to Zilla Parishads for R.W.S. Schemes	
(5) Loans to Co-op. Hsg. Fin. Societies including HUDCO	27.76
(6) Loans to Co-op. Sugar Factories	5.18
(7) Loans to Industrial Estates	0.61
(8) Loans to Co-op Spg. Mills . . . .	..
(9) Loans to Policy Holders under OYH & OYA Schemes	**

B. Other Investments

(I) Cooperate Sector

(1) Term Loan to Companies	17.96
(2) Shares and Debentures of Companies	17.75
(3) Participating Loan	56.85
(II) Loans on Policies	**
(III) Loan on Mortgage of Property for residential/commercial houses	**
(IV) House Property and Land in India	**
(V) Fixed Deposits with Bank A/c. . . .	**

TOTAL 530.06

*Including Debentures of Mysore Power Corporation and Damodar Valley Corporation.

**Figures not available.

SHRI R. KOLANTHAIVELU: Ours is a poor agricultural country. In our country so many agricultural pump sets and electric motors are being taken away by way of theft. Sometimes due to floods, the motors get

immersed in water and the coils got burnt out. Is there any policy in the LIC by way of insurance for the poor and marginal agriculture sets?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: If he means investment, then certainly there is a policy laid down by the Government in regard to how LIC ought to invest its funds. Government have approved the following pattern for the investments of the net addition to the Controlled Fund of the LIC.

Percentage
of the
Controlled
Fund

(a) *Socially Oriented Sector :*

- (i) In Central Government marketable securities not less than 25%
- (ii) In Central and State Government securities including Government guaranteed marketable securities including (i) above being not less than 50%
- (iii) In Socially Oriented Sector including Public Sector, Co-operative Sector, House Building by policy-holders, OYH Scheme etc. including (ii) above being not less than 75%

(b) *Other Investments :*

- (i) In Private Sector 10%
 - (ii) Loans to policy-holders 8%
 - (iii) Construction and Acquisition of immovable property by LIC 2%
 - (iv) Funds in pipeline not available for investment 5%
-

This is the way in which the whole of the investible funds are distributed in the LIC's investments.

SHRI R. KOLANTHAIVELU: He has not caught my point. I wanted to know whether our Government is inclined to give policies for electric

motors and pump sets for agriculturists by way of insurance.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: The LIC cannot possibly undertake loans for such purposes.

SHRI R. KOLANTHAIVELU: I want to know whether electric motors and pump sets can be insured by the agriculturists with the LIC.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: How can they? It is the General Insurance Corporation which can do it. It is the General Insurance Corporation that will do so.

SHRI A. C. GEORGE: Some three or four year back, LIC was giving liberal loan against schemes submitted by the local bodies including that of Kerala also to implement rural as well as urban water supply and other developmental activities which would go to benefit of the people and for which State Government were unable to give loans. Whether there has been a change in the policy regarding investments because they are now putting technical objections in the matter of giving loans to local bodies for the implementation of these water supply schemes. If these types of technical objections are put by the LIC on the schemes which are for the benefit of the people and for the developmental activities, will he change the policy regarding investment by these local bodies?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: There has been no change in the policy in regard to loans for the purpose that the hon. Member has mentioned. If there has been any difficulty or unreasonable attitude on the part of LIC and if he could give sufficient information, I will certainly inquire into that. But the policy remains. It gives loans to State Electricity Corporations, to State Governments for housing. It also gives loans to State Governments and municipal committees for water supply schemes. I think, in 1976-77, 30

crores were given as loan for that purpose, distributed, of course, in all the States of the country.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: The Minister has given adequate data on the investment of the LIC but he has not said anything about the policy of investment. Could he, for example, tell this House what has been the rate of return on these investments and what has been the criteria for maximisation of the rate of return in the connected in any way. (Interruption)

SHRI H. M. PATEL: We cannot postulate what would be the rate of return because so far as the Centre and the States' securities and loans are concerned, it will be at the rates which are fluctuating and they vary from time to time. So far as loans for social oriented schemes are concerned they are again approved in consultation with the Governments

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: What about private sector?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: In the private sector, it is, a matter of how they invest funds in the private sector companies. There, they certainly try to get maximum return on their investments. So far as loans to policy-holders are concerned, again it is on concessional rates.

SHRI SAUGATA ROY: Is the Minister aware that at present there is a strike by 7600 LIC Development Officers and they are also squatting in front of his House and as a result of that investment of LIC will go down and the revenue will go down by Rs. 20 crores? What attitude Government is taking with regard to the Development Officers' strike? Whether they are going to reinstate the earlier agreement which was scrapped in 1976.

3960 LS-2.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: The hon. Member has mixed up the question regarding the policy of investment with Development Officers and their going on strike. It is, undoubtedly, permissible, perhaps, by the hon. Member's logic but I do not see that the two are connected in any way. (Interruption)

श्री राज बिलास पासवान : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि बिगत बारह महीनों में जीवन बीमा नियम ने गरीब तथा पिछड़े वर्ग के लोगों पर कितना खर्च किया है और धनी तथा बड़े लोगों के ऊपर कितना किया है तथा इन दोनों से जो सूद की दर वसूल की जाती है वह क्या है ?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I am sorry I am not in a position to give him detailed figures of this nature. I do not think also that we keep figures as to how much has gone to the poor. But, certainly, the schemes on the basis of which loans are given by the LIC, a substantial percentage does go to the poorer sections

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Circulation of one rupee coins

*247. **SHRI UGRASEN:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the number of one-rupee coins already in circulation in the country;

(b) the average quantity of one-rupee coins being produced every month;

(c) whether it is a fact that one rupee notes pass hands quickly and become dirty and mutilated and these are not accepted by any bank because the Reserve Bank does not accept such notes sent by the banks; and

(d) whether Government propose to effect ultimate elimination of one-rupee notes by coins and if so, when this will be done and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ZULFIQARULLAH): (a) About 400 million pieces of one rupee coins are in circulation.

(b) About 11.33 million pieces.

(c) It is true that one rupee notes change hands quickly and become soiled and mutilated faster than the higher denomination notes.

Whenever complaints regarding non-acceptance of soiled and mutilated notes are received, these are looked into by the Reserve Bank of India and necessary remedial action is taken.

(d) There is no proposal under consideration for elimination of one rupee notes by coins, but the number of one rupee notes is being reduced gradually and the number of one rupee coins is being increased.

इंडियन एयरलाइन्स और एयर इंडिया के नये बोर्डों के पुनर्गठन के उद्देश्य

* 248. श्री राजकेशर सिंह : क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने हाल ही में एयर इंडिया और इंडियन एयरलाइंस के बोर्ड का पुनर्गठन किया है; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इस पुनर्गठन का उद्देश्य क्या है और क्या इसके परिणाम-स्वरूप इन निगमों की कार्यकुशलता में वृद्धि होने की संभावना है ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री पुष्पोत्तम जोशी) : (क) और (ख). एयर इंडिया तथा इंडियन एयरलाइंस के निदेशक मण्डलों का, 31-1-1978 को कार्यकाल समाप्त हो जाने पर उनका सामान्य प्रक्रिया के अनुसार पुनर्गठन किया गया है। क्योंकि वायु विनियम अधिनियम,

1953 की धारा 4 (1-क) (घ) की शर्तों के अनुसार दोनों एयरलाइनों के निदेशक मंडलों के लिए उनकी कार्य कुशलता को बढ़ाने की दृष्टि से उनके बीच और बेहतर तथा प्रभावी समन्वयन स्थापित करने के लिए एक ही सांझा अध्यक्ष रखने का प्रश्न कुछ समय से सरकार के विचाराधीन था और क्योंकि 1-2-1978 से दोनों निदेशक मण्डलों के लिए एक ही पूर्णकालिक अध्यक्ष नियुक्त करने का अन्तिम रूप से निर्णय ले लिया गया था, अतः एयर और मासल पी० सी० लाल का दोनों निदेशक मंडलों का सांझा पूर्णकालिक अध्यक्ष नियुक्त कर दिया गया।

Trade with Pakistan

*249. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:
SHRI SARAT KAR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) to what extent the trade between India and Pakistan has improved;

(b) what are the items to be exported and imported by India under the new agreement;

(c) whether any delegation is being sent to Pakistan, in this regard; and

(d) what had been the volume of trade between the two countries for the last year and this year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) and (b). Trade between India and Pakistan was resumed in 1975. The volume of our trade has been steadily increas-

ing, as would be evident from the figures placed below:

(Value in Rs lakhs)

Year	Exports	Imports	Balance in Trade
1975-76 .	78	2212	-2134
1976-77.	887	2	+885
1977-78 (April-July 1977)	557	*1.2	

(*Figures provisional)

(Source : DGCI&S, Calcutta)

(b) Trade Agreement was signed with Pakistan on 23.1.75 with a validity of three years. The Government of Pakistan has been requested to continue this Agreement for another period of six months or till a new Agreement is signed, whichever may be earlier

The main items of export from India to Pakistan have been tea, bidi wrapper leaves, iron and steel, rubber tyres and tubes, Textile yarn, machinery and transport equipment, Aluminium and metal products, etc.

The main items of import from Pakistan have been raw cotton, rock salt, medicinal herbs etc

(c) Trade Review Talks between India and Pakistan are expected to be held shortly

Proposal to take over Wholesale Trade in Ten Essential Commodities

*250. SHRI SAUGATA ROY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state -

(a) whether 'CPM led front Government' has proposed to Union Government in accordance with their Party resolution urging it to take over the wholesale trade in ten essential commodities to check the price spiral; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL): (a) and (b). No such proposal is at present under consideration of the Central Government.

Tea Industry

*251. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the tea industry in the country is facing uncertain future due to fall in prices both at home and abroad; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

तस्करी न करने की शपथ लेने वाले तस्कर

*252 श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह : क्या बिस्म मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या वे तस्कर जिन्होंने गत वर्ष बम्बई में श्री जयप्रकाश नारायण के समक्ष तस्करी की गतिविधियों में भाग न लेने की शपथ ली थी, फिर से सक्रिय हो गये हैं; और

(ख) यदि हा, तो उनकी संख्या और नाम क्या हैं ?

बिस्म मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री लतीफ खान): (क) और (ख). सरकार को मिली रिपोर्टों में पता नहीं चलता कि पिछले वर्ष बम्बई में जिन तस्करों ने श्री

जयप्रकाश नारायण के समक्ष शपथ ली थी, उन्होंने अपनी तस्करो की गतिविधिया फिर से शुरू कर दी हैं, फिर भी, स्थिति पर बराबर निगाह रखी जा रही है।

Import of Polyester Filament Yarn

*253. SHRI A. MURUGESAN:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN
PANDEYA

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state—

(a) the policy regarding import of Polyester filament Yarn and the reasons for change in policy effected from time to time during the last twelve months;

(b) the number and names of big business houses who have been allowed to import, and the quantity and value permitted to be imported; and

(c) the extent to which small scale industries have been affected by the new policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House [Placed in Library See No. LT-1766/78]

(b) Under the general policy for Registered Exporters, holders of import replenishment licences who were eligible to import this material directly, are not required to obtain the prior permission or any endorsement on their licences from the Licensing authority. Hence details are not available. During the period from 22nd August, 1977, to 2nd September 1977, Export Houses and eligible manufacturers could also import the material on their own.

(c) The new policy has not adversely affected the small scale industries.

Aircraft in IAC and AI Fleets

*254. SHRI C. N. VISWANATHAN:
SHRI A. BALA PAJANOR:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) the number, value and types of aircraft purchased and added to the fleet of I.A.C. and Air India during the last twelve months and similar details for those to be purchased during coming year;

(b) whether the proposal of former Government to purchase VIP Boeings was rescinded at first by present Government and revived later, and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor with full facts of the case?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) to (c). Indian Airlines purchased 3 additional Boeing 737 aircraft at a price of US \$ 8.01 million per aircraft (approximately Rs 7.2 crores excluding Customs Duty) during 1977 for addition to their fleet. Air-India placed orders during 1977 for 2 Boeing-747 aircraft and the first of these two costing US \$35.605 million including the cost of airframe, installed engines and master changes, was delivered in February, 1978. The second Boeing 747 aircraft is expected to be delivered in July, 1978 and the estimated cost of aircraft including airframe and installed engines is US \$39.715 million. The provision for buyer furnished equipment fitted/to be fitted on these two aircraft is estimated at US \$1.700 million and US \$1.870 million respectively. During 1978, Indian Airlines propose to purchase two additional A300B2 Airbus Aircraft. Proposal for this is still under the consideration of Government. Air-India are considering placement of an order for one Boeing-747 aircraft in lieu of the one lost in the accident on 1st January, 1978, the cost of which has not yet been finalised.

The proposal of former Government to purchase Boeing aircraft for VIPs

by Ministry of Defence was rescinded by the present Government. It has not been revised.

Effect on the Transaction of Government Business due to Banking Strike

*255 SHRI K MALLANNA Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether there has been any effect in the transaction of Government business due to Banking Strike in the month of January, 1978, and

(b) if so the details regarding the demands of the Bank Employees and the reaction of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H M PATEL) (a) and (b) The Indian Banks Association has reported that while there has been no strike in banks in January 1978 on an industrywide basis the bank employees were on agitation during the first week of January 1978 and were observing work to rule and go slow. Like all other business Government business also would have been affected to some extent during the first week of January due to agitation of the bank employees.

The Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) has initiated conciliation proceedings under the Industrial Disputes Act on the demands put forth by the bank employees for a wage re-

vision. The conciliation proceedings have not yet concluded.

Textile Agreement with E.E.C. countries

*256 SHRI K RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state

(a) whether a new five year textile agreement has been entered into with the EEC countries and

(b) if so the details of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG) (a) A new four year textile agreement has been entered into with the EEC countries for the period 1978 to 1981. This Agreement can be extended by another year ending December 31 1982 by mutual agreement between India and the EEC.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House

Statement*

The new Indo-EEC Textile Agreement covers textile products of cotton, wool and man made fibres originating in India. Categories of textile products which are under individual restraint levels and the respective restraint levels are as under—

Category No	Description	Unit	1978	1979	Restraint levels	
					1980	1981
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Cotton yarns not for retail sales	Tonnes	9000	9045	9090	9136
2	Cotton Fabrics of which other than grey or bleached	Tonnes	40000	40100	40200	40300
		Tonnes	42000	42500	43000	43500
4	Knitted shirts, singlets, T-shirts & sweater shirts	1000 pcs	6772	7043	7325	7618

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7	Women's woven & knitted blouses	1000 pcs.	2800	28280	28563	28848
8	Men's woven shirts	1000 pcs.	24500	24819	25152	25469
9	Cotton towelling, toilet & kitchen linen of cotton towelling	Tonnes	3600	3780	3969	4167
15B	Woven women's overcoats, rain-coats and other coats cloaks and jackets	1000 pcs.	668	695	723	752
19	Cotton handkerchief	1000 pcs.	64035	65956	67935	69973
20	Bedlines	Tonnes	5736	5965	6204	6452
26	Woven & knitted dresses	100 pcs.	6500	6663	6830	7000
27	Woven & knitted shirts	1000 pcs.	4500	4613	4728	4848
29	Women's woven suits	1000 pcs.	390	410	430	452
30B	Women's other woven underwear	1000 pcs.	1599	1679	1763	1851
39	Table linen toilet and kitchen linen other than from terry fabrics	Tonnes	1169	1239	1313	1392

In the case of other categories whose exports are not subjected to individual restraint levels a provision for consultations has been made whenever the import from India into the EEC exceeds certain stipulated levels.

Encashment of Demonetised notes by Villagers/Farmers

*257. SHRI G. S. REDDI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of villagers, particularly farmers, have tendered demonetised notes for encashment soon after demonetisation;

(b) if so, whether they have been asked to produce proof of obtaining these notes;

(c) whether, it has not been possible for them to do so; and

(d) whether this has caused considerable loss to them?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) to (d). The Ordinance promulgated on the 16th January, 1978, provides that every per-

son desiring to tender for exchange a high denomination bank note should submit a declaration in the prescribed form furnishing information inter alia regarding "when and from what source did the bank notes come into possession" of the declarant. In cases where satisfactory information on this material aspect was initially not given by the declarant, or it was not supplied within reasonable time, the Bank concerned was obliged to refuse payment and refer the matter to the Central Government who will deal with such cases after obtaining such further amplification of the declaration as it may think fit. Government have no information that the Ordinance has caused considerable loss to villagers, particularly farmers.

Distribution of consumer articles at Fair Prices

*258. SHRI K. T. KOSALRAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) details of the public distribution system being worked out by Govern-

ment for the distribution of consumer articles at fair prices;

(b) what are the articles proposed to be introduced under the system; and

(c) measures contemplated by Government to see that the different articles are made available in sufficient quantities to the distribution agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

1. The scheme aims at increasing the production of essential mass consumption goods and to make available the increased production equitably and efficiently especially to the weaker sections and working population. The basic objective of the new approach is to create a permanent system in place of short-term palliatives and ad-hoc approaches of the past. The proposed system seeks to create an effective instrument for removing imbalances of the past and for extending the distribution system to the rural areas as well. It is also intended to expand the commodity coverage of the distribution system to include critical wage-goods and also take effective action for extensive expansion of the network of fair price shops to cover far-flung areas throughout the country.

2. The tasks envisaged and the action plans suggested emphasise the need for stepping up production on a priority basis of commodities in short supply, for which both short and long term measures have to be taken. In the formulation of the scheme, financial constraints have been taken into account and the approach is to make the optimum use of the existing infrastructural facilities and plan outlays. The more important features of the

new policy for strengthening of the public distribution system cover the following:—

- Effective distribution of essential commodities already covered and addition of new commodities to the distribution system. The scheme envisages initial coverage of cereals, sugar kerosene, cloth, vegetable oils and vanaspati, and selected manufactured items of mass consumption;
- In respect of selected manufactured items of mass consumption, such as toilet and washing soaps, salt, matches, tea, exercise-books, common drugs and medicines, the concerned administrative Ministries of the Government in consultation with the State Governments have to take up the responsibility of monitoring production, availability and retail prices. The Ministries concerned should be responsible for making assessment of overall requirements and, in particular, the needs of the vulnerable segments of population and for taking measures to meet them;
- bufferstocking of cereals, pulses, edible oils or oilseeds, cotton, etc. and imports of required essential articles;
- bringing about rationality in the areas of storage, transport and distribution costs,
- removal of imbalances in the allocation of commodities between urban and rural areas and their prices;
- optimum use will be made of the existing infrastructural facilities in the private and public sectors. The emphasis would be on devising effective systems of distribution, and expansion of the cooperative network both in the urban and rural areas for distribution. If necessary, the Gram Panchayats may also be encouraged to take up this responsibility;

- increase in the number of retail outlets to cover far-flung areas in such a way that there is at least one outlet for a population of 2,000;
- improving the viability of fair price shops through a judicious sales-mix and minimum sales turn-over;
- establishment of Vigilance Committees with the involvement of consumers endowed with statutory powers for exercising supervision and vigilance over the public distribution system and safeguarding consumers' interest. High Powered Committees to be set up at the Centre and State levels for coordination and supervision of the totality of the distribution as a whole, and to oversee the activities and recommend suitable measures to Government from time to time.

Facilities for Exchange of Foreign Currency

*260. SHRI SHAMBHUNATH CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is only one bank in New Delhi in Asoka Hotel affording facility of exchange of foreign currency all the 24 hours and on holidays;

(b) whether this places the foreign tourists at a disadvantage and leads to charging of high rates of discount; and

(c) whether Government will look into this and consider the advisability of affording similar facilities at the Reserve Bank or at some other centres also for the convenience of foreign visitors?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Besides the Central Bank of India at Ashoka Hotel, the State Bank of India, Exchange Bureau at Palam Airport also functions for 24 hours including on

Sundays/holidays to provide the facility of exchange of foreign currency. A number of hotels in Delhi also provide this facility 24 hours and on holidays to the foreign tourists staying with them.

(b) No such complaint has been received by the Government.

(c) The existing facilities are considered adequate of the present.

Proposal to ban trade between Whole salers

*261. SHRI MOHINDRA SINGH SAYIAN WALA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to ban trade between one wholesaler and another on the ground that it adds to the prices of essential commodities; and

(b) if so, the steps that have been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI K. R. SHINHA KUMAR GOYAL): (a) and (b). The implications of the proposal are being examined.

Supply of Wagons to Uganda

*263. SHRI D. D. DESAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Projects and Equipment Corporation has made heavy default in supply of wagons to Uganda;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) the loss to this country as a result of cost escalation;

(d) whether the responsibility for this has been fixed; and

(e) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG) (a) No, Sir

(b) to (e) The Projects and Equipment Corporation entered into a contract with Ministry of Transport and Communications, Government of Uganda for supply of 250 wagons and 20 Passenger Coaches in September 1976. Because of delay in opening of latter of credit as well as furnishing of guarantee by the buyers in accordance with the terms in the contract the implementation of the contract was held up for some time. However as a result of detailed discussions held between the parties the outstanding problems have mostly been solved and implementation of the contract is expected to proceed uninterrupted. There has been no loss to the country as a result of cost escalation.

Proposals to Make Mahabalipuram Attractive for Tourists

2287 **SHRI R K MIALGI** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any proposal with the Government of India to make Mahabalipuram (near Madras) a more attractive centre for tourists

(b) if so whether Government will publish the same for public suggestions

(c) what are the main features of the above said proposals and their estimated cost, and

(d) when the said proposals are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK) (a) and (b) The Government of Tamil Nadu has already prepared a Master Plan of Mahabalipuram for ensuring a regulated growth of facilities and making it a more attractive place. The Master

Plan incorporates major recommendations contained in the UNDP Report on Beach Resorts Survey which was commissioned by the Central Department of Tourism. The master plan of Mahabalipuram has already been published by the State Government for eliciting public opinion.

(c) The master plan is mainly a land-use plan of the Mahabalipuram area for ensuring that facilities come up in a regulated manner thereby preserving its natural environment. The master plan earmarks areas for providing tourist facilities, roads, system parking area for vehicles, archaeological control area, land-scaping, development of township etc.

(d) This will depend upon the quantum of funds made available to different agencies executing various components of the project with which they are concerned.

दिल्ली में छोटे कारीगरों द्वारा निर्मित वस्तुओं के लिए उन्हें उचित मूल्य बिलाने हेतु एक सरकारी एजेंसी की स्थापना

2288 **श्री बप्पा राम शास्त्री** क्या वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक प्रति और सहकारिता मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या दिल्ली में छोटे कारीगर अपने घरों में बड़ी संख्या में आइरन वाशर, लिफ्ट, चैन, एल्यूमीनियम ग्लास, कटारी, भगोना प्लास्टिक के मिच प्लग आदि बनाते हैं परन्तु उन्हें उनका उचित मूल्य नहीं मिलता है, और

(ख) यदि हा तो क्या सरकार का विचार यह सुनिश्चित करने के लिए कोई सरकारी एजेंसी स्थापित करने का है कि उपरोक्त वस्तुओं का निर्माण करने वाले व्यक्तियों को उचित मूल्य मिले ?

वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक दुर्गति और सहकारिता मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री कृष्ण कुमार गोयल) : (क) सरकार को इस बारे में कोई शिकायत नहीं मिली है।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Rise in Price of Pulses, Vegetables and Spices

2289. SHRI SASANKASEKHAR SANYAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for the gradual upward trend in prices of pulses, vegetables, spices and other daily necessities of life;

(b) what steps Government have taken or are taking to combat such trend and lower prices of such commodities; and

(c) how much and in what way such combating is within the control of the Government and how much and in what way the same is beyond the control of the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL): (a) The price situation has generally remained fairly easy in recent weeks in respect of several essential commodities. Over the year the all commodities wholesale price index is lower by 1.9 per cent. Between the weeks ending September 17, 1977 and February 18, 1978, the index has declined by 4.7 per cent. During the same period the indices for pulses, vegetables and spices & condiments have declined by 5.7 per cent, 23.8 per cent and 17.1 per cent respectively. In pulses there has, however, been some increase in the index during the two weeks ending February 18, 1978.

(b) and (c). The declining trend in the prices of essential commodities has been achieved as a result of various measures that have been taken since April 17, 1977 and also because of good crop prospects. These measures would be continued and appropriate further steps will be taken as and when the situation demands. Government in consultation with the State Governments is keeping a continuous watch on the prices and availability of essential commodities. Among the measures taken, the important ones are:—

(i) a restrictive monetary and credit policy;

(ii) removal of restrictions on inter-State movement of wheat and rice;

(iii) increase in the off-take of cereals from the Central Pool;

(iv) larger releases of levy and non-levy sugar;

(v) reduction in excise duty on levy and free sale sugar;

(vi) imposition of an export duty of Rs. 5 a kg. from April 9, 1977 and simultaneous withdrawal of the rebate on exports of tea;

(vii) declaration of tea as an essential commodity under the Essential Commodities Act;

(viii) sale of a large quantity of loose tea through National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation (NAFED) and National Consumer Cooperative Federation (NCCF) at a retail price of Rs. 16.50 a kg at a large number of centres;

(ix) increased supply of kerosene;

(x) continuation of ban on exports of pulses, HPS groundnuts, edible oils;

(xi) continuation of ban on exports of fresh vegetables including potatoes, cuminseed and turmeric and regulated exports of onions;

(xii) arranging for import of about one million tonnes of cement;

(xiii) import of large quantities of edible oils and raw cotton;

(xiv) sale of imported refined rapeseed oil at a retail price of Rs. 7.50 a kg. through the public distribution system throughout the country;

(xv) Supply of imported oils to the vanaspathi industry ranging between 75 per cent and 90 per cent of their requirements of oils;

(xvi) imposition of stock limits on traders in respect of pulses, oil-seeds and edible oils;

(xvii) increase in the support price of wheat, paddy, gram, groundnut, sunflowerseed and raw cotton; and

(xviii) import of 10,000 tonnes of masoor by NAFED.

In a mixed economy, Government cannot have total control on the prices of all essential commodities. The Central and State Government are, however, making efforts to contain their prices through the available instruments

Premium Rates of L.I.C.

2290. SHRI S. D. SOMASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are satisfied that the present basis of fixing

premium rates by LIC is in consonance with the increased expectation of Life in India;

(b) if not, whether they propose to review the rates, and when;

(c) the reasons for not reassessing the bonus rates on policies; and

(d) particulars of any move to increase the bonus on policies?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). Premium rates under various "without profit" plans of assurance were reduced from time to time during the years 1970 to 1976. In the case of "with profit" policies it is customary not to make frequent changes in the premium rates but to give effect to the experience in bonus declarations. Reduction in "with profit" premium rates could be considered when the expenses of management of the LIC, which have shown a rising trend, are brought down and stabilised at a reasonable level.

(c) and (d). Bonus to LIC's policyholders is declared on the basis of the surplus disclosed by the biennial actuarial valuations. The position emerging at the last two actuarial valuations was as under:—

Date of Valuation	Surplus (in crores of Rs.)	Bonus per thousand sum assured per annum	
		Whole Life	Endowment Assurances
		Rs.	Rs.
31-3-75 . . .	184.71	22	17.60
31-3-77 . . .	258.00	25	20.00

Orders for Supply of Iron and Pig Iron

2291. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) how many foreign countries placed orders to have iron-ore, and pig iron from India; and

(b) how far this will help us in our bulk trade and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) The number of foreign countries which placed orders for import of iron ore and pig iron from India is 16 and 10 respectively.

(b) About one-third of India's bulk trade handled by the ports is accounted for by iron ore and pig iron. The off take of iron ore and pig iron by these countries will help in getting renewed enquiries from these sources and in promoting the export of these two items further.

विमानों में दिया जाने वाला भोजन

2292. श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय :

क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या विमानों में दिया जाने वाला अल्पाहार और भोजन घटिया किस्म का और कम मात्रा में होता है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो मात्रा बढ़ाने और बढ़िया किस्म का भोजन देने का सरकार का विचार है; और

(ग) क्या पहले की ही तरह विमानों में पूरी मात्रा में भोजन देने और यात्रियों की सुविधा के लिए विमान कम्पनियों के नगर कार्यालय से हवाई अड्डे तक एयरलाइन्स की बस सेवा को पुनः चालू करने का सरकार का विचार है ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री

(श्री पुरुषोत्तम कौशिक) : (क) और (ख). सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि कुछ यात्री जनता का विचार है कि इंडियन एयरलाइन्स की उड़ानों पर दिये जाने वाले स्नैक्स तथा भोजन की क्वालिटी में सुधार किए जाने की गुंजाइश है तथा प्रबन्धकवर्ग को निर्देश दिया है कि वह इस मामले में अभीष्ट सुधार करने के लिए तुरन्त कदम उठाएं ।

(ग) एयर इंडिया की उड़ानों पर पूरा भोजन (full meals) दिया जाता है । इंडियन एयरलाइन्स की उड़ानों पर पूरा भोजन देने का फिलहाल कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है । जहां तक एयरपोर्ट तथा सिटी कार्यालय के बीच बस सेवा का सम्बन्ध है, भुगतान के आधार पर प्रबन्ध पहले ही मौजूद है ।

Public and Private Sector Marine Insurance Companies

2293. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many public and private sector insurance companies are engaged in the marine insurance in India as on 1st January, 1978 and what was their number, at the end of the First and the Third Five Year Plans respectively;

(b) how many of the private sector marine insurance companies were foreign owned or controlled as on 1st January, 1978 and what was their number at the end of the First and Third Five Year Plans respectively; and

(c) what was the total value of marine insurance business transacted by Indian and foreign companies last year and what was the total business transacted by them during the last years of the First and the Third Five Year Plans respectively?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) The following is the number of companies/un-

dertakings registered for carrying on marine insurance business in India on various dates:—

Date	Public Sector	Private Sector	Total
31-3-1956	Nil	129	129
31-3-1966	3*	97	100
1-1-1978	8†	Nil	8

*Life Insurance Corporation of India and its then subsidiaries viz. Oriental Fire and General Insurance Company Ltd. and Indian Guarantee and General Insurance Company Ltd.

†Including State Government Insurance departments.

(b) Date	Number
31-3-1956	63
31-3-1966	46
1-1-1978	Nil

lower than what it was in the previous year;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) steps proposed to be taken to step up its export?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) and (b). Although total exports of capital goods increased to Rs. 176 crores in 1976-77 as against Rs. 154 crores in 1975-76, there was a fall in the case of certain categories like textile machinery, sugar machinery and wagons and coaches.

(c) Exploration of selected markets through visits of delegations, formation of consortia and other measures have been taken on hand by the industries concerned.

Capital Investment of HIMCO Laboratories, Sonapat (Haryana)

2295. SHRI OM PRAKASH TYAGI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3325 on 9th December, 1977 regarding payment of income-tax by M/s. HIMCO Laboratories, Sonapat, Haryana and state:

(a) what has been the Capital investment of the concern HIMCO Laboratories, Sonapat (Haryana) since 1973 year-wise up to date;

(c) The total gross marine insurance Premium income written direct by Indian and foreign companies during the Calendar years 1955, 1965 and 1976 was as under:—

(In Crores of Rupees)

Year	Indian Insurers	Non-Indian Insurers
1955	5.24	2.67
1965	12.63	4.37
1976@	89.07	Nil

@ N.B.: Information for 1977 is not yet available.

Export of Capital Goods

2294. SHRI NARENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the export of capital goods in 1976-77 was

(b) the names of the Pharmacists working in the concern since 1973;

(c) the salaries given to each of the Pharmacist;

(d) the total number of employees working in the concern since 1973; and

(e) the names of the owners of this concern at present?

Year ending

1. 31-3-1973	2 partners	Chaman Lal	Ravi Parkash Agarwal
		Rs. 25,511	Rs. 31,112
2. 31-3-1974	Proprietor Ravi Parkash Agarwal	..	Rs. 93,862
3. 31-3-1975	Do.	..	Rs. 164,477
4. 31-3-1976	Do.	..	Rs. 180,921
5. 31-3-1977	Do.	..	Rs. 157,268

(b) No Pharmacist has been employed so far. The firm employed only a

Chief Chemist and an Analytical Chemist whose names are as under:

	Chief Chemist	Analytical Chemist
From 1973 to June, 1974	Shri Inderjit Sehgal	Shri Dhan Parkash
From July, 1974 to August, 1974	..	Do.
From September, 1974 to February, 1975	Shri A. K. Jain	Do.
March, 1975 to date	Shri Dhan Parkash	..

(c) The salaries given to each of the Chemists are given below:—

	Rs.
1. Shri Inderjit Sehgal	700 P.M.
2. Shri A. K. Jain	1000 P.M.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ZULFIKARULLAH): (a) M/s HIMCO Laboratories, Sonapat (Haryana) was a partnership concern with three partners upto 8-12-1972 when one of the partners died. Thereupon, the remaining two partners carried on the business of the firm. The firm was dissolved on 10-8-1973 when Shri Ravi Parkash Agarwal, one of the partners, took over the business as sole proprietor. The position of capital investment is given as under:

3. *Shri Dhan Parkash* —

(a) 1/73 to 3/74 . Rs 275 P M.

(b) 4/74 to 3/75 Rs 300 P M

(c) 4/75 to 8/75 . Rs 550 P M

(d) 9/75 to 1/76 . Rs 750 P M.

(e) 4/76 to date Rs 850 P M

(d) The total number of employees working in HIMCO Laboratories are as under

1972-73	.	.	.	16
1973-74	.	.	.	10
1974-75	.	.	.	9
1975-76	.	.	.	9
1976-77	.	.	.	15
1977-78	.	.	.	9

(e) *Shri Ravi Parkash Agarwal* is the present proprietor of M/s HIMCO Laboratories, Sonapat

Auctioning of Plots by Income-Tax Department for Recovery of Tax Arrears

2296 *SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN* Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the Income-tax Department has auctioned plots belonging to the Late Jamsaheb of Nawanager for recovery of tax arrears, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (*SHRI ZULFIKARULLAH*): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir For the realisation of arrears of tax amounting to Rs 14.85 lakhs from the Late Jamsaheb of Nawanager,

51 plots surrounding the immovable property known as 'Coach House' of Jamnagar were sold by auction in December, 1977 and January, 1978, realising a total amount of Rs 8.13 lakhs

घाय का पुनर्वितरण

2297. डा० रामजी सिंह : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या जनता सरकार ने अपने चुनाव घोषणापत्र में घाय और सम्पत्ति का इस प्रकार पुनर्वितरण करने का वचन दिया था जिसमें झमींदारों के उच्च खला और भूमि प्रदर्शन के स्थान पर समाज में मितव्ययिता लाई जायगी ;

(ख) यदि हा, तो गत एक वर्ष के दौरान इस दिशा में सरकार ने क्या प्रयास किये हैं ;

(ग) इस अवधि के दौरान गरीबों में कुल कितनी जमीन बांटी गई है, और

(घ) प्रशासन में कितने प्रतिशत मितव्ययिता लाई गई है ?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल) : (क) जी हा ।

(ख) जनता सरकार ने कार्यभार सभालने के बाद, अपने चुनाव घोषणा पत्र में किए गए वायदों को पूरा करने के लिए व्यापक क्षेत्र में कार्रवाई शुरू कर दी है । जनता सरकार ने अपने पहले बजट में वार्षिक आयोजना व्यय की प्राथमिकताओं को पुन व्यवस्थित करने का प्रयास किया है ताकि कम आय वाले लोगों को विशेष रूप से अब तक उपेक्षित क्षेत्र अर्थात् ग्रामीण क्षेत्र के लोगों को लाभ पहुंचाया जा सके । क्योंकि सरकार समन्यायपूर्ण पुन. वितरण-

शील कर प्रणाली में विश्वास करती है, इसलिए धाय कर पर भारभार में बृद्धि करके और सम्पत्ति कर की दर बढ़ा कर, धायकर के डाचे को और अधिक प्रगतिशील बना दिया गया है। इसके साथ साथ ही कम धाय वाले लोगों का राहत देने के लिए धायकर से छूट की सीमा का बढ़ाकर 10,000 रुपये कर दिया गया है। सरकार ने मजदूरों को 8 33 प्रतिशत का न्यूनतम बोनम फिर से दिलाया है और बानम की आस्थगित मजदूरी के रूप में मान्यता दी है। किसानों को लाभ पहुंचाने के लिए धान और गहू को खरीद की कीमतें बढ़ा दी गई हैं। मजदूरी धाय और कीमतों के बारे में उचित नीति बनाने के लिए एक अध्ययन दल की नियुक्ति की गई है जो धाय की विभिन्नताओं का कम करने में सहायता देने वाले ठाम निर्देशों का मुद्दाव दगा। चूंकि धायोजना देश में आर्थिक और सामाजिक परिवर्तन लाने का एक बहुत महत्वपूर्ण साधन है इसलिए इन लक्ष्यों का प्राप्त करने के लिए धायोजना नीति का तदनुरूप दिशा दी जायगी।

(ग) उपलब्ध मुचना के अनुसार 1977-78 म नवम्बर 1977 के अल्ल तक अधिकतम सीमा में ऊपर की अधिगोप भूमि में में भूमिहीन खेतीहर मजदूरों का 1 84 लाख एकड़ भूमि का वितरण किया गया है।

(घ) यद्यपि की गई विकायत की मात्रा बताना कठिन है, परन्तु इसका स्थूल अन्दाजा हम बान से लगाया जा सकता है कि 1977-78 के मशीनधिन अनुमानों में धायोजना-भिन्न राजस्व व्यय का, अतिरिक्त खर्चों जैसे बि गेडु और धान के खरीद की कीमतों में वृद्धि करने, यूग्या की कीमतों में और बमी करने, सरकारी कर्मचारियों का अतिरिक्त महगाई भत्ते की किस्त दन, पेंशन भोगियों को और अधिक राहत देने आदि के वावजूद भी, मूल बजट अनुमानों की

सीमाओं में ही रखा जा सका है। विकायत करते बिना और अनावश्यक खर्चों को काफी मात्रा में कम किए बिना यह सम्भव नहीं हो सकता था।

Distributionship for Internal Trade of Tea to Ex-Servicemen

2298 SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state

(a) whether Tea Trading Corporation, a Public Sector Undertaking, has decided to give distributionship for internal trade of tea to the Ex-servicemen, and

(b) if so, the number of such ex-servicemen who have been given distributionship so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BFG) (a) Yes Sir

(b) 14 servicemen have been selected for distributionship of TICI's teas in the internal market. Out of these five have already started operations and the remaining nine will start in April, 1978

प्रस्तावित तिलहन निगम के कृत्य

2299 श्रीमही लाल क्या धाणिध्य तथा नागरिक पति और सहकारिता मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) प्रस्तावित तिलहन निगम के कृत्य क्या है, और

(ख) वित्तीय, प्रशासकीय एवं कार्मिक दृष्टि में इसका किम-किस सरकारी उपक्रम तथा निकाय पर प्रभाव पड़ेगा ?

वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक दूति और सह-कारिता मंत्रालय में राज्यमंत्री (श्री कृष्ण कुमार गोयल) : (क) और (ख). खाद्य तेलों और तिलहनों के लिए एक राष्ट्रीय निगम की स्थापना करने का प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन है। इस बारे में व्यौरा तैयार किया जा रहा है।

Field Employees of L.I.C., Nagpur

2300. SHRI ROBIN SEN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware of the fact that the field Employees of Life Insurance Corporation of India, Nagpur Division, submitted a memorandum regarding certain problems and demands of the Field Employees of Nagpur Division, and

(b) if so, reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Divisional Association of National Federation of Insurance Field Workers of India, Nagpur submitted two memoranda dated 18-7-1977 and 14-11-1977 to the Zonal Manager, Western Zone, Bombay. The above said memoranda mainly contained grievances relating to individual problems and they are being looked into by the Zonal Manager, Western Zone of the L.I.C.

Disparity of Income between different Income Groups

2301. SHRI A. K. ROY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) what is the last figure of disparity of income between the different income groups in the country and the ratio between the lowest and the highest;

(b) whether it is a fact that during one year of Janata Rule this disparity has further increased; and

(c) if so, what step Government propose to take for equidistribution of rational income?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). For want of comprehensive and reliable data on size-wise distribution of incomes of individuals and families there is no official estimate of disparity in income of different income groups in the country. The observation of the Mahalanobis Committee on Distribution of Income and Levels of Living in their first report published in 1964 that "the most important conclusion which emerges from this study is that we do not have the required data for drawing valid conclusions concerning the changes in income distribution which might have taken place over the two plan periods" holds good even now.

(c) It is the strategy of the present Government to reduce the disparities in income by increasing employment opportunities particularly in rural areas where income disparities are more pronounced. This is sought to be achieved by enlarging development outlays under the Plan in favour of agriculture, infrastructure in the rural areas, rural and small scale industries, irrigation and rural electrification. Low income groups constituting small and marginal farmers, agricultural labourers, village craftsmen and artisans who form a major proportion of rural population, will benefit from this change in plan priorities. Also the increase in the surcharge in income tax and in the rates of wealth tax last year and the increase in compulsory deposit rates will reduce the incomes of those at the upper end of the income scale. This increase in the share of public investment in total investment will also contribute to a reduction of disparity because profits will accrue to the state instead of to individuals.

Number of High Denomination Notes before Demonetisation

2302. SHRI R. L. P. VERMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Rs. 1000/-, 5000/- and 10000/- denomination notes in circulation separately before demonetisation and category-wise in the possession of various Banks (give names) as—

(i) the day falling a week before the demonetisation orders became applicable;

(ii) the day finally deposited with the Reserve Bank of India by various Banks (give names); and

(b) the total number of notes of each denomination as in part (a) received and accepted for payment by Government separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ZULFIKARULLAH): (a) At the close of business on 16th day of January, 1978, the number of bank notes in circulation was about 12.80 lakhs of Rs. 1000/- denomination valued at Rs. 128 crores, about 36,360 notes of Rs. 5000 denomination valued at Rs. 18.15 crores and 146 notes of Rs. 10,000/- denomination value 1.41 Rs. 34.6 lakhs. This totals up to about Rs. 146.5 crores. The figures are however, provisional. It is not practicable to give date wise, bank-wise and denomination-wise details as it will entail too much time and labour in compiling such information.

(b) Since the work of the scrutiny of the declarations for exchange of high denomination notes is still in progress, the information will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as available.

Vacancies of Airport Officers and Unemployed Commercial Pilots

2303 SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the IAAI had selected a large number of candidates to fill up the vacancies of Airport Officer and had created a panel of selected candidates during the year 1975 and 1970;

(b) the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the said panel included a large number of unemployed Commercial Pilot and also some ex-servicemen;

(d) the details thereof including the number of persons given appointments so far;

(e) whether any step has been taken to offer the post of Airport Officer to such unemployed Commercial Pilot as well to ex-servicemen from the selected panel; and

(f) if not, the reason therefor and the steps proposed to be taken to rehabilitate such persons on priority basis?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK) (a) Yes, Sir. The International Airports Authority of India prepared two panels, one on the basis of open selection on 1-12-1975 and the other for Departmental promotion on 2-11-1976 for filling up the posts of Airport Officers.

(b) to (d) The detailed Panel lists I & II are laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT 4767/78]

The two Panels together contained 20 Commercial Pilot's Licence holders and 10 Ex-Servicemen.

(e) Out of the above, 9 Commercial Pilot's Licence holders and all the

10 Ex-Servicemen have been appointed/promoted as Airport Officer.

(f) The Civil Aviation Department is also taking steps to absorb unemployed Commercial Pilots by making them eligible for direct recruitment to the post of Asstt. Aerodrome Officer by amending the Recruitment Rules

Requirements of Saffron

2304 SHRIMATI PARVATI DEVI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to ban on imports of saffron, the Attar Industry of Hina, the Surti Zarda and Pan Masala Industry are suffering;

(b) whether in Unani medicines saffron is an indispensable ingredient, and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to meet the requirements for saffron?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG)

(a) Government has no such information

(b) Yes Sir

(c) Does not arise

Representations in Connection with Future Trading in Industrial Oilseed

2305 SHRI VINODBHAI B SHETHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representations in connection with the future trading in industrial oil seeds like castor oilseeds and linseed oils;

(b) how many persons have been rendered unemployed due to closure of this trade; and

(c) the reasons for closure of the trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL.) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is difficult to estimate the number of persons rendered unemployed by the closure of this trade.

(c) The ban on future trading in castorseed and linseed was imposed with a view to keeping a check on prices of edible oilseeds oils.

Reservation of Vacancies of S.C./S.T. for promotion to Class I and II in Income Tax Department

2306. SHRI SHIV NARAIN SAR-SONIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the cases of promotion to Class II posts and to the lowest rung of Class I posts in the Income Tax Department reservations of vacancies in favour of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is provided;

(b) whether a written test is held for promotion to the above posts;

(c) whether the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are given a concession of 5 marks in the written test;

(d) whether the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates are provided with answer books of a different colour and their books are embossed with a seal before evaluation to indicate that a particular answer book pertains to a candidate belonging to the reserved community; and

(e) if so, since this practice is likely to the answer books of reserved community candidates being evaluated more harshly; whether he will please ensure that the practices mentioned in (d) above are stopped forthwith?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ZULFIQUARULLAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Posts of Income-tax Officers (Class II) are filled by promotion of Income-tax Inspectors by the method of selection on merit. Only those Inspectors who have passed the prescribed departmental examination are eligible for consideration for promotion. The examination is only a qualifying examination and not a competitive one.

No written test or qualifying examination is prescribed as a condition of eligibility for promotion of Income-tax Officers (Class II) to the grade of Income-tax Officers (Class I).

(c) The candidates belonging to the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes are not given any concession in evaluation of the answer books by the examiners appointed for the purpose. However, at the time of moderation of the marks, the cases of candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes are treated more liberally and with greater sympathy by the authority responsible for conducting the examination and compiling the results.

(d) The answer books given to candidates belonging to these categories are not distinguishable, either by their colour or by any seal or embossment or in any other manner, from the answer books given to the other candidates.

(e) Does not arise.

Measures to Revive the Capital Market

2307. SHRI S. R. DAMANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2349 on 1st July, 1977 regarding reactivating of capital market and state:

(a) whether he has examined the impact of the measures mentioned by him to revive the capital market and, if so, what are the findings;

(b) whether it is a fact that sluggishness has persisted throughout the year and is still continuing; and

(c) what further measures are considered to offer incentives to attract the public for investing new capital issues?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) No, Sir. The period is too short for any meaningful evaluation of these measures.

(b) Trends in industrial investment have been described in the Economic Survey 1977-78 recently presented to Parliament.

(c) With a view to encouraging public investment in new capital issues certain measures have recently been announced through the Budget 1978-79. These are: deduction in the computation of taxable income of 50 per cent of the amount invested in the equity shares of new industrial companies; exemption from capital gains tax when sale proceeds of assets are reinvested in equity shares of new Indian industrial companies; and withdrawal of the tax on interest earned by banks. The last has been followed by a re-alignment of the interest rate structure, as announced by the Reserve Bank of India.

कोयले का निर्यात

2308. श्री धर्मसिंह भाई पटेल : क्या वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पुर्त और सहकारिता मंत्री यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गत तीन वर्षों में प्रति वर्ष कितने देशों का कितने-कितने कोयले का निर्यात किया गया; और

(ख) कितने कोयले का निर्यात पहले ही किया जा चुका है और 1977-78 में कितने कोयले का निर्यात किस किस देश को किया जाना है ?

वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक धूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री आरिफ बेग) (क) : खनिज तथा धातु व्यापार निगम द्वारा पिछले तीन वर्षों (वर्षवार तथा देशवार) के दौरान निर्यात किए गए कोयले की मात्रा निम्नोक्त प्रकार है —

देश	मात्रा लाख मे० टन		
	1974-75	1975-76	1976-77
बर्मा	0.86	0.80	1.08
बंगला देश	3.92	3.60	2.75
बेल्जियम	—	—	0.39
ताईवान	—	—	0.78
पाकिस्तान	—	—	0.11
फ्रान्स	—	—	0.55
जर्मनी	—	—	0.22
जापान	—	—	0.04
हालैण्ड	—	—	0.21
इटली	—	—	0.22
योग	4.78	4.40	6.35

(ख) जनवरी, 1978 तक पहले ही निर्यात किए गए कोयले की मात्रा तथा वित्तीय वर्ष 1977-78 (देशवार) के शेष दो महीनों के दौरान जितना कोयला भेजने की संभावना है उसकी मात्रा निम्नोक्त प्रकार है —

देश	मात्रा लाख मे० टन		
	जनवरी, 1978 तक भेजा गया मात्रा	फरवरी तथा मार्च 1978 के दौरान भेजे जाने वाले माल की संभावित मात्रा	मार्च, 1978 तक कुल मात्रा
1	2	3	4
बेल्जियम	0.18	—	0.18
फ्रांस	1.37	0.60	1.97
बंगला देश	1.76	0.80	2.56

1	2	3	4
जापान	—	—	—
इटली	0.20	—	0.20
आयरलैंड	0.16	—	0.16
बर्मा	0.20	0.25	0.45
डेनमार्क	0.23	—	0.23
श्रीलंका	0.10	—	0.10
जर्मनी	0.23	0.20	0.43
योग	4.43	1.85	6.28

Consumer Protection in Rural Areas

2309. SHRI YASHWANT BOROLE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the consumer protection organisations running fair-price shops and bazars are elitist and urban-oriented;

(b) whether it is also a fact that only price resistance remains the purpose and quality is not much cared for; and

(c) if so whether some steps are proposed to be taken to see that the rural areas are also served by these organisations and quality of goods also remains in the focus?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL): (a) The Central Government are not aware of fair price shops and bazars being run by consumer protection organisations.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Efforts are being made to broaden the scope and spatial coverage of voluntary consumer movement in the country.

Export of Agricultural Commodities

2310. DR BAPU KALDATY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have stopped export of certain commodities (Agricultural) which are in short supply in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and since when these commodities have been banned for export; and

(c) details of the export of these commodities category-wise during April to December, 1977 and 1st January to 31st January, 1978?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The information as per enclosed statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1768/78].

Refusal of Iran to Accept Contracted Sugar from S.T.C.

2311. SHRI AHMED M. PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Iran has refused to buy the contracted quantity of sugar from State Trading Corporation; and

(b) if so, what are the main reasons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) and (b). Iran has not refused to purchase any quantity of sugar contracted by them. Under the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the Government of India and the Government of Iran, a quantity of 1.20 lakhs MT sugar was to be supplied to Iran on credit by December, 1977. The Iranian buying organisation, however, expressed a preference for sugar conforming to Paris grade 6 in colour to be supplied to them under the Agreement. As Indian sugar does not match Paris grade 6, Iran suggested that instead cement of equivalent value be supplied to them. This has been agreed to by the Government of India. In view of the shortage of cement in the country, the question of supply of cement to Iran by purchasing from third countries is under consideration of the two governments.

Rate of Growth and Profit earned by Multinational Companies Operating in India

2312. SHRI SOM NATH CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of multi-national companies operating in our country;

(b) the rate of growth and profit earned during the Congress regime; and

(c) the reasons for not taking over those companies?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) There were 171 Subsidiaries and 475 branches of foreign companies operating in India as on 31st March, 1976 and 31st December, 1977 respectively.

(b) A statement is attached.

(c) The policy of the Government is that foreign companies may operate in the country as long as they conform to the laws, rules and regulations of the country.

Statement

A. Data regarding outstanding foreign business investments in India (i.e. Long term foreign liabilities of the private sector).

As at end of	Amount (Rs. cores)
30-6-1948	264.6
31-12-1955	442.4
31-12-1961	679.8
31-3-1966	1068.3
31-3-1967	1471.7
31-3-1968	1552.1
31-3-1969	1619.3
31-3-1970	1640.9
31-3-1971	1679.6
31-3-1972	1755.7
31-3-1973	1816.3

(Figures for later periods not available).

B. Data regarding profit and dividend remittances

Year	Amount (Rs. crores)
1956-57	26.5
1957-58	26.2
1958-59	28.3
1959-60	28.1
1960-61	32.3
1961-62	35.0
1962-63	40.9
1963-64	30.8
1964-65	39.5
1965-66	32.9
1966-67	43.2
1967-68	48.7
1968-69	43.2
1969-70	44.1
1970-71	56.6
1971-72	48.8
1972-73	54.6
1973-74	59.4
1974-75	26.4
1975-76	45.2

(comparable figures not available prior to 1956-57).

भारत-अमरीकी वाणिज्य परिषद्

2313. श्री यमुना प्रसाद शास्त्री :
क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या फरवरी, 1978 के प्रथम सप्ताह में भारत-अमरीकी वाणिज्य परिषद् के प्रतिनिधियों ने प्रधान मंत्री से भेंट की थी और भारत में अमरीकी पूंजी लगाने के लिए विशेष रियायतों तथा वैधानिक

संरक्षण की मांग की थी ; यदि हां, तो रियायतों का ब्यौरा क्या है और किस प्रकार के वैधानिक संरक्षणों के लिए मांग की गई थी तथा उस पर भारत सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ;

(ख) क्या भारत-अमरीकी वाणिज्य परिषद् ने 1978 में भारत में उद्योगों में अथवा अन्य विकास कार्यों में पूंजी लगाने का प्रस्ताव किया है ; यदि हां, तो, वे कौन-कौन से उद्योग तथा विकास कार्य हैं जिनमें परिषद् ने पूंजी लगाने का प्रस्ताव किया है और वह राशि कितनी है ; और

(ग) क्या भारत सरकार ने परिषद् के पूंजी लगाने के प्रस्ताव को स्वीकार कर लिया है और यदि हां, तो देश में पूंजी लगाने की उनकी कौन सी शर्तों को भारत सरकार ने स्वीकार किया है ?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल) :

(क) से (ग) . भारत-अमरीकी वाणिज्य परिषद् की औपचारिक बैठक के बाद प्रतिनिधियों ने प्रधान मंत्री से भेंट की और पूंजीनिवेश के मुद्दों पर सामान्य चर्चा की । यह विचार रखा गया कि पूंजीनिवेश का वातावरण बनाने के लिए भारत की प्रति-योगिता करने की सामर्थ्य को बढ़ाने के लिए कदम उठाये जाने चाहिए । विशेष रियायतों या कानूनी संरक्षण के लिए विशिष्ट रूप से कोई आवेदन नहीं किया गया, और न ही पूंजीनिवेश करने के लिए कोई प्रस्ताव रखा गया ।

Arrest of Balchand Choraria under COFEPOSA

2314. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Balchand Choraria was arrested under COFEPOSA on serious grounds of smuggling exchange financial crimes and illegal activities;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court has already released him, if so, on what grounds was this case lost;

(c) whether it is a fact that the other cases of smugglers, foreign exchange transferers and financial offenders already pending in the Supreme Court would be lost on the same ground; and

(d) if so, what is reaction of the Government to this decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGRAWAL): (a) Yes, Sir. Shri Balchand Choraria was detained on 12th May, 1977 in pursuance of the orders of detention dated 3th July 1975 issued by the Central Government under the provisions of Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974 with a view to preventing him from acting in any manner prejudicial to the augmentation of foreign exchange.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Supreme Court allowed has appeal on 13th December, 1977 filed against the judgment of the Delhi High Court dismissing his writ petition. It was held by the Supreme Court that the Delhi High Court was in error in construing the letter dated 18th May, 1977 of Shri Ram Jethmalani, Member of Parliament, as the letter sent by him in his capacity as Member of Parliament and not as a representation by the Counsel on behalf of Shri Choraria. According to the Supreme Court, this representation was not considered by the Government and on this ground alone the Supreme Court ordered his release from detention.

(c) No, Sir. There is no similar case pending before the Supreme Court at present.

(d) The issues arising out of the said judgment have been noted for guidance.

पवित्र रुद्राक्ष की तस्करी

2315. श्री फूल चन्द वर्मा : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पवित्र रुद्राक्ष चोरी छिपे इंडोनेसिया, जावा, सुमात्रा आदि स्थानों से अवैध रूप में तस्करी करके लाया जा रहा है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या यह सच है कि रुद्राक्ष का एक छोटा दाना अपने मूल्य से पांच सौ गुने अधिक मूल्य पर बेच कर धार्मिक भावना के साथ खिलवाड़ किया जाता है; और

(ग) क्या सरकार ने इस बारे में कोई कार्यवाही की है अथवा क्या भविष्य के लिए कार्यवाही करने का विचार है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सतीश अग्रवाल) : (क) से (ग) . जी नहीं । पिछले एक वर्ष के दौरान माल पकड़े जाने का कोई मामला सरकार की जानकारी में नहीं आया है ।

Arrest Warrant against an Industrialist belonging to Singhania House

2316. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the pre-emergency period, either in 1974 or in 1975, an arrest warrant under MISA was issued against an industrialist belonging to the Singhania Industrial House;

(b) whether the said arrest warrant was withdrawn after a few months;

(c) if so, what were the charges against this member of the Singhania House; and

(d) the reasons why the arrest warrant was withdrawn by the erstwhile Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGRAWAL): (a) to (d). An order of detention under Maintenance of Internal Security (Amendment) Ordinance, 1974 dated 21st November, 1974 was issued by Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, in respect of Shri Bharat Hari Singhania with a view to preventing him from acting in any manner prejudicial to conservation of foreign exchange. As Shri Singhania was not traceable, the detention order could not be executed against him. With the lapse of the said Ordinance on 18th December, 1974, the order of detention against Shri Singhania also lapsed. Thus, the detention order against Shri Bharat Hari Singhania was not revoked by the Central Government/State Government.

Reduction in Gap between Minimum and Maximum Income

2317. SHRI PURNA SINHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are being taken by the Government to reduce the gap between minimum and maximum income to 1:10 progressively within the next nine years out of the anticipated ten years;

(b) what is according to the Government the ratio at the present moment between minimum and maximum incomes in India and what are the causes that are attributable to such a wide gap; and

(c) what steps are being taken by the Government to introduce legislation to ensure a fair wage as the minimum wage to every category of worker and to grant proportional benefits from the increase in productivity?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) to (c). The

Government of India have recently appointed a Study Group on Wages, Incomes and Prices which *inter alia* would consider the relevant criteria for determining the differential between minimum wage and maximum wage and whether the ratio between minimum and maximum wages should be uniform or could be different in different sectors. The Study Group's recommendations are expected to help Government in formulating a policy on Wages, Incomes and Prices. The Government would like to await the receipt of the report of the Study Group before formulating its views on the matter.

अफीम बोर्ड की स्थापना

2318. श्री चतुर्भुज : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का विचार अफीम बोर्ड की स्थापना करने का है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके सदस्यों के नाम क्या हैं और इसके उद्देश्य तथा कृत्य क्या हैं; और

(ग) क्या इस बोर्ड में सम्बन्धित क्षेत्रों के संसद सदस्यों को भी शामिल किया जायेगा ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सतीश अग्रवाल) : (क) जी, नहीं ।

(ख) और (ग) . प्रश्न नहीं उठते हैं ।

Amounts sanctioned for Rehabilitation of Goldsmiths

2319. SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding the total amount of advance for the rehabilita-

tion of goldsmiths that had been sanctioned since the introduction of Gold Control in 1963;

(b) what are the details regarding loans still outstanding in this regard; and

(c) whether any proposal was also received from goldsmiths to consider for a general write-off of the outstanding loans and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGRAWAL): (a) and (b). The information is given in the statement enclosed.

(b) The various associations of certified goldsmith including individuals have represented to the Government for writ-off of loans granted to goldsmiths as many of them are not in a position to repay the same. The matter is under examination.

Statement

Amount of Advances sanctioned to various State Governments Union Territories since 1963 upto March 1977 and amount outstanding as on 13-3-1978

S. No.	Name of the State Govt./Union Territory	Amount of Advance sanctioned (All figures in lakhs of Rupees)	Amount outstanding
1	A. P.	191.94	106.02
2	Assam	57.68	..
3	Bihar	43.50	23.15
4	Gujarat	150.12	60.04
5	Haryana	3.00	2.40
6	Jammu & Kashmir	56.60	12.43
7	Kerala	14.50	60.65
8	M. P.	135.60	75.85
9	Tamil Nadu	255.53	121.27
10	Maharashtra	64.00	24.99
11	Karnataka	97.50	21.03
12	Orissa	62.00	18.37
13	Punjab	32.10	9.24
14	Rajasthan	120.50	48.17
15	U. P.	162.70	79.82
16	W. B.	57.00	15.23
17	H. P.	4.50	1.53
18	Delhi Admn.	29.60	..
19	Manipur	3.00	1.14
20	Tripura	5.60	0.36
21	Pondicherry	2.50	..
TOTAL		1495.56	571.71

नशीली औषधियों और सोने की तस्करी

2320. श्री ब्रजभूषण तिवारी : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को देश में नशीली औषधियों और सोने की बड़ी पैमाने पर हो रही तस्करी की जानकारी है ; और

(ख) यदि हा, तो इसे रोकने के लिए क्या कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मतीश अग्रवाल) : (क) सरकार को मिली रिपोर्टों में पता चलता है कि सोने की तस्करी कुछ हद तक जारी है और मादक औषधियों का देश में बड़े पैमाने पर तस्करी आयात नहीं हो रहा है ।

(ख) तस्करी में प्रभावी ढंग में निपटने के लिए सरकार ने निवारक तथा गुप्त-सूचना संग्रह तब का मुद्दा करने के लिए उपयुक्त कदम उठाये हैं । सोने के मामले में, निवारक उपायों के अनिवार्य सरकार ने, अपने सोने के भण्डार में सोने की विक्री शुरू करने का निर्णय किया है । इससे अलावा, सरकार ने निर्यात के लिए सोने के प्रभणन बनाने के लिए सोने के आयात की अनुमति देने का निर्णय भी किया है ।

स्टेनलेस स्टील की चादरो के लिए
दिये गये आयात लाइसेंस

2321. श्री राधवजी : क्या वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पुति और सहकारिता मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे :

(क) 1 अप्रैल, 1977 में 31 जनवरी 1978 तक की अवधि में कितने टन स्टेनलेस स्टील की चादरो के आयात के लिए लाइसेंस जारी किये गये और इस अवधि में विदेशों से कितने माल का आयात किया गया ;

(ख) कितने-कितने टन के लिए किन-किन की और कितने-कितने मूल्य के लिए लाइसेंस दिये गये ; और

(ग) क्या सरकार इस प्रस्ताव पर विचार कर रही है कि छोटी-छोटी मात्रा के अधिक फर्मों को लाइसेंस दिये जायेंगे जिससे बाजार में प्रतिस्पर्धा बढ़े और उपभोक्ताओं को उचित मूल्य पर माल मिल सके ?

वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पुति और सहकारिता मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री आरिफ बेग) : (क) और (ख). स्टेनलेस इस्पात की चादरो, पट्टियों तथा प्लेटों का आयात खनिज तथा धातु व्यापार निगम की मार्फत मार्गीकृत किया जाता है । अतः सीधे आयात के लिए अलग-अलग एक-को को आवात लाइसेंस नहीं दिये जाते । औद्योगिक एक-को अपने वारह महीनों की जरूरतों के पजीकरण के लिए खनिज तथा धातु व्यापार निगम से सीधे ही अनुरोध कर सकते हैं ।

1 अप्रैल, 1977 से 31 जनवरी, 1978 तक की अवधि के दौरान खनिज तथा धातु व्यापार निगम के पक्ष में स्टेनलेस इस्पात की चादरो / पट्टियों / प्लेटों के आयात के लिए 22 कराड़ ६० के तुलु लागत बीमा भाड़ा मूल्य के लाइसेंस जारी किये गये थे । इसी अवधि के दौरान स्टेनलेस इस्पात की चादरो/पट्टियों तथा प्लेटों की मात्रा, जिसके लिए खनिज तथा धातु व्यापार निगम द्वारा आदेश दिये गये थे, 16,788 म० टन थे तथा ज्ञा मात्रा वास्तविक रूप में पट्टी ७, वह 8,900 म० टन है ।

(ग) 1978-79 के लिए आयात नीति तैयार हो रही है तथा इस समय उससे सम्बद्ध जानकारी देना लोकहित में नहीं है ।

Reduction in Central Sales Tax rates

2322 SHRI RAM KANWAR BERWA Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that during his meeting at the Indian Chamber of Commerce in Calcutta the industrialists submitted for bringing uniformity in Sales Tax in different States and reduction in the Central Sales Tax rates and

(b) if so the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H M PATEL) (a) The Indian Chamber of Commerce Calcutta has suggested that some kind of uniformity should be achieved in the matter of rates and structure of sales tax throughout the country and the rate of Central Sales tax may be reduced from 4 per cent to 1 per cent.

(b) There is no proposal to reduce the rate of Central sales tax as it would result in loss of revenue to the States. Levy of tax on sales or purchase of goods taking place within a State is a State subject of taxation under the Constitution. It is therefore proposed to discuss the question of rationalisation and uniformity as between States of their respective sales tax rates with the State Governments.

Functioning of Financial Institutions

2323 SHRI SAMAR GUHA Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether he assured Lok Sabha in the course of his reply to Finance Bill last year that investigations will be made about the functioning of the financial institutions

(b) if so, whether any investigation has been made so far

(c) if so, the findings of such investigation,

(d) whether some specific charges were made against the management of the United Commercial Bank regarding either mal-practice or improper investment by the Bank and

(e) if so the result of the findings of investigation in regard to the specific charges made against the management?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H M PATEL) (a) to (c) Efforts are continuously being made to reorient the policy and working of the public sector financial institutions and public sector banks so as to conform to the overall objectives that the Government have set before them. The functioning of public sector banks and the Regional Rural Banks was specifically entrusted for review by the Reserve Bank of India to two Committees under the Chairmanship of Shri James S Raj and Prof M L Dantwala respectively. While the Dantwala Committee has submitted a report to the Reserve Bank of India, an interim report has been submitted by James Raj Committee. Suitable measures to secure improvements in the operations of the public sector banks would be initiated in the light of the recommendations of these two Committees. In the meanwhile Reserve Bank of India has already decided to carry out more frequent inspection of commercial banks.

(d) and (e) The specific charges made against the Management of the United Commercial Bank during the discussion on the Finance Bill in July 1977 were looked into in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India and it was found that the charges have not been substantiated.

कानपुर में 5 फरवरी को फोकर फेडरेशन
बिमान का रोका जाना

232 श्री चन्द्र शेखर सिंह क्या
पर्यटन और नागर बिमानन मंत्री
यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या यह सच है कि 5 फरवरी
को इंडियन एयरलाइन्स के फोकर फेडरेशन

विमान को कानपुर हवाई अड्डे पर एक घण्टे से अधिक समय तक रोका गया, और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री पुरुषोत्तम कौशिक) : (क) जी, नहीं ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Global Tourist Traffic attracted by India

2325. SHRI HARI VISHNU KAMATH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during 1977, the percentage of global tourist

traffic that India attracted was lower than in the preceding year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, whether Government will lay on the Table comparative figures for the decade 1968—1977?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) No, Sir. The percentage of global tourist traffic that India attracted during 1977 was 0.26 per cent compared to 0.24 per cent during the preceding year.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A statement giving the comparative figure for the decade 1968—1977 is enclosed.

STATEMENT

India's share in World Tourist Arrivals—1968—1977

Year	World Tourist arrivals@ (In millions)	Tourist arrivals to India (Number)	Share of India in world tourist arrivals %
1968	139.7	188,820	0.14
1969	154.7	244,724	0.16
1970	168.4	280,821	0.17
1971	181.5	300,995	0.17
1972	198.0	342,950	0.17
1973	215.0	409,895	0.19
1974	209.0	423,161	0.20
1975	213.5	465,275	0.22
1976	220.6	533,951	0.24
1977	245.0	640,422	0.26

Foreign Investment2326. **SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA:****SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH
MALIK:****SHRI SHYAM SUNDER
GUPTA:**

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government propose to inquire into the causes as to why foreign investment had not been picking up inspite of the fact that Central Government have removed all constraints and no fresh hurdles to investments and

(b) if so the details thereof

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). The policy of the Government is to permit foreign investment selectively in high technology areas and in export oriented ventures on terms which are determined to be in the national interest. While no specific enquiry is considered necessary, Government would constantly keep the situation under review and take appropriate steps to facilitate flow of investment in the desired areas.

Proposal to set up a Civil Supply Corporation in Delhi

2327. **CHAUDHURY BRAHM PRAKASH:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to set up a Civil Supply Corporation in Delhi to ensure adequate supply of essential commodities at reasonable prices to the consumers,

(b) whether this aim is not fulfilled by the Super Bazar, and

(c) if so, why not more powers are given to the Super Bazar so that it could serve the people more efficiently and to the satisfaction of consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL): (a) to (c). The Delhi Administration have a proposal for setting up a Food and Civil Supplies Corporation for procurement and distribution. The proposal will be considered by the Government keeping in view the guidelines on the role of co-operative. It is the State Food and Civil Supplies Corporation as also the existing infrastructural facilities.

Investment by Central Government in West Bengal

2328. **SHRI SHAYAMA PRASANNA BHATTACHARYA:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether attention of Government have been drawn to the comments made by the Chairman of the All India Manufacturers Organisation in their quarterly meeting held in Calcutta on 14th February, 1978 that during the last two decades 'there has been a little or no investment in West Bengal by the Central Government', and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir. Government have seen a Press report in this regard.

(b) The figures of investment in Public Sector Undertakings of the Central Government as shown in the Annual Report on the Working of Industrial and Commercial Undertakings of the Central Government (Vol. I) would show that the observation is not correct.

भारतीय पर्यटन विकास निगम के अधीन विभिन्न श्रेणियों के प्रबन्धकों के वेतनमान और सेवा शर्तें

2329. श्री रामानन्द तिवारी : क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारतीय पर्यटन विकास निगम के अधीन इस समय विभिन्न श्रेणी (टी० एल० मैनेजर और सी० टी० एस० बोयेज) के प्रबन्धकों की पृथक्-पृथक् मर्यादा कितनी है ;

(ख) प्रत्येक श्रेणी के प्रबन्धकों की सेवा शर्तें तथा वेतनमान क्या है, और

(ग) सेवाबाध और याग्यता का ध्यान में रखते हुए उन श्रेणियों के वेतनमानों में यदि कोई विषमता हो, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं और उसे दूर करने के लिए क्या कदम उठाए गये हैं या उठाने जाने का प्रस्ताव है ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री पुष्पोत्तम कौशिक) : (क) से (ग). भारत पर्यटन विकास निगम के इस समय 14 यात्री लॉज हैं तथा यात्री लॉजों के प्रबन्धकों के 16 पद हैं जिनमें दो "लीव रिजर्व" पद भी सम्मिलित हैं। इन पदों के वेतनमान के अनुसार व्योरा नीचे दिया गया है —

वेतनमान	पदा की मर्यादा
700-1300 रुपये	4
500-900 रुपये	3
390-780 रुपये	9
	16

आरंभ में यात्री लॉजों तथा रेस्टोरेंटों की स्थापना पर्यटन विभाग द्वारा की गई थी तथा इनकी प्रबन्ध व्यवस्था 1967 में भारत पर्यटन विकास निगम को हस्तांतरित कर दी गई थी। बाद में इन प्रतिष्ठानों को भारत पर्यटन विकास निगम ने खरीद लिया था। पर्यटन विभाग द्वारा इन प्रतिष्ठानों पर लगाए गए कर्मचारियों को भी भर्गवन पर्यटन विकास निगम को हस्तांतरित कर दिया गया था।

आरम्भ में यात्री लॉजों के सभी प्रबन्धकों 210-425 रुपये के वेतनमान में थे। प्रबन्धकों को पदोन्नति के अवसर प्रदान करने के लिए पांच पदों के ग्रेड को दिसम्बर, 1970 में 210-425 रुपये के वेतनमान से बढ़ा कर 325-575 रुपये कर दिया गया। यात्री लॉजों के प्रबन्धकों का पदोन्नति के अवसर प्रदान करने के लिए उनके लिए एक छः माह की सेवा कालीन प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम का आयोजन किया गया। उन्हें यह प्रशिक्षण वरिष्ठता के आधार पर बैंचों में दिया गया। पांच प्रबन्धकों को पहले बैंच में से, जिसने अपना प्रशिक्षण दिसम्बर, 1973 में पूरा कर लिया तीन का उच्च वेतनमान में पदोन्नत कर दिया गया। पुराने वेतनमानों को बाद में 1-1-1973 में संशोधित कर दिया गया। पांच प्रबन्धकों के अगले बैंच में से, तीन को सितम्बर 1975 में 500-900 रुपये के वेतनमान में पदोन्नत कर दिया गया। मार्च, 1977 में प्रबन्धकों के पांच और पदों का वेतनमान 390-780 रुपये में बढ़ा कर 500-900 रुपये कर दिया गया है।

गोट रा गोट रा, यात्री लॉजों के प्रबन्ध करने में व्यावहारिकता का समावेश करने के प्रयत्नों के एक भाग के रूप में, कारपोरेशन एक "जूनियर एग्जीक्यूटिव ट्रेनिंग

स्कीम" परिचायित कर रहा है। इस स्कीम के अन्तर्गत, होटल प्रबन्ध में डिप्लोमा धारियों का दो वर्ष का सैद्धांतिक-व्यवहारिक प्रशिक्षण दिया जाता है। अपना प्रशिक्षण पूरा कर लेने पर, उन्हें संचालनात्मक अपेक्षाओं के अनुसार 700-1300 रुपये के ग्रेड में होटलो मोटलो के सहायक प्रबन्धको या यात्री लॉजो के प्रबन्धको के रूप से नियुक्त कर दिया जाता है।

700-1300 रुपये के वेतनमान में 4 प्रबन्धको में से, तीन प्रबन्धक केन्द्रीय प्रशिक्षण स्कीम (जिसे अब जूनियर एग्जीक्यूटिव ट्रेनिंग स्कीम कहा जाता है) में है तथा शेष एक को 500-900 रुपये के वेतनमान से पदोन्नत किया गया है। उनकी बड़े कौटुम्बिक प्रतिष्ठानों में सहायक प्रबन्धको के रूप में नियमित नियुक्ति करने से पूर्व, इन नियुक्तियों (assignments) का उद्देश्य "होटल एग्जीक्यूटिव्स" का स्वतन्त्र रूप से प्रबन्ध करने के कार्य में अनुभव प्रदान करना है।

सेवा की शर्तों, जिनमें आवास, भ्रमणदायी भविष्य निधि, ग्रेजुइटी, सामूहिक बीमा, डाक्टरी व्यय की प्रतिपूर्ति, बर्दी, छुट्टी यात्रा रियायत आदि की व्यवस्था शामिल है यात्री लॉजो के सभी प्रबन्धको के लिए समान है। महंगाई भत्ता भी वेतनमाना तथा नियुक्ति स्थान के अनुसार भिन्न-भिन्न है।

भाषा है सरकार द्वारा कार्पोरेशन के अधिकाधिकारी में इनतर कर्मचारियों के वेतन ऋण के प्रश्न की जांच करने के लिए नियुक्त की गई वेतन पुनरीक्षण समिति यात्री लॉजो के प्रबन्धको के लिए उपयुक्त वेतनमान के प्रश्न की भी जांच करेगी।

अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी पुस्तकों की खरीद पर किया गया व्यय

2330. श्री नवाब सिंह कौहान : क्या पर्यटन और मातृ विज्ञान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) उनके मंत्रालय विभाग के पुस्तकालय में कुल कितनी पुस्तकें हैं और इनमें से किस-किस भाषा की कितनी-कितनी पुस्तकें हैं,

(ख) गत दो वर्षों के दौरान अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी पुस्तकों की खरीद पर पृथक् पृथक् कितनी कितनी राशि खर्च की गई,

(ग) इस समय पुस्तकालय में कौन-कौन सी पत्र-पत्रिकाएँ मंगाई जाती हैं और उनमें से हिन्दी की पत्र-पत्रिकाएँ कौन-कौन सी हैं, और

(घ) क्या हम पुस्तकालय में हिन्दी पुस्तकों और पत्र-पत्रिकाओं की संख्या बढ़ाने की कोई योजना बनाई गई है और यदि हाँ, तो उसका व्यौरा क्या है ?

पर्यटन और मातृ विज्ञान मंत्री (श्री पुरुषोत्तम कौशिक) : (क) सूचना विवरण "क" में दी गई है जो सभा पटल पर रखी गई है। [संवालय में रखा गया। देखिए सभा एल-टी-1769/78]।

(ख) सूचना विवरण "ख" में दी गई है जो सभा पटल पर रखी गई है। [संवालय में रखा गया। देखिए सभा एल-टी-1769/78]।

(ग) सूचना विवरण "ग" में दी गई है जो सभा पटल पर रखी गई है। [संवालय में रखा गया। देखिए सभा एल-टी-1769/78]।

(ब) मन्त्रालय (मुख्य) में जयहू की बहुत ही कमी होने के कारण पुस्तकालय स्थापित करने की कोई योजना नहीं बनाई गई है। नागर विमानन विभाग हर वर्ष 2000/- रुपये की लागत की हिन्दी की पुस्तकें तथा पत्रिकाएँ खरीद रहा है। भारत मौसम विज्ञान विभाग हिन्दी में पुस्तकें तथा पत्रिकाएँ प्राप्त करने के प्रयत्न कर रहा है। हिन्दी में वैज्ञानिक पुस्तकें तथा पत्रिकाएँ, विशेषकर मौसम विज्ञान तथा इससे सम्बद्ध विषयों पर बाजार में उपलब्ध नहीं है।

पर्यटन विभाग में हिन्दी की पुस्तकों/पत्रिकाओं की खरीद पर किया जाने वाला व्यय बढ़ रहा है। विभाग ने अंग्रेजी-हिन्दी, हिन्दी-अंग्रेजी शब्दकोष काफी मक्या में खरीदे हैं, इसके अतिरिक्त पर्यटन विभाग में प्रत्येक अधिकारी को केन्द्रीय सचिवालय हिन्दी परिषद् द्वारा प्रकाशित कार्यालय सहायिका की एक-एक प्रति भी उपलब्ध कराई जाएगी।

Dummy Insurance Agencies in Oriental Fire and General Insurance Company Limited

2331. DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some dummy Insurance Agencies are being run in Oriental Fire and General Insurance Company Limited in the names of M/s P. M. Bhatia, R. M. Bhatia, G. M. Bhatia and D. V. Kapoor, by some persons in the management;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the commission paid to them is against the various types of Insurance Policies taken by the Air India, Indian Air Lines and other Public Sector Undertakings as well as the Company's Insurance Counters at Airports maintenance and expenses of which are spent from public exchequer;

(c) if so, what is the total amount of commission paid to these agents all over the country during the calendar years 1975 and 1976; and

(d) what action is proposed to be taken against those who are involved in this racket of putting Government undertakings business in Insurance Agencies and thus drawing agency commission?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Sarvashri P. M. Bhatia, R. M. Bhatia, G. M. Bhatia and D. V. Kapoor have been working as agents of the company for a long time and their agencies are not dummy agencies.

(b) and (c). Commission has been paid to these agents in respect of the business, inter alia, of Flight Insurance Coupons, Short Period Personal Accident Insurance, Medical and Hospitalisation Insurance Schemes of the airlines and loss of Licence Insurance. The total amount of commission paid to each of the agents during 1975 and 1976 for the aforesaid types of Insurances was as under:—

Name	Commission	
	1975	1976
P. M. Bhatia	9,416	62,527
R. M. Bhatia	18,839	11,594
G. M. Bhatia	11,708	34,964
D. V. Kapoor	2,808	1,788

The business relating to medical and hospitalisation insurance schemes has since been discontinued as the airlines have started self-insurance schemes.

(d) Does not arise.

Steps to curb Smuggling on Bangladesh Border

2332 SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH GOSWAMI Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state what steps the Government propose to take to curb smuggling activities on the Indo-Bangladesh border?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGRAWAL) Although reports received by the Government do not suggest any increase in smuggling on Indo-Bangladesh border, all necessary measures have been taken to keep the situation under effective check. These measures include strengthening of preventive and intelligence set up, re-development of staff more effectively patrolling of vulnerable areas and exercise of greater vigilance on the border.

जाली फाइनेंस कम्पनियों का बलाया जाना

2333 श्री अर्जुन सिंह बदीरिया : क्या बिज मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान कानपुर के एक समाचार पत्र 'दैनिक जागरण' में दिनांक 9 फरवरी, 1978 का प्रकाशित इस आशय के समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है कि देश में बड़े पैमाने पर जाली फाइनेंस कम्पनियाँ काम कर रही हैं, और

(ख) यदि हाँ तो तत्सम्बन्धी व्यौरा क्या है ?

बिज मंत्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल) :

(क) माननीय सदस्य ने जिस समाचार का जिक्र किया है वह सरकार के ध्यान में आया है।

(ख) समाचार में यह आरोप लगाया गया है कि सेविंग फाइनेंस क०,

पटना के, जिसकी भारत में कई शाखाएँ हैं, प्रबन्ध निवेशक का पुलिस ने गिरफ्तार कर लिया है। यह भी आरोप लगाया गया है कि कम्पनी ने जनता से कई लाख रुपये की राशि जमा करने के लिए स्वीकार की है तथा कम्पनी के प्रधान के विरुद्ध गम्भीर अनियमितताओं और ठगी की शिकायत पुलिस के पास की गई है तथा जमाकर्ता अपना शुल्क वापिस लेने के लिए चिन्तित हो उठे हैं।

Suggestion made by Chief Minister of Kerala

2334 SHRI K A RAJAN Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Chief Minister of Kerala has made a suggestion to the Central Government to convert the non-productive loans sanctioned to the States, such as those for making up the losses caused by Natural Calamities into grants,

(b) whether he has also suggested to create a national fund to meet the costs of natural calamities, and

(c) the details thereof and Union Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H M PATEL) (a) and (b), No communication has been received by the Central Government on these points from the Chief Minister of Kerala. The Government of Kerala have, however, stated that they have included these points in their Memorandum submitted to the 7th Finance Commission.

(c) The 7th Finance Commission is required to review the policy and arrangements in regard to financing of relief expenditure by the States affected by natural calamities and suggest such modifications as it considers appropriate in the existing arrangements. The recommendations of the Commission, when received, will be examined by the Government of India.

Promotion of Tourism in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

2335. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme has been worked out to promote domestic tourism in the country if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether any steps have been taken to develop the Andamans and Nicobar islands which have a great tourist attraction potential and if so, details?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTAM KAUSHIK): (a) The promotion of domestic tourism has been undertaken on a continuous basis since the Second Five Year Plan. In the previous and existing Plan periods a number of tourist bungalows, youth hostels, cafeterias, tourist reception centres were constructed either by the Central Department of Tourism or jointly by the Central and State Departments of Tourism with the expenditure being shared on 50:50 basis. During the next Five Year Plan (1978-83) it is proposed to take up the improvements/expansion of existing dharamshalas/sarais, and the development of tourist village complexes along major tourist routes for promoting domestic tourism, subject to the availability of funds.

(b) Because of the restriction on the entry of international tourists into Andaman & Nicobar Islands, and because of its very fragile environment, no tourism development in the Andaman Island has been taken up so far in the Central Sector. The Island Administration, however, has provided some accommodation at Port Blair, and there is a proposal to construct a hotel in the public sector. The Island Administration has also proposed to convert the entrance block to the Cellular Jail at Port Blair into a youth hostel type of accommodation. Some clarification on the proposal has been

sought from the Island Administration for taking a decision in the matter. The Island Administration has also plans to purchase launches/coaches and construct additional accommodation for tourists during the next Five Year Plan (1978-83).

Special Recruitment of Pilots from Scheduled Castes and Tribes

2336. DR. BHAGWAN DASS RATHOR:
SHRI R. L. KUREEL:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines had arranged for a special recruitment for Pilots from Scheduled Castes and Tribes;

(b) if so, the total number of applications received;

(c) the number of applicants called for interview;

(d) whether all reserved vacancies have been filled; and

(e) if not, what is reason for the shortfall and what efforts are being made to make good the same?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTAM KAUSHIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Sixty applications were received.

(c) Eleven eligible candidates were called for interview.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Three vacancies were reserved for Scheduled Castes and two for Scheduled Tribes. Against these only two Scheduled Caste candidates came up to the required standard and were selected. The remaining vacancies 1 for Scheduled Castes and 2 for Scheduled Tribes—could not be filled.

A fresh advertisement inviting applications for pilots (including reserved vacancies) was issued on 22nd October, 1977. The recruitment is under process.

Plan for overhauling the working of Public Sector Undertakings

2337. SHRI DURGA CHAND: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to formulate a plan for overhauling the working of the various Public Sector Undertakings;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether any periodical survey is undertaken by Government of the functioning of these undertakings; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) to (d). While no special plan has been formulated for overhauling the working of the various public sector undertakings. Government constantly strike to improve their functioning. In this context Government have introduced a suitable Management Information System for performance review and control. Based on these reviews suitable remedial action is taken where necessary. Government are particularly trying to improve the functioning of public sector enterprises by increasing productivity, capacity utilisation, effective cost control, improved industrial relations and better marketing.

उत्तर प्रदेश में अफीम की खेती के अन्तर्गत भूमि

2338. श्री राजेन्द्र कुमार शर्मा : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने उत्तर प्रदेश में अफीम की खेती के लिए अनिश्चित भूमि पर खेती करने का निर्णय किया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो 1977-78 में इस योजना के अन्तर्गत कुल कितनी एकड़

भूमि की गई और उससे कुल कितना उत्पादन हुआ; और

(ग) वर्ष 1978-79 के लिए उसका लक्ष्य कितना रखा गया है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सतीश शर्मा) : (क) और (ख). उत्तर प्रदेश राज्य में अफीम की खेती के लिए फसल मौसम 1976-77 में 16,575 हेक्टेयर के मुकाबले चालू फसल मौसम 1977-78 में 19,558 हेक्टेयर रकब के लिए लाइसेंस दिये गये हैं। चालू फसल मौसम में अफीम की उपज की मात्रा के बारे में सूचना उपलब्ध नहीं है क्योंकि फसल की फसल से अफीम अभी पूरी तरह निकाली जाना बाकी है।

(ग) अगले फसल मौसम अर्थात् 1978-79 में अफीम की काष्ठ के अन्तर्गत लाय जाने वाले रकब के बारे में कोई जुलाई-अगस्त, 1978 के महीनों में लाइसेंस जारी करने की नीति तैयार करते समय विचार किया जावेगा।

Rate of Private investment in Industry

2339. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the rate of private investment in the industry is not commensurate with the concessions given by Government and the industry have made use of those concessions only to derive benefits from Government; and

(b) if so, what further steps are proposed to be taken to accelerate the pace of investment and also to ensure the proper use of the concessions already given?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Measures to stimulate investment in private in-

dustry are taken only after careful consideration, but it is not possible to assess their impact in such a short period. According to available information, industrial investment has increased during the current financial year.

(b) In the light of the emerging situation some additional measures have been proposed in the Budget for 1978-79. These are: deduction in the computation of taxable income of 50 per cent of the amount invested in the equity shares of new industrial companies; exemption from capital gains tax when sale proceeds of assets are reinvested in equity shares of new Indian industrial companies; and withdrawal of the tax on interest earned by banks. The last has been followed by a re-alignment of the interest rate structure, as announced by the Reserve Bank of India. Since the current economic situation is favourable Government expects that the private sector will respond to the incentives that have been provided.

Findings of R.B.I. Advance and Credit Facilities granted to Messrs Swadeshi Cotton Mills Ltd., Kanpur

2340. SHRI MOHAN LAL PIPIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4936 on the 23rd December, 1977 regarding amount given to big companies by Chairman, Punjab National Bank and state:

(a) the findings of the RBI on advance and credit facilities granted by the former Chairman, Punjab National Bank Shri T. R. Tuli to Messrs Swadeshi Cotton Mills Co. Ltd., Kanpur;

(b) the particulars of such facilities granted;

(c) against which security were these facilities made available;

(d) the amount at present outstanding against Swadeshi Cotton Mills Co. Ltd.;

(e) the manner in which it is proposed to be recovered; and

(f) the Government's final reaction to the findings of R.B.I.?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) According to the Reserve Bank of India, during the period from 1st August, 1975 to 31st July 1977, when Shri T. R. Tuli was the Chairman and Managing Director of the Punjab National Bank, certain facilities were allowed by that Bank to the Swadeshi Cotton Mills Co. Ltd., Kanpur. These facilities were sanctioned by the Bank's Board of Directors after duly considering the Company's applications in this regard.

(b) to (d). In accordance with the practice and usages customary among bankers and also in conformity with the provisions of the statutes governing the public sector banks, information relating to individual constituents of banks cannot be divulged.

(e) The Punjab National Bank has reported to the Reserve Bank that the U.P. State Government had appointed a receiver for the Kanpur Unit of the Company on 27th October, 1977 as the Company was unable to pay certain dues to the State Government. There was violence in the factory on 5th December, 1977, since when the factory is under lock-out. The Punjab National Bank has further reported to the Reserve Bank that all efforts are being made to make the unit a going concern with the assistance of the U.P. State Government and other financial institutions.

(f) The Company has been running into financial difficulties from the year 1974 and the Punjab National Bank has been trying to nurse the accounts of the Company.

Air India Flight to London Via Amritsar

2341. DR. BALDEV PRAKASH:
SHRI BHAGAT RAM;
SHRI G. S. TOHRA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any communication from Chief Minister, Punjab to divert Air India flights to London via Amritsar; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The matter is under examination and the information will be laid on the table of the Lok Sabha

सावधि जमा राशि पर ब्याज की दर

2342. श्री जगदीश प्रसाद साधु :
क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या हाल ही में एक वर्ष अथवा इससे कम अवधि की सावधि जमा राशि पर ब्याज की दर में कमी किये जाने के कारण बैंकों में जमा राशि पर प्रभाव पड़ा है, और

(ख) क्या बैंकों द्वारा लिये जाने वाले ब्याज की दर में वृद्धि की गई है और क्या सरकार का विचार बचत को प्रोत्साहन देने के उद्देश्य में जमा राशि पर ब्याज की दर में वृद्धि करने का है ?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल) :

(क) 1 जून, 1977 से जमाओं पर ब्याज की दरों में किये गये परिवर्तनों का उद्देश्य मध्य और दीर्घ अवधि की बचत जुटाने को प्रोत्साहन देना है। इन दरों को 1 मार्च,

1978 से फिर संशोधित कर दिया गया है ताकि पूंजी बाजार में अपेक्षया अधिक निजी बचतों को प्रोत्साहित किया जा सके और अल्प, मध्यम और दीर्घ अवधि की जमाओं जैसी जमाओं की मात्रा में अपेक्षया अधिक समानता लायी जा सके। आकरें अब तक उपलब्ध नहीं हो पाये हैं ताकि इन परिवर्तनों का प्रभाव का मूल्यांकन किया जा सके।

(ख) जी, नहीं।

Method for Disposal of Seized Goods lying in Customs Godowns

2343. SHRI P. K. KODIYAN:
SHRI GANGA BHAKT
SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether seized goods worth Rs. 43 crores are lying in customs godowns;

(b) whether Government have devised any methods to dispose of these seized goods; and

(c) what is the item-wise break-up of the seized goods and the value thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGRAWAL): (a) and (c). The stock of seized and confiscated goods lying in the Customs Godowns in December, 1977 is reported to be worth about Rs. 46 crores and itemwise break-up with value is indicated in Statement I.

(b) Seized and confiscated goods as stated in Statement II are being disposed of according to the existing procedure. The method of disposal of all other items is presently under the consideration of the Government. However, these items are being allowed to be disposed of to the military canteens.

Statement—I

Commodity	Value
(In Crores of Rupees)	
(a) Textiles	5.34
(b) Watches	4.13
(c) Gold	10.46
(d) Silver	3.25
(e) Diamond	1.21
(f) Precious and semi-precious stones	1.80
(g) Liquor	0.58
(h) Radiant & Metallic Yarn	1.70
(i) Electronics goods :—	
(i) T. Vs.	0.09
(ii) Calculators	0.89
(iii) Tape-recorders	0.11
(j) Other goods (like trade goods, vessels, vehicles etc.)	17.26

Statement II

- gold and silver;
- currency (Indian and foreign);
- trade goods;
- vessels and vehicles;
- precious and semi-precious stones other than diamonds;
- fire arms and ammunition;
- antiquities;
- goods of Indian origin;
- heterogenous items seized in small lots in the confiscated baggage (other than those covered by the provisions of Chapter IVA and section 123 of the Customs Act, 1962 and the notifications issued thereunder).

Rate of Interest of Foreign Exchange in India

2344. SHRI SHYAM SUNDER GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total amount of foreign exchange with the Indian and Foreign Banks in India as on 1st February, 1978;

(b) what is the rate of interest on Foreign Exchange in India paid by Foreign Banks and Indian Banks;

(c) whether there is any difference in the rate of interest and if so, what are the reasons thereof; and

(d) what steps Government are contemplating so that Foreign Exchange is kept in the Indian Banks in India?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) to (d). Under the existing regulations, all banks, both Indian and Foreign, are required to maintain only minimum working balances to meet their daily needs and any excess over their normal requirements is surrendered to the Reserve Bank of India. The foreign exchange reserves of the country are thus held by the Reserve Bank of India and these amounted to Rs 3959.3 crores on 1st February, 1978. The interest earned on these reserves, held abroad by the Reserve Bank, is estimated at Rs. 141.04 crores for the half year ending 31st December, 1977 yielding an average rate of 6.10 per cent. In view of the above, the question of taking any steps to keep foreign exchange reserves in Indian Banks does not arise.

Number of Goldsmiths and Licensed Dealers

2345. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of certified goldsmiths and licensed dealers in the country, State-wise;

(b) what has been the turnover of the dealers during 1976; and

(c) what procedure has been adopted by the Government regarding the certified goldsmiths, who make and sell ornaments against orders from customers out of the limit of the standard gold?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGRAWAL): (a) There are 2,39,456 certified goldsmiths and 9,984 licensed dealers in the country on 31st December, 1976. The Statewise figures are given in the statement. Laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1770/78].

(b) The turnover of the licensed gold dealers during the year 1976 was about 74,992 Kgs.

(c) Such certified goldsmiths who choose to avail of the facility given to them to make and sell ornaments are required to have fixed premises and maintain the accounts prescribed for the purpose.

Strengthening of Runway at Civil Aerodrome Ahmedabad

2346. PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to strengthen soon the runway at the Civil Aerodrome, Ahmedabad to increase LCN (Load Classification No.) so as to enable the bigger type aircrafts (like the Jumbos, DC 10 etc.) including the wide-bodied ones, in future to land and operate at Ahmedabad;

(b) if so, when and how and at what estimated cost; and

(c) if not, why not?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTAM KAUSHIK): (a)

to (c). Subject to availability of funds, Government plans to strengthen the runway at Ahmedabad aerodrome to LCN-80 during the Five Year Plan period (1978-83) to make it suitable for regular operations by Jet aircraft like Airbus and Boeing 707. The strengthening programme will also cater for occasional operations by wide-bodied Jet like DC-10 and Boeing 747 Jumbo Jet. The proposed work is expected to cost approximately Rs. 85 lakhs.

Confiscation of Properties of Smugglers

2347. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) the number of smugglers who were arrested or whose properties were confiscated during the years 1975, 1976 and 1977;

(b) the estimated value of the smuggled goods which were detected during the years 1975, 1976 and 1977; and

(c) steps being taken by Government to curb smuggling activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGRAWAL): (a) According to reports received by the Government, the number of persons arrested for their involvement in smuggling during 1975, 1976 and 1977 was 2997, 3042 and 1841, respectively. Orders for forfeiture of properties under Smugglers and Foreign Exchange Manipulators (Forfeiture of Property) Act, 1976, have been passed in respect of 227 persons during 1977. The said Act was enacted in 1976 and no orders for forfeiture of properties were passed in 1975 and 1976.

(b) The estimated value of the smuggled goods seized during 1975, 1976 and 1977 was Rs. 45.29 crores, Rs. 36.02 crores and Rs. 29.94 crores, respectively.

(c) Government have strengthened the preventive, intelligence and enforcement machinery and have also taken appropriate economic measures to curb smuggling activities.

Polyester Filament Yarn Import Scandal

2348. SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM:

DR. RAMJI SINGH:

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPAPPAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report appeared in "Blitz" weekly dated the 11h February, 1978 regarding Polyester Filament Yarn import scandal; and

(b) if so, the details and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Import-Export policy for 1977-78 initially provided for the grant of replenishment licences to Registered Exporters of fabrics, readymade garments, etc., in the manufacture of which synthetic filament yarn was used, enabling them to import inter alia polyester filament yarn. This provision was made in place of the high unit value scheme that had been in existence earlier coupled with the abolition of the shopping list in the import policy for Registered Exporters.

2. With increase in the demand for this material in mid-1977, the market prices began to rise and at a meeting taken by the Minister of Commerce, Civil Supplies and Cooperation on 18th August, 1977, the Chairman of

the Indian Cotton Mills Federation drew attention to the prevailing high market prices. Accordingly, the policy for Registered Exporters was liberalised on 22nd August, 1977, deleting the linkage between import of this material with the exports of products mentioned above. This enabled Export Houses, as well as the manufacturers of such products, to import material directly.

3. However, representations were made to Government that this liberalisation could harm the interests of indigenous manufacturers of the same material because of excessive imports. Government was also keen to safeguard the interests of the new plant that was to come shortly into production in the cooperative sector namely, Petrofils at Baroda. Consequently, a change was made in the policy on 2nd September, 1977 to enable actual users of this material, whether in the large scale or in the small scale or whether in the mill sector or in the decentralised sector, to secure their requirements through the State Trading Corporation and at the same time restoring the export-linked-import of the material that existed prior to 22nd August, 1977. This was done to bring a better balance between demand and supply. The State Trading Corporation was instructed to arrange urgent imports of the material and the price of the imported material sold by it was fixed at Rs. 120/- per kg for the 75 denier variety which is the most in demand, with corresponding prices for other deniers.

4. As a result of the policy measures thus adopted, the market price for the 76 denier material which had risen to Rs. 192/- per kg. by the week beginning 22nd August 1977, as against Rs. 124/- per kg. in March, 1977 started falling down and decreased thereafter.

5. M/s. Fancy Corporation, who had been an Export House for some years and had been permitted twice, in

February 1973 and in July 1975, to import Polyester Filament Yarn, subject to certain export obligations specially imposed on each occasion, against their initial/transferred licences requested Government that a similar consideration may be given in the current licensing period. Two other parties, who made similar requests and were entitled to the same replenishment licence benefits as M/s Fancy Corporation were M/s Reliance Textile Industries and M/s Vadial Embroidery Unit. The former became an Export House only in the licensing period 1976-77 while the latter had that status for some years like M/s Fancy Corporation. The aggregate value of the material sought to be imported by these three parties against their transferred licences was about Rs 173 crores. By Public Notice No 62/77 dated 22nd August 1977 they became eligible to get only Release Orders against their requests. These had to be presented to the canalising agency in accordance with the Import Trade Control Policy.

6 However as stated earlier every care has been taken to see that no person could make undue profits and that actual users can get their legitimate requirements at reasonable prices through the STC.

Upgrading of Trivandrum Airport as International Airport

2349 **SHRI GANGADHAR APPA BURANDE**
SHRI SURENDRA BIKRAM

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have received memorandum recently requesting to up-grade the Trivandrum Air Port as International Air Port,

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government and the details thereof, and

(c) if no action has been taken, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK) (a) Yes Sir

(b) and (c) Trivandrum aerodrome is already catering for international flights. Indian Airlines are operating two international flights from Trivandrum to Male and Colombo. Direct flights from Trivandrum to Gulf countries have also been started by Air India effective 31st January 1978. Customs, Health and Immigration facilities are available at Trivandrum aerodrome. Government have plans to develop the aerodrome in the Five Year Plan (1978-83) to make it suitable for regular Boeing 707 and Airbus operations.

Proposal to Decanalise more items of Foreign Trade

2350 **SHRI PRADYUMNA BAL**
Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are considering any proposal to decanalise more items of foreign trade, and

(b) if so, the broad details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG)
(a) and (b) The import policy for 1978-79 including canalisation policy, is under formulation and it would not be in public interest to disclose any details at this stage.

विमानों के अपहरण की घटनाएँ

2351. श्री अमरसिंह बी० राठवा :
क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह
बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मार्च, 1977 से अब तक
भारत में विमान अपहरण की कितनी घटनाएँ
हुई ;

(ख) प्रत्येक घटना के बारे में की गई
जांच का प्रतिवेदन क्या है ;

(ग) विदेशों में कितने भारतीय
विमान अपहृत किये गये ;

(घ) इसके क्या कारण हैं और इस
बारे में की गई जांच की रिपोर्ट क्या है,
और

(ङ) ऐसी घटनाओं को रोकने के
लिए सरकार ने क्या कदम उठाये हैं ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री
(श्री पुष्पोत्तम कौशिक) : (क) भारत
में अपहरण की केवल एक घटना
हुई है। जापान एयरलाइंस के एक डी सी-
8 विमान का 28 सितम्बर, 1977 को
बम्बई विमान क्षेत्र में उड़ान भरने के बाद
अपहरण कर लिया गया था।

(ख) मामले की अभी जांच की जा
रही है।

(ग) कोई नहीं।

(घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(ङ) यद्यपि इस सम्बन्ध में किए गए
विलिफ्ट उपायों तथा अन्य व्यूरो को प्रकट
करना लोकहित में नहीं होगा, तथापि,
अपहरण/तोड़-फोड़ से सुरक्षा के लिए
किये जा रहे वर्तमान उपायों जैसे परिचालन
क्षेत्रों के अवेज थलों का नियंत्रण, यात्रियों

की आतंरिक तलाशी तथा उनके इन्च के
सामान की छानबीन बोर्डिंग कार्डों पर स्टैम्प
लगाने में अधिक सावधानी एवं चौकसी
परिसीमा की पर्याप्त सुरक्षा इत्यादि को पहले
ही अधिक कड़ा कर दिया गया है।

Smuggling of Tea to Pakistan

2352. SHRI BHAGAT RAM: Will
the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to
state:

(a) whether the Government are
aware that smuggling of tea to Pakis-
tan from the bordering areas of
Punjab and Rajasthan is on the in-
crease; and

(b) if so, steps taken to check this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI SATISH AGRAWAL): (a)
and (b). Reports received by the
Government do not provide any such
indication. The situation is, however,
kept under close watch. The Cus-
tom field formations are alert and
they have instructions to thwart any
attempt at smuggling of tea to
Pakistan.

Steps to Recover Arrears of Income- Tax from 30 Large Industrial Houses

2354. CHOWDHRY BALBIR
S'NGH: Will the Minister of
FINANCE be pleased to refer to the
reply given to Unstarred question
No. 3370 on the 9th December, 1977
regarding income-tax arrears of 30
large industrial houses and state as
to what further steps have been
taken to recover these preponderous
dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI ZULFIQUARULLAH): The
requisite information is not readily
available. It is being collected and
will be laid on the Table of the House
as soon as possible.

**Foreign exchange Remittances by
Keralites Settled in Gulf Region**

2355 **SHRI SURENDRA BIKRAM**
Will the Minister of **FINANCE** be
pleased to state

(a) the number of people from
Kerala who were either settled or
working in the gulf region, and

(b) the foreign exchange remittan-
ces annually by them during last
three years?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE
(**SHRI H M PATEL**) (a) Accord-
ing to the information received from
the Ministry of External Affairs no
State-wise record of the number of
people settled or working in the gulf
region is maintained

(b) There are no reliable data
giving the State-wise distribution of
foreign exchange earnings remitted
by Indians working abroad.

**Request from Representatives of In-
dustries in Eastern Region for Import
of Power Plants free of Import Duty**

2356 **SHRI NATVERLAL B PAR-
MAR** Will the Minister of **FIN-
ANCE** be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that due to
wide spread load shedding in the
Eastern region the industries and the
Government are losing heavily in
production and revenue respectively
and if so the details thereof;

(b) whether the industries repre-
sentatives had urged the Government
to allow import of power plants free
of import duty,

(c) whether they had also urged
for elimination of taxes on fuel and
plants to encourage the installation
of power units by the industry

(d) & so, the details thereof, and

(e) the decision taken by Govern-
ment thereon?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE**
(**SHRI SATISH AGRAWAL**) (a)
The information available with the
Government indicates that there is
no shortfall in revenue collected
from the industries in the Eastern
region during January—December,
1977 as compared to the same period
last year

(b) and (c) No such representa-
tion has been received by Govern-
ment

(d) and (e) Does not arise

Ban on Export of Traditional Items

2357 **SHRI AGHAN SINGH THA-
KUR** Will the Minister of **COM-
MERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND
COOPERATION** be pleased to state

(a) the traditional items export of
which has either been restricted or
banned since Government came to
power in Centre

(b) the income in rupees affected as
a result of the above measure and

(c) the new items of export started
since Government came to power in
Centre and the income in terms of
rupees from such export till the end
of this financial year?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE
AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-
OPERATION** (**SHRI ARIF BEG**)
(a) and (b) The Principal tradi-
tional items exports of which have
either been restricted or stopped dur-
ing the current year included HPS
Groundnut, edible oils onions pota-

toes, fresh vegetables, turmeric, sugar, rice and pulses.

Based on the latest Director General Commercial Intelligence and Statistical data, combined exports of these items during April—July, 1977 accounted to Rs. 25 crores as compared with Rs. 162 crores in the corresponding period of the previous year. Quantitative ceilings were also adhered to more effectively in the case of important items like tea and groundnut extractions.

(c) It is not practicable to identify specifically new items as such emerging in our trade. Under a product group qualitative changes in export items do not get reflected in trade classification.

भारत पर्यटन विकास निगम द्वारा चलाये जा रहे यात्री लाज

2359. श्री राज केशर सिंह : क्या पर्यटन और नागर बिमानन मंत्री निम्नलिखित जानकारी देने वाला विवरण सभा पटल पर रखने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) देश में किन-किन स्थानों पर भारत पर्यटन विकास निगम द्वारा यात्री लाज चलाये जा रहे हैं और इसके द्वारा चलाये जा रहे यात्री लाजों की संख्या क्या है ;

(ख) गत वर्ष इन लाजों में से प्रत्येक लाज को कितनी हानि और लाभ हुआ ; और

(ग) यदि इनमें से किसी लाज को हानि हो रही है तो उसके क्या कारण हैं

और इन्हीं लाभ-दायिक लाज बनाने के लिए क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है ?

पर्यटन और नागर बिमानन मंत्री (श्री पुष्पोत्तम कौशिक) : (क) और (ख). भारत पर्यटन विकास निगम फिनहाल 14 यात्री लाज चला रहा है। उनके स्थानों की स्थिति तथा पिछले वर्ष (1976-77) के दौरान उन से हुए लाभ/हानि के बारे में सूचना देने वाला एक विवरण सभा-पटल पर रख दिया गया है।

(ग) भारत सरकार ने यात्री लाजों की स्थापना देश में पर्यटन प्रोत्साहन/विकास के उद्देश्य से की थी। ये साधारण दरों पर आरामदेह पर्यटक सुविधाएं उपलब्ध कराते हैं। इनके अलाभप्रद रूप से बड़े आकार तथा दूरस्थ स्थानों पर स्थित होने के कारण ये घाटे में जा रहे हैं। तथापि इस घाटे को 1974-75 में 7.28 लाख रुपये से घटा कर 1976-77 के दौरान 3.16 लाख रुपये तक कम कर दिया गया है। मार्कीटिंग तथा बिक्री को तीव्र करके प्रोत्साहन-व-प्रचार प्रयासों को बढ़ा कर बजट नियंत्रणों का कड़ा करके तथा आबधिक व आकस्मिक निरीक्षणों आदि की व्यवस्था द्वारा उनकी लाभप्रदता को सुधारने के प्रयत्न किए जा रहे हैं।

इसके अतिरिक्त यात्री लाजों की बिक्री को बढ़ावा देने के लिए आकर्षक पर्यटक पैकेज यात्राओं की योजनाएं भी बनायी जा रही हैं जिनके साथ प्रधानतया यात्री लाजों को भी जोड़ा जा रहा है। ग्रुप बुकिंग तथा पैकेज यात्राओं की आवश्यकता पूर्ति के लिए निगम की छठी पंचवर्षीय योजना में मदुरै, बोधगया, कुशीनगर, सांची, कोणार्क, कुल्लू, मनाली आदि में यात्री लाजों के विस्तार के लिए उपयुक्त व्यवस्था की गई है।

विवरण

क्रम सं०	इकाई	राज्य	1976-77 के दौरान लाभ/हानि (लाख रुपये में)
1	भरतपुर	राजस्थान	(—) 0.44
2	भुवनेश्वर	उड़ीसा	(+) 1.12
3	बीजापुर	कर्णाटक	(—) 0.30
4	बोधगया	बिहार	(+) 0.10
5	काचीपुरम्	तमिलनाडु	(—) 0.42
6	कोणार्क	उड़ीसा	(—) 0.27
7	कुल्लू	हिमाचल प्रदेश	(—) 0.62
8	क्षेत्री नगर	उत्तर प्रदेश	(—) 0.34
9	मदुरै	तमिल नाडु	(+) 0.47
10	मनाली	हिमाचल प्रदेश	(—) 0.51
11	माडु	मध्य प्रदेश	(—) 0.38
12	साची	मध्य प्रदेश	(—) 0.82
13	तजीर	तमिल नाडु	(—) 0.31
14	तिरुचिगपल्ली	तमिल नाडु	(—) 0.44
जोड़			(—) 3.16

केन्द्रीय मंत्रियों द्वारा किए गए विवेकों के दौरान
पर व्यय

2360. श्री रामधारी शास्त्री : क्या
वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) 1 अप्रैल, 1977 से 31 जनवरी,
1978 तक केन्द्रीय मंत्रियों के दौरों पर,
प्रत्येक मामले में कितना कितना व्यय हुआ;
और

(ख) वर्ष 1976-77 में इसी अवधि
में तत्कालीन मंत्रियों के दौरों पर कितना
व्यय हुआ ?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल) :
(क) और (ख) सूचना एकत्रित की
जा रही है और यथासम्भव शीघ्र सभा-पटल
पर रख दी जाएगी ।

Request from West Bengal Government
for handing over Confiscated Goods
lying in Custom Office, Calcutta

2361. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be
pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have
received requests from the Government
of West Bengal to hand over the Rs. 43

crores worth of confiscated goods including some precious medical instruments lying for a long time at custom office in Calcutta after having clearance from courts;

(b) if so, whether the Central Government is going to consider the request;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether there is any precedent of acceding to such request from State Governments in the past in this matter; and

(e) if so, the names of those States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGRAWAL): (a) (d) and (e). Government have not received any such request from the Government of West Bengal to hand over to them confiscated goods worth Rs. 43 crores. However, in the past, Government of West Bengal had purchased from time to time items like tape recorders and cameras from the stocks of confiscated goods with the Customs Department. Requests were also received from the Governments of Meghalaya and Tripura for purchase of selected items like cameras and tape-recorders. In these cases, however, sales did not take place. According to reports received by the Government no other State Governments have made any similar request for purchase of confiscated goods from the Customs Department.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Oilseeds Corporation

2362. SHRI L. L. KAPOOR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to set up an Oilseeds Corporation to coordinate planning, production, imports, procurement and distribution of oilseeds and edible oils, including vanaspathi;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken into consideration the corrupting influence of private traders in this trade and industry;

(c) whether the activity of the proposed corporation would also include manufacture and processing of edible oils; and

(d) whether the question of creating adequate infra-structure through which the Corporation would operate has been considered and a definite and positive scheme for field level operations worked out; if so, broad details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL): (a) to (d). There is a proposal under the consideration of the Government to set up a national-level Corporation for Edible Oils and Oilseeds. The details are being worked out.

Post of Assistant Directors in Export Inspection Council

2363. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that fresh recruitment have been made to the posts of Assistant Directors in the Export Inspection Council;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for such recruitment while qualified employees are working in a lower grade;

(c) whether Government are aware that such fresh recruitment bar the only promotional opportunity of the employees of the E.I.C. in lower grade; and

(d) what are the steps taken to protect the interest of the employees in the Export Inspection Council?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Recruitment Rules in the Export Inspection Agency provide for 50 per cent posts of Assistant Directors to be filled by promotion from the Departmental candidates subject to requisite qualifications for the post and selection made by the Departmental Promotion Committee. The remaining 50 per cent of the posts as per recruitment Rules are filled in by direct recruitment.

(c) and (d). As stated above, there is a fixed promotion quota of 50 per cent for recruitment to the post of Assistant Directors in the Export Inspection Council. Departmental candidates who fulfil qualifications/experience prescribed in this regard are also allowed to compete with the open market candidates and take their chances for recruitment against the open market quota. For higher posts above Assistant Directors i.e. Deputy Directors, Dy Chief Executives, and Joint Directors there is provision for 100 per cent promotion in the recruitment rules. All these provisions adequately protect the legitimate interests of the employees of the Export Inspection Council and ensure reasonable promotion opportunities for them.

Construction of Barapani Airport near Shillong

2364 SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction of Barapani Air Port near Shillong has been completed; and

(b) the amount spent for it so far?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) Construction of Barapani Airport, comprising runway, apron, taxi-way, technical and residential buildings has been completed. The terminal building is likely to be completed by April, 1978.

3963 LS—5

(b) The total amount spent so far for all the item of works is about Rs. 126.02 lakhs.

सूत में हीरा उद्योग के एक दस्तकार द्वारा एक हजार रुपये का एक करेंसी नोट जलाया जाना

2365. श्री एम० ए० हुमान अल्लाह : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सूत में हीरा उद्योग के एक दस्तकार ने एक हजार रुपये के एक करेंसी नोट का सिगरेट बना कर उसे एक सरकारी अधिकारी के सामने पिया; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या करेंसी नोटों का जलाया जाना कानूनी है और यदि नहीं, तो सरकार द्वारा इस कारीगर के विरुद्ध कोई कार्रवाई न करने के क्या कारण हैं ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जूलिकार उल्लाह) : (क) इस विषय पर सरकार का ध्यान एक प्रैस विज्ञप्ति की ओर दिलाया गया है :

(ख) 16 जनवरी, 1978 को ऊंचे मूल्य बर्ग के बैंक नोट (विमुद्रीकरण) अध्यादेश 1978 के प्रख्यापित किये जाने के बाद ऊंचे मूल्य के बैंक नोट विधिमन्य मूद्रा नहीं रहे। ऐसे नोटों के मालिक या धारक द्वारा यदि ऐसा कोई नोट जला दिया जाय तो इस अध्यादेश में उनके लिए किसी दण्ड का विधान नहीं है। क्योंकि इस अध्यादेश के उपबन्धों के अन्तर्गत इस प्रकार की कार्रवाई को कोई जुर्म नहीं माना जाता इसलिए ऐसे व्यक्तियों के विरुद्ध कोई कार्रवाई नहीं की जा सकती है।

SC/ST Pilots and Air Hostesses in Air India and I.A.

2366. SHRI R. L. KUREEL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Pilots and Air Hostesses in Air India and Indian Airlines and how many of them be-

long to the Scheduled Castes and Tribes; and

(b) what efforts were made by the Department to fill the quota of Scheduled Castes and Tribes in these?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) The requisite information is as follows:

Category	Air India			Indian Airlines		
	Total	S.C.	S.T.	Total	S.C.	S.T.
Pilots	257	..	..	365	6	1
Airhostesses	611*	127	44	397	57	32

*Including 17 European and 14 Japanese.

(b) Air-India issue exclusive advertisements only for selection of SC/ST Hostesses in all the leading newspapers. The vacancies are also notified to the regional employment exchanges and to all the SC/ST organisations throughout the country. Exclusive advertisement was also issued for the post of pilots. No application was, however, received from SC/ST candidates having the minimum qualifications laid down.

In Indian Airlines recruitment action is in process for clearing the backlog of 3 vacancies in the category of Pilots. In the category of Air Hostesses, there is a backlog of 0.7 per cent only for Scheduled Caste and efforts are being made to make up the shortfall.

फिल्म कलाकारों द्वारा आयकर की अदायगी

2367. श्री श्याम सुन्दर दास : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) देश में बम्बई, मद्रास, कलकत्ता तथा अन्य राज्य के कितने फिल्म कलाकारों पर आयकर की राशि बकाया है तथा कितनी-कितनी राशि बकाया है; और

(ख) इसे वसूल करने के लिए सरकार क्या कदम उठा रही है।

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जूलिकार उल्लाह) : (क) में (ग) . अपेक्षित सूचना तत्काल उपलब्ध नहीं है। जिन फिल्मी कलाकारों की तरफ आयकर की बकाया हो सकती है, उन सब के सम्बन्ध में सूचना एकत्रित करने में पर्याप्त समय और श्रम लगेगा। इसलिए जिन फिल्मी कलाकारों की तरफ 28-2-1978 की स्थिति के अनुसार, आयकर की 10,000 रुपये से अधिक रकम की मांग बकाया थी, उनके सम्बन्ध में सूचना एकत्रित की जा रही है। यह सूचना यथासम्भव शीघ्र ही सदन-पटल पर रख दी जायगी।

16 से 18 फरवरी 1978 तक बड़े मोटों का बलत्ताजाना

2368. श्री भारत भूषण : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या ऐसे मामले सरकार के ध्यान में आये हैं कि एक हजार, पांच हजार तथा

दस हजार के विपरीत नोट 16, 17 तथा 18 फरवरी को उन पड़ोसी देशों में बदले गये जहाँ भारतीय मुद्रा का बदलना सरल है; और

(ख) यदि हा, तो यह कैसे हुआ ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री ज़ुल्फिकार उल्लाह) : (क) सरकार के पास ऐसी कोई सूचना नहीं है ।

(ख) यह सवाल पैदा ही नहीं होता ।

Appointment of auditors by Chairman, United Commercial Bank

2369. SHRI MADAN LAL SHUKLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that in 1973 the Chairman, United Commercial Bank has appointed, some auditors of the M/s. Price Water House and Company statutory auditors, in senior grade while they were carrying out audit in the Bank, on salaries much higher than they were drawing, in the auditing firm; and

(b) if so, the reasons and names thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). United Commercial Bank has reported that Shri S. N. Ghosh who was working with M/s. Price Waterhouse Peat & Co., the statutory auditors of the Bank for the years 1970-1974, was appointed as a Senior Chartered Accountant in the Bank in September, 1973 on the basis of his application received in response to an advertisement by the Bank and the rank obtained by him in the interview for the post. Taking into account the experience and salary drawn by them with their previous employers, the first three selected candidates which included Shri S. N. Ghosh were offered by the Bank a higher starting salary.

Exemption of political parties from payment of taxes

2370. SHRI G. S. TOHRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India decided to exempt political parties from wealth tax on income derived from investments and donations; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ZULFIKAR ULLAH): (a) and (b). Government propose to sponsor legislation with a view to providing—

(i) exemption from income-tax in respect of income derived by political parties from their investments (both in movable and immovable properties) and also income by way of donations received by them from non-members;

(ii) exemption from wealth-tax in respect of the value of assets held by them

The proposed exemption from income-tax will not be allowed unless the political party maintains proper books of account and gets its annual accounts audited by a chartered accountant or other qualified accountant. The exemption from income-tax and wealth-tax will be allowed only in the case of political parties which are registered with the Election Commission of India under the Election Symbols (Reservation and Allotment) Order, 1968.

Facilities for tourists visiting Badrinath, Kedarnath and Uttarkashi

2372 SHRI JAGANNATH SHARMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of Tourists visiting Badrinath, Kedarnath and Uttarkashi has increased considerably during past some years;

(b) whether Government have formulated any scheme to extend facilities for tourists on the roads going to these places, and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c) Not for the present. The development of tourist facilities in future in the Garhwal area will depend upon the quantum of funds made available for the Tourism Plan (1978-83) in the Central and State sectors.

अल्प बचत योजना

2373 श्री छबिराम अग्रवाल : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) अल्प बचत योजना को अधिक न्यायोचित बनाने तथा राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंको को बचत योजनाओं के साथ उसे समन्वित करने के बारे में उन्हें तथा केन्द्रीय अल्प-बचत मलाहकार बोर्ड को 3 दिसम्बर 1977 की बैठक में क्या सुझाव प्राप्त हुये

(ख) धारक प्रतिभूति अथवा धारक प्रतिभूति बांड अल्प-बचत योजना आरम्भ करने और व्यक्तिगत जमा तथा सगठनात्मक जमा के बीच व्याज के अंतर को समाप्त करने के लिये भी कोई सुझाव प्राप्त हुये है, और

(ग) इस अल्प बचत योजना को न्यायोचित बनाने के प्रति सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जूलिकार उल्लाह) : (क) इस संबंध में जो अधिक महत्वपूर्ण सुझाव प्राप्त हुए हैं उनमें से कुछ हैं — सत्यागत निवेशों के लिए कर योग्य अल्प बचत पत्रों को खुला बेचना, व्याज की अदायगी वार्षिक आधार पर न

करके बोड़ी-बोड़ी अवधि के पश्चात् कई बार करना; व्यक्तियों द्वारा कर-मुक्त पत्रों की खरीद के लिए मैट्रिक सीमा को बढ़ाना; बढ़िया ग्राहक सेवा प्रदान करने के लिए राष्ट्रीय बचत बैंक की स्थापना करना आदि ।

जैसाकि बोर्ड की बैठक में तय हुआ था, राष्ट्रीय बचत सगठन और वाणिज्यिक बैंकों की योजनाओं का तुलनात्मक अध्ययन करने तथा वाणिज्यिक बैंकों की योजनाओं में अगर कोई परिवर्तन किए जाने हैं तो उन परिवर्तनों की सिफारिश करने के लिए एक विशेषज्ञ दल की स्थापना की जा रही है ।

(ख) जी हा । बोर्ड विचार-विमर्श के पश्चात् इस बात के लिए सहमत हो गया कि धारक प्रतिभूति अथवा धारक प्रतिभूति बांड को जारी करने के सुझाव पर जोर न दिया जाए । जहां तक व्यक्तियों की जमा रकमों तथा सगठनों की जमा रकमों पर दिए जाने वाले व्याज में अंतर का संबंध है इस बारे में यह निश्चय किया गया है कि इस मामले की जांच एक समिति द्वारा कराई जाए ।

(ग) अल्प बचत योजनाओं पर निरंतर समीक्षा की जाती रहती है और जहां तक आवश्यक समझा जाता है उनमें समय-समय पर उपयुक्त संशोधन किए जाते रहते हैं ।

यूनाइटेड कमर्शियल बैंक के अध्यक्ष द्वारा कृत किया जाना

2374 श्री माधव प्रसाद त्रिपाठी : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे -

(क) क्या सरकार को पता है कि 23 नवम्बर, 1972 से 28 मार्च, 1973 की अवधि यूनाइटेड कमर्शियल बैंक में घाघली की अवधि बताई जाती है, जिसके दौरान यूनाइटेड कमर्शियल बैंक के बैररमैन ने कुछ कम्पनियों को नियमों का उल्लंघन करके

सी करोड़ रुपये की धनराशि दी थी और वह रुकम डब गई है,

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि उक्त यूनाइटेड कमर्शियल बैंक के बेयरमैन ने एक वर्ष में ही दो करोड़ इकहतर लाख रुपये का फर्नीचर खरीद कर निरर्थक व्यय किया था जैसा कि वर्ष 1976 के तुलन-पत्र में दिखाया गया है, और

(ग) क्या उक्त शिकायतों के बारे में और यूनाइटेड कमर्शियल बैंक में धाधली के बारे में सरकार का विचार जांच करने का है ताकि ऐसे राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंक में भ्रष्टाचार रोका जा सके ?

विश्व मन्त्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल) :

(क) यूनाइटेड कमर्शियल बैंक व अनुसार नवम्बर, 1972 और मार्च 1973 के अन्तिम सप्ताह के बीच भारत में ऋणों की कुल बढ़ावा राशि में केवल 25 करोड़ रुपये के लगभग की वृद्धि हुई जा कि मौसमी कारणा सहित सामान्य प्रवृत्तियों के अनुसार थी। अध्यक्ष सहित बैंक के विभिन्न स्तर के अधिकारियों द्वारा ऋण स्वीकार करने में सामान्य सिद्धान्तों का पालन किया गया था तथा नियमों अथवा मार्गदर्शी सिद्धान्तों का कोई उल्लंघन नहीं किया गया।

(ख) 31 दिसम्बर, 1976 की स्थिति के अनुसार बैंक द्वारा प्रकाशित तुलन-पत्र के अनुसार फर्नीचर और फिक्सचर (उपकरणों और मोटर गाड़ियों सहित) शीर्ष के अन्तर्गत उस वर्ष के दौरान 1.46 करोड़ रुपये का व्यय दिखाया गया है। यह अधिकांशतः सुरक्षा-उपकरणों (सेफ डिपोजिट, लाकर्स, करंसी चेस्ट के लिये उपकरणों सहित) टाइपराइटरों, एकाउंटिंग मशीनों, फर्नीचर और फिक्सचरों आदि की खरीद से सम्बन्धित है। ये खर्च केवल नई शाखाएँ खोलने और करंसी चेस्टों की स्थापना के कारण ही नहीं हुए बल्कि पुरानी हो गयी चीजों के प्रतिस्थापन

के लिए भी किये गये हैं। रिजर्व बैंक द्वारा की गई जांच के अनुसार यह सिद्ध नहीं होता कि बैंक ने इस हिसाब के लिये जो व्यय किया वह अवाञ्छनीय अथवा अत्यधिक था।

(ग) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता।

Loss to India's accumulated foreign Exchange due to depreciation in value of Dollars and Pounds

2375 SHRI YADVENDRA DUTT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether India's accumulated four thousands crores of Foreign Exchange is held in Dollars and Pounds,

(b) if so, what steps have the Government of India taken to prevent losses due to the fall and depreciation in the value of pounds and dollar in international money market,

(c) what is the total amount of loss suffered by India in its accumulated foreign exchange held in dollars and pounds per year and

(d) whether the value of loss is equivalent to 300 crores a year or more?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL) (a) India's foreign exchange reserves are held in various foreign currencies, including the US Dollar and the Pound Sterling and these amounted as on 3rd March 1978 to Rs 41365 crores

(b) to (d) In investing foreign exchange reserves, the Reserve Bank is guided by considerations of the safety of the funds, then liquidity and the yield. However, in the present international monetary system, characterised by floating of the major currencies of the world, upward and downward movements in the value of these currencies are unavoidable. In response, the exchange rate of the rupee in terms of these currencies is also liable to move in both directions, involving corresponding changes in the rupee

value of the country's foreign exchange reserves. Since the short term movements in the value of various foreign currencies are not necessarily in one direction, it may not be appropriate to speak of losses in the value of reserves

Air services for Saharsa, Purnea and Darbhanga in North Bihar

2376. SHRI B. P. MANDAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal before him to connect any of the three places of North Bihar with Indian Airlines services, viz., Saharsa Purnea and Darbhanga, and

(b) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) As all the aircraft in the fleet of the Corporation are fully committed to the existing schedule, it would not be possible at present to provide airlinks to these cities

Nationalisation of banks with deposits exceeding Rs. 100 crores

2377. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of banks with their deposits exceeding Rs 100 crores;

(b) names of such Banks with their deposits and how many of these are still to be nationalised,

(c) whether Government propose to consider nationalisation of these banks in public interest and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H M PATEL). (a) and (b) The names of the banks in the public sector and private sector with deposits of Rs 100 crores and above are given in the statement attached.

(c) No such proposal is under the consideration of Government.

(d) The deposits of the non-nationalised banks constitute a very small percentage of the total deposits of the banking system. Further, since nationalisation of the 14 major banks in 1969, the non-nationalised banks are, by and large, following the objectives set by the Government for the nationalised banks.

Statement

Names of the banks with Deposits of Rs. 100 crores and above	Deposits in crores of Rs. as on 30-12-1977
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(A) PUBLIC SECTOR BANKS

1. State Bank of India . . .	4866.01
2. Central Bank of India . . .	1461.56*
3. Punjab National Bank . . .	1307.23
4. Bank of India . . .	1278.39*
5. Bank of Baroda . . .	1138.84*
6. Canara Bank . . .	989.97*
7. United Commercial Bank . . .	801.30
8. Syndicate Bank . . .	738.92*
9. United Bank of India . . .	732.05*
10. Union Bank of India . . .	826.18*
11. Indian Overseas Bank . . .	566.16
12. Indian Bank . . .	563.74*
13. Dena Bank . . .	467.80*
14. Bank of Maharashtra . . .	419.24
15. Allahabad Bank . . .	401.73*
16. State Bank of Hyderabad . . .	197.90
17. State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur . . .	192.70*
18. State Bank of Travancore . . .	183.97*
19. State Bank of Patiala . . .	179.45
20. State Bank of Mysore . . .	166.33*
21. State Bank of Saurashtra . . .	119.15*

1	2	3
(B) PRIVATE SECTOR BANKS		
1. Andhra Bank Limited .		288.48
2. Punjab and Sind Bank Limited . . .		262.49
3. Vijaya Bank Limited .		246.65
4. New Bank of India Limited		240.00*
5. Corporation Bank Limited .		125.68
6. Oriental Bank of Commerce Limited.		116.21
7. Grindlays Bank Ltd. .		425.51
8. Chartered Bank . .		143.84
9. Mercantile Bank Limited .		102.15

*Provisional

Setting up of Central Tax Court

2378. SHRI K. MALLANNA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government for setting up of a Central Tax Court with regional branches to deal with income tax references and its allied matters which are now being handled by various High Courts in the country;

(b) whether any suggestion has also been made by Justice P. N. Bhagwati in this regard; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ZULFIQARULLAH): (a) to (c). The Direct Tax Laws Committee (Chokshi Committee) have, in their Interim Report, observed that the Government should consider the

establishment of a Central Tax Court to deal with all matters arising under the Income-tax Act and other Central Tax laws. The Committee have, however, stated that they intend to deal with this matter in greater detail in their final Report.

It appears from a news item in the Economic Times of 1st February, 1978 that, while inaugurating the first national convention of All India Federation of Tax Practitioners at Nagpur, Mr. Justice P. N. Bhagwati has also suggested the setting up of a Central Tax Court to deal with income tax references and allied matters.

The Government would consider this matter on receiving the final Report of the Chokshi Committee.

संकट प्रस्त उद्योगों को कर की छूट

2379. डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पांडेय : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का विचार विभिन्न करो के मामले में संकटप्रस्त उद्योगों को छूट देने का है,

(ख) यदि हाँ तो उक्त उद्योग किस क्षत्र—कपडा चीनी और पटमन में सम्बन्धित है,

(ग) करो में रियायत अथवा छूट देने के क्या कारण है, और

(घ) क्या सरकार ने उन सब पहलुओं की जांच कर ली है जो उद्योग की संकटप्रस्त बनाने के लिये जिम्मेवार है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री ज़ुल्फिकार उल्लाह) : (क) जी, नहीं.

(ख) में (घ) : ये प्रश्न नहीं उठते।

Financial Assistance from International Agencies for preparation of Investment Surveys in Jammu and Kashmir

2380. SHRIMATI PARVATI DEVI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to seek financial assistance from international agencies like the Commonwealth Secretariat and UNDP for preparation of investment surveys of extensive nature to open new vistas of development like forest in Jammu & Kashmir State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H M PATEL): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Recruitment of Ex-Servicemen as Airport Officers

2381. SHRI SUKHDEO PRASAD VERMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the International Airport Authority of India had set up a panel of selected candidates for recruitment of Airport Officers during the year 1975 and 1976;

(b) if so, the facts thereof including detailed list of such selected candidates for the posts;

(c) whether out of such selected candidates quite a good number of candidates belonged to ex-servicemen group;

(d) the details of such ex-servicemen of various wings of armed forces so selected and steps taken to rehabilitate these candidates on priority basis; and

(e) if not, given the appointments, the reasons therefor and also steps being contemplated now to rehabilitate them immediately?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) Yes, Sir. The International Airports Authority of India had prepared a panel on 1-12-1975 on the basis of open selection and another panel on 2-11-1976 for departmental promotion to fill up the posts of Airport Officer.

(b) and (c). The detailed list of the two panels drawn up by the Authority is laid on the Table of the House [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1771/78]. The two panels together contained the names of 10 Ex-Servicemen

(d) All the 10 ex-servicemen included in the two panels have been appointed/promoted as Airport Officers. 5 of these belong to the Army, 3 to Air Force and 2 to Navy.

(e) Does not arise

विमान यात्रियों को सामान देने में विलम्ब

2382. श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि विमान से यात्रा करने वाले यात्रियों को अपनी यात्रा पूरी करने के पश्चात् सामान लेने के लिए एक घंटे से दो घंटे तक प्रतीक्षा करनी पड़ती है, जबकि उनकी यात्रा डेढ़ घंटे अथवा एक घंटे से भी कम होती है और यदि हां तो सामान को तत्काल देने और इसके लिए अच्छी तथा सरल व्यवस्था करने के बारे में सरकार को कोई सुझाव प्राप्त हुआ है और यदि हां, तो दिये गये सुझावों का ज्वारी क्या है; और

(ख) क्या 20 किलोग्राम के बजाय 30 किलोग्राम सामान ले जाने की अनुमति देने के बारे में कोई सुझाव प्राप्त हुआ है ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री पुष्पोत्तम कौशिक) : (क) जी नहीं ।

सामान देने में इंडियन एयरलाइन्स द्वारा प्रीसतन 15 से 30 मिनट का समय लिया जाता है। तथापि अतिव्यस्त सभी हवाई अड्डों पर सामान के देने में लगने वाले समय को धीरे घटाने के बारे में आवश्यक प्रबन्ध किए जा रहे हैं।

(ख) जी, नहीं।

मध्य प्रदेश में हवाई अड्डों पर जलपान केन्द्र

2383 श्री हुकम चन्द कछबाय क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) मध्य प्रदेश के सभी हवाई अड्डों पर जलपान केन्टीनो और अन्य विक्री केन्द्रों की सख्या कितनी है और उन्हें किन शर्तों पर एनाट किया गया है,

(ख) क्या पिछले अनेक वर्षों से उनका किराया नहीं दिया गया है और यदि हा, तो ऐसे कितने होटल-मालिक और दुकानदार हैं जिनसे अभी तक किराया वसूल नहीं किया गया है, और

(ग) हवाई अड्डों पर ठेके पर दिये गये होटलों और अन्य दुकानों से मत तीन वर्ष के दौरान वर्षवार कितनी आय हुई ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री कुम्भोत्तम कौशिक) : (क) मध्य प्रदेश में छ हवाई अड्डे हैं जहाँ इंडियन एयरलाइन्स अपनी अनुसूचित सेवाएँ परिचालित कर रही है। किलहाल चार हवाई अड्डों, भर्खात इंदौर, खजुराहो, ग्वालियर तथा भोपाल में जलपान सुविधाएँ उपलब्ध है। इनके लिए

केटरिंग लाइसेंस टैंडर मंजूर कर नीचे बताई गई शर्तों के आधार पर लिए गए हैं—

खजुराहो : केटरिंग लाइसेंस 1-6-1976 के तीन वर्ष की अवधि के लिए 200/- रुपये प्रतिमास की दर से लाइसेंस शुल्क के भुगतान के आधार पर दिया गया है जो बिजली, पानी तथा स्थानीय कर आदि जैसे अन्य प्रभारों, यदि कोई हो के अलावा है।

खजुराहो केटरिंग लाइसेंस 1-8-1975 से तीन वर्ष की अवधि के लिए 225/- रुपये प्रतिमास की दर से लाइसेंस शुल्क के भुगतान के आधार पर दिया गया है जो बिजली, पानी तथा स्थानीय कर आदि जैसे अन्य प्रभारों यदि कोई हो के अलावा है।

ग्वालियर : केटरिंग लाइसेंस 1-4-1977 से एक वर्ष की अवधि के लिए 75/- रुपये प्रति मास की दर से लाइसेंस शुल्क और सिग्रेट तथा तबाकू की विक्री पर हुए लाभ के 50 प्रतिशत के भुगतान के आधार पर दिया गया है जो बिजली, पानी तथा स्थानीय कर आदि जैसे अन्य प्रभारों, यदि कोई हो, के अलावा है।

भोपाल केटरिंग लाइसेंस 1-7-1977 से दो वर्ष के लिए 788/- रुपये प्रति मास की दर से लाइसेंस शुल्क के भुगतान के आधार पर दिया गया है जो बिजली पानी तथा स्थानीय कर आदि जैसे अन्य प्रभारों, यदि कोई हो, के अलावा है।

रायपुर/जबलपुर : इन हवाई अड्डा पर कोई भी खान-पान सुविधाएँ उपलब्ध नहीं है।

(ख) भोपाल की केटीन के मालिक के अतिरिक्त किसी भी केटीन मालिक पर सरकार का कोई पैसा बकाया नहीं है। उसने जनवरी तथा फरवरी 1978 के महीनों की 788/- रुपये प्रतिमास की दर से लाइसेंस शुल्क की अदायगी नहीं की है।

(ग) एयरपोर्ट रेस्टोरंटो तथा चाय व काफी की दुकानों बसबा काउंटरों से पिछले तीन वर्षों में प्राप्त हुए लाइसेंस शुल्क का वर्षवार विवरण नीचे दिया गया है:—

	1975-76	1976-77	1977-78	जोड़
				रुपये
इंदौर	1,440.00	2,240.00	2,200.00	5,880.00
खजुराहो	1,800.00	2,250.00	3,150.00	7,200.00
ग्वालियर	शून्य	223.71	907.64	1,131.35
भोपाल	3,000.00	14,704.40	10,788.00	28,492.40
कुल जोड़	6,240.00	19,418.11	17,045.64	42,703.75

इण्डियन एयरलाइन्स में काम कर रहे हरिजनों और आदिवासियों की संख्या

2384. श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) इण्डियन एयरलाइन्स में इस समय काम कर रहे हरिजनों और आदिवासियों की श्रेणी-वार संख्या कितनी है और गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान भ्रमण-भ्रमण श्रेणियों में कितने व्यक्तियों को पदोन्नत किया गया, और

(ख) इस समय श्रेणियों में हरिजनों और आदिवासियों के लिए भ्रमण-भ्रमण कितने स्थान रिक्त पड़े हुए हैं और इन व्यक्तियों के लिए विभिन्न पदों में कितना निर्धारित कंटा बाल पड़ा है और उसे भरने के लिए क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री पुष्पोत्तम कौशिक) : (क) और (ख) अपेक्षित सूचना एकत्रित की जा रही है और सभापति पर रख दी जायेगी ।

Registration of Clearing and Forwarding Agents/Companies with Custom Authorities

2385 SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the system of regulating the activities of cargo clearing and forwarding agents operating at the

major ports and International airports in India,

(b) how many clearing and forwarding agents/companies were registered with the Customs authorities at the International airports and major Indian Ports as on 1st January, 1978 and what was their number at the end of the First and Third Five Year Plans respectively; and

(c) what was the number of foreign controlled/owned forwarding and clearing firms registered with customs authorities at these ports/airports as on 1st January, 1978 and what was their number at the end of the First and Third Five Year Plans respectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGRAWAL) : (a) Activities of Custom House Agents are regulated in terms of the provisions of the Custom House Agents Licensing Regulations, 1965 framed under Section 146 of the Custom Act 1962. Under the said Section, business as Custom House Agent can be carried out only under and in accordance with a licence. Under the said Regulations, the Collector of Customs is empowered to grant, on fulfilment of certain conditions, Custom House Agents Licences. The Regulations lay down certain obligations for the Custom House Agents and also provide for suspension or revocation of the licence in certain situations.

(b) The number of Custom House Agents licensed for the ports and airports at Bombay, Calcutta, and Madras; for the ports at Visakhapatnam and Cochin; and for the airports at Delhi, and Amritsar, as on 1st January, 1978, and as at the end of First and Third Five Year Plans is given below:—

At the end of First Five year Plan	At the end of Third Five year Plan	As on 1-1-1978
451	728	803

(c) Information with regard to this part of the question will have to be collected from the Customs record as also from the other relevant records showing the percentage of foreign holdings, will be laid on the Table of the House.

Number of Registered Exporters

2386. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total number of registered exporters registered with various Export Promotion Councils and Commodity Boards on first January, 1978 and what was the total number of the exporters in the country at the end of First Five Year Plan (1956) and the total number of registered exporters at the end of Third Five Year Plan (1966);

(b) how many of the registered exporters on first January, 1978 and at the end of Third Five Year Plan (1966) were foreign firms and how many were public sector concerns; and

(c) what are the reasons for the change in the number of exporters since the end of the First and the Third Five Year Plans respectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Institutions Engaged in Imparting Training in International Trade

2387. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) how many Governmental/non-governmental institutions are imparting training in international trade as on 1st January, 1978 and what was their number at the end of the first and Third Five Year Plans respectively;

(b) what was the number of training programmes organised and number of personnel trained at the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade during 1965-66 and what were these figures during the last year; and

(c) how many market research studies etc. were conducted by I.I.F.T. at what total expense during 1965-66 and what were these figures for the past year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) The Indian Institute of Foreign Trade established in May, 1976, which commenced activities in February, 1964, is the only governmental institution imparting training in International Trade. Besides the IIFT a number of universities, management institutes etc. are offering courses which cover the subject of international trade. No statistics of number of such institutions are being maintained.

(b) During 1965-66 the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade organised five training programmes with a participation of 153 representatives of government, trade and industry. In 1976-77 the Institute conducted 15 training pro-

grammes, in addition to 6 training programmes specifically designed for other governmental and public sector organisations like STC, MMTC, Coal India Limited, Bank Executives and Defence Services Personnel. A total of 530 personnel from government, trade and industry participated in these programmes.

(c) The Indian Institute of Foreign Trade conducted 6 in-country studies costing Rs. 9503.71 in 1965-66 whereas in 1976-77, 9 in-country studies were conducted at a cost of Rs. 41448.21. In addition in 1976-77, 13 overseas research studies were also conducted at a cost of Rs. 1,46,827.91 making a total expenditure of Rs. 1,88,276.12 on research studies in 1976-77.

Standing Committee on Promotion of Exports by Sea

2388. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) the functions of the Standing Committee on promotion of exports by Sea or SCOPE-SHIPPING;

(b) when and why was this Committee set up and what is the composition of this committee; and

(c) the objectives achieved so far by this committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) and (b). On 28th October 1976 the Ministry of Commerce had, in consultation with the Ministry of Shipping and Transport, set up a Standing Committee on Promotion of Exports by Shipping comprising of representatives of concerned Ministries and organisations to discuss various shipping and port problems relating to export cargo moving by maritime transport. SCOPE-SHIPPING is headed by Additional Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and has as members representatives drawn, from the Ministry

of Shipping and Transport, Central Board of Excise and Customs, D.G. Shipping, State Trading Corporation, three Indian Shipping lines, Tea Board, Jute Commissioner, All India Shippers' Council, Port Trusts at Bombay, Cochin, Madras and Calcutta, Federation of Indian Exporters Organisation, Federation of Customs House Agents Association, Trade Development Authority etc.

This Standing Committee is required to examine and suggest appropriate measures in regard to adequacy and regularity of shipping services, adequacy of shipping space for liner exports, fixation of competitive and non discriminatory freight rates, adequacy of infrastructural facilities in Major and Minor ports, adequacy of inland water-way transport, simplification of documents, Customs and other procedures, and introduction and expansion of technological innovations like containerisation, palletisation etc.

(c) This Standing Committee as well as its Regional Panels at Bombay, Cochin, Madras and Calcutta have provided very useful fora for various interest connected with ocean transportation to discuss shipping and port problems relating to country's export cargo with a view to reaching practical solutions.

Export of Tobacco through S.T.C.

2389. SHRI G. S. REDDI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has any proposals to canalise all exports of tobacco through the State Trading Corporation;

(b) whether in this connection he has any proposal to stop purchase of tobacco for export to East European countries through private agents under contracts directly entered into between the East European trading organisations and these against; and

(e) if not, the reasons for continuing the present practice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) No, Sir,

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The canalisation of exports to East European countries alone through a public sector organisation like STC, will amount to discrimination and will be inconsistent with the terms of Trade Agreements concluded with them.

Resumption of Export of HPS Groundnuts

2390 SHRI G S REDDI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE, AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government intend to resume export of HPS groundnuts; and

(b) if so, the possible impact of it on the prices of edible oils in general?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) It has been decided not to allow export of HPS groundnuts against the 1977-78 crop

(b) Does not arise

Tax Arrears against Companies and Individuals

2391. SHRI KANWAR LAL GUP-TA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the companies and individuals against whom arrears of taxes of more than one crore have pending,

(b) the action taken by Government against each of such assesses; and

(c) what specific steps have been taken by the Government to collect the arrears from the aforesaid assesses in the last nine months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ZULFIQUARULLAH): (a) to (c). Complete information asked for is not readily available. It is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

Proposal to allow a Tax Holiday on Export Profits on Garments, Handloom etc.

2392. SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal under consideration to allow a tax holiday on export profits in the case of certain export items such as garments, handlooms etc.; and

(b) if so, the details and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ZULFIQUARULLAH): (a) Government are not considering any such proposal

(b) Does not arise.

बकाया करें वाले बड़े औद्योगिक घरानों को ऋण

2393. डा० रामजी सिंह : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या बड़े औद्योगिक घरानों को जिनकी ओर काफी समय से कर बकाया है, सरकार द्वारा ऋण दिये जाते हैं और यदि हा तो उसके क्या कारण हैं, और

(ख) किन किन औद्योगिक घरानों को और एक करोड़ रुपये के ऋण बकाया है और क्या सरकार का विचार उनकी परिसम्पत्तियों के जब्त करने का है ?

बिल मंत्री (श्री एच० एन० पटेल) :

(क) सरकार बड़े औद्योगिक घरानों को कोई प्रत्यक्ष ऋण नहीं देती ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Collection of Income Tax from Dhanbad District (Bihar)

2394. SHRI A. K. ROY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of income tax payees in the Dhanbad district of Bihar and the amount collected from them for the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that a small fraction of contractors traders, industrialists have been brought under the clutch of income tax and most of the income in the coal belt is converted into black money;

(c) whether it is a fact that number of car owners in Dhanbad is even more than the number of income tax payees though it is impossible to maintain motor vehicle with income below the limit over which income tax is payable;

(d) whether it is a fact that all the income tax officials are in collusion with black money magnates of Dhanbad allowing this slackness; and

(e) if so, what steps the Government proposes to take for correct assessment of income tax from this district?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ZUFIQARULLAH): (a) The number of income-tax assesseees in Dhanbad District as on 31st January, 1978 is 13,344. The total income-tax col-

lections from this District during the last three years are as under:

Financial year	Collections (Rs. in lakhs)
1974-75	311
1975-76	349
1976-77	411

(b) Survey is being conducted to discover unaccounted sources of income of the existing assesseees as also to detect new assesseees including contractors, traders etc. During 1976-77, the number of new cases detected during survey was 1,483. So far as contractors are concerned, tax is being deducted from payments made to them in accordance with section 194C of the Income-tax Act, 1961. During 1976-77 such deductions amounted to over Rs 180 lakhs.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Persons Crossed over to Nepal with Demonetised Notes

2395. SHRI R. L. P VERMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been brought to his notice that after declaration of demonetisation of Rs. 1000/-, 5000/- and 10000/- denomination notes, many people crossed over to Nepal with large number of such notes;

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

(c) the total number of such notes as in part (a) claimed by various agencies in Nepal from Government of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ZUFIQUARULLAH) (a) No specific cases have come to the notice of the Government

(b) and (c) Do not arise

Installation of Computers in GLC

2396 SHRI ROBIN SEN Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether Government is proceeding ahead with a scheme of installing computers and automation of clerical work in General Insurance Corporation of India and its subsidiaries

(b) whether computerisation in nationalised insurance, if allowed will lead to shrinkage of Employment potential and eventual joblessness and also retrenchment of Employees and

(c) if so whether Government propose to abandon the Scheme in view of the above fact?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H M PATEL) (a) to (c) Government has appointed an Expert Group to look into computer requirements of the insurance industry. The matter would be examined in all its aspects when the Report of the Group is received

Central Excise and Custom cases against Punalur Paper Mills Ltd, Kerala

2397 SHRI SHARAD YADAV Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Central Excise and Custom had initiated certain very serious cases against the Punalur Paper Mills Limited Punalur Kerala for violation of laws of the land in regard to imports of machinery etc

(b) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGRAWAL) (a) Yes Sir

(b) In respect of four cases of import of paper mill machinery by Punalur Paper Mills Limited in 1972 through Cochin Custom House, a fine of Rs 7,00,000 on the goods and a penalty of Rs. 175 lakhs on the firm were imposed by the Collector of Customs on account of misdeclaration of value and contravention of the provisions of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, 1947 and the Customs Act, 1962. The appeals filed by the importer against the orders of the Collector are pending decision before the Central Board of Excise and Customs

In addition one consignment of press rollers and some other items imported in 1971 through the Madras Custom House was confiscated on account of contravention of the provisions of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, 1947 and a fine of Rs 9,000 was imposed. In appeal the appellate authority reduced the fine to Rs 3,500/. In another case of import of transformers and resistors through the Madras Customs House in 1976 the goods were confiscated for contravention of the provisions of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act 1947 and a fine of Rs 6,500/- was imposed in lieu of the confiscation

Committee on Evaluation of role of Controls in National Economy

2398 SHRI UGRASEN Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had set up a Committee to evaluate the role of controls in the various spheres of national economy and need for modifications in future;

(b) if so the composition and the terms of reference of the Committee; and

(c) when the Committee is likely to submit the Report?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE
(SHRI H M PATEL) (a) and (L)
Yes, Sir The Committee will be composed of the following —

1. Shri Vedilal Dagli	Chairman
2. Shri Eas Seshuayan	Member
3. Shri Bagaram Tulpale	"
4. Sri L. C. Jain	"
5. Shri Sanjoy Sen	"

The Committee will have a Member Secretary who will be appointed shortly

2 The Committee will have the following terms of reference

(1) Has the system of controls on prices production, distribution licences and imports been an effective instrument for national planning and guidance of the national economy?

(2) What has been the experience in the past of the operation and management of all types of controls and have the predetermined objectives actually been realised?

(3) In which areas of the economy have the controls been successful and hence deserve continuance with or without modification?

(4) In which areas have the controls been ineffective or have since become irrelevant and hence deserve to be removed?

(5) In what manner is the system of controls connected to the system of subsidisation in the national economy? Are such subsidies justifiable and will it be possible to moderate or eliminate the system of subsidisation by suitable modifications in the system of controls?

(c) The Committee has been asked to make its recommendations within a period of six months

Development of Dwarka Bet as Tourist Resort

2399 SHRI VINODBHAI B SHETH Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state whether there is a proposal to develop Dwarka Bet as a tourist resort in view of its strategic situation, having a nice sea shore and being a renowned pilgrimage centre?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK) There is no proposal at present to develop Dwarka Bet as a tourist resort in the Central Sector

Caravelle or Boeing Service on Bombay/Jamnagar/Bhuj Route

2400 SHRI VINODBHAI B SHETH Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government are thinking of changing the present Avro Service to Caravelle service on the Bombay/Jamnagar/Bhuj route and

(b) if so when?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK) (a) No Sir Not at present

(b) Does not arise

White Paper on Atrocities Committed by Taxation Department

2401 SHRI VINODBHAI B SHETH Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are thinking of issuing White Paper on the atrocities committed by the officers of the Taxation (both direct and indirect) Department

(b) if so when and

(c) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGRAWAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As a matter of policy a White Paper is issued by the Government when it considers it necessary to express its views, clarify its stand or declare its policy on a matter of national/public importance and to give publicity to such views, stands or policies.

The Shah Commission of Inquiry is already looking into certain specific instances where some officers of, or under the Department of Revenue are alleged to have exceeded their authority or to have acted from considerations other than the due discharge of their duties and responsibilities. Some complaints have also been received and they are being looked into in accordance with the prescribed procedure.

Introduction of Jamnagar-Ahmedabad-Delhi Air Service

2402. SHRI VINODBHAI B. SHETH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are thinking of starting Jamnagar-Ahmedabad-Delhi air service in view of the heavy traffic of the three Defence Service stations in Jamnagar and thousands

of pilgrims visiting Dwarka Bet and also the development of big industries in Jamnagar District; and

(b) if so, when Government propose to start the same?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) No, Sir. Same day connections are available at Bombay for passengers travelling between Jamnagar and Ahmedabad and Jamnagar and Delhi, both ways.

(b) Does not arise

अखबारी कागज का आयात

2403. श्री हुकम खन्व कछवाय : क्या बाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गत दो वर्षों के दौरान कुल कितनी मात्रा में अखबारी कागज का आयात तथा निर्यात किया गया; और

(ख) उस पर कुल कितनी विदेशी मुद्रा व्यय की गई ?

बाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री आरिफ बेग) : (क) और (ख). एक विवरण मभा पटल पर रखा जाता है :

विवरण

अखबारी कागज के आयात तथा निर्यात (संशोधित भारतीय व्यापार वर्गीकरण)

संदिना सं० 641'1)

वर्ष	आयात		निर्यात	
	मात्रा	मूल्य	मात्रा	मूल्य
1	2	3	4	5
1975-76	100,785	38,32	—	—
1976-77	125,053	47.20	—	—

Utilisation of Grants by Government of Bihar

2404 SHRI S D SOMASUNDARAM Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware of the situation regarding tardy utilisation of grants and the rush to prevent its lapse by the Government of Bihar, as reported in the 'Times of India' (Delhi) of 7th February 1978

(b) if so, the steps taken to ensure that scarce resources are not frittered away in a last minute rush, and

(c) whether giving of bulk amounts to a Corporation can constitute 'spending' according to the tenets of financial propriety governing Central grants for a specific purpose?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H M PATEL) (a) The Government of India have seen the press report published in the Times of India of 7th February 1978. The Bihar State Minister of Irrigation has contradicted the press report in his press conference on the 8th February 1978

(b) and (c) The State Government have assured that a periodical review is made of the progress of expenditure on the various development schemes and fresh funds are sanctioned only after considering the actual expenditure of the amounts previously allotted, and unspent balances are surrendered. They have also laid down rules and issued strict instructions that grants should not be drawn simply to prevent their lapse and that fresh grants should be sanctioned only after receipt of proper utilization certificate of previous grants

43 schemes of the Irrigation Department have been transferred to the Bihar State Construction Corporation a public sector undertaking of the State Government, for execution

within the budget provisions made for these schemes. Funds are being released to the Corporation in instalments and fresh instalments are released only after ascertaining actual expenditure and physical progress of work in respect of the previous instalments

Attempt of Bihar Government to prevent Lapse of Grants

2405 SHRI C N VISVANATHAN Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the comments of Government on the attempts of the Bihar Government to prevent lapse of grants as reported in the 'Times of India' (Delhi) of 7th February 1978

(b) the checks imposed by Government on proper utilisation of scarce resources and the extent of deviation of the Bihar State Government from the norms of utilisation of grant and

(c) the lessons drawn by Government from this episode and the action proposed?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H M PATEL) (a) The Government of Bihar have reported that the press report in the Times of India of 7th February 1978 has been contradicted in detail by the Irrigation Minister Bihar, in a press Conference on the 8th February 1978. The State Government have reported that a periodical review is made of the progress of expenditure on the various development schemes and fresh funds are sanctioned only after considering the actual expenditure of the amounts previously allotted. The State Government have also stated that they have laid down rules and issued strict instructions that grants should not be drawn simply to prevent their lapse and that fresh grants should be sanctioned only after receipt of proper utilisation certificate of previous grants. According to the State Governments, in view of the

above mentioned rules and instructions, the question of resources being frittered away does not arise. The State Government have also reported that 43 schemes of the Irrigation Department have been transferred to the Bihar State Construction Corporation, a public sector undertaking of the State Government for execution within the budget provisions made for these schemes. According to the State Government funds are being released to the Corporation in instalments and fresh instalments are released only after ascertaining actual expenditure and physical progress of work in respect of the previous instalments.

(b) and (c). According to the procedure in vogue Central assistance to all States for their Annual Plans is released as block loans and grants and it is not related to any individual head of development of scheme. In order to ensure that priorities for the Plan are maintained, outlays for certain heads and for a few specified schemes are earmarked. Central assistance to States is given in full provided the actual expenditure on an earmarked sector or scheme or on all programmes does not fall short of the approved Plan outlay or outlays as may be revised by the Planning Commission. In case of shortfalls, a proportionate cut is made in the Central assistance. Central assistance is paid to the State Governments provisionally on the basis of the expenditure reported by them and is required to be finalised on the basis of audited figures of expenditure furnished by the State Accountant General.

Rise in Prices of Pulses

2406. **SHRI S. R. DAMANI:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have studied the reasons for the unprecedented rise in prices of all kinds of pulses;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the special step taken to increase their production under a time-bound programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL): (a) and (b) Whilst there has been, in general, a continuing rising trend in the prices of pulses during the past one year their prices started showing a general downtrend since the week ending December 10, 1977. Between the weeks ending December 10, 1977 and February 4, 1978, the wholesale price index for pulses has moved down by 10.5 per cent.

In the subsequent two weeks there has, however, been a rise of 4.5 per cent in the index. As compared to December, 10, 1977, the indices in the week ending February 18, 1978 were lower by 4.8 per cent, 9.0 per cent and 17.3 per cent in respect of gram, arhar and masoor, respectively. The sharp increase in the prices of pulses in the earlier part of the year may be attributed mainly to a fall of about two million tonnes in the production of pulses in 1976-77 as compared to the production in 1975-76.

(c) Efforts are being made to increase the production of pulses by increasing the area under them and also by improving productivity. In order to suggest measures for increasing production of cotton, oilseeds and pulses, Government of India set up a Special Group in April, 1977. The Group suggested both short term and long term measures to increase the production of pulses. The short term measures suggested are: the adoption of improved practices including the use of rhizobium culture, phosphate fertilisers and plant protection measures; increase area under pulses by cultivation of short duration varieties under the multiple cropping programmes and training of extension staff. The long term measures

are related to production of quality seeds of improved varieties, reducing post harvest losses in storage and suitable price policy including arrangements for marketing. Government of India and State Governments have initiated action to implement these recommendations. Government of India enhanced the support price of gram from Rs. 95 a quintal to Rs. 125 a quintal. This was announced before the sowing season to induce farmers to bring more area under it and to adopt improved technology.

Relief in Excise duty to Khandsari Industry

2407. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal under consideration for giving adequate relief in Excise duties for the Khandsari Industry working below the economic level;

(b) if so, whether final decision has since been taken; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGRAWAL): (a) to (c). Government have already considered the issue and granted relief by way of reducing excise duty on Khandsari sugar under normal procedure from 15 per cent to 7.5 per cent with effect from 4th February 1978. The weekly compounded levy rates on Khandsari sugar have also been reduced with effect from the week beginning 8th February 1978. The rates payable by Khandsari manufacturers working with or without the aid of sulphitation as they prevailed prior to and from 8th February 1978 are as below:

Weekly Rates of Compounded Levy for Units working with the aid of Sulphitation Plant (Sulphur Sugar)

Size of Centrifugal

Height		Diameter		Prior to 8-2-1978		From 8-2-1978		
Exceeding	Not Exceeding	Exceeding	Not Exceeding	Basic	Addl	Basic	Addl	
cms	cms.	cms.	cms.	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	
1.	..	22 0	.	45 7	3770	630	1885	315
2.	22 9	30 5	45 7	61 0	5060	840	2570	420
3	30 5	45 7	61 0	76 2	7370	1230	3685	615
4	Not otherwise specified.				9770	1630	1985	815

Weekly Rates of Compounded Levy for Units working without the aid of Sulphitation Plant.

1.	..	22 0	..	45 7	2040	340	506	84
2.	22 9	30 5	45 7	61 0	2670	450	669	111
3.	30 5	45 7	61 0	76 2	3980	660	991	166
4.	Not otherwise specified.				5210	870	1303	217

Quantity of Sugar Accumulated at Ports

2408. SHRI AHMED M. PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a huge quantity of sugar has accumulated in the godowns at different ports;

(b) if so, the total quantity accumulated;

(c) the reasons therefor, and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to release it in the market and through which agency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) and (b) Yes Sir About 47,000 tonnes of Sugar was available in the port godowns of STC during the period April-December 1977, which has now come down to about 38,200 tonnes.

(c) This quantity was procured by STC during 1976-77 to meet the commitments with Iran and EEC. However, subsequently, Iran indicated unwillingness to take sugar from India. The London based nominee of EEC has decided to lift the quantity under the quota in Feb.-March, 1978. Since, the Government had decided to export sugar to other destinations at a loss, the sugar already procured continued to be in STC's godowns.

(d) In December, 1977, the Government decided that the Sugar stocks with the STC should be disposed off through sales in the internal market and not exported at a loss. In pursuance of that decision about 8800 tonnes of Sugar was sold by STC in the domestic market through Cooperatives and also private trade in January-February, 1978. A further quantity of 24,000 tonnes of sugar is now being shipped to U.K. under EEC quota.

Investment made by Public Sector Units in Bihar

2409. DR. RAMJI SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total investment made so far by the Central Government in the public sector units in Bihar since 1951; and

(b) the annual amount of grants being given by the Central Government to Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) The total investment made by the Central Government in public sector units in Bihar since 1951, as on 31-3-1977, amounts to Rs. 2509 crores

(b) The statutory grant provided by the Central Government to Bihar for 1977-78 is Rs. 21.53 crores and for 1978-79 is Rs. 20.93 crores

In addition, the Central Government has provided assistance for State Plan Schemes for the State's Annual Plan 1977-78 which amounts to Rs. 123.19 crores, 30 per cent of the above Central grant would be in the shape of block grant and the balance 70 per cent in the shape of block loans

Recommendations of Shivaraman Committee

2410. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Shivaraman Committee was appointed to investigate as how much loans the poor needed for their immediate consumption-needs when they were freed from bonded slavery and whether the said committee have submitted the report and if so, when;

(b) what are the committees' recommendations;

(c) what action have Government in regard to them; if not, the reason thereof; and

(d) when the decision shall be reached and implemented in respect of the committees recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H M PATEL) (a) to (d) The Government, appointed on 10th March, 1976 an Expert Committee on Consumption Credit with Shri B Sivaraman Member Planning Commission, as its Chairman to go into the credit needs for consumption purpose of the small/marginal farmers landless labourers and rural artisans. The Committee submitted its Report in April 1976

2 *Inter alia* the Committee made the following recommendations —

(1) That the lowest stratum of the village community having 'nil' holdings or with holdings measuring 0.01 to 0.50 acre would need pure consumption credit as distinct from production credit. The next higher class of rural population *viz*, those possessing above 0.50 acre but not more than 5 acres would also be requiring credit for consumption purposes but would be able to meet these needs from out of their general production credit. For the group of people having 'nil' land holdings and holdings upto 0.50 acre the Committee recommended the following ceilings for consumption credit purposes —

Type of loan	Ceiling of loan fixed at
	Rs
(a) Medical expenses relating to borrowers and members of their families	250
(b) Education expenses for school	100
(c) Marriage expenses	250
(d) Expenses on funeral ceremonies as well as birth ceremonies	75
(e) Expenses on religious ceremonies which are deeply rooted and considered inescapable by certain sections of society	75

(ii) For the financial year 1976-77 the Committee computed the total requirements of consumption credit for the category of land holders having land from 'nil' to 0.50 acre at Rs 170 crores

(iii) The Committee was of the view that the reorganised primary agricultural credit societies would be the best suited agency to route consumption credit to the various sectors of the rural community

(iv) Out of Rs 170 crores, the reorganised cooperative societies were to take care of consumption credit requirements to the extent of Rs 70 crores only

(v) The consumption credit needs of the remaining grey areas in the country which would account for the balance of Rs 100 crores were to be met by the State Governments out of their budgetary resources

(vi) For the Tribal areas the State Governments should open fair price shops through their forest and other concerned departments

3 The Committee's recommendations were discussed at a conference held in Bangalore in June 1976 and modification suggested. The Government generally accepted these recommendations and the following action was taken —

(a) The Reserve Bank of India issued guidelines to cooperative and commercial banks for implementing these decisions

(b) The State Governments were urged to open fairprice shops in areas with a large tribal population and where large multi purpose societies could not be formed immediately

(c) Out of the sum of Rs 170 crores needed for consumption credit requirements for the financial year 1976-77 Rs 115 crores were to be provided through the reorganised cooperative societies and the remaining Rs 55 crores meant for the "grey" areas, from out of the budgetary resources of the State Government. As

most of the State Governments had by then already passed their budgets, Central Teams were sent to discuss and assess the various State Government's requirements. Thereafter, the Central Government sanctioned a loan to the extent of Rs 17.05 crores to some of the State Governments, repayable in two annual instalments.

Proposal to provide in Plan Outlay on Development of Cooperatives

2411 SHRI S. S. SOMANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to provide in the plan outlay on development of cooperatives to enable expansion of the public distribution system throughout the country,

(b) if so, the details regarding the scheme of Government in this regard; and

(c) whether any such type of proposal has also been sent to the State Chief Ministers to obtain their views in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL): (a) to (c). The scheme for increased production and distribution of essential commodities recently circulated to the State Governments emphasises the need for expansion of the cooperative network for distribution of essential commodities. Apart from the funds provided in the State Plans for cooperative development, an outlay of Rs 8 crores is proposed under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme in the Annual Plan-1978-79 to assist State Governments for development of cooperatives engaged in distribution activities.

वाणिज्यिक विमान चालक संघ (इण्डिया) से प्राप्त मांग-पत्र

2412. श्री उग्रसेन : क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या उन्हें हाल ही में वाणिज्यिक विमान चालक संघ (इण्डिया) के केन्द्रीय कार्यालय से कोई मांग-पत्र प्राप्त हुआ है;

(ख) मुख्य मांग क्या है, और

(ग) उन पर सरकार ने क्या निर्णय किया है ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री पुरुषोत्तम कौशिक) : (क) हाल में वाणिज्यिक विमान चालक संघ (इण्डिया) के केन्द्रीय कार्यालय से कोई मांग-पत्र प्राप्त नहीं हुआ है।

(ख) और (ग) . प्रश्न नहीं उठते।

Exemption and Reduction of Duty on Soya milk, Cotton Fabrics, etc.

2413. SHRI UGRASEN Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had announced exemption and reduction of duty on Soya milk, cotton fabrics, cloth, TV receiver sets, corrugated board and copper products; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGRAWAL) (a) and (b). Government have exempted Soya milk from the whole of excise duty. With effect from 24-11-1977, reduction in the rate of excise duty to the extent of 4 per cent ad-valorem has been allowed in respect of fine and super-fine processed powerloom fabrics when cleared without printing. This reduc-

tion in the rate of duty has also been made available, with effect from 30-1-1978, to cotton fabrics when such fabrics are cleared without printing or dyeing or both.

Duty on copper plates, sheets, circles, strips, and foils in any form of size has been reduced from Rs. 6300/- to Rs. 3700/- per M. T. with effect from 28-1-1978.

लकड़ी के फर्नीचर का निर्यात

2414. श्री उग्रसेन : क्या वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या भारत से गत दो वर्षों में तथा चालू वर्ष में पश्चिम जर्मनी को कितने मूल्य का लकड़ी का फर्नीचर निर्यात किया गया; और

(ख) निर्यात करने वाली प्रमुख फर्मों के नाम क्या हैं ?

वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री आरिफ बेग) : (क) पिछले दो वर्षों के दौरान तथा चालू वर्ष के दौरान केवल जुलाई तक के जो निर्यात आंकड़े अब तक उपलब्ध हैं उस समय तक पश्चिम जर्मनी को किए गए लकड़ी के फर्नीचर के निर्यात-निम्नोक्त प्रकार हैं:—

वर्ष	मूल्य (लाख रु० में)
1975-76	0.08
1976-77	2.22
1977-78	0.56

(अप्रैल-जुलाई)

(ख) पश्चिम जर्मनी को निर्यात करने वाले मात्र प्रमुख निर्यातक का नाम मेसर्स सी०जी०जी० पनिकर, त्रिवेन्द्रम है ।

Pacts signed with U.K.

2415. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that five pacts with U.K. have been signed on 5th January, 1978;

(b) if so, whether the Indian Government is likely to receive grants of about Rs. 288 crores under these pacts; and

(c) what are the projects under which these loans are to be utilised?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) to (c). The UK Government has agreed to extend aid to the Government of India for the year 1977-78 to the extent of 144 million (Rs. 228 crores approximately). Five agreements covering this aid were signed with that Government on the 4th January, 1978. The entire aid, which is in the form of grant, is proposed to be utilised in the following manner:

1. £ 70 million (Rs. 110.8 crores) UK/India Maintenance Grant 1978 for import from Britain of wide variety of maintenance goods including raw materials, spares, components and commodities;

2. £ 20 million (Rs. 31.7 crores) UK/India Capital Investment Grant 1978 for import of equipment both by the public and private sectors including partly through the financial institutions like IFCI and ICICI;

3. £ 30 million (Rs. 47.5 crores) UK/India Mixed Project Grant 1978 for import of equipment and machinery for the mutually agreed large valued projects;

4. £ 20 million (Rs. 31.7 crores) UK/India Sectoral Grant 1978 for

meeting the import requirements of the Coal and Power Sectors; and

5. £ 4 million (Rs. 6.3 crores) UK/India Debt Refinancing Grant 1978 for servicing the loans repayments.

The aid, it will be seen, is to be used in variety of ways and not only for a limited number of specific projects.

Commercial Bank Loan to Primary Agricultural Societies

2416. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank Governor has decided that the primary agricultural societies would be brought in closer contact with commercial banks to channelise loans set up to Rs. 2500 under the Differential Interest Scheme;

(b) if so, whether Government are also considering to raise the cash credit limit from Rs. 3 crores to Rs. 6 crores; and

(c) the other benefits being considered to be given to the primary farm societies?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) to (c). It is presumed that the reference is to the credit policy changes made by the Reserve Bank of India on 12th December, 1977. Under this Circular the Governor of the Reserve Bank of India, *inter-alia* advised banks:—

(i) to charge a rate of interest not exceeding 10.5 per cent on term loans with maturity of not less than 3 years granted to farmers for purposes of minor irrigation and land development;

(ii) to charge a rate of interest not exceeding 11 per cent on term loans with a maturity not less than 3 years granted to farmers for diversified purposes, which include dairy farming, poultry, fisheries, horticulture, etc.;

(iii) that direct individual loans to small farmers granted after 1st January, 1978, not exceeding Rs. 2500/—, whether short, medium and long-term, would be eligible for refinance from the Reserve Bank of India at the Bank rate *i.e.* 9 per cent. Banks will be expected not to charge more than 11 per cent on such loans irrespective of whether refinance is obtained from the Reserve Banks of India or not; and

(iv) that the extent of refinance would be limited to 50 per cent of the total advance, under (iii) above, disbursed by the bank concerned from 1st January, 1978 onwards.

The loans granted through primary co-operative societies are not covered under this measure. Under the Differential Rate of Interest Scheme, now extended to the whole country, eligible borrowers get Bank finance at the concessional rate of interest 4 per cent per annum.

दालों का उचित मूल्य पर उपलब्ध होना

2417. श्री राजेन्द्र कुमार शर्मा : क्या वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार द्वारा हाल ही में उठाये गये कदमों के फलस्वरूप दालों के थोक मूल्य और फुटकर मूल्य में कमी हुई है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो आम उपभोक्ता को उसका उचित लाभ क्यों नहीं मिल पा रहा है और केवल बिचौलिए ही सारा लाभ ले जा रहे हैं; और

(ग) क्या सरकार इस संबंध में शीघ्र ही कोई उचित एवं कड़े कदम उठायेगी जिससे उपभोक्ताओं को दाल उचित मूल्य पर मिल सकें ?

वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री कृष्ण कुमार गोयल) : (क) यह सही है कि 11

और 18 फरवरी 1978 को समाप्त हुए सप्ताहों का छाड़कर हाल के सप्ताहों में दालो के शोक मूल्य सूचकांक में कमी हुई है और यह कमी आम तौर पर सामान्य अवधि बीतने के साथ फुटकर मूल्य में भी लक्षित हो रही है ।

(ख) उपर्युक्त (क) के उत्तर का देखते हुए प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

(ग) दाला के अलग क्षेत्र बढ़ा कर तथा उनकी उत्पादकता में सुधार करके उनका उत्पादन बढ़ाने के लिये पहले से शुरू किया गया उपायों का जारी रखा जायगा । भारतीय राष्ट्रीय त्रिपि महकारी विपणन संघ लिमिटेड (नफड) और राष्ट्रीय महकारी उपभोक्ता संघ (एन०सी०सी०एफ) की प्राथमिक मण्डिया से बड़ी मात्रा में दालों की खरीद करने की निदेश दिये गये हैं । दालों में एक मद है जो उत्पादन एवं वितरण प्रणाली की परि कल्पित यात्रा में शामिल है । दालों का और आयात करने की सम्भावना का पता लगाया जा रहा है । सरकार राज्य सरकारों के परामर्श में दालों के मूल्यों तथा उपलब्धता पर लगातार निगरानी रख रही है और जब भी आवश्यक होगा, और उचित कदम उठाये जायेंगे ।

Discontentment due to appointment of Joint Chairman of A I. and I A

2418 SHRI R V SWAMINATHAN Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state

(a) whether there is discontentment among the high ranking officials of the Civil Aviation regarding the appointment of a Common Chairman of the Indian Airlines and Air India

(b) if so whether many chiefs, of these two departments, have resigned,

(c) whether many more have submitted their resignations,

(d) if so, how many persons have resigned and submitted their resignation, and

(e) if so, what are the main reasons given by them?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTAM KAUSHIK) (a) There is no discontentment regarding the appointment of a common Chairman. But a senior officer of Air India has sent a telegram to me protesting against what he calls the manner in which Mr I R D Tata has been removed from Air India. However there is no question of removal of Shri Tata. The Boards of Directors of Indian Airlines and Air India have been reconstituted on expiry of their terms and ACM P C Lal has been appointed as common full time Chairman of both with a view to securing greater and more effective co ordination.

(b) No Sir

(c) No Sir

(d) Does not arise

(e) Does not arise

Transfer of staff of Indian Audit and Accounts Department

2419 SHRI CHITTA BASU Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of the staff of Indian Audit and Accounts Department were transferred to various accounting formations under departmentalised accounting system introduced during the emergency

(b) if so whether their service conditions have been adversely affected thereby,

(c) whether promotional channels have also been blocked; and

(d) if so, steps taken to correct the situation?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir. Nearly 4,900 employees of various categories have been transferred from various offices of the Indian Audit & Accounts Department to the departmentalised accounts offices in the Civil Ministries/Departments as a consequence of the phase implementation of the scheme of departmentalisation of accounts.

(b) and (c). The transfer of personnel was effected under the provisions of the Departmentalisation of Union Accounts (Transfer of Personnel) Act, 1976 which *inter alia* enjoined that every transferred officer or employee shall be entitled to be appointed to a post carrying a scale of pay not less favourable than that of the post which he held immediately before the date of such transfer and in the same capacity (whether substantive or officiating) in which he held the post last mentioned. The service rules of Group 'B' staff have already been notified and the service rules for Groups 'C' and 'D' staff are under finalisation. It is being ensured that the service conditions of the transferred staff are not less favourable than those prior to departmentalisation of accounts. In most cases, promotions of the transferred staff in various categories so far made compare favourably and are generally better than the promotional prospects in their parent offices.

Since all the posts at supervisory levels could not be filled by transferees from Audit Department, substantial promotions to the grades of accounts officers and junior accounts officers have been given to the staff in the departmentalised accounts offices. For example, a large number of

persons who had passed the subordinate accounts service examination in the Audit Department and were awaiting promotion for several years for want of vacancies were promoted as junior accounts officers which would not have been possible but for separation of accounts from audit. Besides, in the service rules for Group 'C' Staff, it is being provided that a limited percentage of posts in the junior accounts officers cadre will be filled by promotion of persons who have not passed the qualifying examination. The promotional channels are, therefore, not blocked.

(d) Does not arise.

Scheme submitted by Uttar Pradesh Government for Financial Assistance

2420. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Uttar Pradesh Government have submitted a scheme for assistance out of the financial assistance given by the World Bank for rural areas; and

(b) if so, the outlines thereof and the total amount given to Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). On a request from the Government of India, the State Government of Uttar Pradesh have sent a number of project proposals for being included in the shelf of projects to be built up for being posed to the World Bank. These proposals alongwith proposals received from other states are being processed for taking a view on posing them for external assistance. The list of proposals so far received from the Government of Uttar Pradesh in respect of development of rural areas is given in the statement.

Statement

List of proposals for assistance from World Bank for Rural Areas

Sl. No.	Name	Proposed outlay
1	Soil & Water Conservation	Rs. 59.00 crores
2	Integrated Area Development Programme	Rs. 10.41 crores
3	Horticulture Development, Hills	Rs. 40.00 crores
4	Horticulture Development Plains	Rs. 21.86 crores
5	Tons Valley Logging Hitting and Road Building	Rs. 17.00 crores
6	Plantation of Species	Rs. 30.00 crores
7	Social Forestry	Rs. 40.00 crores
8	Inter-Provincial Yamuna Canal	Rs. 42.00 crores
9	Drainage Improvement schemes	Rs. 26.17 crores
10	River Improvement Schemes	Rs. 31.00 crores
11	Fish Production & Distribution	Rs. 1.10 crores
12	Sharda Sahayak Command Area Development	Rs. 71.00 crores
13	Ram Ganga Command Area Development	Rs. 302.00 crores
14	Agricultural Intensification	Rs. 64.00 crores
15	Development of Agricultural Markets	Rs. 14.00 crores

Proposal to Simplify the procedure for Clearance of Claims

2421 SHRI CHITTA BASU Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the majority of the Indian owners of properties in East Pakistan having lost their relevant and connected documents cannot produce collateral evidence to justify their claims,

(b) if so what steps Government propose to take to simplify the procedure,

(c) whether it is a fact that disposal of claims requires quite a long time,

(d) if so what steps Government propose to take to expedite the clearance of the claims, and

(e) whether the last date for registering claims has since expired if so, whether there will be further extension of time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG) (a) Verification of claims without the relevant documentary evidence could lead to abuse and it is not possible to decide such cases without sufficient evidence being adduced by the claimants. From the scrutiny of claims made by the Custodian of Enemy Property it appears that most of the claimants

have been able to furnish documentary evidence in support of their claims.

(b) to (d) Verification of claims is a time-consuming process. However, to ensure expeditious and fair disposal of the claims, the procedure for verification has further been streamlined which *inter-alia* includes exemption of personal appearance of claimants unless any point or points needs clarification. Additional staff has also been provided to assist in the handling of the claims.

(e) The last date for registering claims has already been extended thrice; i.e., December 31, 1976, April 30, 1977 and finally upto July 31 1977. In view of the adequate time and publicity having already been given for filing the claim, it is not considered necessary to extend the date any further.

Facilities extended to Goldsmiths by Government

2422 SHRI SUKHENDRA SINGH
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have allowed to manufacture and sell ornaments in limited quantities against specific orders from customers by an amendment to the gold control rules,

(b) if so, whether Government has removed the curbs on goldsmiths that a person with the skill of a goldsmith, should be eligible to get a goldsmith's Certificate, and

(c) if so, the details regarding the facilities extended to the Goldsmiths by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGRAWAL): (a) to (c) Certain relaxations have been granted to certified goldsmiths by issue of certain notification/orders on 14-2-78 under the Gold (Control) Act. The salient features of these relaxations are that a

certified goldsmith can —

(i) manufacture and sell ornaments out of the standard gold bars which he is already allowed to possess against specific order from the customers

(ii) make small purchases upto 35 grammes of ornaments at a time from a person and utilise the same for the purpose of making, manufacturing ornaments against specific orders from other customers

The goldsmiths availing of the above concessions are required to have a fixed place of business and maintain the prescribed accounts

(iii) The present restrictions regarding issue of goldsmith's certificate only to the members of family of goldsmiths have been removed. Now any person who possesses necessary skill of a goldsmith and who has worked with a certified goldsmith as an apprentice for a period not less than 3 months and who has not been disqualified on account of conviction or imposition of penalty for gold control or smuggling offence is eligible to get a goldsmith's certificate.

Exemption of Copper and Copper Alloy from Excise Duty

2423 SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a threat of closure of Non-Ferrous Metals Rolling Mills in Tamil Nadu if Copper and Copper alloy are not exempted from excise duty

(b) whether the Jha Committee has also referred to the imperative necessity of given exemption to these items from excise duty and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGRAWAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Jha Committee has generally referred to the level of duties on various excisable goods including ferrous and non-ferrous metals. Their conclusions and recommendations in a condensed form are contained in Part I of the Final Report which has already been placed on the Table of the House. The Committee's report as a whole is presently under study.

Recommendations of Sub-Committee of Representatives and Reserve Bank of India on Contractors Construction Contracts

2424. **SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the recommendations made by the sub-committee comprising of senior representatives of the Union Government, Reserve Bank of India, Industrial Development Bank of India and the Export Credit Guarantee Corporation for contractors construction contracts;

(b) whether they have been accepted by Government; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) The Sub-Group set up by the Standing Committee on Export Finance of the Reserve Bank of India has prepared guidelines and an Application Form for the use of the contractors undertaking overseas construction contracts. The guidelines indicate the manner in which the Application Form has to be submitted to the Working Group set up in the IDBI for processing such applications. The guidelines also indicate the various formalities required to be observed by the exporter and the facilities available to him. This was necessary

as construction contracts by their very nature involve complexities and are different from the normal contracts involving export of goods on deferred payment terms.

(b) and (c). The Reserve Bank of India which had set up the Sub-Group has accepted its recommendations.

Policy of Government regarding opening of Branches of Foreign Banks in India

2425. **SHRI K. T. KOSALRAM:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the policy of Government in the matter of opening of branches by foreign banks in India;

(b) the foreign banks which were allowed to open branches in India during the last year; and

(c) the foreign banks which were not given permission for opening branches and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Foreign banks are permitted to open branches in India, on a limited scale, generally in port towns and metropolitan centres, on the merits of each case. In deciding such applications due account is taken of the principle of reciprocity and the advantages that could accrue to this country in the matter of export-import trade.

(b) During the year 1977, Bank of America, which already had a representative office in New Delhi, was allowed to convert it into a full-fledged branch.

(c) The Reserve Bank of India have reported that they have not rejected any application recently received by them from foreign banks for opening branches in India.

Study made regarding Integrated Financial Advisers System

2426. SHRI K. T. KOSALRAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study had been made of the integrated Financial Advisers system now in vogue;

(b) the results of such a study; and

(c) the remedial action proposed?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) to (c). The working of the Integrated Financial Advisers Scheme is reviewed continuously by the Finance Ministry by holding periodical meetings with the Financial Advisers. The scheme is working satisfactorily, and so no change in the Scheme is contemplated now. No other formal study of the working of the Scheme has been made.

Rupee-Rouble Exchange Rate

2427 SHRI SHAMBU NATH CHATURVEDI:

SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) how often has the USSR unilaterally changed the Rupee-Rouble Exchange rate to the disadvantage of India and the loss incurred by our country because of the repeated devaluation of the rupee;

(b) how was such action justified and what action has Government taken to prevent its recurrence; and

(c) what progress has been made in the current talks with the USSR on the subject?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) to (c). Since December 1971 the State Bank of the

USSR has from time to time notified changes in the exchange rate between the rouble and the rupee. The USSR authorities have, however, clarified that this rate would apply exclusively to non-commercial transactions within the USSR which constitute an insignificant proportion of the total transactions between the two countries.

The general question of the exchange rate between the rouble and the rupee is under discussion with the USSR authorities with a view to evolving a mutually acceptable settlement. These negotiations are of a confidential nature and it would not be in the public interest to disclose at this stage the details of or the progress made so far in these negotiations.

Use of the Boeing Aircrafts on Indian Airlines Services

2428. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH SAYIAN WALA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to buy some Boeing aircrafts to be pressed in service on routes with Indian Airlines;

(b) the number of aircrafts to be purchased and the cost involved; and

(c) whether some new routes are to be opened with this addition?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) to (c). There is no proposal at present to purchase additional Boeing aircraft. However, a proposal to purchase two Airbus aircrafts is under the consideration of the Government. These aircrafts are primarily intended to provide additional capacity on the existing routes.

Premium received by L.I.C. during last three years

2429. SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of premium received by the Life Insurance Corporation in the last three years,

(b) the total profit in each year mentioned above;

(c) whether Government propose to reduce the rate of premium; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL):

(a) Year	(In crore of Rs.)
	(Premium in crore)
1974-75	511 24
1975-76	588 25
1976-77	653 30

(b) The profit (surplus) of the LIC is determined at its biennial actuarial valuations and 95 per cent of the same is allocated to the participating policyholders. The position emerging at the last two actuarial valuations was as under—

Date of Valuation	Surplus (in crore of Rs.)	Bonus per thousand sum assured per annum	
		Whole Life	Endowment Assurances
		Rs	Rs
31-3-75	184 71	22	17 60
31-3-77	238 00	25	20 00

(c) and (d) There is no proposal at present under consideration of the LIC to reduce premium rates. Pre-

mium rates under various "without profit" plans of assurance were reduced from time to time during the years 1970 to 1978. In the case of "with profit" policies, it is customary not to make frequent changes in the premium rates but to give effect to experience in bonus declarations.

Arrears of income tax and wealth tax against film actors and actresses

2430. SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) total arrears of income tax and wealth tax against the film actors and actresses;

(b) how much unaccounted money was disclosed by these film actors under the voluntary disclosure scheme;

(c) what specific steps have been taken to check the black money in this profession, and

(d) whether Government propose to make amendment in the Income Tax Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ZULFIQARULLAH): (a) The required information is not readily available. Its collection in respect of all film actors and actresses who may be in arrears of income tax or wealth-tax will involve considerable time and labour. Information about arrears of income-tax or wealth-tax from all film actors and actresses where such arrears exceeded Rs 10 000 in each case as on 28-2-78 is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

(b) The Voluntary Disclosure of Income and Wealth Ordinance, 1975 (now, Voluntary Disclosure of Income and Wealth Act 1976) provided for voluntary disclosure of income, in cases other than cases of search and seizure, under section 3(1), disclosure of income cases of search and

seizure under section 14(1) and disclosure of wealth under section 15 (1). So far as declarations under section 3(1) are concerned section 12 stipulates, *inter alia* that all particulars contained therein shall be treated as confidential and no public servant shall disclose them except to any officer employed in the execution of any of the Acts mentioned in subsection (1) of section 8 of the Wealth-tax Act or to any officer appointed by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India or the Central Board of Direct Taxes to audit income-tax receipts or refunds. It will therefore, be a breach of the secrecy provisions of section 12 of the said Act to furnish information contained in disclosures made under section 3(1) of the said Act. Information about disclosures made by such persons under sections 14(1) and 15(1) of the Voluntary Disclosure of Income and Wealth Ordinance, 1975 is being collected. The information will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible

(c) The following, *inter alia*, are the specific steps taken to check the black money in this profession:—

(i) creation of special film circles at Bombay and Calcutta and centralisation of cases relating to this profession in one circle at Madras;

(ii) valuation of properties acquired by film artists and other connected persons in consultation with the officers of the Valuation Department;

(iii) requiring maintenance of accounts by film artists, directors, music directors etc. under section 44AA(1) of the Income-tax Act.

(iv) enactment of section 285B of the Income-tax Act with effect from 1-4-76 and utilisation of the information contained in the statements furnished thereunder; and

(v) utilisation of statutory powers available under sections 132 and 133A wherever necessary.

(d) The Government are not at present considering any proposal for amendment of the Income-tax Act 1961 in this regard.

Representations received by Choksi Committee on direct taxation

2431. SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) has Government received any interim report from Choksi Committee for direct taxation;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(c) how many representations were received by the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ZULFIKARULLAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Interim Report consists of 14 Chapters containing 177 observations and recommendations. It is proposed to lay copies of the Report on the Table of the House as early as possible.

The Interim Report is under consideration. It is proposed to sponsor necessary legislation as early as possible to give effect to the recommendations of the Committee which are acceptable to the Government. In the meanwhile, a few changes recommended by the Committee, such as deduction of tax at source from race winnings and voluntary payment of advance tax, have been introduced through the Finance Bill, 1978.

(c) The Interim Report does not give any indication of the exact number of representations received by the Committee. It has, however,

been stated that "In response to its invitation for suggestions and views, the Committee has received an extremely encouraging response."

Addition to Foreign Exchange Reserves by remittances from Indian Nationals abroad

2432. SHRI R. KOLANTHAIVELU
SHRI A. BALAJANOR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the position of foreign exchange reserves as compared with the position a year back;

(b) the extent of addition to reserves by remittances from our nationals abroad; and

(c) the pragmatic steps taken by Government to utilise the reserves for rapid and purposeful economic development of the country?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) India's foreign exchange reserves as on 8rd March, 1978 amounted to Rs. 4198.5 crores as compared to Rs. 2603.2 crores on 2nd March, 1977.

(b) It is not possible to isolate the extent of addition to reserves by remittances from Indian nationals abroad, since changes in foreign exchange reserves represent the net outcome of the external transactions of the country, which include import payments and export receipts and inflows and outflows on account of invisibles and capital transactions.

(c) The Government has been adopting various steps to utilise a part of India's foreign exchange reserved to promote the growth of the economy within a framework of price

stability. Broadly the measures adopted are the following:—

(i) making available the full requirements of the economy for imported raw materials, components, spares and equipment consistent with utilisation of indigenous productive capacity;

(ii) arranging imports of critical items of mass consumption in short-supply in the interest of domestic price stability; and

(iii) stimulating the growth process of the economy by accelerating investment in identified projects and programmes in priority areas requiring large foreign exchange.

It is proposed to establish a new facility under which term lending financial institutions and public sector banks will provide rupee finance on appropriate terms to cover the import costs of approved projects. It is also expected that the larger Plan and investment outlays proposed in the 1978-79 Budget will lead to a deployment of a part of our foreign exchange reserves to offset the expansionary impact.

अफीम की खेती, खपत तथा निर्यात

2433. श्री मधुसूदन : क्या बिस् मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) देश में इस मध्य कितनी भूमि में अफीम की खेती की जाती है और देश में इसकी कितनी खपत होती है तथा कितना निर्यात किया जाता है;

(ख) देश में किन प्रयोजनों के लिये अफीम का प्रयोग होता है और उपभोक्ताओं को अफीम किस प्रकार उपलब्ध करायी जाती है;

(ग) क्या दो वर्षों में अत्यधिक कम कितना देशों की कितनी-कितनी भाषा में बुधक-पुधक अफीम का निर्यात किया गया;

(ब) उत्पादको से अफीम किम मूल्य पर खरीदी गई और उसका निर्यात किम मूल्य पर किया गया, और

(ङ) अफीम उत्पादको का देश में इसका उत्पादन बढ़ाने हेतु क्या प्रोत्साहन देने का विचार है ?

श्रीत मन्नालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री सतीश चक्रवर्ती) : (क) चालू फसल सीमम 1977-78 में पोस्त की काश्त हेतु 66.68 हैक्टेयर रकबा के लिए लाइसेंस दिये गये हैं। देश में ही उपयोग में लाई गई अफीम की मात्रा 90° गाढ़ता पर लगभग 100 मी० टन था और 1977 (जनवरी-दिसम्बर 1977) में 40° गाढ़ता की 878 मी० टन अफीम का निर्यात किया गया है।

(ख) देश में अफीम का उपयोग मुख्य-तया निम्नलिखित उपयोगों के लिये किया जाता है -

(i) गाजोपुर और नोमच स्थित मरुवागी अफीम तथा एल्कालायड कारखानों में अफीम एल्कालायडों का निर्माण करने के लिए

(ii) औषधीय अफीम बट्टों और औषधीय अफीम पाऊंडर का निर्माण करने के लिए जिनकी सप्लाई सम्बन्धित राज्य सरकारों द्वारा जारी किये गये परमिटों पर औषध-निर्माण उद्योग का की जाती है,

(iii) डाक्टरों सहित पर पंजीकृत अफीम व्यसनिय द्वारा उपभोग के लिए यह अफीम राज्य सरकार को दी जाती है, इसे जिला खजानों के जरिये अफीम के प्राचीन व्यक्तियों को जारी करती है।

(ग) सूचना विवरण में दी गई है।

(घ) फसल सीमम 1976-77 के दौरान अफीम की औसत खरीद कीमत 90° गाढ़ता पर 164 रुपये प्रति किलोग्राम थी, जिसमें खरीद कर, बन्पावर्त कर, परिवहन

खर्च, प्रक्रियागत लागत आदि शामिल नहीं हैं। चालू वित्तीय वर्ष अर्थात् 1977-78 के दौरान अफीम का निर्यात मूल्य, प्रति ऐन्हाइड्रम मार्फीन यूनिट छ अमेरिकन डॉलर है।

(ङ) देश में अफीम के उत्पादन में वृद्धि करने और पोस्त की खेती करने वालों को प्रोत्साहन देने के लिए सरकार ने निम्नानुसार अनेक कदम उठाये हैं,

(i) पोस्त के काश्तकार को देय अफीम की कीमत, उसके द्वारा दी गई अफीम की उपज पर निर्भर करते हुए, विसर्पण अनुक्रम आधार पर तय की जाती है। अफीम की प्रति हैक्टेयर उच्चतर उपज देने वाले काश्तकार का उच्चतर दर पर अदायगी की जाती है,

(ii) प्रत्येक अफीम प्रभाग में, अफीम की उच्चतम उपज देने वाले काश्तकार को नकद पुरस्कार दिये जाते हैं,

(iii) कीटनाशक और उर्वरकों के इस्तेमाल के सम्बन्ध में काश्तकारों को शिक्षित करने के लिए प्रदर्शनों की व्यवस्था की जाती है। अपने पोस्त के खेतों में इस्तेमाल के लिए रासायनिक उर्वरकों और कीटनाशक औषधियों की प्राप्ति में काश्तकारों की सहायता भी की जाती है।

(iv) सरकार ने अफीम की खेती पर बहुत सी दीर्घकालिक अनुसंधान योजनाएँ प्रारम्भ की हैं। अफीम की उपज और क्वालिटी में सुधार लाने की दृष्टि से पोस्त की खेती के विभिन्न पहलुओं पर प्रयोग करने के लिए पोस्त उगाने वाले कुछ क्षेत्रों में प्रयोगात्मक फलों की स्थापना भी की गई है और इन प्रयोगों से प्राप्त परिणाम, पोस्त कारखानों में उनके मार्गदर्शन के लिए अन्वर्तित किये जाते हैं।

विबरण

जिन देशों को वर्ष 1976 और 1977 के दौरान अफीम का निर्यात किया गया उनके नाम और अफीम की मात्रा

देश का नाम	1976	1977
	मात्रा कि०घ्रा० मे 90° घनत्व पर	
अर्जेन्टीना	14,000	10,000
बेल्जियम	29,250	12,000
बल्गारिया	6,000	6,000
बंगलादेश	200	—
डेनमार्क	58	10
फ्रांस	92,950	68,000
हालैण्ड	13,000	14,000
इटली	56,000	59,250
जापान	50,000	75,001
मादागास्कर	35	35
नार्वे	5 000	3,000
पोलैण्ड	12,500	—
पुर्तगाल	5,000	6,000
स्पेन	41,000	14,000
श्री लंका	235	—
स्विट्जरलैण्ड	17,000	26,000
ताईवान	2,000	1,000
ब्रिटेन	298,000	162,000
अमेरिका	250,220	229,000
मोवियत रूस	100,000	60,000
पश्चिम जर्मनी	74,000	96,001
युगोस्लाविया	20,000	37,000

राजस्थान के अफीम उत्पादकों को हो रही अनुविधा

2434. श्री चतुर्वर्ण : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या केन्द्रीय नार्कोटिक्स कार्यालय के खालियर में स्थित ड्रोने से राजस्थान के अफीम उत्पादकों को अफीम दायर करने के लिये बहाने मिले हैं भारी अनुविधा का सामना करना पड़ता है, और

(ख) इस बारे में सरकार द्वारा क्या उपचारात्मक कदम उठाने का विचार है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सतीश अग्रवाल) : (क) और (ख). जिला अफीम अधिकारियों के आदेशों के खिलाफ अफीम उत्पादकों को नार्कोटिक्स आयुक्त को पाम की जाती है। इसलिए राजस्थान के अफीम उत्पादकों के लिए खालियर स्थित नार्कोटिक्स आयुक्त के कार्यालय में जाना आवश्यक नहीं है। परन्तु नान फलन मोमन के दौरान कुछ समय के लिए नार्कोटिक्स आयुक्त के कार्यालय में उप नार्कोटिक्स आयुक्त नहीं था, इसलिए कुछ ऐसे मामले हैं जिनमें राजस्थान के कुछ कारखानों का नार्कोटिक्स आयुक्त खालियर के मद्रास प्रोले दायर करने पड़े हैं।

Japanese Government suggestions to prevent hijacking of JAL planes

2435. SHRI OM PRAKASH TYAGI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Japanese Government has made some suggestions to prevent hijacking of JAL planes;

(b) what are the details of the said suggestions; and

(c) to what extent the same have been accepted?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) to (c). After the hijacking of JAL aircraft on the 28th September, 1977, the Japanese Embassy suggested that a Japanese security expert trained in the way of detecting the mode of behaviour, physiognomy and method of concealment of weapons, etc. be posted at our vital airports for making the security measures foolproof. This proposal was not accepted as this would have impinged on Government's sovereignty. In addition to this, the Japanese Government sent the following teams for discussions with Indian authorities the security arrangements at Bombay and Delhi Airports:—

(i) A team consisting of representatives of Ministry of Transport and Foreign Affairs as well as Japan Airlines, visited Bombay from November 9 to 12, 1977.

(ii) A team consisting of Japanese Police officials and the First Secretary from Japanese Embassy in Thailand visited Delhi and Bombay between November 29 and December 5, 1977.

(iii) A Civil aviation team of six members including the Counsellor of the Cabinet Secretariat Prime Minister's Office as the leader visited Delhi on December 19 and 20, 1977.

During discussions, the Japanese teams did not give any impression of dissatisfaction with security measures being followed at our airports. The exchange of information and personal contacts were, however, mutually beneficial.

ब्रिटेन द्वारा दी गई सहायता से जहाजों की खरीद

2436. श्री राज भूषण तिवारी : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या ब्रिटिश सरकार द्वारा दी गई सहायता से भारत ब्रिटेन से जहाज खरीद रहा है;

(ख) यदि हा, तो कितने और उनका मूल्य क्या है,

(ग) क्या ब्रिटेन द्वारा जहाजों के लिए लिया जाने वाला मूल्य अन्य देशों के मुकाबले अधिक है और

(घ) यदि हा तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

बिल नं० (श्री एच० एम० पटेल) -

(क) जी, हा ।

(ख) छह जहाजा का, जिनका मूल्य लगभग 5 28 करोड़ पौण्ड है ब्रिटेन में खरीदने का प्रस्ताव है ।

(ग) और (घ) ब्रिटेन द्वारा जहाजा का लगभग उतना ही मूल्य लिया जा रहा है जितना पश्चिमी यूरोप व जहाजी कारखाना के द्वारा लिया जाता है । लेकिन अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय जहाज निर्माण से संबंधित बाजार की वर्तमान स्थिति की दृष्टि से, अन्य जहाज निर्माण कारखाना द्वारा विशेष रूप से वक्षिणी कारिया और जापान स्थित जहाजी कारखाना द्वारा कम कीमत बताई जा रही है । ब्रिटेन की सरकार के साथ हुई बातचीत के परिणामस्वरूप कुछ हद तक प्रति जहाज की औसत कीमत में कुछ कमी हो सकती है और कमी की रकम ब्रिटेन की सरकार द्वारा अपनी मध्यस्थता निधि (इंटरवेंशन फंड) में से वह बहन की जाएगी । सरकार का विचार है कि यद्यपि ब्रिटेन में खरीदे जाने वाले जहाजों का मूल्य उस मूल्य से ऊंचा है जिस पर वैसे ही जहाज जापान से खरीद जा सकते हैं, फिर भी इन जहाजों को प्राप्त करना आर्थिक दृष्टि में कुल मिलाकर लाभ-प्रद होगा क्योंकि ब्रिटेन से खरीदे जाने वाले जहाजों का मूल्य ब्रिटेन की सहायता निधि से भ्रदा किया जाएगा जो पूर्णतः अनुदान के रूप में है ।

औद्योगिक नियंत्रणों की समीक्षा के लिए समिति

2437. श्री बबू भूषण तिवारी : क्या बिल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या औद्योगिक नियंत्रणों की समीक्षा व लिए किसी समिति का गठन किया गया है

(ख) यदि हा तो तत्सम्बन्धी व्यौरा क्या है और

(ग) क्या सरकार इन नियंत्रणों का समाप्त करने पर विचार कर रही है ?

बिल मंत्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल) :

(क) और (ख) सरकार ने श्री वाडिलाल डगली की अध्यक्षता में एक समिति स्थापित की है जो माल्या पर नियंत्रण उत्पादन वितरण लाईसेंस और आयात संबंधी प्रणाली का माल्याकन और पुनरीक्षण करगी तथा इस बात की जांच करेगी कि उपर्युक्त विषयों में प्रणाली का वास्तव में किस प्रकार लागू किया जाता रहा है और इससे वांछित नुक़्तों की प्राप्ति हुई है या नहीं । इस समिति के अन्य सदस्य ये हैं —

- 1 श्री एम० मेजियन
- 2 श्री बगाराम तुलपुन
- 3 श्री एल० सी० जैन
- 4 श्री मजय सेन

समिति के विचारणीय विषय निम्न-लिखित हैं :—

(1) यह जांच करना कि क्या माल्यों पर नियंत्रण उत्पादन वितरण लाईसेंस और आयात संबंधी प्रणाली राष्ट्रीय आयोजन एवं राष्ट्रीय अर्थ-व्यवस्था के मार्गदर्शन के लिए एक कारगर साधन सिद्ध हुई है ।

(2) सभी प्रकार के नियंत्रणों के संचालन और प्रबन्ध से पहले क्या अनुभव हुआ और क्या पूर्व-निर्धारित सफ़्यों की वास्तव में प्राप्ति हुई है ?

(3) अर्थ-व्यवस्था के किन-किन क्षेत्रों में ये नियंत्रण सफल हुए हैं और इसलिए क्या उन्हें संशोधन करके या बिना फेरबदल के जारी रखना जरूरी है ?

(4) किन-किन क्षेत्रों में नियंत्रण प्रभावहीन साबित हुए हैं अथवा अब उनकी आवश्यकता नहीं रही है और इसलिए उन्हें हटा दिया जाना चाहिए ?

(5) राष्ट्रीय अर्थ-व्यवस्था में नियंत्रण की प्रणाली राज सहायता प्रणाली से किस प्रकार सम्बद्ध है ? क्या उस प्रकार की आर्थिक सहायता देना न्यायोचित है और क्या नियंत्रण प्रणाली में उपयुक्त संशोधन करके राजसहायता प्रणाली को कम करना या समाप्त करना सम्भव है ?

इस प्रकार समिति अन्य बातों के साथ साथ उद्योगों पर लागू होने वाले विभिन्न नियंत्रणों के संचालन का अध्ययन भी करेगी ।

(ग) आशा है समिति छः मास के अन्दर अपनी रिपोर्ट देगी और उसके बाद सरकार उसकी सिफारिशों पर विचार करेगी इसलिए प्रश्न के इस अंग के उत्तर में इस समय कुछ कहना समयपूर्व होगा ।

उत्तर प्रदेश में पर्यटक केन्द्रों के लिये बृहत् योजना

2438. श्री बृज भूषण तिवारी : क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार उत्तर प्रदेश में पर्यटक केन्द्रों के विकास के लिए एक बृहत् योजना तैयार कर रही है ;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो तत्सम्बन्धी कार्यरत क्या है; और

(ग) क्या लुम्बिनी कपिलवस्तु और भगहर के विकास के लिए योजनाएं विचाराधीन हैं ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री पुरुषोत्तम कौशिक) : (क) और (ख). सरलम्बू कुशीनगर तथा श्रावस्ती के लिए इन केन्द्रों पर सुविधाओं की नियमित वृद्धि को सुनिश्चित करने की दृष्टि से मास्टर प्लान (भू-प्रयोग योजनाएं) तैयार कर ली गई हैं । इन मास्टर प्लानों के आधार पर विभिन्न प्रकार के आवास कैटेगोरियों, कार पार्कों आदि जैसी पर्यटन सुविधाओं का विकास किया जाएगा । स्मारकों के प्राकृतिक पर्यावरण की शोभा वृद्धि करने के लिए इनके परिवेश में सुधार के उपाय किए जाएंगे । कुशी नगर तथा श्रावस्ती की मास्टर प्लानों के कार्यान्वयन को पहले प्रारम्भ किया जाएगा क्योंकि इन स्थानों पर कोई सुविधाएं मौजूद नहीं हैं ।

(ग) लुम्बिनी के लिए कोई विकास स्कीमें विचाराधीन नहीं हैं क्योंकि यह नेपाल में है । इसी प्रकार कपिलवस्तु में, जब तक कि इसका एक पुरातत्वीय केन्द्र के रूप में उचित दिशा में विकास नहीं किया जाता, केन्द्रीय क्षेत्र में कोई पर्यटन सुविधाएं प्रदान करने का प्रस्ताव नहीं है । जहां तक मागहर का प्रबन्ध है, उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार से अनुरोध किया गया है कि संत कबीर की समाधि के आस-पास के स्थान का सुधार किया जाए तथा वहां कुछ सुविधाओं की व्यवस्था की जाए ।

Study Team to examine working of Youth Hostels

2439. SHRIMATI PARVATI DEVI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government have constituted a study team to examine the

working of the Youth Hostels and to suggest measures to improve their functioning,

(b) if so, the composition of the committee, and

(c) the terms of reference of the committee?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The composition of the Team is as follows

1 Shri Kishan Patnau	Chairman
2 Shri Sharad Yadav, M P	Member
3 Deputy Director General (Supplementary Accommodation) Department of Tourism	Member
4 State Director of Tourism/ Youth Services	Member
5 Director Manager Govt of India Tourist Office concerned	Member
6 Deputy Divisional Manager, India Tourism Development Corporation	Member
7 Director (Supplementary Accommodation) Department of Tourism	Member Secretary

(c) The terms of reference of the Team are as follows

(i) To inspect Youth Hostels/ Tourist Bungalows Trevelles Lodges which are functioning at present

(ii) To identify the defects/ shortcomings in working of these establishments and the reasons for low occupancy rates

(iii) To suggest remedial measures where required and the steps to be taken to increase the occupancy rate and to make the establishments economically viable, and

(iv) To make any other recommendations with a view to enabling these various units of supplementary accommodation to achieve their objectives fully

Trade Agreement between India and Mongolia

2440 SHRIMATI PARVATI DEVI Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that a trade agreement had recently been signed between India and Mongolia and

(b) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG) (a) Yes Sir

(b) Among the important provisions of the new Trade Agreement which came into force on 14th February 1978 are the following —

(i) The two Governments shall accord each other most-favoured-nation treatment in all matters relating to trade between the two countries

(ii) All payments between the two countries shall be effected in freely convertible currency

(iii) The Agreement will be valid for a period of five years with provision of automatic extension by one year at a time unless either Government has given a notice in writing three months before the expiry of the said period of its intention to terminate the Agreement

(iv) There will be mutual consultations between the two Governments as and when necessary for facilitating the implementation of the Agreement

दिल्ली, कलकत्ता, बम्बई और मद्रास में पर्यटक होटल

2441. श्री बयाराम शास्त्र : क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) दिल्ली, कलकत्ता, बम्बई और मद्रास में कुल कितने पर्यटक होटल हैं और उनमें से कितने सरकारी क्षेत्र में हैं और कितने गैर-सरकारी क्षेत्र में; और

(ख) क्या सरकार ने गैर-सरकारी होटलों के माध्यम से होने वाली तस्करी को रोकने के उद्देश्य से उन होटलों में ठहरने वाले पर्यटकों की समय-समय पर जांच के लिए कोई व्यवस्था की है ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री पुरुषोत्तम कौशिक) : (क) कलकत्ता सरकार में अनुमानित दिल्ली में 26, बम्बई में 34, कलकत्ता में 12 तथा मद्रास में 27 होटल हैं। इनमें से दिल्ली में 5, बम्बई में 1 तथा कलकत्ता में 1 होटल सरकारी क्षेत्र में हैं तथा बाकी 88 होटल प्राइवेट क्षेत्र में हैं।

(ख) यदि समाज विरोधी गतिविधियों में मगन पर्यटकों के बारे में कोई गतिविधियाँ प्राप्त होती हैं तो वे उपयुक्त अधिकारियों के ध्यान में लाई जाती हैं। यदि यह पाया जाता है कि होटल में ठहरे पर्यटकों को ऐसी गतिविधियों के लिए अनुमानित होटलों का प्रबन्धक वर्ग प्रत्याभूति देता है तो उससे उत्पन्न हानि वाले मुद्दों पर मगन सरकार का अनुमानित वापस ले लिया जाता है। पर्यटन विभाग में एक निरीक्षण यूनिट बनाने का प्रस्ताव है जो नियमित निरीक्षण करती रहेगी।

विदेशी पर्यटकों द्वारा खर्च करने के तरीके पर रिपोर्ट

2442. श्री बयाराम शास्त्र : क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री विदेशी

पर्यटकों के खर्चों के बारे में 16 दिसम्बर, 1977 के तारकित प्रश्न संख्या 448 के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या विदेशी पर्यटकों द्वारा खर्च करने के तरीके के बारे में कोई अन्तिम सर्वेक्षण-प्रतिवेदन डम बीच सरकार को मिल गया है; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो उसकी मुख्य बातें क्या हैं और यदि नहीं, तो विलम्ब के क्या कारण हैं ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री पुरुषोत्तम कौशिक) : (क) जी नहीं,

(ख) एटमिनिस्ट्रिव म्याफ कालिज आफ इंडिया हैदराबाद में "विदेशी पर्यटक सर्वेक्षण" के बारे में प्राप्त रिपोर्ट के मसौदे को पर्यटन विभाग में जांच की जा रही है। भाषा है उसे प्रकाशन के शीघ्र ही अन्तिम रूप प्रदान कर दिया जायगा।

इंडियन एयरलाइन्स में विमान परिवार-काओं की सेवा की शर्तें

2443. श्री बयाराम शास्त्र : क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) इंडियन एयरलाइन्स में किननी विमान परिवारिकाएँ काम कर रही हैं और उनकी सेवा की शर्तें क्या हैं, और

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि यह विमान परिवारिकाएँ शादी करने के बाद सेवा-निवृत्त कर दी जाती हैं जबकि अन्य देशों में ऐसा नहीं किया जाता है और यदि हाँ, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

परीटन और नगर विमान संघों (श्री पुष्पोत्तम कौशिक) : (क) और (ख). 1 जनवरी, 1978 को इंडियन एयरलाइन्स में कुल 397 विमान परिवारिकाएँ काम कर रही थीं। विमान परिवारिकाओं का 485-770 क्वेन्तनमान में नियुक्त किया जाता है। उनकी सेवा शर्तें वह होती हैं जो दूसरे केबिन कर्मचारियों की परन्तु अन्तर इतना ही होता है कि विमान परिवारिकाओं का 30 वर्ष की आयु में अथवा जब भी उनकी शादी हो जाये इनमें से जो भी पहले हो सेवानिवृत्त कर दिया जाता है। परन्तु एक अविवाहित विमान परिवारिका को कार्यपोरेशन के हित में, प्रबन्ध निदेशक की अनुमति से 40 वर्ष की आयु तक सेवा में रहने दिया जा सकता है।

ऐसा ज्ञात हुआ है कि कुछ एयरलाइन्स अपनी विमान परिवारिकाओं से शादी की अनुमति दे देती है। परन्तु विमान परिवारिकाओं के कर्तव्यों के अनुसार उन्हें ऐसी उड़ानों पर जाना पड़ता है जो प्रातः बहुत सवेरे प्रारम्भ होती हैं तथा काफी रात बीने समाप्त होती हैं और उन्हें अपने निवास स्थान से बाहर के स्टेशनों (आउट स्टेशनन्स) पर भी ठहरना पड़ता है। इसके अलावा जब कामी परिचालन की दृष्टि में आवश्यक होता है तो विमान परिवारिकाओं को बड़ी अल्प-सूचना पर उड़ान के लिए जाना पड़ता है। विमान परिवारिकाओं को डाक्टरों की दृष्टि से निर्वर्तित स्वास्थ्य के मानदण्डों का भी अनुपालन करना पड़ता है। विमान परिवारिकाओं की वैवाहिक स्थिति (मेरिटल स्टेटस) से संबंधित वर्तमान शर्तें इन सब बातों से प्रभावित हैं।

ऐसे उद्योग शिप के विच्छेद करों के अपवचन के मामले विचाराधीन हैं

2444. श्री इशाराम शास्त्री : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बातों की हप्ता करेंगे कि :

(क) ऐसे उद्योग समूहों के नाम क्या हैं जिनके विरुद्ध कर अपवचन के मामले

जनवरी, 1977 से सरकार के विचाराधीन हैं, और

(ख) उनमें से कितने उद्योग समूहों के नाम काली सूची में दर्ज किये गये हैं ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सतीश अग्रवाल) : (क) और (ख). कर अपवचन के मामले में (जिनमें उद्योगों में संबंधित मामलों शामिल हैं) विभिन्न कर कानूनों के भी कई व्यवस्था के अन्तर्गत, प्रत्येक मामले की आवश्यकता के अनुसार विभागीय स्तर पर दण्ड संबंधी कार्यवाही प्रारम्भ की जाती है। इन्तर्गत की कार्यवाही चालू की जाती है। अनेक उद्योग-समूहों के बारे में, जिनके विरुद्ध कर-अपवचन के मामले जनवरी, 1977 से अनिर्णीत पड़े हैं, सूचना एकत्र करने में बहुत समय लगेगा और हा सकता है कि उनमें प्राप्त होने वाले परिणाम उसमें लगने वाले धन के अनुरूप नहीं हों। तथापि यदि माननीय, सदस्य किसी विशेष उद्योग समूह के विरुद्ध किसी विशेष मामले में मामलों के बारे में सूचना प्राप्त करना चाहते हैं तो वह एकत्र करके प्रस्तुत की जा सकती है।

Reduction in Customs Duty on Import of Critical Automotive Components

2445. SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have decided to reduce from 120 per cent to 40 per cent *ad valorem* the customs duty on certain critical automotive components, being imported on an *ad-hoc* basis,

(b) if so, the amount of loss expected from the custom duty; and

(c) in what way this loss will be made up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGRAWAL) : (a) Yes, Sir. By notifications No. 23-Customs

and 24-Customs dated the 30 January 1978 the Government have reduced the customs duty leviable on components required for the manufacture of motor vehicles and tractors and the goods required for the manufacture of such components from 120 and above to the level of 40 per cent *ad valorem*.

(b) and (c). Any loss arising out of these exemptions would be notional, since no significant imports would have taken place but for the exemption.

Spurt in purchase of Gold following Demonetisation

2446. SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the sudden spurt in gold purchase by the private parties which has led to a scarcity of gold in the market threatening the fate of thousands of goldsmiths in the country following the demonetisation of notes of Rs. 1000 and above denomination; and

(b) if so, whether the Government is contemplating measures to regulate gold trade in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGRAWAL): (a) There is a total ban on the private acquisition, possession and disposal of primary gold under the Gold (Control) Act. There has been no report to the effect that demonetisation of high denomination notes has resulted in any significant spurt in the gold ornaments purchased by private parties.

After the announcement by Finance Minister in his budget speech of the Government's proposal for allowing import of gold for encouraging export of gold jewellery and sale of gold from the stocks held by Government, there has been appreciable decline in the domestic price of gold.

(b) The gold trade in the country is already regulated by a system of licensing of dealers and certification of goldsmiths and maintenance of prescribed accounts in accordance with the provisions of the Gold (Control) Act, 1968 and Rules made thereunder.

Tea Gardens in Tripura

2447. SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware about the fact that out of 55 tea gardens in Tripura which existed before independence, about 42 are now functioning "standing on crippled leg" and more than half of them are sick;

(b) whether Government are aware that Tripura tea has a foreign market; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take for reviving this only organised major industry of economically backward State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) As per Tea Directory, 1976, there are 55 registered tea gardens in Tripura. A few small gardens having tea area of not more than 60/65 hectares and which were not viable may not be functioning at present due to special problems like inherent locational disadvantages, entrepreneurial in difference, lack of technical know-how and lack of finance.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) The Tea Board is constantly endeavouring to help the industry in various ways. Besides grant of transport and fertiliser subsidy to gardens (upto 300 acres) and loan for repair/replacement of tea machineries in the past, Board's

assistance under its three major continuing developmental schemes viz Tea Plantation Finance Scheme, Tea Machinery and Irrigation Equipment Hire Purchase Scheme and Replantation Subsidy Scheme is available also in Tripura Tea Industry Response to these Schemes unfortunately continued to be poor. Further liberalisation of schemes extending the benefit of research and providing other support, if necessary, are being looked into in consultation with the State Government. The matters relating to allotment of additional land and providing electricity to tea gardens are already engaging the attention of the State Government.

Landing of Air India Jumbo Plane at Dum Dum (Calcutta)

2448 SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state the reason of not landing Air India Jumbo plane at Dum Dum (Calcutta) airport after spending lakhs of rupees for the expansion of runway there?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK) The main reason for Air-India not operating 747 services is the insufficient volume of international traffic originating/terminating at Calcutta. Traffic to East and West in both directions is adequately served with 707 connecting flights. Air-India's past experience when they had a weekly 707 service originating/terminating at Calcutta revealed that the traffic was far below the minimum required to cover the cost. With the substantial higher operating cost of the Boeing-747 losses would be much greater. As Indian Airlines, have commenced Airbus operation, there is substantial increase in capacity to/from Calcutta and operation of additional 747 by Air-India will result in highly wasteful and expensive over-capacity situation.

Proposals from foreign countries for supplying fish to West Bengal

2449 SHRI SAMAR GUHA Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state

(a) whether some foreign countries have made certain proposals to the Government of West Bengal for supplying fish to West Bengal or for development of inshore and offshore fishing in the State in and along the coastal districts, and

(b) if so the fact, therabout and the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG) (a) No foreign country has made any such proposal to Government of West Bengal.

(b) The question does not arise.

Discussion with representatives of multinational firms

2450 SHRI HARI VISHNU KAMATH
SHRI C K CHANDRAPPA

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether certain representatives of multinational firm and companies had talks with the Minister recently,

(b) if so, the trend and contents of those talks

(c) whether the multinationals will continue to operate in the country, and

(d) if so, on what terms and conditions?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H M PATEL) (a) and (b) During the Roundtable arranged recently by Business International,

informal discussions were held regarding government policy governing trade, development and investment. Suitable clarifications were given with reference to the new Industrial Policy of the Government and the role assigned to foreign investment.

(c) and (d). Foreign companies which are already in operation will have to comply with F.I.F.E.R.A directives and dilute their non-resident interest to the specified levels. They will also have to operate within the framework of other laws, rules and regulations.

एच० पी० एस० मृगफली की गिरी का निर्यात

2451. श्री धर्मासिंह भाई पटेल : क्या वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या इंडियन आयल एंड प्रोडक्ट्स एसोसिएशन बम्बई के माध्यम से एच० पी० एस० मृगफली गिरी का विदेशों को निर्यात किया गया था और यदि हा, तो गत पांच

वर्षों में वर्षवार इस एसोसिएशन के माध्यम से कितनी मात्रा में मृगफली गिरी का निर्यात किया गया;

(ख) इस संगठन के सदस्य कितने हैं और वे कहा-कहा काम करते हैं,

(ग) गत पांच वर्षों में वर्षवार प्रत्येक कम्पनी का या व्यक्ति द्वारा कितने टन मृगफली गिरी का निर्यात किया गया; और

(घ) एक कम्पनी या व्यक्ति या सरकारों संगठन के लिए अधिक से अधिक एच० पी० एस० मृगफली गिरी के निर्यात की सीमा निर्धारित करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या कार्यवाही करने का विचार है ?

वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अरिफ बेग) : (क) जी हा। पिछले पांच वर्षों में हाथ से चुनी तथा छटी हुई मृगफली का निर्यात निम्नोक्त प्रकार रहा:—

(हजार में टन में)

निर्यात की गई हाथ से चुनी तथा छटी मृगफली

वर्ष	गिरिया	छिलका सहित	योग
1972-73	18.59	2.88	21.47
1973-74	73.54	9.14	82.68
1974-75	47.29	8.43	55.72
1975-76	107.09	5.71	112.80
1976-77	122.81	13.73	136.54

(ख) भारतीय तेल तथा उत्पादन निर्यातक सच में 120 साधारण तथा 519 सह सदन्य है और और बें मुख्य रूप में मगफली उपज वर्ता राज्यों में और उसके आस पास बाग करते हैं :

(ग) सरकार वैयक्तिक निर्यात वार आकड़ें नहीं रखती ,

(घ) यह निर्णय लिया गया है कि 1977-78 की फसल के आधार पर हाथ से चनो तथा छोटी हुई मगफली के निर्यात की अनुमति न दी जाए और इसलिए निर्यातक वार उच्चतम सीमा लगाने का प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

राजकोट और गुजरात में स्टेट बैंक आफ इंडिया और स्टेट बैंक आफ सौराष्ट्र द्वारा कम मूल्यों के मोटो को स्वीकार न करना

2452 श्री धर्मसिंह भाई पटेल . क्या जित्त भल्ली यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या यह सच है कि गुजरात के राजकोट और अन्य शहरों में स्टेट बैंक आफ इंडिया और स्टेट बैंक आफ सौराष्ट्र अन्य बैंक द्वारा जारी किये गये एक, दो, पांच और दस रुपये जैसे छोटे नोट स्वीकार नहीं करने और इस मामले पर राजकोट में दिसम्बर 1977 में हुई सौराष्ट्र क्षेत्र के सब नगरीय बैंक की गोष्ठी में विचार विमर्श किया गया था ,

(ख) यदि हा, तो उक्त बैंक द्वारा ऐसे नोट स्वीकार न किये जाने के क्या कारण हैं, और

(ग) सरकार का इस बारे में क्या तथा कब कार्यवाही करने का विचार है ?

जित्त मन्त्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुखदेवजी ठाकुर) : (क) हाल का केवल एक ही उदाहरण था जब स्टेट बैंक आफ सौराष्ट्र की सुरेन्द्रनगर की शाखा द्वारा छोटे

मूल्य वाले नोट स्वीकार नहीं किए गए । राजकोट में दिसम्बर 1977 में हुई सौराष्ट्र क्षेत्र के सभी नगरीय बैंकों की गोष्ठी में इस विषय पर चर्चा की गई थी ।

(ख) यह उम शाखा में मैले नोट इकट्ठा हो जाने के कारण हुआ था ।

(ग) इकट्ठा हुए इन नोटों का तुरन्त हटा दिया गया था तथा सम्बन्धित शाखा और उसके मुख्यालय का समुचित सलाह दे दी गयी थी ।

गुजरात के सौराष्ट्र कच्छ क्षेत्र के लिए बोइंग विमान सेवा

2453. श्री धर्मसिंह भाई पटेल . क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या गुजरात के माराष्ट्र कच्छ क्षेत्र के भावनगर हवाई अड्डे का छाड़कर राजकोट, पारवदार, जमनगर, वेंनाद, भुज आदि हवाई अड्डों पर बाइंग विमान नहीं चलता है और इसके क्या कारण हैं,

(ख) सौराष्ट्र कच्छ क्षेत्र के किन-किन हवाई अड्डों पर बाइंग विमान सेवा शुरू की जायेगी और कब से, और

(ग) क्या सरकार न इस बारे में कोई कार्यक्रम बनाया है और यदि हा, तो तत्संबंधी और क्या है और यदि नहीं तो ऐसा कार्यक्रम कब तक बनाया जायेगा ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री सुखदेवजी ठाकुर) : (क) से (ग) इन नामों पर बोइंग 737 का परिचालन यातायात की मांग, विमान क्षेत्रों की उपयुक्तता तथा विमानों की उपलब्धता पर निर्भर करता है । फिलहाल इंडियन एयर लाइन्स का विमान बड़ा वर्तमान समयवर्ष के अनुसार पूर्णतया परिचालन-व्यस्त है । तथापि कार्पोरेशन इन्डिया और जामनगर के बीच अग्र

1978 की शीत कालीन समयावधि में एक बॉइंग 737 सेवा चालू करने की सम्भावना पर विचार कर रही है।

ग्रामों का निर्यात

2154. श्री धर्मसिंह भाई पटेल : क्या वाणिज्य तथा व्यापारिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्री यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्ष 1974-75, 1975-76 और 1976-77 में वर्ष-वार कितने मूल्य के और कितनी मात्रा में ग्रामों का निर्यात किया गया ;

(ख) वर्ष 1977-78 के लिए ग्रामों के निर्यात का लक्ष्य क्या है और कितना निर्यात अब तक किया गया है ;

(ग) वर्ष 1978-79 के लिए क्या लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया गया है ; और

(घ) ग्रामों-का निर्यात किन किन देशों को किया जाता है ?

वाणिज्य तथा व्यापारिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री आर्यक जैन) (क) निर्यात आंकड़ों को दिये हैं—

मात्रा मे० ट० में (मूल्य लाख रु० में)		
वर्ष	मात्रा	मूल्य
1974-75	1618	68.35
1975-76	3905	161.40
1976-77	3443	197.59

(ख) 1977-78 के दौरान 3,400 मे० टन ग्रामों का निर्यात करने का लक्ष्य रखा गया था। 1977-78 के निर्यात

आंकड़े अभी तक संकलित नहीं किये गये हैं। तथापि अप्रैल-जून 1977 के दौरान निर्यात निम्नोक्त हैं :—

मात्रा (मे० टन)	मूल्य (लाख रु०)
1948	176.69

(ग) 1978-79 के लिए ग्रामों का निर्यात लक्ष्य निर्धारित नहीं किया गया है।

(घ) ग्रामों का निर्यात मुख्यतः इन देशों को किया जाता है दुबई, कुवैत बहरीन, ब्रिटेन, कतार, सिंगापुर, मस्कत, थाय, घाबी, ईरान सऊदी अरब, आस्ट्रेलिया, बेल्जियम, फ्रांस, हांगकांग, मलेशिया, अमेजन, स्विटजरलैंड, सोवियत संघ।

Payment of income-tax by film stars

2455. SHRI SHYAMAPRASAD BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Film Stars who are income-tax defaulters their names and amount of dues from each defaulter;

(b) who are the Film-stars who did not pay their income-tax for more than three years; and

(c) the action taken against them*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ZULFIKARULLAH): (a) to (c). The requisite information is not readily available. Its collection in respect of all film-stars who may be in arrears of income-tax will involve considerable time and labour. The information is, therefore, being collected in respect of film actors and actresses against whom income-tax demands exceeding Rs. 10,000/- were outstanding as on 28th February, 1978. The information will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

Warnings given by Government to industrialists and businessmen against economic offences

2456 SHRI SHYAMAPRASANNA BHATTACHARYYA Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the total number of warnings given after adjudication by Government to industrialists and businessmen against economic offences, like evasion of taxes smuggling, hoarding and black-marketing since the inception of Janata Sarkar at Centre,

(b) the response to these warning, and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGRAWAL) (a) to (c) There is no adjudication as such provided for under the Direct Tax Acts. In the other laws relating to economic offences, where adjudication is provided for warning is not one of the penalties contemplated although in some cases adjudicating authority may issue warnings where the offence is minor or of technical nature. In all other cases action under the law for confiscation of offending goods imposition of personal penalties and where warranted launching of prosecution is taken.

Extension of Banking in Villages

2457 SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state,

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has disfavoured extension of banking in villages,

(b) whether this will not put hindrance on the moping up of surplus resources in rural areas specially for rural development programmes, and

(c) the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H M PATEL) (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise

Discontinuation of Functioning of Air Mishap Body

2458 SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government has decided on discontinuation of the functioning of the air mishap body, and

(b) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK) (a) and (b) There is no such organisation as air mishap body functioning under the Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation. However, the Civil Aviation Review Committee constituted by Government under the Chairmanship of Shri J R D Tata had recommended that the functions of investigation of serious accidents at present entrusted to the Director General of Civil Aviation should no longer be the responsibility of the Director General of Civil Aviation, but should be transferred to an Accidents Investigation Commission in the Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation. Considering that such a Commission when appointed may have very little work to do, and as in major fatal accidents, a Court of Enquiry normally presided over by a High Court Judge is appointed it does not seem necessary to set up a separate accident investigation commission in the Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation.

Cultivation of Opium

2459. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are conscious of the fact that there is an alarming growth in drug trafficking including in India;

(b) whether illicit cultivation of opium is on the increase; and

(c) if so, what are the fullest details available?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGRAWAL): (a) According to the reports received by Government, although there is considerable trafficking in drugs in the world, the problem of illicit traffic in India is well contained.

(b) and (c). Government are not aware of any illicit cultivation of poppy for production of opium in the country. Cultivation of opium poppy is strictly controlled by effective system of licensing and supervision by Government and all the necessary steps are taken to prevent its leakage into illicit channels.

Resumption of US Aid

2460. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether U. S. aid under PL 480, which was discontinued a couple of years ago, has been resumed following President Carter's recent visit to India;

(b) whether negotiations under PL 480 aid for import of \$27 million worth of edible oils has just been completed

(c) if so the fullest details thereof; and

(d) reasons for revival of U. S. aid under PL 480?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). Imports of agricultural commodities under PL 480, Title I, had been discontinued in 1972 but these were resumed in 1975, and we concluded three commodity agreements in 1975, 1976 and 1977 as per details given below. —

Date of Agreement	Commodity	Quantity (in Met Tons)	Value ₹ (in million)
20-3-1975	Wheat	800,000	128 00
1-5-1976	Wheat Rice	400,000 100,000	} 80 00
9-2-1977	Soyabean Oil	50,000	26 00

Another agreement has been signed recently on 27th January, 1978 for the import of 60,000 metric tons of Soyabean Oil worth \$27.8 million.

(c) Five per cent of the cost will be paid as down-payment, and the balance 95 per cent will constitute a long-term loan, which will be repayable in dollars in 31 annual instalments after a grace period of 10

years. The rate of interest on the loan will be 2 per cent per annum during the first ten years and 3 per cent per annum thereafter.

(d) As mentioned in parts (a) and (b) of the answer, PL 480 imports have not been revived after President Carter's visit, they are continuing since 1975.

उन क्षेत्रों के नाम, जहाँ अफीम की काश्त बन्द की गई

2461. श्री रामानन्द तिवारी : क्या बिस् मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) देश के किन-किन क्षेत्रों में आजादी के बाद अफीम की काश्त बन्द की गई

(ख) किन-किन भागा में अफीम की काश्त अब तक हो रही है, और

(ग) कुछ क्षेत्रों में काश्त का बन्द करने और कुछ क्षेत्रों में इसे जारी करने की अनुमति देने के क्या कारण हैं ?

बिस् मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सतीश अग्रवाल) : (क) हिमाचल प्रदेश राज्य के महासू और निरमार् जिला में और भूतपूर्व विलासपुर राज्य के मदरपुर परगने में अफीम की काश्त पर वर्ष 1954-55 से रोक लगायी गई थी। उत्तर प्रदेश राज्य में देहलीखून जिले की जौनसर-बावर तहसील में भी वर्ष 1962-63 से इस पर रोक लगाई गई थी;

(ख) वर्तमान में, अफीम की काश्त, मध्य प्रदेश, राजस्थान और उत्तर प्रदेश राज्यों में परम्परागत रूप में अफीम उगाने वाले कतिपय क्षेत्रों तक ही सीमित है।

(ग) अफीम के उत्पादन के प्रयाजन के लिए अफीम की खेती परम्परागत रूप में अफीम उगाने वाले क्षेत्रों तक ही सीमित रखा गया है, जहाँ केवल अफीम उपज ही अच्छी रही है बल्कि मधन खेती के कारण अफीम के अवैध माध्यमों में जाने का रास्ते के लिए उपर्युक्त नियंत्रण रखना अप्रामाण्य होता है। अफीम के उत्पादन के लिए पाम्पनी काश्त, उपज की निम्न सीमा, विरल खेती और पहाड़ी भू-भागों में नियंत्रण रखने में कठिनाइयों के कारण उपर्युक्त (क) में उल्लिखित क्षेत्रों में बन्द कर दी गई है।

मध्य प्रदेश में पर्यटकों के स्थले प्रयाप्त सुविधाएं

2462. श्री यमुना प्रसाद शास्त्री : क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या यह सच है कि मध्य प्रदेश में अधिकांश अत्यन्त प्राकृतिक, प्राकृतिक पर्यटन स्थलों जैसे चवाई प्रपात, औरछा, अमरकंटक, चित्रकूट (बस्तर) तथा भेडाघाट में सरकार द्वारा पर्यटकों को उचित और पर्याप्त सुविधाएं उपलब्ध कराने की अभी तक कोई व्यवस्था नहीं की गई है जबकि प्रतिवर्ष बड़ी संख्या में विदेशी पर्यटक भी इन स्थलों का देखने आते हैं, और

(ख) क्या उपयुक्त पर्यटन स्थलों के विकास के लिए सरकार कोई विशेष योजनाओं की क्रियान्विति करेगी, यदि हाँ, तो उपर्युक्त पर्यटन स्थलों पर कौन-कौन सी सुविधाएं उपलब्ध कराई जायेंगी ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री पुष्पोत्तम कौशिक) : (क) और (ख) इससे पहले योजनाओं के दौरान केन्द्रीय क्षेत्र में खजुराहो, सांची और बान्ना में आवास तथा जल व्यवस्था सुविधाएं प्रदान की गई थी और माडू में आवास सुविधा। जहाँ तक दूसरे केन्द्रों का सम्बन्ध है वहाँ सुविधाओं का विकास केन्द्रीय और राज्यीय क्षेत्रों में पर्यटन योजना (1978-83) के लिए उपलब्ध कराई गई निधियों पर निर्भर करेगा।

रस के माद्य निर्यात-आयात व्यापार

2463. श्री यमुना प्रसाद शास्त्री : क्या वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) सितम्बर, 1977 में हस्ताक्षरित भारत-रूस व्यापार समझौते के अन्तर्गत भावा

तीन वर्षों के भीतर इस से तथा इस को कितने-कितने मूल्य का कौन-कौन सा सामान आयात और निर्यात किया जाना है, और

(ख) इन आयातों एवं निर्यातों के सम्बन्ध में आयातों किस रूप में होंगी ?

वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सह-कारिता मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री आरिफ खान) : (क) 1978-80 में कतिपय प्रकार के सामान की पारस्परिक सुपुर्दगियों के सम्बन्ध में भारत सरकार तथा सोवियत संघ का सरकार के बीच हुए करार के अन्तर्गत सोवियत संघ से आयात तथा उसे निर्यात की जाने वाली मदों की सूची सलग विवरण में दी गई है।

(ख) आयातों पर परिवर्तनीय भागीय रुपयों में मोक्षित मध के केन्द्रीय बैंक द्वारा भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक में खाने गए केन्द्रीय लेखों के माध्यम से किये जायेंगे।

विवरण

1978-80 में कतिपय प्रकार के सामान की पारस्परिक सुपुर्दगियों के सम्बन्ध में हुए करार के अन्तर्गत मोक्षित मध से आयात तथा उसे किये जान वाले निर्यात दर्शाने वाला विवरण।

वर्ष 1978-80 वर्ष 1978-80 तक तक प्रत्येक वर्ष के प्रत्येक वर्ष के दौरान दोगुना सोवियत मध मावियत मध को निर्यात से आयात

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कूट आयल

चैनलम मचेट, कार्बन स्टीन, जिनम एगिल्स गामिल है, डिफार्मंड वार्म इन क्वायल / कट लैथम, जेन राउड बार्स इन क्वायल्स/कट लैथम, माधारण कोल्ड

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रोल्ड स्टील शीट्स / क्वायल्स निर्माण कार्य सम्बन्धी कोल्ड रोल्ड इस्पाती चादरे, गाल्वेना-इज्ड इस्पाती चादरे लाइन पाइप/ई०आर०डब्ल्यू० ट्रापिकल वट की काल्ड परते बकरी की चमड़ी या अर्धकमाई तथा कमाई हुई कच्ची अफीम, तार रम्मे एल्यूमिनियम पावर के बल्म काबनिक रजक मामग्र इस्टेट काफी 15 अप्रैल 1976 के दीर्घावधि व्यापार करार में शामिल अन्य मदे :

अनुमानित मूल्य रु० 123 करोड प्रतिवर्ष

रु० 123 करोड प्रतिवर्ष

उनके मंत्रालय में प्रशिक्षित हिन्दी टाइपिस्ट और स्टैनोग्राफरों की सेवाओं का उपयोग

2464. श्री नबाब सिंह चौहान : क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि।

(क) उनके मंत्रालय/विभाग में इस समय कुल कितने प्रशिक्षित हिन्दी टाइपिस्ट और हिन्दी स्टैनोग्राफर हैं

(ख) उनमें से कितने टाइपिस्ट और स्टैनोग्राफरों की सेवाओं का उपयोग पूरी तरह हिन्दी कार्य के लिए किया जाना है,

(ग) यदि ऐसे हिन्दी टाइपिस्ट और हिन्दी स्टैनोग्राफरों का उपयोग पूरी तरह हिन्दी कार्य के लिए नहीं किया जा रहा है तो इस के क्या कारण हैं, और

(घ) क्या हिन्दी कार्य के लिए उनके उपयोग की कोई योजना बनाई गई है? यदि हा तो उसका ब्योरा क्या है ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री पुष्पोत्तम कौशिक) (क) स (घ) पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में हिन्दी टरुण तथा हिन्दी आशुलिपि में प्रशिक्षण प्राप्त टाइपिस्टों व आशुलिपिका की कुल संख्या क्रमशः 16 तथा 6 है परन्तु उनमें से कई भी वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम् के हिन्दी टाइपिंग अथवा हिन्दी आशुलिपि का कार्य नहीं कर रहा है क्योंकि उनमें से किसी भी पद का सृजन कब तक हिन्दी कार्य के लिए नहीं किया गया है। तथापि हिन्दी अनुभाग के 4 टाइपिस्ट मुख्यतः हिन्दी टाइप व कार्य में ही लगे हैं। इस प्रकार एवं आशुलिपि में अधिस्तम हिन्दी आशुलिपि काही कार्य कर रहा है। परन्तु मंत्रालय में प्रशिक्षण प्राप्त हिन्दी टाइपिस्टों तथा हिन्दी आशुलिपिका की सेवाओं का आर अधिक उपयोग करने के लिए कदम उठाए गए हैं। और अधिक हिन्दी टाइपराइटर खरीद लिए गए हैं तथा वे स्थानों पर रखवा दिया गया है तथा मंत्रालय व सभी अनुभाग आशुलिपि उनका सामानों में उपयोग कर सकते हैं। अधिकारियों में अनुरोध किया गया है कि वे अधिकारियों का हिन्दी में करे तथा मंत्रालय के हिन्दी आशुलिपि में प्रशिक्षण-प्राप्त आशुलिपिका की सेवाओं का उपयोग करे। अनुभागों में भी अनुरोध किया गया है कि वे अपने हिन्दी टाइप व कार्य का अपने अपने अनुभाग में ही उपयोग हिन्दी टाइप में प्रशिक्षण प्राप्त टाइपिस्टों की मर्यादा में महयाग में करवाए।

Assets of Premier Cooperative Transport Society, New Delhi

2465 SHRI MAHI LAL Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state

(a) the assets of the Premier Cooperative Transport Society New

Delhi comprising among others Membership amount, loans taken from the Banks and interest thereon separately, amount of fixed deposits accepted and interest thereon and earnings of two buses owned by it as on 30th June, 1974-75 1975-76 and 1976-77,

(b) the liabilities of the Society under various heads and specially payments made on account of (i) Repairs (ii) petrol and lubricants, (iii) salaries (iv) road tax and any other charge including insurance premiums, (v) entertainment (vi) Repayment of loan fixed deposits, and interest thereon and (vii) Miscellaneous items for the years ending 1974-75 1975-76 1976-1977

(c) the borrowing limit fixed by Registrar Cooperative Societies Delhi and whether it has been exceeded and

(d) whether Society's accounts have been audited for the years 1974-75 1975-76 and 1976-77?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL) (a) and (b) A statement containing the information sought is laid on the Table of the House [Placed in Library See No LT-1772-78]

(c) The fixed limit of Rs. 15 lakhs has been exceeded

(d) The Society's accounts for 1974-75 and 1975-76 have been audited. An auditor has been assigned to audit its accounts for the year 1976-77

Memorandum from all India Film Producers Council Regarding Rationalisation of Excise Duty

2466 DR VASANT KUMAR PANDIT Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether All India Film Producers Council presented a memorandum in December 1977 to the Government listing their demands

(b) if so, what are their main point and requirements and what decision has the Government taken on each of those points; and

(c) what proposals have been given by the All India Film Producers Council to rationalise Excise Duty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGRAWAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Council has suggested complete abolition of excise levy on prints of motion pictures and to find other methods by which revenue can be derived from the film industry without imposing any heavy burden. The above suggestion was not found to be acceptable to the Government. Some duty reliefs have, however, been given to the film industry in the 1978 Budget, the details of which are contained in the Memorandum Explaining the Provisions in the Finance Bill, 1978, which was presented to the Lok Sabha at the time of the introduction of the Finance Bill on 28th February, 1978.

Survey Conducted by Income Tax Department of Residential Posh Localities during Emergency

2467. **DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Income tax Department carried out survey of residential posh localities of big cities during the period of Emergency;

(b) was not the survey carried out without any authorisation under the provisions of Income Tax Act, 1961; or any other Act;

(c) if so, who authorised such raids and surveys and what action has been taken against those responsible; and

(d) what precautions have been taken to ensure that the officials of Income Tax department do not enter the residential premises of the citizens without proper legal authority?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ZULFIQARULLAH): (a) Yes. The Government had ordered survey of posh localities in the bigger cities by Special Survey Squads during July to September 1975 and from June to December 1976.

(b) Section 133A of the Income Tax Act vests the Income-tax authorities with powers of survey of business premises for certain purposes. There are no similar provisions in the Act enabling Income-tax authorities to enter residential premises for a survey except with the co-operation of the concerned occupants.

(c) Survey of the residential premises, subject to the co-operation of the occupants, was authorised by the Government. The question of taking action against those responsible for the survey does not, therefore, arise.

(d) Surveys of residential premises by Special Survey Squads are no longer being conducted, this was done only during July to September 1975 and June to December 1976 as authorised by the then Government. No question of precaution therefore arises.

Complaints against Chit Fund Companies

2468. **DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government and several State Governments have received serious complaints of dishonesty, mal-administration, cheating the public and fraud by various chit fund companies throughout the country;

(b) whether the Federation of Chit Fund Companies have presented a memorandum to the Minister of Finance covering their suggestions on the proposed legislation control the management, administration and disbursement of moneys by chit funds; and

(c) if so, what action is proposed to be taken in the matter by Government?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Government have noted the suggestions.

Debts, Liabilities and Bank borrowing of Kohinoor Mills and National Rayon Corporation

2469. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the total debts, liabilities and bank borrowings of (i) Kohinoor Mills, (ii) National Rayon Corporation as against their total assets,

(b) how much of the above loans/borrowings or advances are from Nationalised Banks, which Banks and to what extent;

(i) *Kohinoor Mills Co. Ltd.*

(c) is it a fact that offers of purchase of Shares of National Rayon are under consideration of the Government from some parties which can to a large extent reduce the load of loans and advances from Nationalised Bank;

(d) is it a fact that Government is conducting full inquiry into the affairs of the Kapadia Family who have taken undue financial advantage during the Emergency, and

(e) whether Government is planning any steps to prevent closure of National Rayon and Kohinoor Mills and take action on the persons liable for these misdeeds and financial manipulation?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). As per the latest Balance Sheets of Kohinoor Mills Co. Ltd. and National Rayon Corporation Ltd., their total assets, liabilities and borrowings as on 31-3-1977 and 31-12-1976, respectively, were as under:

(Rs. in lakhs)

I. Total assets	24.90	23	(including accumulated losses of 1265.14 lakhs).
II Current liabilities & Provisions	6.35	25	(of which current liabilities : 634.99 lakhs)
III. Borrowings :			
(i) Secured loans :			
1. From Banks	15.67	81	
2. From others	46	01	
(ii) Unsecured loans :			
1. From Banks	37	26	
2. From others	50	65	
TOTAL BORROWINGS	17.01	73	

(ii) *National Rayon Corpn. Ltd.*,

(Rs. in lakhs)

I. Total assets	₹34.42.80	
II. Current liabilities and provision	12.73.81	(of which current liabilities 829.82 lakhs).
III. Borrowings :		
(i) Secured loans :		
1. From Banks	5.37.36	
2. From others	2.61.10	
(ii) Unsecured loans :		
1. From Banks . . . . .	..
2. From others	4.11.08	
TOTAL BORROWINGS	12.09.54	

The banker of the Kohinoor Mills Co. Ltd. is Central Bank of India. The bankers of National Rayon Corporation Ltd. are Bank of Baroda, Dena Bank, Canara Bank and Punjab National Bank. These banks have extended certain working capital facilities to Kohinoor Mills Co. Ltd. and National Rayon Corporation Ltd. which are included in the bank borrowings as indicated above.

(c) An application under section 108A and S-372(4) of the Companies Act has been received by the Department of Company Affairs for acquisition of 150,000 equity shares of National Rayon by Modipon Ltd. The change of ownership of shares may not directly affect the advances of Public Sector Banks.

(d) and (e). The members of the Kapadia family are not in management of National Rayon and Kohinoor Mills. Directors have been appointed by Government under section 408 of the Companies Act in the former and management has been fully professionalised in the latter since July 1976 by Central Bank. The Department of Company Affairs have ordered Investigation under various provisions of the Companies Act in respect of Kohinoor Mills Ltd. and National Rayon

Co. At the same time a number of steps to rehabilitate both these companies financially and technically have been taken including sanction of long term assistance to National Rayon and consideration of an adequate amount of soft loan to Kohinoor Mills Ltd. Both these undertakings continue to function

Norms of the Soft Loan Scheme of I. D. B. I.

2470 SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Industrial Development Bank of India has decided to dilute the norms of the soft loan scheme and allow big business houses to have access to concessional finance for their sick units; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). The Soft Loan Scheme operated by the All India Public Financial Institutions is intended to provide concessional finance and other incentives to production units in cotton textile, jute, sugar, cement and certain engineering

industries to enable them to overcome backlog in modernisation replacement and renovation of their plant and machinery so as to achieve higher levels of production and thereby improve their competitiveness. In keeping with these objectives financial institutions have decided in consultation with the Government of India to accord priority to processing of applications received from weak units as also to liberalise the parameters for sanctioning of loans namely debt equity ratio promoters contribution margin etc. on a case to case basis. While applying these norms financial institutions take an overall view such as ability of entrepreneur to raise funds resources at command of concern/group to which it belongs etc. Thus in identical circumstances more stringent norms are being applied to weak units belonging to large houses.

Loss Suffered by Public Sector Undertakings

2471 **SHRI SARAT KAR** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have made any study about the total loss incurred by different public sector undertakings during the last year and

(b) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATIL) (a) and (b) During 1976-77 43 enterprises made a net loss of Rs. 147 crores. The major loss-making companies were—

Name of the Company	Amount of Loss (Rs. in crores)
1. Coal India Ltd. and its subsidiaries	17
2. Fertilizer & Chemicals Travancore Ltd.	14
3. Indian Iron and Steel Co. Ltd.	15
4. Fertilizer Corporation of India	34

In Coal India Ltd. production was stagnant due to low demand and power cuts had also affected the operations of the coal-fields. Government price fixation coupled with rising costs had also adversely affected financial results.

In the Fertilizer companies also, rising costs and price control seem to have been the major causes of poor performance. In Indian Iron & Steel Co. again production was low and the high interest charges on loan taken by the Company for renovation of its old plant and machinery had adversely affected its position.

Representatives of Industrial Establishments who Visited Abroad

2472 **SHRI SARAT KAR** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the number of representatives belonging to the thirty top industrial establishments in India who visited foreign countries in the years 1975-76 and 1977-78

(b) the amount of foreign exchange sanctioned to each one of them and

(c) the purpose of each of the visits undertaken?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL) (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Assessment of Sustainability of Pakistani Coal

2473 **SHRI SARAT KAR** Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state

(a) whether sustainability of Pakistani coal has been assessed, and

(b) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Loss to India due to old Contracts with U.S.A.

2474. **SHRI SARAT KAR:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India's exports to U.S.A. against old contracts will suffer a loss of at least 25 crores in the last five months of the current financial year owing to the slippage in the value of the U.S. Dollar;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that Government had slashed the rates in October but had not bothered to announce revised rates; and

(c) if so, the details regarding the loss on each item that had been suffered by Government during the last one year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) and (c). In the case of export contracts expressed in terms of US dollars, there would be a reduction in the rupee realisation in the hands of the concerned exporters on account of the recent changes in the Rupee-US Dollar exchange rate. However, the US Dollar earnings will be the same as expressed in the export contract. Because of varied lags between fulfilment of export contracts and actual export realisation, it would not be possible to quantify the total impact on this account.

(b) India discontinued the earlier practice of linking the exchange rate of the rupee to the pound sterling with effect from 25th September, 1975 and instead adopted a system of fixing the exchange value of the rupee in relation to a basket of currencies

of our principal trading partners. The Government keeps a watch over daily exchange rate movements of the rupee and whenever any corrective action is necessary to bring back the exchange rate of the rupee in alignment with the exchange rates of the basket currencies, necessary adjustment is made in the rupee sterling rate. Since the inception of the new system ten such adjustments have been made the latest being on 1st November, 1977, when the rupee sterling rate was changed from Pound —Rs. 15.20 to Pound 1—Rs. 15.75. The exchange rate situation is continuously watched by the Government and the question of any revision would arise only when changes are warranted within the framework of the basket system of exchange rate valuation.

While the basket system of exchange rate of valuations has resulted in maintaining the exchange rate of the rupee in line with the movement in currencies of our main trading partners without being unduly influenced by any single currency, it is inevitable that in the present world monetary regime characterised by floating of major currencies, the exchange rate of the rupee is likely to be affected by fluctuations abroad. Thus so long as the major currencies of the world continue to float, the external transactions of all countries, including that of India, would continue to be affected by upward and downward changes in exchange rates. In view of this it will be difficult to calculate the losses, if any, due to export transactions in relation to any particular currency.

Export of High Valued Varieties of Mica at Low Prices

2475. **SHRI K A RAJAN:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the strategic and high valued varieties of mica are being exported at very low prices by some of the private mica

trades because of the cut-throat competition prevailed among them;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have a proposal under consideration to bring the whole mica trade under the Mica Trading Corporation;

(d) if so, the steps being taken in this direction; and

(e) if not, what measures are proposed to be taken to see that our precious mica is not exported at uneconomic prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) According to Government's information, strategic and high value varieties of mica are not being exported below the floor prices fixed by Government from time to time.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e). If not the entire trade the export of processed mica is already canalised through Mica Trading Corporation. Similarly, care is taken so that the mica is not exported below economic price.

Import of Gold

2476. SHRI AHMED M. PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to import gold by the Government to control the smuggling of gold in the country;

(b) what is the difference between internal and International gold price; and

(c) when the final decision is likely to be taken on the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGRAWAL): (a) to (c). In

addition to preventive measures to combat gold smuggling, the Government have decided to commence the sale of gold from the stocks held by it. Government have also decided to allow import of gold for making gold jewellery for export. During February 1978 the average price of gold in the country was Rs. 683.15 per 10 grams and the international price in London \$178.20 per troy ounce.

Landing and Parking Charges of International Flights at Indian Airports

2477. SHRI AHMED M. PATEL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase the landing and parking charges at International flight at Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Madras;

(b) if so, how much; and

(c) the approximate income to be incurred yearly?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) and (b). The International Airports Authority of India have sent a proposal for increasing the landing charges at Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta and Madras airports by 35 per cent for international flights, with effect from 1st April, 1978. There is no proposal for increasing the parking charges.

(c) At the present level of traffic, an income of Rs. 4.66 crores per annum is expected.

Proposal to ban foreign collaboration in Indian Hotel industry

2478. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) how many new hotels projects are under consideration of Govern-

ment and what are the details in respect thereof; and

(b) whether Government propose to ban any foreign collaboration in the Indian hotel industry; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURU-SHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) Seventy-two new hotel projects in the private and public-sectors have been granted approval by the Department of Tourism. These are at various stages of implementation.

(b) Proposals for foreign collaboration in the hotel industry are considered in light of the role assigned to foreign investment in the new Industrial Policy of the Government. Specifically foreign collaboration involving management arrangement with a hotel by a foreign party is not being permitted.

Criteria followed by Air India in Foreign Postings

2479. DR. BHAGWAN DASS RATHOR: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria followed by Air India in the matter of foreign postings: and

(b) the number of staff in the categories of Assistant Station Superintendents, Chief Traffic Assistants and Traffic Assistants, posted abroad during the last three years and the number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes amongst them?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURU-SHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) The criteria followed by Air-India for postings to foreign stations are record of work of officers, suitability and adequate experience in functional area of the post involved.

(b) The requisite information is as follows:

Category	1975			1976			1977		
	General	Scheduled Castes;	Scheduled Tribes	General	Scheduled Castes	Scheduled Tribes	General	Scheduled Castes	Scheduled Tribes
Assistant Station Superintendent	2	..	..	2	..	..	1	..	1
Chief Traffic Asstts. Traffic Supervisor	..	..	..	2	..	..	1	..	..
Traffic Assistants	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्रालय के अन्तर्गत विभागों, कार्यालयों तथा निकायों में आरक्षित कोटा

2480. श्री शिव नारायण सरसूनिया :

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) उनके मंत्रालय के अन्तर्गत सभी विभागों, कार्यालयों निकायों अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय

विमान प्राधिकरण निगमों आदि में विभिन्न सेवाओं में कितने प्रतिशत आरक्षित कोटा पूरा कर लिया गया है ;

(ख) क्या इन प्रतिष्ठानों में चालीस सूत्री रोस्टर लागू है ; और

(ग) इस रोस्टर में किन-किन वर्गों के पदों को शामिल नहीं किया गया है ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री पुष्पोत्तम कौशिक) : (क) से (ग) : प्रेषित सूचना एकत्रित की जा रही है और जैसे ही यह उपलब्ध हो जाएगी लोग-सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

Application of COFEPOSA

2481. DR. V. A. SEYID MUHAMMAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the report which appeared in the *Patriot* dated 7th February, 1978 that the Minister of State for Finance stated in Calcutta "the West Bengal Government was not willing to apply COFEPOSA but it was not opposed to the Union Government applying it when necessary" is correct; and

(b) what are the reasons given by the West Bengal Government for its stand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGARWAL): (a) The Minister of State for Finance had in his Press Conference at Calcutta on 6th February 1978 stated that as the Government of West Bengal was not willing to apply the provisions of the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974, the steps for applying the said Act in the State of West Bengal were under consideration.

(b) The Government of West Bengal are of the view that all offenders should be brought to trial under the normal law only, and preventive detention should not be resorted to.

Elimination of Smuggling by allowing Free Import of all goods

2482. DR. V. A. SEYID MUHAMMAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the report (in *Patriot* dated 7th February, 1978) that the Minister of State for Finance stated

in Calcutta that "smuggling in the country was on the decline because of the Government liberalisation of imports and reduction of import duties" is correct; and

(b) if so, whether it is the policy of the Government to eliminate smuggling completely by allowing free import of all goods under the sun?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGARWAL): (a) and (b). The Minister of State for Finance had stated at Calcutta that despite release of over 2,000 smugglers on revocation of the emergency, smuggling continued to be effectively contained. The value of seizures had shown a decreasing trend during 1977 compared to previous years. This had been possible as a result of strengthening of preventive and intelligence machinery and certain economic measures taken by Government. These economic measures include liberalisation of imports and reduction/abolition of customs/Central Excise duties on certain items sensitive to smuggling. Such measures would also be taken in future as and when considered necessary.

News-item captioned Policy confusion sets Viscose fibre Imports

2483. DR. V. A. SEYID MUHAMMAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state whether there is any truth in the report which appeared in the *Financial Express* dated 10th February, 1978 that "Policy confusion sets viscose fibre imports" due to "lack of coordination between the Union Ministers of Commerce and Industry" and because of a number of sudden and erratic import policy changes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): No, Sir.

Investment in Private Areas

2484. SHRI DURGA CHAND: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have recently urged upon the private sector for investment in backward areas of the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether private investment is forthcoming in backward areas; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) to (c). It has been the policy of Government to encourage private sector industrial investment in the backward areas so as to promote more balanced regional growth. In pursuance of this policy, the All India public financial institutions have been operating since 1970 schemes of financial assistance for industrial projects being set up in backward areas; these include lower interest rate, longer initial grace period and reduced commitment charge on undrawn balance.

(b) While precise information regarding private sector investment in industrial projects in backward areas is not available the financial assistance sanctioned to industrial projects being put up in the private sector in backward areas is ordinarily treated as indicative of the magnitude of investment being made in these areas. State-wise information of assistance sanctioned to private sector units by the Industrial Development Bank of India in backward districts as at the end of December, 1977 is contained in the Statement enclosed.

Statement**Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI)**

Financial assistance sanctioned by the IDBI to private sector/industrial concerns located in notified backward districts/areas as on 31-12-1977

State	Assistance sanctioned as on 31-12-1977
1. Andhra Pradesh . . .	3785.00
2. Assam . . .	724.00
3. Bihar . . .	2117.00
4. Gujarat . . .	1966.00
5. Haryana . . .	1601.00
6. Himachal Pradesh . . .	758.00
7. Jammu & Kashmir . . .	993.00
8. Karnataka . . .	5791.00
9. Kerala . . .	2685.00
10. Madhya Pradesh . . .	2135.00
11. Maharashtra . . .	4492.00
12. Manipur . . .	37.00
13. Meghalaya . . .	112.00
14. Nagaland . . .	11.00
15. Orissa . . .	1319.00
16. Punjab . . .	1700.00
17. Rajasthan . . .	3311.00
18. Tamil Nadu . . .	6226.00
19. Tripura . . .	72.00
20. Uttar Pradesh . . .	3387.00
21. West Bengal . . .	4155.00
22. Union Territory . . .	7653.00
TOTAL . . .	58679.00

Measures taken by Public Undertakings to effect economy

2485. **SHRI DURGA CHAND:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of the Central Public Undertakings are incurring wasteful expenditure on unproductive items;

(b) whether the Bureau of Public Enterprises have issued or propose to issue instructions to various public undertakings to effect economy in their functioning;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof;

(d) the measures taken by the public undertakings to effect economy during the year 1977 and with what results; and

(e) what is the total saving in 1977 shown by the various undertakings as a result of effecting economy?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) It would not be correct to say that a number of Central Government enterprises are incurring wasteful expenditure on unproductive items. The enterprises are aware of the need to exercise maximum economy and to produce the best results from the resources employed by them.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e). Instructions issued by Government are aimed mainly at reducing surplus staff, expenditure on office contingencies, travelling allowances, non-industrial over-time, foreign tours etc. Restrictions have also been imposed on construction of office and residential accommodation. The public enterprises are required to observe these instructions. Though it would be difficult to give a precise estimate of the total savings effected as a result of the implementation of these measures, there is ample evi-

dence to indicate that substantial savings have been effected. The public enterprises have, apart from effecting savings also directed their efforts towards improving their performance and making a substantial contribution to their own finances and to the general revenues.

Grant of Loans for House Building to Employees in the United Commercial Bank, Patna

2486. **SHRI MADAN LAL SHUKLA:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that in the United Commercial Bank, Patna some members of the Unions of Bank employees have been granted loans for house building even without their having purchased land for houses,

(b) if so, is the Government going to investigate into the irregularity; and

(c) if so, by what time will the enquiry be completed?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) United Commercial Bank has reported that the housing loans sanctioned to their employees at Patna branches of the bank, are in accordance with the Staff Housing Loan Scheme of the bank and that no one, who was sanctioned a loan for building a house, has failed to purchase land for the purpose.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

12 00 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

ACCOUNTS OF COFFEE BOARD FOR 1973-74

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL): On behalf of Shri Arif Baig, I beg to lay on the Table

a copy of the Certified Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Coffee Board for the year 1973-74 and the Audit Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1745/78].

ANNUAL REPORT OF NATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION FOR 1976-77

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of National Cooperative Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1976-77, under sub-section (3) of section 14 of the National Cooperative Development Corporation Act, 1962. [Placed in Library See No. LT-1746/78].

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER CENTRAL EXCISES AND SALT ACT, 1944 AND ANNUAL REPORT OF UNITED INDIA FIRE AND GENERAL INSURANCE CO. LTD., MADRAS FOR 1976 AND A STATEMENT RELATING THERETO

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ZULFIQARULLAH): I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944:—

(i) The Central Excise (Third Amendment) Rules, 1978, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 444 in Gazette of India dated the 25th February, 1978.

(ii) The Central Excise (Fourth Amendment) Rules, 1978, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 445 in Gazette of India dated the 25th February, 1978. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1747/78].

(2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi* versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(i) Annual Report of the United India Fire and General Insurance Company Limited, Madras, for the year ended 31st December, 1976 along with the Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(ii) A statement explaining that Government are in agreement with the above Report and therefore no separate Review on the working of the Company is being laid [Placed in Library. See No LT-1748/78].

12.01 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REPORTED STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER ABOUT MERGER OF SIKKIM

SHRI SAUGATA ROY (Barrackpore): Sir, I call the attention of the Prime Minister to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

"The reported statement by the Prime Minister that Sikkim merger, was wrong"

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): Sir, the Hon' Members are exercised over the report of the press interview which I gave and which has been published in the newspapers on the question of Sikkim. I have not used the term 'annexation'; I spoke of merger. In response to a specific question by the correspondent I observed that the

*English versions of the documents were laid on the Table on the 23rd December, 1977.

[Shri Morarji Desai]

manner of merger was not desirable. I had also clearly stated that it cannot be undone. I have expressed my views on the manner in which the merger was effected. I did so at the time of merger and I have done so ever since. I have always believed that even desirable objectives should not be accomplished in a manner which would arouse needless criticism and suspicion.

Sikkim being a constituent unit of India is a settled fact. There can be no question of unsettling it. I have made it clear to the Chogyal that he should adjust himself to the changed circumstances which was what I specifically reiterated in the course of the press interview.

SHRI SAUGATA ROY: Sir, I have gone through the Prime Minister's statement very carefully and I am thankful to him that the Prime Minister has not used the word "annexation" though that was the word which was used in the headline of *Times of India* yesterday. But when I rise to frame my question, I do so with a lot of pain because, to my mind, this should not have been a matter of Calling Attention motion but should have been a matter of censure motion against the Prime Minister.

This is the first time in the history of independent India that a Prime Minister has expressed an opinion against the integration of an integral part of the country, even if it is a personal opinion. He has also expressed an opinion about the merger of Goa. Tomorrow, he may express an opinion against the integration of princely States. Not only that. This is also against the Thirty-sixth Amendment of the Constitution which was passed by this House, by the Parliament, of which the Prime Minister was a member. I have great respect for the Prime Minister. But

I must state that it is not a truthful statement. He has stated:

"I have expressed my views on the manner in which the merger was effected. I did so at the time of merger and I have done so ever since."

I have in my hand a copy of the debate of 4th September....

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: Where have I said. I did it in the House? I did not speak in the House. Mr. Shyamnandan Mishra spoke. He was the deputy leader of my party at that time. He has said definitely about it.

SHRI SAUGATA ROY: On September 4, 1974, the House debated the Thirty-sixth Amendment of the Constitution. Not only did the Prime Minister not speak against it but he also did not vote against it. Not only that. The members of his party of which Mr. Shyamnandan Mishra was also a member and was its deputy leader did not vote against it.

Now, if the Prime Minister says that he was not for it at that time and he did speak out, I can only say that I differ with that opinion. But my apprehensions are in another respect. If I may mention, the majority of population of Sikkim, about 72 per cent are Nepalese speaking people and it was these Nepalese speaking people who mainly led the agitation against the Chogyal and for the integration and merger of Sikkim with India. Sir, it seems to me, somehow or the other, that the Prime Minister has set his heart against these Nepalese speaking people also. I just referred to a brief statement that the Prime Minister made to the members of All India Nepalese Bhasha Samiti when they met the Prime Minister recently. According to the members of the delegation, they were treated very shabbily. The Prime Minister said to them, "I derecognise Nepalese language from this Sahitya Akademy" when it has already been re-

cognised by the Sahitya Akademy. He also said, "I ban the entry of the Nepalese people to the Indian Army, the Navy and the Air Force, if they insist on inclusion of Nepalese language in the Eighth Schedule."

If I may mention, I come from a State where Nepalese speaking people form a large part of the population and the present statement by the Prime Minister will create a further misapprehension in the minds of Nepalese speaking people who inhabit the northern part of West Bengal, parts of Assam, Sikkim and also large parts of Uttar Pradesh. So, at this stage, I think, that this misapprehension is still more because the statement came out on the day the Chinese delegation came to New Delhi. People may find a connection between the two that the day the Chinese delegation came to New Delhi, on the same day, the prime Minister of the country made a statement against the integration of an integral part of the country, of a State of the country, of people who are there in the country for so long. I think that the Prime Minister is a true Gandhian and I would like to ask him—since he has already said that he has not said certain things—whether in this Parliament he will tender, he will express, regret for the remarks made and also to the Nepalese speaking people so that their misapprehension may be allayed!

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: I am very sorry Sir, that the hon. Member should have used the language which he used and made allegations against me which are quite unfounded. He will not succeed in putting Nepalese people against me, howsoever much he may try to do so, because I have no dislike of anybody. Why should they say things which are unfounded? I have never said these things. (Interruptions) I never made that statement. If you confront those people before me, you will realise that I did not make that statement. What is the meaning of imputing this kind

of a thing to me? If they have nothing else to say and if they say this, I have every sympathy with my hon. friends. I do not want to object to that. But this is not the way in which a debate of this kind should be carried on. He says: I am a true Gandhian. I am trying to follow Mahatma Gandhi truly. I cannot yet claim that I have completely become a true Gandhian in every sense in which Gandhiji was; I cannot claim that, but I am trying to approximate to his discipline. Now, one of the main requirements is that one should not be afraid of the whole world in telling the truth as one sees it. Whether others agree with it or not is not a matter of consequence. The consideration is that one must not speak for others; I speak for myself. It is not at all....

(Interruptions)

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI (Chirayinkil): You speak for the nation.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: If this is what they want, I will not say anything. I sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN (Satara): When the Prime Minister makes a statement to a foreigner it is in his capacity as the Prime Minister and it is misunderstood. (Interruptions) it is national interests which are more important and I think the Prime Minister owes an explanation and apology to the House and the nation.

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: I do not want to ask for any apology for these unfounded attacks on me. What is the meaning of this? There is no question of my apology (Interruptions). It is not as if I have said this today. I am the Prime Minister no doubt. But that does not mean that what I had said then, I was not entitled to say it then, and if what I said then is what I believe was right-

[Shri Morarji Desai]

ly said at that time, and if somebody asks me about it, how can I deny what I had said? Whatever the hon. Member may say, I am not going to yield to that at all. (Interruptions).

डा० रामजी सिंह (भागलपुर) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय मैं आपके माध्यम से प्रधान मंत्री जी का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ कि उन्होंने सिक्किम के विषय में जो बयान दिया है, उससे लोगों के मन में गलतफहमी हुई है। इतना तो निश्चित ही है कि सिक्किम जैसे सवाल पर जो कुछ उन्होंने कहा है, यह बड़ा सबैदनीय सवाल है लेकिन इसको व्यापक परिप्रेक्ष्य में देखना चाहिए।

मेरे मित्र जो अभी इसके सम्बन्ध में चर्चा कर रहे हैं, उनका ध्यान मैं उस समय की लोक-सभा की डिबेट की ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ और उस समय सिक्किम का जिस प्रकार में भारत में विलियन करने का प्रयास किया गया था उसके सम्बन्ध में समूची दुनिया के अखबारों की कतर्न क्या बोलती है वह भी मैं आपके समक्ष रखना चाहता हूँ। मैं केवल यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि सिक्किम का जो भारत में विलय हुआ वह ठीक हुआ, उसमें कोई दो मत नहीं है। प्रधान मंत्री जी भी उसको मानते हैं, लेकिन प्रश्न यह है कि साधन क्या है? साधन अगर अमूल्य होगा तो साध्य पर भी उसका कुप्रभाव पड़ेगा। उसका कुप्रभाव दुनिया में और खासकर पड़ोसी देशों में क्या पड़ा वह मैं आपकी सेवा में रखना चाहता हूँ।

आप देखेंगे कि इंडियन एक्सप्रेस में इसको हिस्टोरिक बलन्डर कहा गया था। बाका के 'इल्लिफाक' नामक लाजेंट गजटिंग पेपर में ३३ में विंग फिश और स्माल फिश की संज्ञा दी गई थी। यू० के० के लिबरल समाचार-पत्र "शेनिशन" ने कहा था

'It is an act of annexation'

बाद में भुट्टो साहब के वक्त में वॉशिंग्टन पोस्ट ने कहा था—

"Bhutto sees an excuse for arms aid . Swallowing up . ."

इसी तरह से नेपाल में भी इसकी बड़ी प्रतिक्रिया हुई थी और नेपाल की पंचायत के विदेश मंत्री ने जो वक्तव्य दिया था वह मैं पढ़कर आपका समय नष्ट नहीं करना चाहता। लेकिन मैं यह अवश्य कहना चाहता हूँ कि विदेश नीति तात्कालिक रूप से कितना भी हमको प्रभावित करे लेकिन अन्ततोगत्वा उसका क्या असर होता है?

आज मंजूर होने वाले नेपाल के एक सप्ताह की साप्ती से बातचीत की ओर मैंने कहा कि प्राइम मिनिस्टर का जो वक्तव्य हुआ है उस पर क्या उसकी प्रतिक्रिया है। उसने कहा कि हमने अच्छा और कोई स्टेटमेंट नहीं हो सकता था, जिसमें उन्होंने कहा कि (अध्यक्ष) मैं चीन की पीपल्स एजेन्सी का उद्धरण नहीं देना चाहता हूँ लेकिन यह इन लोगों की नेता श्रीमती इन्दिरा गांधी के वकील का वक्तव्य लोक-सभा में पढ़ना चाहता हूँ। इन्होंने चौथे मसौदा बिल पर कहा था कि

"This is a wishy washy Bill, a dangerous innovation not only Constitutionally but even more dangerous politically"

यह हमने नहीं कहा था (अध्यक्ष) श्री फ्रैंक एन्थनी ने कहा था। (अध्यक्ष) हमारे विरोधी मित्रों का भी मुनने की महिष्णुता हानी चाहिए। नेपाल का पंचायत में कहा गया था कि एपी मन्त्रालय आप पंचायत आफ नेपाल शुड लर्न एंलेशन फ्रॉम सिक्किम।

उन्होंने कहा था कि अगर यही तराका है तो यह सत्रायू० एन० ओ० में उठाना चाहिए। नेपाल के उस साथी ने मुझे बताया कि उस अवसर पर नेपाल में बहुत ज्यादा प्रदर्शन हुए थे और नेपाल में एक मण्य का वातावरण बन गया था। यही नहीं नेपाल और भारत के सम्बन्ध भी खराब हो गये थे (अध्यक्ष)

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: I am on a point of order.

This Parliament constitutes the people of the country who stand for the territorial integrity of the nation. In this Parliament there is an Hon. Member representing Sikkim. Now the Hon. Member seeks to justify the statement or the allegation made against this country and the Government in those days by certain foreign Governments, by Mr. Bhutto and some of the newspapers that the merger of Sikkim was wrong. He is trying to justify the stand. This Parliament is not to speak against the territorial integrity of the country: he should not be allowed to speak like this.

डा० रामजी सिंह : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं चाहता हूँ कि हमारे विरोधी मित्र थोड़ी देर और सुनें :

जहाँ तक सिक्किम के भारत में विलयन का प्रश्न है यह मान्य होना चाहिए कि 1947 में जब सिक्किम कांग्रेस की स्थापना हुई थी, तो उन्होंने कांग्रेसी सरकार को विलयन के लिए कहा था, लेकिन पच्चीस वर्षों तक कांग्रेसी दृष्टिकोण ने उस पर ध्यान नहीं दिया। 1954 में वहाँ के शासक, नामग्याल, ने नेहरूजी को पत्र लिख कर कहा था कि सिक्किम भारत में मिलाया चाहिए। उस समय सिक्किम को नहीं मिलाया गया था। लेकिन जब स्थिति बिगड़ गई, जब दुनिया में आप की छीछलेदर हुई, तब यह काम किया गया (व्यवधान)

मैं अपने विचार संक्षेप में कह कर प्रधान मंत्री जी से तत्प्राप्तपूर्वक कुछ प्रश्न करना चाहता हूँ : (व्यवधान)

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA (Delhi Sadar): This is a very delicate matter. The Prime Minister has clarified his position that it was his personal opinion and my friend here is making political capital out of it. Here and now there should not be a

discussion. They should not try to make political capital out of these things.

डा० रामजी सिंह : क्या यह बात सच है कि सिक्किम के भारत के साथ विलयन का प्रावधान हमारे संविधान-निर्माताओं ने कुछ सोच-समझ कर ही छोड़ा था ?

SHRI N. SREEKANTAN NAIR (Quilon): Is he making a speech or asking a question?

डा० रामजी सिंह :
I am asking a question.

क्या सिक्किम के विलयन के समय एसेम्बली में अनियमितताएँ हुई थीं? क्या सिक्किम के विलयन पर हमारे पड़ोसी देशों, बंगलादेश, नेपाल, पाकिस्तान और सिक्किम आदि, में प्रतिक्रिया हुई थी? (व्यवधान)

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA (Tumkur):
I am on a point of order.

A Member has got every liberty and right to say what he feels, but can he say in these proceedings, while making a speech, anything against the interests of the nation? He is questioning the very merger of Sikkim with India. In his speech, he is talking against the interest of the country. You have to regulate this member in a proper manner.

डा० रामजी सिंह : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा प्रश्न यह है कि जिस समय 36वें संविधान संशोधन में सिक्किम को एसोसिएट स्टेट का दर्जा दे कर हिन्दुस्तान की राजनीति के लिए खतरा उपस्थित किया गया था, वह खतरा था या नहीं? अन्तिम सवाल यह है कि क्या 1947 में सिक्किम स्टेट कांग्रेस की स्थापना के समय वहाँ भारत में विलयन की मांग की गई थी या नहीं और 1954 में प्रधान मंत्री नेहरू जी को विलयन के लिए पत्र दिया गया था या नहीं? अगर दिया गया था तो इतनी देर क्यों की गई ?

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: I do not want to generate any further excitement in the Opposition.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: We are very much excited.

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: I can understand your excitement but that does not mean that I should be excited, I do not want to add to that excitement and, therefore, I do not propose to reply to the questions put by the hon. Member.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: I think, you owe an apology to the nation.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: Do not make a political capital out of this.

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: There is no question of any apology whatsoever; I cannot do it.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: You owe an apology to the nation. If you do not do it, we will stage a walk-out.

Shri Yeshwantrao Chavan and some other hon. Members left the House.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN (Idukki): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have written to you seeking permission to make a statement.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Yes.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: In the view of our party, what has happened is a very very serious matter. We are really pained to see that the Prime Minister does not concede the seriousness of the matter. According to me, three points are involved in this. First, the statement of the Prime Minister that he made the statement in his personal capacity. Occupying an office has got its own constraints. When somebody occupies the position as the Prime Minister or the President of India, he has got certain constraints and when a remark is made

about a matter vitally concerning the Constitution and the picture of the state of affairs in this country, particularly when talking to a foreign journalist, one cannot take it as a statement personally made. I do accept his statement on its face value, but the claim that he can make a statement in his personal capacity concerning a matter which is so vitally concerning the country is a proposition which I am incapable of accepting. Therefore, I have got my objection to that.

Secondly, there is an oath that everybody takes. The oath is: I will uphold the integrity and sovereignty of the country. By so many processes, the country has come to existence and Sikkim is a part of the country. As it is a part of the country, every Member of Parliament as also the Prime Minister is obliged to uphold the integrity of the country and to say that the process by which that integration took place was objectionable is not upholding the integrity of the country. To that extent, the Prime Minister has violated the oath that he took when he assumed office. This is fundamental. If you say that the process was bad, if you say the means was bad, but say that the result is all right it is not upholding the integrity of the country. Therefore, I do expect the Prime Minister to withdraw that statement so that the conscience of the people of Sikkim may be set at, and so that the integrity of the country may be completely safeguarded. I do appeal to the Prime Minister to make a statement withdrawing that statement. I would like to hear what he has got to say about that.

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: I am not going to say anything.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: The Prime Minister says that he is not prepared to withdraw that statement. So Sir, in protest against the stand of the Prime Minister and to uphold the integrity of the country I and my Party stage a walk out.

Shri C. M. Stephen and some other hon. Members left the House.

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR (Trivandrum): I do not want to make a speech. But we also protest against the statement made by the Prime Minister and we walk out.

Shri M. N. Govindan Nair and some other hon. Members left the House.

SHRI GEORGE MATHEW (Muvattupuzha): On behalf of Kerala Congress, we also protest and walk out.

Shri George Mathew and some other hon. Members left the House.

श्रीमती चन्नावती (भिवानी): इस महाद्वीप के तीन टुकड़े बनाये—यह नेहरू डायनेस्टी की देन है। कश्मीर को हमेशा के लिए एक नासूर बनाकर रख दिया है: इस देश के लिए नासूर पैदा करने में इस डायनेस्टी ने बहुत बड़ा काम किया है लेकिन इस देश की प्रबल्लम्स को सत्त्व करने के लिए कोई भी काम नहीं किया। (व्यवधान)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Ahsan Jafri—not here.

Shri Ravindra Varma.

12.27 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): With your permission, I rise to announce that Government Business in this House during the week commencing 13th March, 1978, will consist of:

(1) Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order Paper.

(2) Submission to the vote of the House of Demands for Grants on Account (General) for 1978-79.

(3) Discussion and voting on:

(a) Demands for Grants (Railways) for 1978-79.

(b) Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways) for 1977-78.

(c) Demands for Excess Grants (Railways) for 1975-76.

(d) Demands for Excess Grants (General) for 1975-76.

(e) Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 1977-78.

SHRI HARIKESH BAHADUR (Gorakhpur): I have already given notice of a privilege motion against a Police Officer. About that I would like to say something.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You have already been informed regarding the position. Please do not raise that matter now.

SHRI HARIKESH BAHADUR: Dr. Ambedkar, a respected leader of this nation—his photographs were torn out in Bareilly. About that also I have given a notice. It is a very serious matter.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That is under consideration.... (Interruptions).

SHRI HARIKESH BAHADUR: कोतवाली पुलिस के अन्तर्गत यह हुआ है। In UP, the Police officers are behaving like this.... (Interruptions).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What is मने कह दिया कि वह ग्रण्डर कंसिडरेशन है the point of all of you getting up? It is under consideration.

Now Shri Vayalar Ravi.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: (Chirayinkil): The Minister has presented the business for the next week about which I would like to make one or two suggestions.

[Shri Vayalar Ravi]

One is about the Verghese Committee report. It has been widely publicised that an autonomous corporation will be formed. This is a very vital change if accepted. So, it is necessary that this House must have an opportunity to discuss this very important matter. They have even made references to Members of Parliament and have even asked MPs to refrain from putting question about AIR. About that I have moved a privilege motion but I would not speak about it now. Firstly I demand a discussion in the House on the Verghese Committee report.

Secondly, there is a very grave situation in Kerala regarding closure of cashew factories. More than 1.3 lakh workers are employed in this industry and the Cashew Corporation has completely failed to supply the raw material. The imports have gone down from 2 lakhs to 42,000 tonnes. So, this is a very urgent matter which should be discussed.

Lastly, there is a very alarming report in the Press that a purse of Rs. 65 lakhs is to be presented to Jayaprakash Narayan. Jayaprakash Narayan is a respected leader of this country and any suspicion about the collection of this Rs. 65 lakhs would tarnish the name of Jayaprakash Narayan. This House must know from where this money has been collected and the persons who have contributed in a big way to this fund. Otherwise, a suspicion will arise that this collection consists of donations of black money and Jayaprakash Narayan will be unnecessarily drawn into this controversy. So, I make an appeal this House must discuss and know how this money has come and from where it has come.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR (Gandhinagar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am sorry to say that the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, while giving us this statement of Government business for next week has failed to give

us for one more week any definite indication, much less a promise, of government's intention to do away with defections through a proper legislative measures. I would like the Minister to be specific on this point because how long are we going to stay in this House and in this country and watch all kinds of defections? Only yesterday we saw the spectacle of the hon. Speaker being obliged to recognise an additional party born out of one party. I do not want to say that the Speaker was encouraging defection because that would be wrong. But the fact remains that people like us after getting elected come here and stand before the electorate with a certain ticket—of this or that party, or as an independent. We have no right to change that ticket until we give up that ticket, resign the seat, come back on a new ticket. When that is so, I do not understand how alignments of Congress (R) & Congress (C) can take place, and how and why a number of members of Congress (R) and Congress (C) and others get into the Janata Party with obviously narrow political purposes. I would like the Government to tell this House and through this House the whole country that they mean business; that they are in earnest about it. I am more agitated on this point because I come from the State of Gujarat where the arch defector—I do not like to refer to his name again and again, he is notorious who has been synonymous with corruption—has now been admitted into the Janata Party and the Janata Party Gujarat people are referring this matter.....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: This is not the occasion to bring such things.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: I want to bring to notice the gravity of the situation. That process is going on and the dissenting Members of the Janata Party in Gujarat are publically condemned by their own party leaders. How can you allow? This defection cannot be allowed like this. I want this Government to be honest.

On Sales Tax, the Finance Minister says that he cannot do what he promised to do because of differences and difficulties. But at least on this you can certainly honour your election manifesto and get rid of this disease of defections by bringing the necessary Bill as early as possible.

I want this promise to-day that he will bring such a Bill in this House in this session and get it passed as early as possible so that this disease of defection is got rid of.

Secondly, very briefly, I will mention one point. The hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has not chosen to follow... ..

SHRI VINODBHAI B. SHETH (Jamnagar): When you say that Shri H. M. Patel has clarified to-day morning that this promise or an assurance has been given in the manifesto, whether Janata Party manifesto is bigger or the Constitution is bigger?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We are not going to discuss this point.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: I would suggest in all humility, to the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs with regard to the time table—which he himself said yesterday had been given to the House for discussion on various demands for grants. I see in that he has not mentioned in this list the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs, the Ministry of Communications, the Prime Minister's Departments like Atomic Energy, Electronics, Science and Technology and Space, and, of course, his own Ministry, the Parliamentary Affairs Ministry.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You had already mentioned it yesterday. Do not repeat.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: He said he had consulted various points of view and parties, and so this was what the opposition had suggested. In the

previous Parliament, even those of us who were independents no party considerations were there) were invited by the then Minister of Parliamentary Affairs. He has not invited us. He has not consulted us, at least on the feasibility of having certain departments roped into discussion. If you go on with this convention that only the departments which are selected by the Opposition groups and parties will be discussed, then certain Ministries will never be discussed. The Ministry of Communication, and particularly the Ministry of Law and Justice which has got to do a lot after the emergency should have been discussed here. The Minister of Planning.....

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You are repeating yourself.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: I am concluding. This country requires a lot to do in terms of planning to eradicate poverty and we have no discussion on poverty. And, finally, I want to say that when the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and his Government, with whose intentions I broadly and fully agree, have restored democracy and everything in this House, then how is it that it lies in his mouth to say that Private Members' discussions, Half-an-hour discussions etc. will be reduced only to once a week after 6 O' clock and no further discussion will take place during the budget session? Let not this House be treated in this fashion. Government after Government proposing to this House, that the legitimate, precious, limited time of Private Members, is so eroded in this fashion, by giving an excuse that the opposition parties are saying this or saying that. I am an independent and I belong to no party but I am expressing a point of view of the whole country when I say this. I want to suggest that this is a wrong thing; it is an erosion on the very precious, limited time available to Private Members of this House. This cannot be taken away by the Government particularly when urgent matters come up for discussion.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA (Delhi Sadar): Sir, before you go to the next item I want to make a submission.

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI (Anantnag) rose—

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We have asked for a submission from the Editor of the paper and we will get it.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: My submission is this. Yesterday the Speaker was kind enough to assure the House that some sort of statement will be made by the Minister of External Affairs on the statement made by Prime Minister of Zambia. This country is very much annoyed on that. It amounts to an interference in the internal affairs of another country. He promised either a Calling Attention or a statement to be made by the Minister today. But nothing like that has happened. Neither is there a Calling Attention on this subject nor is there any statement by the Minister. This is a very important issue. The Government should clarify its position and they should tell us as to what steps have been taken by the Government over it. This is open to you Sir...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I cannot say. It is for the External Affairs Minister.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: The hon. Speaker said he will consider a Calling Attention Motion.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: So far as Calling Attention Motions are concerned, and Rule 377 notices are concerned, of course, we will be considering them.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: It is to be admitted by the Speaker, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We will consider them. About the statement and all that, it is different.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: It is the second alternative. Calling Attention may be there. It is an important thing.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: What does the hon. Minister want to say in response to my points?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am asking him. Please have patience.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): Sir, I shall not tire of pointing out that the statement which I made was about Government Business that the House will consider during the next week. It is customary that that occasion is used to make references to items which are in the minds of hon. Members, which they would like to be discussed sometime or the other. So far as the discussion about the working of the various Ministries is concerned, when the Business Advisory Committee's Report was placed before the House, there was a Motion for the adoption of the Report and this matter was discussed. Unfortunately the Hon. Member was not present.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER. He raised it yesterday

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: The House has adopted the Motion already and I don't want to make a statement on that. Then, the other question that he raised was about the anti-Defections Bill. I do not think that it is necessary for me to make a long statement in reply to what he has said.

He asked me to assure the House that Government means business. Well, I assure the House that the Government means business.

Next, he asked us to say that we are quite earnest.

I say, the Government is very earnest about the anti-Defections Bill.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: What is the proof?

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: The proof of the pudding is in the eating and when it is served on the table you will savour it. Had it not been Mr. Mavalankar, I would have said that perhaps the hon. Member wanted to say what he had in mind about defections. But, since he mounts guard on the rights of the House, I shall not say what I would have said in the case of some other hon. Members.

I have already said that the Government is in right earnest about the anti-Defection Bill. The matter is under consultation with the Leaders of the Opposition. We will also take into consideration the views of others, and the Bill will be introduced in this session.

12.40 hrs.

MIZORAM BUDGET, 1978-79

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): Sir, I rise to present a statement of estimated receipts and expenditure of the Union territory of Mizoram for the years 1978-79.

The House is aware that following the resignation of the Council of Ministers on the expiration of the term of the last Legislative Assembly, President's Rule was imposed in Mizoram for a period of seven months commencing from 11th May, 1977. Subsequently, this arrangement was further extended for a period of four months commencing from 11th December 1977. In the circumstances, the functions and powers of the Legislative Assembly of the Union territory of Mizoram are, at present, exercisable by Parliament. Accordingly, with your permission, Sir, I lay before the House the Annual Financial Statement of the Union ter-

ritory showing its estimated receipts and expenditure for the financial year commencing from 1st April, 1978.

2. Revenue receipts of the Union territory in 1978-79 are estimated at Rs. 1.59 crores and expenditure at Rs. 39.46 crores leaving a deficit of Rs. 37.87 crores which will be met by grants-in-aid from the Centre. On the Capital Account, the estimates reveal a deficit of Rs. 8.86 crores, which will be met by loans from the Government of India. Plan outlay in 1978-79 will be Rs. 16.65 crores as against Rs. 11.37 crores provided in the current year's Budget. Sectoral distribution of the Plan outlay is given in the Explanatory Memorandum. In addition, the estimates for 1978-79 also include an outlay of Rs. 1.44 crores on the Central and Centrally Sponsored Plan schemes and Rs. 1.79 crores on the Plan schemes of the North Eastern Council.

3. Sir, at present, we are seeking only a 'Vote-on-Account' for five months on the basis of the estimates which I have just laid before the House.

4. Sir, as I have mentioned, the President's Rule in Mizoram was extended for four months commencing from 11th December, 1977. This extension was necessitated because of the talks which were in progress with the Mizo National Front representatives. The talks are still continuing and there are prospects of bringing the insurgency to a close. The talks, however, cannot be allowed to come in the way of holding elections. Although a "Vote-on-Account" has been proposed for a period of five months, the Government are keen to hand over the administration to the elected representatives of the people as soon as possible and intend to hold elections in the very near future.

12.40/1-2 hrs.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (MIZORAM), 1977-78

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): I beg to present a statement showing Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of the Union Territory of Mizoram for the year 1977-78.

12.41 hrs.

RAILWAY BUDGET, 1978-79—GENERAL DISCUSSION—Contd.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, we take up further consideration of the Budget (Railways).

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA (Delhi Sadar): May I know when is the Minister going to reply?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: At 2-30 P.M. the Minister will reply. Till 2-30 P.M. we shall continue further discussion on the Budget (Railways). Shri Shrikrishna Singh was on his legs. Let him continue.

श्री श्रीकृष्ण सिंह (पुणे) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, कल मैंने बताया था कि कर्मचारियों के वेतनों में, भ्रष्टाचार की सुविधाओं में और कर्मचारी कल्याण पर करीब 90 करोड़ रुपया अतिरिक्त खर्च करने का प्रावधान है। दूसरे दर्जे के यात्रियों के लिए भी सुविधा बढ़ाने के कई काम हैं। फिर भी 65 करोड़ की बचत की जो सम्भावना है बिना किराये की बढ़ोतरी किये हुए, यह एक बड़ा काम है। रेलों के संचालन में इन्होंने कर्मचारियों तथा प्रशासन की साझेदारी ली है। और उसके प्रति जो दृष्टिकोण मंत्री जी ने प्रकट किया है उसके लिए हम इसका समर्थन करते हैं। ऊंची तनख्वाहें पाने वाले अफसरों की सुविधाओं में जो कटौती की गई है, एयर कंडीशनर के मामले में या पहले दो में घुमने की सुविधाओं में जो धीरे-धीरे कमी की जा रही है इसके

लिए भी हम इस दृष्टिकोण का समर्थन करते हैं। सबसे अधिक लाभ नीचे स्तर के कर्मचारियों को मिलेगा। सेलैब्रेशन ग्रेड चतुर्थ श्रेणी के कर्मचारियों को देने की भी बात है। इन सब बातों से मालूम होता है कि मंत्री जी का ध्यान गांधियन समाजवाद की तरफ है। बलाम दो के अफसरों की पदोन्नति का प्रतिशत बढ़ा दिया गया है। इसी प्रकार लोगों का रनिंग स्टाफ की कंडीशन भी सतिस में सुधार हुआ है। जो फीरी करने वाले बैरा लोग हैं उनकी सेवाओं को नियमित करने की तरफ मंत्री जी सोच रहे हैं। फायरमैन के वेतन में वृद्धि की गई है। यह गांधियन समाजवाद की तरफ कदम है।

मगर मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि पिछड़े क्षेत्रों में रेल बिछाने की जो बंति है उसकी तरफ आपने उपेक्षा की है। किउल में साहब-गज बढरवा तक दोहरी रेलवे लाइन बिछाने की बात की थी। हावडा से बढरवा तक लाइन बनी है, लेकिन बढरवा में किउल तक की लाइन की उपेक्षा कर दी गई। हमारा निवेदन है कि दोहरी लाइन बिछाने का काम शीघ्र किया जाए। निर्मली-भरपतिया लाइने के रेस्टोरेशन की तरफ कोई ध्यान नहीं दिया गया। इसी तरह से प्रतापगंज-वीरपुर लाइन है। यह दोनों लाइनें बनी हैं लेकिन कोसी की बाढ़ से ध्वस्त हो गई हैं इसलिए उनका रेस्टोर करने की बात है। यह दोनों लाइनें किसान क्षेत्र की लाइनें हैं। उत्तर बिहार के लोग जो फसल उपजाने वाले लोग हैं उनको सुविधा पहुंचाने की दृष्टि से इन दोनों लाइनों को रेस्टोर किया जाए जिमसे कोसी से बाढ़ पीड़ित लोगों का कल्याण होगा। मंत्री जी को उनकी उपेक्षा नहीं करनी चाहिए।

सकरी से हसनपुर, लाइन की प्रगति शून्य है। रांची रोड से कोडरमा और भागलपुर से मंदार हिल रेलवे लाइन के बारे में मंत्री जी ने पिछले साल आश्वासन दिया था। लेकिन इस बार उनको छोड़ दिया है। रांची रोड से कोडरमा और कोडरमा से गिरिडीह

रेलवे लाइन का तीन बार सर्वेक्षण की चुका है। अतः इन लाइनों को पूरा करने की और आप कदम उठावें। भागलपुर से मंदार हिल 35 किलोमीटर का हिस्सा है जिसके बारे में पिछले साल मंत्री जी ने कहा था। लेकिन इन बार इसको छांड दिया है।

इसी तरह मे फतुहा-इस्लामपुर मार्टिन लाइट रेलवे की बड़ी दुर्गति हो गई है। जो पिछले साल बाढ़ आई थी उससे वह लाइन उजड़ गई है और अभी तक उजड़ी पड़ी है। इसी तरह से आरा-सासाराम भी मार्टिन लाइट रेलवे की दूसरी लाइन है: मुना है कि आप इसको लेने जा रहे हैं। यह बड़ी अच्छी बात है। सासाराम शेरशाह सूरी की नगरी का नाम है इसलिए हमारा सुझाव है कि इस रेलवे लाइन का नाम आप शेरशाह रखें। इसी तरह से फतुहा-इस्लामपुर लाइन भी मार्टिन लाइट रेलवे की लाइन है इसका भी आप अधिग्रहण कीजिए।

जमालपुर का रेलवे कारखाना 1862 में स्थापित किया गया था। रेलवे के सब टाइम के इजनों को रिपेयर और ओवरहाल करने के लिए यह कारखाना स्थापित हुआ था। लेकिन आज इसका क्या हाल है? क्यों हुआ यह हाल? कोई पालियामेंट की टीम या अफसरों की टीम देखे कि कारखाना कैसा है, मशीनरी क्या है वहां का प्लान्ट क्या है, ले आउट क्या है और मजदूरों की कार्य कुशलता क्या है, उसकी क्षमता और दक्षता का इस्तेमाल क्यों नहीं हो पा रहा है इस सब की जांच की जानी चाहिए। किसी वक्त इस कारखाने में 18 000 आदमी काम करते थे। आज वहां केवल 9 000 आदमी ही रह गये हैं।

अब मुझे कुछ थोड़ा आधुनिकीकरण, विद्युतीकरण/डीजलीकरण के बारे में कहना है। 60,000 किलोमीटर की हमारी रेलवे लाइनें हैं जिसमें से 4-5 हजार किलोमीटर लाइन का विद्युतीकरण हो गया है और इसी

तरह से डिजलीकरण हुआ है। इसके कारण अनेकों लोको शीड अनावश्यक हो गए हैं और अधिकों पर बुरा प्रभाव पड़ा है। मैं मैरिट में नहीं जाना चाहता? जब मार्च पर भूत चढ़ जाता है, गरीब देश की बिजलीकरण का या आधुनिकीकरण का तो हम रोक नहीं सकते। लेकिन अगर यह भूत आपके सिर पर चढ़ जाये तो कैजुअल मजदूरों को बलि का बकरा क्यों बनाया जाय? अगर आप आधुनिकीकरण करते हैं करिए इनमें उनका दोष क्या है?

जमालपुर का 116 बरस पुराना कारखाना है जो कि दक्षिण-पूर्व एशिया का सबसे बड़ा और सबसे पुराना कारखाना है। इतने कुशल और दक्ष मजदूर वहां हों और जो इतने कम खर्च पर चल रहा हो, उनको आपने बलिबेदी पर चढ़ा दिया आधुनिकीकरण की? क्यों नहीं सोचा? यह तो पुरानी सरकार का तरीका था अगर नई जनता सरकार भी उसी रास्ते पर चले तो कैसे काम होगा?

जब देश का बटवारा हुआ जो लोग डिसप्लेस्ट परसन्स आये उनको जगह-जगह काम दिया गया, प्राथमिकता दी गई, अन्यत्र नौकरियों में स्थान दिया गया। लेकिन जमालपुर कारखाने के लोगों का क्या हुआ? टीम बड़े कारखाने है, एक पैराम्बर का दूसरा चिसरंजन का और तीसरा एक और। लेकिन जमालपुर दक्षिण एशिया का सबसे बड़ा कारखाना है, इसकी क्षमता और कुशलता का उपयोग जारी रहे। इस दिशा में क्या हुआ? अगर उस में काम करने में कोई दर हो तो इतना तो आप कर सकते हैं कि यहाँ के कारखाने को आप लोड तो दिला सकते हैं। फिनिशिंग शाप लोड मैन्युफैक्चरिंग शाप बायलर शाप को इसमें लोड दिला सकते हैं। रोलिंग मिल में दिला सकते हैं: इसका मोटराड्जेनश कर सकते हैं। रोलिंग मिल में आपने आज से कुछ बरस पहले 300 हासपावर का मोटर दिया अगर वहां 500 हासपावर का मोटर दिया होता

[वीकृष्ण सिंह]

तो उसकी क्षमता ज्यादा होती। पता नहीं किस अक्षर से यह कान किया कि 300 हासपावर का मोटर वहां पर लगा दिया। उसी तरह से रोलिंग मिल प्रोजेक्ट जो ट्रैक्ट फिटिंग के लिए है, वहां बोल्ट एण्ड नट ग्राप बन्द है। उसका ठेका दूसरी जगहों पर प्राइवेट आदमियों को दिया जा रहा है। आपने रेलवे बोर्ड का संगठन किया, अच्छा किया लेकिन रेलवे बोर्ड का जो पुराना तरीका था उसी तरीके पर ग्राप अब चल रहे हैं। रेलवे बोर्ड के अफसरों को कहना चाहिए कि बदले हुए सदर्भ में हमारी नीति के अनुसार चले, ऐसा नहीं होगा कि हम मजदूरों को बेकार कर देंगे। वहां 18 हजार से घटकर मक्या 9 हजार रह गई है। वहां बाल्ट एण्ड नट ग्राप बन्द है, रोलिंग मिल बन्द है, ग्रास फैक्टरी बन्द है, प्रैसिंग ग्राप बन्द है। हजारों मजदूर बेकार हैं। आपको क्वार्टर भी नहीं देना पड़ता है। वर्कमैन ट्रेन से लोग हजारों से जमालपुर सुलतानगंज से जमालपुर और मुंगेर से जमालपुर आते जाते हैं। सब जगह जहां दो मजदूर हैं, एक क्वार्टर देते हैं जहां 5 हैं वहां 4 देते हैं रेसियो 1 2 का है और 5.4 का है लेकिन जमालपुर में रेसियो क्या है 10 1 का। आप क्वार्टर भी नहीं बदल रहे हैं। अफसरों के जमाने के जो क्वार्टर थे वे जैसे के जैसे हैं।

यह पिछड़ा इलाका है जहां पर खंती होती है। हम रेल मंत्रों से अपील करेंगे कि रेलवे बोर्ड का जो पुराना उपेक्षा करने का तरीका है कि कुशलता और दक्षता को इस्तेमाल नहीं करेंगे, वह अब इस तरफ ध्यान देंगे।

उत्तर बिहार और दक्षिण बिहार में जगह-जगह दोहरी रेल लाइन बिछाने की जरूरत है। किसान मंडियों तक अपनी फसल का माल ले जाते हैं और वहां बेचते हैं जैसे निर्मली बाजार है। कोसी का एरिया है, वह अपनी फसल रेलवे लाइन से ही ले

जाते हैं। सक्की-इसनपुर लाइन कोदरवा से रांची रोड इन लाइनों को दोहरी बिछाने का सवाल है उसमें चकमा नहीं चाहिए। बिहार के लोगों को इस बात की बड़ी तकलीफ है कि जो भी पिछली बार रेल मंत्री ने आश्वासन दिये थे। इस बार उन्होंने उसे छोड़ दिया है। हम आशा करते हैं कि उत्तर बिहार और दक्षिण बिहार इन दोनों जगहों में जो दोहरी लाइन बिछाने का काम है नई लाइन जोड़ने का काम मंत्री महोदय इस काम में देर नहीं करेंगे।

इसी तरह में हम चाहेंगे कि छोटे-छोटे स्टेशनों पर शांवालय, पीने का पानी बैगरी का इतजाम उसी तरह से होना चाहिए। जिस तरह से बड़े स्टेशनों पर है। लम्बे सफर करने वालों का आरक्षण बैगरी की सुविधा दी गई है लेकिन जा लोकल ट्रेन में 100,200 किलो मीटर की यात्रा करते हैं उनको बैठने की जगह भी नहीं होती है, उनकी हालत नरक जैसी होती है। लोग खड़े हा कर पायदान और छत पर यात्रा करते हैं। इसलिए जो लोकल ट्रेन्स सौ दो मा किलोमीटर तक चलने वाली हैं जा जिले के मुख्यालय या स्टेट की राजधानी से जोड़ने वाली हैं उन की संख्या को बढ़ाया जाए। लोगों के बैठने का इतजाम किया जाए, कोच और बोगीज को बढ़ाया जाये।

DR. R. ROTHUAMA (Mizoram): I congratulate the hon. Railway Minister for making some changes in passenger trains and for introducing changes regarding classless trains, janata khana, etc. On the other hand I am sorry to note that many proposals for new railway line construction, particularly in the backward and hilly areas had been dropped in the budget. I should request him to appreciate the need for new railway line construction in backward and hilly areas, particularly in the northeast region. The problem in the northeast region is one of economic problem. This problem is caused mainly due to absence of communication. Particularly in Mizoram the land is

fertile and we can produce large quantities of agricultural products such as ginger, potato, etc. But the problem here is one of communication; people cannot bring their products to the market. That is why I was sorry to note that the proposed railway line from Lalaghat near Silchar to Sairang had been dropped. Last year Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu asked a question regarding the proposed new line from Lalaghat to Sairang along the bank of Dhaleswari river. His question was:

“Will the hon. Railway Minister be pleased to state whether the technical-cum-commercial survey to bring the railway line to the nearest point at Aizawal in Mizoram has been completed and if so whether the job is going to be taken on hand very soon and if so by what date?”

The hon. Minister's reply was: Preliminary engineering-cum-traffic survey for extension of railway line from Lalaghat-Lalabazar to Sairang a station near Aizawal is in progress and is expected to be completed by the end of 1977. Further consideration to this project will be given after the survey is completed and reports thereof are examined from all angles.”

13.00 hrs.

I notice that in his budget speech this proposed line is not included; he says that proposals are awaited from the north-eastern council regarding the construction of new lines. It is clear that the engineering-cum-traffic survey has been in progress in 1977. I want to know why this project had not been included in the budget. I should like to request the hon. Railway Minister to kindly look into this proposal so that he can include this railway line in the next budget because this is the main problem in the whole north-eastern area and also the hill areas of U.P., H.P. and Bihar. In all these areas, the problem of the backward people is the absence of communication. When there is absence

of communication, the people cannot bring their agricultural products to the markets. If they cannot bring their products to the markets, then there is no way out to improve their conditions. This has been so for the last thirty years. Now the Janata Party has come to power, and they speak in a number of public meetings that they are going to give priority to improve the condition of the backward people. But we do not find that. From his Budget speech, we find that the new lines which are going to be taken up in the current year are only in the plain areas. Most of the backward areas, rural areas in India are left out. So, I feel strongly that unless this problem is tackled immediately, the condition of the people will be really bad; politically also their condition will be really bad. In fact the main reason for the anger of the people in the North Eastern area is their poor economic condition. If the people or a section of the people are isolated economically from other parts of the country, then they have to express their feelings, their anger, their discontentment in one way or another. The same thing will happen to the people in the plain areas also. If the people in a section of the plain areas are isolated economically, they will express their feelings in a violent way like the Mizo people. That is why I feel very strongly that if this Janata Party is really wedded to the policy of Mahatma Gandhi, they should show it in their deeds and not in just speaking. We do not want this thing to come again, after the experience of the last thirty years.

We want that the Janata Party should really give due consideration to all the problems of the backward people and particularly, the Tribal people so that this unrest—political and economic—may be removed.

13.03 hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch til Fourteen o fthe Clock.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Five Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[SHRI M. SATYANARAYAN RAO in the Chair.]

**RAILWAY BUDGET, 1978-79—
General Discussion—Contd.**

SHRI AHMED HUSSAIN (Dhubri): Mr. Chairman, Sir, a railway budget without any increase in fares is welcomed by the rail users and travelling public. But the Minister deserves no reward for his idle policy on the development of backward areas, proper representation of minorities in railway services and opening of new lines, particularly in the North Eastern region. The Minister has yet to make up his mind for providing rail communication facilities in the backward areas, whose population is perhaps more than the present rail users. I venture to narrate the various problems concerning the railways in the North-Eastern region one by one.

Sir, the Janata Government have been preaching of making every possible efforts to provide adequate facilities and development of the backward and rural people. But the rural population of the south bank of the river Brahmaputra, particularly of Meghalaya, Goalpara and South Kamrup have never seen a train, and even in these advanced days of science a train is one of the wonders to them.

With a view to bring the raw materials from the south bank of Brahmaputra i.e., from Garo Hills, the broad gauge line has been extended to Jorjigoppa from Bongaigaon, and a proposal was also there to construct a railway bridge over the river Brahmaputra near Jogigoppa-Pancharatna. A survey had already been made by the Gauhati University, but to our utter dismay the Minister in his budget speech has not mentioned anything of this project. Along with this project, there was also a proposal to construct railway lines from Pancharatna to Gauhati and Pancharatna to

Mohendraganj vis Mamkachar. These lines are also not mentioned in his speech.

The Railway Minister has said, as usual, a few words about the development of the North-East region in his speech but he had no commitment to offer. The Bongaigaon-Gauhati broad-gauge line, targetted to be completed by 1980, have to be deferred for several years more due to the non-release of funds and the step-motherly treatment to the North-East Region by the railways. As regards the laying of new railway lines, construction of bridges at Jogigoppa and Silghat, and conversion into broad gauge, it is painful to find that nothing new has been proposed for the North-East region, except the sarcastic remarks to develop railway communications in that region.

I request the Railway Minister to consider the following demands of the people of the North-East region: (a) the construction of a broad-gauge line from Bongaigaon to Gauhati should be speeded up and funds allotted for the purpose should be released in time to ensure the completion of this work, as targeted, by 1980; (b) the outstanding demand to convert the existing metre-gauge line into broad-gauge line (1) Gauhati to Tinsukia and (2) Dhubri to Fokiragram should be considered during the current year; (c) the broad gauge line existing upto Jogigoppa should be extended to the south bank from Pancharatna to Gauhati, touching Meghalaya border and Pancharatna (Goalpara) to Mohendraganj via Manikachar and accordingly construct a bridge over the river Brahmaputra at Jogigoppa-Pancharatna.

It is worth mentioning here that the condition of some railway station in Assam is so pitiable that it cannot be described here. We have been surprised to learn that the Railway Minister's submission in the House that selected stations are provided with better facilities of lighting, toilets, refreshment rooms etc. He has

assured the House that the regular passenger amenities programme will continue. But, so far as we are concerned, it is a matter of regret that in spite of several representations to the Railway Minister, nothing has been done. Regarding the demand to upgrade the Sapatgram railway station and set up a new station at Monglajhora, though the Minister has given me an assurance in a letter, nothing has been done so far.

Regarding the recruitment of minorities in the railways, I just want to quote an observation made by the late Shri Moinul Haque Choudhury on the floor of the House. He quoted from the autobiography of Pandit Nehru, where he has said:

"No minority, however determined it may be, can progress without the goodwill of the majority and no determined minority can be exterminated by the majority however determined it may be."

My intention in quoting this is not to annoy anybody or any section but to ventilate the grievances of the minorities in this country who are deprived of their due share in regard to appointment in Government services.

I recall with gratefulness that the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, gave his life for the cause of the Muslims. Four of our Prime Ministers—Pandit Nehru, Shastriji, Shrimati Indira Gandhi and hon. Shri Morarji Desai—have worked sincerely for ensuring national integration. I know that in this House the majority of the Members are genuinely concerned to see the various grievances of the minorities. The Government has also formed a Minorities Commission to meet the demands of the minorities adequately. In fact, everybody is talking and showing his hearty sympathy to the minorities, but in practice it yields nothing.

I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Railway Minister to the fact that minorities, particularly the Muslims, have not been properly represented and have been deprived of their due share in railway jobs. Discrimination continues to prevail in the entire railway with regard to the recruitment of members of the minority communities. The hon. Minister has not fulfilled his promises given during the previous debates that all the grievances of the minorities would be removed in so far as the railways are concerned, and it is painful to note that the problem remains as it was. The backlog caused due to the non-appointment of scheduled caste and scheduled tribe candidates was ordered to be filled up by fresh appointments during the emergency. But to our disappointment, nothing has been done to remove the backlog due to non-appointment of minorities during the last 30 years of independence.

We often advocate integration and equal opportunities for all, but if the nation is to be strong, if it is to be integrated, every one has to have a sense of participation. If one limb is weak, the whole body is weak. I hope the hon. Railway Minister will realise it and give due attention to the proper recruitment of minorities in the railway services from chaprasis to class I officers so that the population pattern may be reflected in all categories of services.

The hon. Minister was kind enough to introduce a mail train between New Delhi and Tinsukia in response to the demand of the people of the North-Eastern region. But with utter dismay we find that he wants to satisfy the people of this area just as a mother would satisfy her child with cheap toys. I suggest that a team may be sent to examine the conditions of the Tinsukia Mail. All the rejected bogies are fitted into this train. Sometimes the passengers have to quarrel with the railway staff for water supply, lights and fans. If

(Shri Akhaz Hussain)

is also worth mentioning here that sometimes the train runs without light and passengers spend their time in panic.

The catering service in this train is also not up to the mark. Passengers take their meals only to satisfy their appetite, as they have no alternative. The authorities may please be requested to improve this with immediate effect.

The Tinsukia Mail unnecessarily takes more time than it needed. The time can be minimised by abolishing unnecessary stops, thereby making it more convenient for the passengers.

Lastly, I request the hon. Minister to add more bogies to the Tinsukia Mail or to introduce a new fast train to avoid overcrowding.

With these few words, I thank the chair for giving me this opportunity to express my views here. I also thank the hon. Minister anticipating his good services to the most backward part of the country, namely the eastern region.

DR VASANT KUMAR PANDIT (Rajgarh) I rise to congratulate the Railway Minister for presenting a very good Budget. Sir, I have known the Railway Minister for a long time. I have been for many years his colleague. I have studied the Budget very carefully and I call it a "Text-Book" budget, a "Professor's Budget". All those things which should have been there in a text-book are there. The hon. Minister is a very hard working, studious and a very painstaking person. He made a tremendous effort to present a surplus Budget. The Budget being a text-book Budget, lacks courage, dash, dynamism and boldness. These text-books are prepared by the bureaucrats. They are expert in saying how a thing cannot be done. But if the Minister feels that something needs to be done, then he should see that it should be

done and he should not go merely by the advice of the bureaucrats. That is exactly where I call it a Text-Book Budget.

Our General Budget is based on agro-oriented development, village-oriented development. But I do not find any provision for providing new lines in the backward areas to cover the infra-structure so necessary to uplift the economy of rural areas. How are the new schemes in the Budget going to be matched with the agro-industrial policy when there will be no surveys of railways in inaccessible areas, backward areas and underdeveloped regions. I am glad that the hon. Minister also comes from a backward area. He has done lot of work as far as the Konkan railway is concerned. I am also a Bombay man. But fortunately, I now come from Madhya Pradesh and from an underdeveloped area, Rajgarh, which is a specially backward area. There the problems have to be seen to be understood.

We want electrification; we want change in gauges; we want Janata food; we want amenities for the passengers. All those things are the Minister wish to take credit by saying 66 "However, no reduction was made in the allocation for new lines" Is it meant to be a compliment or an obligation on us? We wanted rather a definite statement that the backward areas would be covered. Whether the lines are economic or uneconomic, that should not be the main consideration. Certain uneconomic lines have to be taken as long term investments. They may appear uneconomical today but can be profitably developed over a period of years. The Budget lacks that.

I understand that there is no mention of new lines because of paucity of funds. That is what the Minister will reply. If you do not have funds, float new Bonds or Backward Area Development Debentures. Ask the Finance Minister. You have to raise

money specially for the construction of backward area lines. In my area, even Rajgarh, the district place, is not connected with the capital city of Madhya Pradesh. There is no plan for inter-district area connections. Therefore, I very much appeal to the hon. Minister: do not depend upon those surveys which are presented before you. Those are the old surveys done at a time when those areas were uneconomic. Therefore, I would appeal to the hon. Minister to appoint a Special Backward Area Survey Team which would do only this work. I want this new survey team to go to various places and not to only depend on those surveys which are lying in dust in the cup-boards of the bureaucrats. I repeat what the hon. Minister himself has said. He has in his speech stressed the importance and the development of backward areas. But he has not done anything more than lip service by just giving a few railway lines here and there.

As far as my own areas is concerned, I would like to make a few suggestions. I would like to give some figures for 1976-77 of total area in sq. kms., railway route in kms. and railway route length per thousand sq. kms. of area: for example Himachal Pradesh—4.65; Madhya Pradesh—12.95; ammu and Kashmir—0.55 and soon; while there are certain areas, like, West Bengal—43.44 and Punjab—42.74 on the basis of which the real development and the prosperity, of Punjab has come. There are many backward areas which are uncovered. The Madhya Pradesh Government has submitted a proposal for opening 17 new railway link lines and conversion of some existing railway lines into broad gauge. Out of these 17 new railway lines, at least one line should be immediately taken up, that is, the conversion of Gwalior-Shivpuri narrow gauge into broad gauge section and extension upto Guna and to connect it with Maksi and Devas.

There are also a few other railway lines which are to be planned, not in the normal way, but as a special case.

One is a new railway line from Ganj Basoda to Bhaora via Sironj and Latoei which will connect these two district places which are very important for forest and agricultural development. Similarly, there should be an extension of Bhopal-Vidisha shuttle train upto Bina. There should be a passenger shed on railway platform No. 2 at Ganj Bansoda. For the last 50 years, there are only two Express trains on the Central Railway from Bombay to Delhi. There should be one more new Express train on Central Railway from Bombay to Delhi. I hope, the hon. Minister will take into account all these suggestions when he plans his next budget.

We do not want to criticise against the tube railway and the ambitious scheme of having double-decker coaches and building up of bridges. If you do not find money, I think it can be done by the joint sector. The money can be found in the market by inviting the joint sector to take up these things. The tube railway can be financed by somebody and the Railways can then take it over in 15 or 20 years. On some such basis, the big schemes can be taken up. In this way, the finances can be found and the finances can be reserved for the backward areas, particularly as in Madhya Pradesh.

Before I conclude, I want to bring one important point to the notice of the hon. Minister. There is serious discrimination shown between the officers appointed by interview and those appointed by written examination. Thousands of such officers are stagnating and they are frustrated. Their seniority is in jeopardy. They have also been selected on the same basis as of the selection done by the public service commission, but on oral examination. This discrimination should go. To make the budget a completely new Janata-oriented budget next year, I hope, the Railway Minister will come forward with some bold and dynamic programme to cover the

[Dr Vasant Kumar Pandit]

inaccessible areas and cover the backward areas with a new network of lines

श्री छोट्वाई रमित (माण्डवी) : सभा-पति महोदय मैं इस सदन में पहली बार बोलने खड़ा हुआ हूँ। इस रेलवे बजट का ग्रामगौर में स्वागत हुआ है, इसलिए मैं भी उसका स्वागत करता हूँ।

मेरा निर्वाचन-क्षेत्र 19डव है, वहाँ की रेलवे का समस्याओं का ध्यान रखकर मैं कुछ बातें कहना चाहता हूँ और कुछ सुझाव देना चाहता हूँ। हमारा क्षेत्र पिछड़ा हुआ प्रादिवर्षी क्षेत्र है। वहाँ रेलवे का सुविधाएँ बहुत कम हैं। सिर्फ मूत-भुमावल रेलवे लाइन है। वरडाली मनेनगढ़, व्याग, ताल्लुका मयक आये हुए हैं। मंडी और बार-डाँची सानगढ़ स्टेशन के नजदीक कई वर्षों में फुट आवर ब्रिज बनाने के लिए माग की गई है। सोनगढ़ लक्डी का डिपा है, वहाँ मल पावर स्टेशन है वहाँ हर राज बस्तु लाने ले जाने के लिए करीब 50 वैगन आने जाते रहते हैं। इसलिए वहाँ पर लागा कोबडी भोड रहती है। वहाँ फुट आवर ब्रिज न हान से प्रादिवर्षी-मियो के एक्मोडेट होने रहते हैं। ईस्टर्न रेलवे के सुपरिस्टेडेट में आवर ब्रिज के लिए सर्वेक्षण किया है और उनकी मिफारिशें भी रेल मंत्रालय का भेजी है लेकिन अभी तक कुछ नहीं हुआ है।

इस बजट में भी मन देखा है कि वहाँ पर फुट आवर ब्रिज बनाने के लिए कोई सुविधा नहीं है। मैं रेल मंत्री को बिनती करता हूँ कि मांगड बारडोली, मंडी और व्याग में फुट आवर ब्रिज बनाने के लिए शीघ्र ही धनराशि का प्रबंध करें और इसका निर्माण कार्य कराये।

गुजरात में प्रादिवर्षियों की बहुत बड़ी संख्या है। भ्रमरा जी से धर्मपुर तक गुजरात की पूर्वी दिशा में पहाड़ी क्षेत्र की पट्टी आई है जिसमें प्रादिवर्षी लोग रहते हैं। यह क्षेत्र

बहुत पिछड़ा हुआ है, वहाँ रेल और कम्प्यू-निकेसन्स की कोई सुविधा नहीं है। इस क्षेत्र का पिछड़ापन दिन-ब-दिन बढ़ता जा रहा है। इपनिचे इस क्षेत्र के धर्मपुर, बगई, बासवा थारा माडवी, राजपिपला भोडामा साम-लाजी तक नई रेलवे लाइन बनाने के लिए मैं सुझाव देता हूँ।

रेल मंत्री जी ने बार-बार इस सदन में और सदन के बाहर प्रादिवर्षी और पिछड़े क्षेत्रों के विकास के लिए रेल सुविधा देने का आश्वासन दिया है। मैं आशा रखता हूँ कि समग्र गुजरात के प्रादिवर्षियों के लिए और पिछड़े क्षेत्रों के विकास के लिए यह रेलवे लाइन बहन उपरानी हागी इसके लक्षण सुविधाएँ, प्रदान कर और इस रेल लाइन का दन व लिए जा कार्य-वाही करने का वह करें

सूरत गुजरात का प्रमुख और महत्वपूर्ण शहर है। वहाँ कई गाडियाँ रकती हैं। वहाँ नगर सरकार और राज्य सरकार के कई महत्वपूर्ण आफिस भी हैं और बड़े आर्थारिक मस्थान भी हैं। लेकिन फिर भी वहाँ राजधानी एक्मप्रेस नहीं रकती है। सूरत में बहुत लागा का दिल्ली बम्बई अहमदाबाद तुरन्त आना जाना हाता है। वहाँ के लागा की त्रास माग है कि राजधानी एक्मप्रेस रुकने के लिए तुरन्त निर्णय लिया जाय। मैं आशा करता हूँ कि मंत्री महादय इस आग्रह ध्यान देगे। और राजधानी एक्मप्रेस रुकाने का तुरन्त नणय ले और लागा की त्रास मागे पूरा करने की प्रार्थना करता हूँ।

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER (Durgapur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, on page 8 of his speech, the Railway Minister has stated

'With the increase in population and increase in industrial and agricultural output, Railways have to keep pace with the developments through provision of transport facilities in areas where these have been lacking and increased facilities where these are inadequate to

meet the demands of the travelling public, as well as the industrial and agricultural sectors."

In West Bengal, Durgapur, Raniganj and Asansol are very important industrial areas—with steel, coal, power and engineering industries. This belt is called the RUHR of India

I have made many representations—Members from all other Parties also have made representations—that the Burdwan—Asansol section should be declared as a suburban section. It is very important because lakhs and lakhs of people are not getting adequate facilities to go from Asansol to Calcutta via Burdwan. Lakhs of people have been agitating for this. I would request the hon. Minister to declare this section as a suburban section of the Eastern Railway.

Bandal-Katwa has been declared as a suburban section, but there are not enough trains. There is only a single line. I would request the hon. Minister to have a double line constructed and also have electrification done.

From Bankura to Raina there is a narrow gauge line called Bankura-Damodar railway. It is running through a very backward area. I would request him for improvement of this section.

I am told that from Raniganj via Bankura to Haldia, the survey has been completed. This is the shortest route from Raniganj to Haldia. If this line is constructed, coal can be transported to Haldia through this route at the cheapest rate and at the earliest possible time. This is a backward area—Bankura and Purulia districts. If this railway line is constructed, then new industries can come up in this backward area; it will help industrialisation of this backward area.

The Katwa-Burdwan and Katwa-Ahmedpur narrow gauge lines are neglected. These should be looked into.

There is one level crossing near Durgapur Station. That road connects the G.T. Road to Bankura, Purulia, Jamshedpur and Ranchi. This is a very important level crossing. I would request the Railway Ministry to construct a fly-over there.

It takes ten to twelve hours to go from Purulia via Bankura to Howrah. I am told that already a trial run was made with a fast train. I request that one fast train be introduced from Purulia via Bankura to Howrah. The timings should be fixed in such a way that it reaches Howrah by 10.00 a.m.

When the hon. Minister was in the Opposition he spoke eloquently about bonus for railway-men; he said that it was a deferred wage and all that. Now, being the Minister, he has forgotten that. The railwaymen are agitating for this. I request him to do something in this regard.

Previously the hon. Minister demanded that the Railway Board should be abolished, it was a white elephant....

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): I never demanded 'abolition'; I wanted restructuring.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: Restructuring will not do. I would request for abolition of the Railway Board.

Calcutta is the largest city of our country. Remodelling of the Howrah Station should be done immediately because a number of trains go from there to Delhi, Bombay and other places. I raised this point last year, but it has not yet been done.

With these words, I conclude.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Everybody is worried about new lines. But you seem to be worried about fast trains!

[Mr. Chairman]

Now the Railway Minister. Before you start, you will appreciate the anxiety of many Members who wanted to participate but could not. They come from a backward region and I also come from a backward region. As Shri Halder has correctly put it, when you were in the Opposition, you were very sympathetic....

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:
Sir, I also come from a backward area.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I know you will take care of your area at least; but don't forget our areas.

MR. MADHU DANDAVATE: Mr. Chairman, at the very outset let me express my gratitude to the Members on both sides of this House for having given broad general support not only to the Budget proposals but also to the performance of the Railways, in which the Railway workers have a great share.

Sir about 150 suggestions have been made and some of the important policy issues also have been framed in the course of the debate. I will try to concentrate on the policy issues and I will continue the practice of last year, of writing to all the Members who have made specific suggestions regarding local problems, and I will try to give utmost satisfaction to the Members as far as possible, as in the past.

During the last two or three days, a number of Members participated in the debate. Shri Qureshi, with his background of administrative experience, tried to put forward certain problems regarding finances efficiency in operation and so many other problems. Then, some trade-unionists like Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan, Shri Samar Mukherjee, Shri Stephen and others brought to bear a very good impression on the entire subject with their trade-union background and, as they have seen the entire undertaking from within, from the

point of view of the working class, they have also projected certain policy issues. I was very happy to find that from the rural areas our friends like Shri Yamuna Prasad Shastri, Shri Hukam Dev Narain Yadav, Shri Tej Pratap Singh and many others who are deeply rooted into the soil of this country in the rural areas, have projected the aspirations of the rural population regarding the Railways and their functioning. I was also happy to find that my friends Shri B. C. Kamble and Shri Gawai have projected effectively some of the important problems of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and they showed their anxiety that this problem should be taken up with greater vigour.

Sir, one of the criticisms that was made by some friends including Shri Banatwalla was that, though the proposals are welcome, the Budget proposals lack a thrust, they lack new thinking and they lack a new radical approach.

Let me make it very clear at the outset that the Budget proposals have been framed within certain parameters of the existing financial system. We have a certain system of finances and I must admit that this Budget has been framed, at this stage, within the parameters of the existing system of finances. But I have not stopped at that. I am at one with some of the Members who suggested a radical change in the entire financial system so that we would be able to construct new lines in some of the backward regions of the country. For that, certain problems have to be reviewed. It is not very customary to suggest these changes in the Budget speech. Probably a conventional approach would have barred me from making concrete suggestions regarding changing the entire system of finances.

Very briefly, I have made suggestions and I would like to summarise them and try to spell out some of the details. I have suggested that the entire capital structure of the Rail-

ways has to be reviewed radically. Then, again, I have discussed the problem of 'social obligations'—if some people feel that the term 'social burdens' is rather jarring to them. Then I also discussed the problem of indebtedness and made a certain concrete suggestion regarding the Development Fund. Today, what is the position? Even though I have been able to estimate a surplus of the order of Rs. 89 crores at the end of this financial year, what will be the use of this surplus as far as developmental activities of the Railways are concerned. If we accept the old framework of the financial system, then what happens at present is that whatever is the surplus that is generated by the Railways with the cooperation of the passengers and also of the Railway employees, the entire surplus is utilised to wipe out a substantial portion of the old debts—that is, the debts of the Railways towards the General Revenues. At present the surplus is completely exhausted in wiping out a part of the past debts that have accumulated because, in the past, Government was not able to meet, for a number of years, the dividend obligations of the Railways to the General Revenues from the internal resources of the Railways. As a result of that, in the past on a number of occasions, the railways were not able to meet the dividend obligations to the general revenue from the internal resources of the railways, and therefore, that became a debt of the railways from the general revenues. That went on moving upwards and here are very interesting figures. In 1973-74, the debt was Rs. 208 crores, in 1974-75 it went up to 379 crores. In 1975-76, it further went up to Rs. 460 crores. When the Janata Government came to power, the debt came down in 1977-78 to 368.66 crores and in 1978-79 we will reduce it further and we estimate that it would be Rs. 345.37 crores.

I would like to point out that the social obligations are of the order of Rs. 170 crores. We are spending Rs.

69 crores from our revenues because we are carrying a number of essential commodities below cost. We are losing Rs. 80 crores on some coaching and suburban services and we are losing another Rs. 21 crores on uneconomic lines. Thus, the total social obligations are of the order of Rs. 170 crores and they are all met from the internal revenues of the railways.

I have made certain concrete proposals. The Finance Ministry, the Planning Commission, a number of trade unions and the Members from both the Houses will have to discuss them and I hope, the Members will come to my help. I have concretely suggested that rather than allowing the entire surplus to be utilised merely to neutralise or pay back a portion of the debts, we should be allowed to build up a development fund out of the surplus. And this fund should be made available for the construction of lines in the backward areas. Only then, we will be able to satisfy the aspirations of the rural population of the country. This is a concrete proposal that I have made in my budget speech. We are taking up with the Planning Commission and the Finance Ministry and I am sure, some way can be found out as far as these problems are concerned.

I will now come to a very important aspect to which my hon. friend Shri Stephen, had referred. He started with a criticism in the sense that though the concessions given and whatever surpluses generated are welcome features, yet he pointed out and sounded a note of warning for the future developments to take place. He said that if you look at the gross traffic earnings of the railways for the last several years, gradually the increase is decreasing. No doubt, there is some improvement over the previous years, but by statistics he tried to point out—and these statistics are correct—that the increase in gross traffic earnings in 1975-76 as compared to the previous year was Rs. 358.81

[Prof Madhu Dandavate]

crores. Then as compared to the previous year, the increase in gross traffic receipts in 1976-77 was Rs 269 crores in 1977-78 Rs 95.5 crores and in 1978-79 Rs 88.25 crores. He indicated that gradually the increase has been going down. But he is caught in his own trap. He only tried to reveal one aspect of the statistics. While he has quoted the statistics and shown that every year the downward trend in gross earnings is increasing and that this year and the next year, the situation is likely to be as dangerous as in the past. I would like to point out to him that in the past it appeared as if the increase was more but let us not forget the fact that when he gave all the past figures and compared them to the gross earnings in the previous years, he forgot to tell the House that on every occasion they had indulged in increase in freight rates and fares and as a result of that only they were able to show a slight increase. However, the facts and figures available show that in 1973-74 the extra revenue due to increase in freight and fare was Rs 43.20 crores and in 1974-75 it was Rs 136.38 crores. Again we had a supplementary budget in which the increase was Rs 133.47 crores. Then in 1975-76 it was Rs 39 crores 1976-77—Rs 87.35 crores and of course in the last 1977-78 budget it is nil and 1978-79—increase is nil. Therefore when he tries to indicate certain figures to build up a case that under the previous government and under the previous railway administration there were substantial increases in the gross earnings, he forgot to mention the very important aspect that every time they indulged in increases in fares and freights and as a result of that only they could indicate certain progress in the gross earnings.

When I am on this point let me discuss the problem of new lines. I fully stand committed to the problem and the perspective that not only from the point of view of the Railways but also even from the point of

view of the general development of the economy in backward areas, railways have to constitute an important infra-structure in this country. We cannot judge this merely by the returns that are available. There are two types of possibilities. On certain lines the returns might not be adequate. But probably in certain lines there is a traffic potential and if the development of railways takes place there might be a possibility of certain industries coming up. That also has to be taken into account. But to-day what happens? If you look at the entire chapter on new lines, you will find only Rs 28.68 crores have been allocated by the Planning Commission for construction of new lines. My entire strategy has been within the constraints that are there to achieve the maximum result. Many members are under the impression and particularly new members are under the impression that whatever lines the railway administration wants all of them can straightforwardly be included in the budget. Let me tell them that there are various layers of decision. We have to send them to the Planning Commission. We have to go in for the surveys, we calculate the cost estimates and we tell them what exact outlay is required and looking to the total financial allocation that is available they try to fit them into the picture and it is only then that certain lines are approved for construction. Therefore the suggestion that we have made over here if accepted—I am sure looking into the speeches of various hon. members, trade unions and non-trade unionists and almost all members have accepted it—and if these surpluses are made available for the development fund then a lot of new construction activities can be taken up and whatever allocations are made by the Planning Commission we can utilise them for these lines which are economically viable and for those lines which are in the developed areas as far as the portion of surpluses that accrues to the Development Fund. It can be utilised in order to build up the infra-structure in the backward areas.

Within these constraints the entire problem has to be solved. Therefore, what we have done is that we have taken also the States in which certain backward areas are there and I have tried my best to see that the conversion schemes and similarly, surveys of new lines, the location survey, the engineering survey and construction of the lines—all of them are so distributed that almost every region in which there are backward areas is covered. In this country, who can forget States like Bihar and MP in which there are maximum number of backward regions? Who can forget the North-East zone in which there are backward regions and regions in which there is a big chunk of tribal population? Therefore, what we have tried to do is that as far as the conversion schemes are concerned and as far as approved works are concerned, we tried to distribute them evenly. For instance, there are certain approved works for which allocations are not available—say for Barabanki-Samastipur conversion work, more allocations are made available. For instance, in a region like Bihar, Barauni-Katihar—this is the only conversion work that has been taken up in this Budget. This is also in the backward area. And as far as the new surveys are concerned; you find Khalilabad-Balarampur and Konch Jalaun lines in Uttar Pradesh and Lalitpur to Singrauli via Khajuraho, Satna and Dows in Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh have also been ordered. In addition, preliminary engineering-cum-traffic survey for Barwadih-Karonji line in Bihar and Madhya Pradesh has also been included. Similarly in the south, there are certain areas where projects are being speeded up. Therefore, whether it is a question of Andhra or a question of Kerala or a question of Tamil Nadu....

AN HON. MEMBER: What about Agartala.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I am coming to that, I want to make a specific promise here.

All these areas are taken up. Let us come to North-East Zone which is a very sensitive area. I have discussed the matter with the Chief Minister of Tripura. I have also discussed the matter with the MPs from Tripura and I assure them that in this sensitive zone we have already recommended certain lines. One welcome feature here is that the North-Eastern Council has already recommended certain short route railway lines, from this, the Dharamnagar-Kumarghat line in Tripura has already been included. We have been officially informed by the Planning Commission in respect of all the lines that have been submitted and recommended by the North Eastern Council which includes this particular line in Tripura. They will be discussed and besides whatever has been allotted here, because it is a sensitive area in the North East Zone, special consideration will be shown. Fortunately, for this particular line in Tripura, not only the Railway Administration has recommended but the North East Zone has also recommended. I, therefore, assure the Chief Minister of Tripura that we will continue to plead and press for that particular line so that the requirements of this important sensitive area can be met properly.

Friends, when I say that particular sensitive zone, I mean all the lines already recommended by the North Eastern Council. Planning Commission will decide the priority. I made a mention of the particular line because Shri Samar Mukherjee made a pointed reference and the Chief Minister wanted me to make a further clarification on this very point. Therefore, I have referred to that.

As far as the question of surplus is concerned, the trade unionists and others have raised a very important issue and I join them in projecting that issue once more here. Rightly it was pointed out that we have shown a surplus of the order of Rs. 65 crores. After I presented my budget on 21-2-78 the General Budget was submitted to this House by Shri H. M. Patel on 28-2-78. There are certain conse-

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quences but they will not be as alarming as some Members would like to point out. I would like to quantify what exactly will be the burden. We have shown actually a surplus of Rs. 65.43 crores. I would like to take the House into confidence. As a result of the General Budget, what will be the additional expenditure in terms of fuel expenditure and other expenditure that we will be incurring. We have already made rough calculations. Due to an excise levy on coal we will be required to spend an additional sum of Rs. 6.30 crores. due to increase in excise on diesel oil we will be required to pay Rs. 1.94 crores more. Because of excise levy on electricity we will be required to pay Rs. 6.34 crores more and for special excise duty we will be required to pay Rs. 5 crores. The entire amount works out to Rs. 19.58 crores. This will be the additional burden. But I can assure this House, though the burden is of the order of Rs. 19.58 crores (I might be slightly erring on this side or that side but it will be of the order of Rs. 20 crores), we shall make every possible effort to see that wasteful expenditure is avoided. Without imposing any ban on the employment we will be trying to find out certain methods by which further economies will be introduced and as a result of that we will try to cut down the additional burden to the tune of Rs. 19 crores or as much as possible. That will be the course that we will be adopting.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN (Coimbatore): Did you calculate dearness allowance?

PROF MADHU DANDAVATE: We have understood you so well that I kept those figures ready also.

Shrimati Parvati Krishnan and a number of others in this House had raised the question regarding surpluses that are slightly going down. Shri Stephen specifically made a point that whereas we are estimating a surplus of the order of Rs. 89.3 crores

for 1977-78, our estimate of the surplus for 1978-79 is Rs. 65.43 crores. A number of members indicated how is it that we have not given proper explanation as to how it has happened.

In a very brief enunciation I have already stated as to why this surplus is likely to come down. You will find that as far as the traffic is concerned, it is on the increase. When the traffic increases we are bound to increase our expenditure. So, working expenses were increased.

But, that apart, there are certain commitments made to the staff and they have to be fulfilled. For instance we had already announced in this House that a new additional Dearness Allowance instalment would be paid from 1st of September. This Budget already makes provision from 1st of September upto the 31st of March. That amount is also to be taken into account. In addition, further instalments of additional emoluments will be there. Additional D.A. will be there. As a result of that we find that the entire surplus is expected to come down from Rs. 89 crores this year to Rs. 65 crores next year. You have what is yet to be paid, but that apart, even in respect of what has been paid, that particular amount is only upto March. For the entire year we will have to make payment of the D.A. So, in view of the increased traffic and also because of the additional burden of the D.A. this is necessary. But for that the surplus would have been much higher. That is the reason why the surplus has come down to Rs. 65.43 crores.

Then there is one very important aspect that Mrs. Parvathi Krishnan has raised. That is very relevant. She has been repeatedly saying that the Minister has been keeping his eyes..

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: I did not say you have kept your eyes. You have not kept your eyes. You claimed that you kept your eyes..

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I am going to tell you about that.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: Why there is no reflection in your speech?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: If there is certain lacunae in the original speech, I am trying to provide the necessary information while replying. Just listen to me. I want to point out that she has already raised the issue. She has raised it on a number of occasions in the Consultative Committee also. Her constant concern has been that we have three modes of transport, the Railways, Shipping and Motor Transport, and there has not been adequate coordination. That has been her concern. When I said in this House that a 19-Member Committee is discussing various aspects of it, I said, this aspect will also be taken note of. On that occasion, Mrs. Parvathi Krishnan pointed out saying, you must make a specific suggestion and get it accepted by them. Well, I want to point out that we have made formal communication to the Planning Commission and I am very happy to inform the House that, now the Planning Commission will not be satisfied by merely treating that as one of the items to be considered by the 19-Member Team, but they have accepted our proposal and the Planning Commission is going to set up a separate team exclusively to discuss and formulate an integrated policy between Railways, Shipping and also Motor Transport.

Then, there is the very important aspect of Safety, Sir. As far as the safety aspect is concerned, I am happy to find that sometime back when we discussed the problem of accidents, without adopting any sort of partisan attitude, Members from both sides of the House made certain categorical and constructive suggestions.

We accepted a number of those suggestions and we tried to implement them. As a result, we find that as far as the accident position is con-

cerned, in certain spheres, the number of accidents has considerably decreased.

15.40 hrs.

Firstly, let me point out to you that from April to February, the suspected cases of sabotage were 120. I had already informed the House in reply to one of the questions that out of that, eight had resulted in accidents. We had accepted certain suggestions made in the House and 11,000 R.P.F. men and 14,000 gangmen were put for patrolling in various railways. I am very happy to indicate that, as a result of this patrolling effectively done by our gangmen and also by the RPF men, after 23rd December, not a single accident had taken place due to act of sabotage—not that the efforts were not made—and we have been able to detect 20 cases through the cooperation of the patrolling men who were able to find out 20 cases where there was tampering with the rails, tampering with the fish plates. Because the employees were able to do it in time these 20 accidents were avoided and, as a result of that, the number of accidents had come down.

While Mr. Qureshi was referring to the accidents, he again quoted certain statistics. Statistics is a double edged weapon. If you try to use it only in one particular direction, somebody may try to use the other side also. And that is exactly what has happened in the case of accidents. You will find that while talking about the position of the accidents over the last several years, you will find that excepting only for one particular year, the position of accidents is not bad. In 1977-78, in the 11 months, there had been 805 accidents, which include even a fire in a coach—just a slipping of one wheel of a coach—and no death involved at all, no injury at all. But, what we call accidents in railway parlance, there have been 805 accidents in 1977-78. How do they compare with the earlier accidents? In 1974-75, the num-

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ber of accidents was 847; in 1975-76 the number of accidents was 900 and only in 1976-77 it was 1720. Now, there are 805.

SHRI G. S. MISHRA (Chhindwara)
How many persons died in the previous accidents?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:
Please excuse me. In this very House I had given in my reply to a question as to how many accidents had taken place during the last ten years and how many people had died. Therefore, I do not want to repeat the entire chart. I have already given it to the House.

AN HON. MEMBER: Are you satisfied with this?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:
You have not understood what I have been saying. I say that I am not satisfied even with this because I want the number to go down and come to a stage in which there will be perfect safety, there will be no room for accidents at all. I am looking for that particular ideal stage and preparations are being made. But I must specially mention that the performance in the last few months in this particular direction is very heartening. There are 1300 trunk routes Stations in this country and in 820 stations we have already completed the process of circuiting of the track. By 31st March, we will be completing the circuiting of the tracks at 50 more and in 25 stations we will complete the process of circuiting from Fouling Mark to the advanced starter. The rest of the tracks will be circuiting by the year 1981. That is the programme.

There is another aspect to which I would like to make a reference. One of the aspects that is responsible for the accidents is not the failure of the staff not because of the sabotage but because of the material of the rails. For the last several years, say, the last

15 to 20 years, there has been a backlog in the replacement of the rails which we call 'primary renewals of the rail on the trunk routes'. We have 61,000 K.M. of track; of the 16,000 K.M. of this track on the trunk routes, 5,500 km. require immediate primary renewal. That means they have to be changed and if these track are not changed what will be the result? Just as the bone undergoes a multiple fracture, you will find the rails also will undergo a multiple fracture. Sometime back there were 11 multiple fractures. It happened when the Assam Mail was running on one of the routes. There was of course not a total derailment or capsizement but immediately the train came to a halt. But this is a dangerous proposition. We require in the first five years for the primary renewals of the track Rs. 560 crores and for the coming year, we require Rs. 100 crores. But, unfortunately, we have been given only Rs. 70 crores by the Planning Commission. I understand that there will be certain financial constraints and, as a result of that, where we require Rs. 100 crores, if they give Rs. 70 crores, it will be our constant endeavour to effect certain economies somewhere else. We will give priority to track renewal work so that we do not suffer because of bad tracks. Therefore, the rail track primary renewals will be completed. That is one aspect.

There is another interesting thing. I hope the House will congratulate our scientists of RDSO and the Indian Institute of Technology: I would like the Members to go to the Rail Bhawan and see how an axle counter has been produced indigenously in this country without any component being imported from outside. That is the contribution made by the Indian Institute of Technology and RDSO. We will have a number of such axle counters. Their advantage lies in ensuring safety. If on a particular track there is some train which is stationary or moving and some other train is likely to enter

that region with the help of axle counters we can find out that some train is already standing in that particular region. They are useful in more than one way. There is short supply of wooden sleepers. If we are able to supplement track circuiting by axle counters more safety can be ensured.

Sir, we are told that we must have automatic warning system. I am happy to indicate that we have been able to develop an automatic warning system in which when the driver is moving a particular locomotive sometimes he sees that there is a red signal but sometimes when he is exhausted or absent minded he sees the red signal but does not take cognizance of that. In that situation the automatic warning system with the track magnets gives a whistle in the locomotive. If that whistle is heard by the driver he knows that there is a red signal. Even if he is absent minded further and does not take note of the whistle as well there is a system that automatic brakes get applied. At the moment these systems are being operated in two routes—Howrah-Burdwan and Gaya-Mughalsarai. These two routes have been chosen for an experimental trial because we wanted to take high-density route. These two routes are very high density routes. If we succeed here, the success will be there on other routes also.

Now, Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will say a few words about electrification. Some hon'ble Members have made suggestions for electrification on a national level. Mrs. Parvathi Krishnan and others have suggested that more electrification should be introduced in Tamil Nadu. Friends from Kerala want electrification to be introduced there and so also was the demand for electrification in the north. Let me make it clear that in terms of economies amongst all the three tractions that we are able to utilise no doubt electric traction is the cheapest. For instance, for 1,000

gross tonne-km., the amount that has to be spent on the consumption of coal, that is, steam traction is near-about Rs. 9. In the case of diesel traction it is Rs. 5 whereas in the case of electric traction we spend only Rs. 4. It is a cheaper thing but the snag is elsewhere. Though electric traction is very very cheap, as far as capital investment for electrifying a route of one kilometre is concerned, it is between Rs. 10 lakhs to Rs. 13 lakhs. At RDSO, Lucknow, work is in progress to reduce this initial capital investment. If that is done, electrification can be increased to a great extent.

Today the position is that as far as Goods Trains are concerned 22 per cent of the trains are run on steam traction; 54 per cent on diesel traction and 24 per cent on electric traction. As far as Passenger/Mail and Express trains are concerned, the figures are 60 per cent on steam traction; 20 per cent on diesel traction and 20 per cent on electric traction. It will be our constant endeavour to see that we are able to raise the percentage of electrification and I am sure that in this process like other States, Tamil Nadu will not be neglected at all. For instance, it was pointed out that dieselisation of Nilgiris Express should be taken up. In that connection, I may tell you that we will fix up the priorities. As for as the figures are concerned, I have said that 54 per cent of the dieselisation is in the case of goods trains and we have to give them priority because dieselisation gives greater hauling capacity for our goods trains and therefore we have to give first priority to goods trains. But gradually we will go to other trains. Therefore, whatever locomotives are available, we will see to it that they are equitably utilised for dieselisation in other parts of the country.

Then there was an issue raised by our friends from West Bengal as also other friends. That is regarding the

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underground railway in Calcutta. Here I want to remove one misunderstanding on the basis of the facts and figures that are available. Firstly, it is taken for granted that the cost of the underground railway is of the order of Rs. 2500 crores and this year we have been told that we would get only Rs. 11.0 crores. So far we have been able to spend only Rs. 31.0 crores. Many friends from West Bengal have indicated that at this rate if we try to proceed with the implementation of Calcutta underground railway, it will take considerable time. There is one happy aspect of this problem which will have soothing effect on our friends who earnestly desire that this thing should be completed soon. The cost of the entire project is Rs. 250 crores and I have got the break-up of that cost and fortunately I find that out of Rs. 250 crores, which is the total cost of the underground railway in Calcutta only, Rs. 143.0 crores will be required for the Civil Engineering construction work. And for all other works, more expenditure will be required to be incurred which can be taken up at a later stage. Therefore, really speaking, the expenditure on the construction work for the underground railway will be Rs. 143.0 crores only.

AN HON. MEMBER: What about the escalation in price?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Rs. 31.0 crores have already been spent. For the coming year, an amount of Rs. 11.0 crores has been given and we shall see to it that the allocation also gradually increases. You cannot take it for granted that the allocation is always increasing in arithmetical proportion. We can give more allocation. If there is an escalation in prices, even for the construction work, which is Rs. 143.0 crores at present, is likely to go up: I fully accept and endorse the views of my friends here taking into ac-

count the experience of Calcutta what should be our approach to the underground railway in Delhi, Madras and Bombay. As far as Bombay is concerned, on a number of occasions, Members of the Bombay Municipal Corporation have already said that "we do not want this white elephant in Bombay" because they are afraid that if such underground schemes are undertaken in Bombay, in that case the expenditure on the development of hinterland will not be made and the facilities given to the working class travelling in the local trains will suffer as a result of that. Public opinion has veered to this particular point that even if there is a surface transport, it does not matter; it can be rationalised; it can be brought about in a more effective way and we need not go into this and the Railway Administration has already taken a decision that as far as Delhi, Bombay and Madras are concerned, we will not spend on underground projects, but on projects which are economically better and which will give better return and that is the approach that we have adopted. And if this money is saved, we will have some additional allocations to be spent on the development of other lines.

Sir, there was a lot of discussion regarding restructuring of the Railway Board. There are two aspects. Unfortunately those who criticise the process of restructuring of the Railway Board concentrate cynically only on the size of the Railway Board. The leaner shape and size of the Railway Board is only a small aspect of the restructuring. I have made it clear. Those Members who were in the last Lok Sabha will bear me out, in every debate on Railways in which I had participated—and generally I participated every year—I was not one of those who wanted that the Railway Board should be abolished. Consistently, I have been saying that I wanted restructuring of the Railway Board. I was not silent on that

point. Even I feel that there are certain advantages of doing this as compared to the I.A.S. pattern. And what is the pattern? Who go to the Railway Board? All those who are in the Engineering Section, Mechanical Section, Operating Section, are working there as technicians for a number of years. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI DHIRENDRANATH BASU (Katwa): The Divisional Superintendents and the General Managers have been vested with more powers. What is the necessity of restructuring the Railway Board?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: That is one aspect; I will explain that point. I have here what are the powers that are actually devolved. The structure of the Railway Board is essentially functional. Technicians, engineers are there; they become general managers; the senior among them become members of the Railway Board and the senior among them becomes the Chairman. Even in the past I have had no quarrel with that machinery of the Railway Board. I wanted that its powers should be devolved and restructured. The linear size of the Railway Board is only one small aspect. The more important thing is the other thing. We have spelled out all the details as far as administrative and financial powers are concerned. The whole chart is ready. We have taken certain financial powers of the Minister and given them to the Board certain administrative and financial powers have been quantified and they had been transferred from the Railway Board to the zonal managers. Certain powers have been transferred from the zonal level to the divisional level. And the last exercise is already being done. Repeatedly in this House Members from both sides have put forward the view that merely devolving the power upto the zonal level is not enough; the divisional superintendent the structure at the divisional level is important. Past experience shows that a number

of problems at the divisional level, sometimes at the zonal level do not get settled because ultimately the problems had to be carried to the Railway Board where a decision had to be taken and when that percolated back to the divisional level, then only it was implemented. When we try to implement the devolution or delegation of power, in terms of the experience of the Members, if the Members point out to me that further devolution is necessary in respect of financial powers, in that case I shall accept all the constructive proposals and we shall try to make the reorganisation and restructuring of the Railway Board a great success. That is the approach we have taken.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN (Idukki): Are you satisfied with the devolution of powers as contemplated by the Administrative Reforms Commission? Has that taken place completely?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: In fact I have gone ahead further. I have gone through the recommendations of the Administrative Reforms Commission. They have only indicated that there should be devolution and delegation of powers; they had not spelled it out and we had tried to do it. I can assure every Member of this House that any further constructive proposal for devolution or delegation of powers would be given full consideration. If you point out that those are the lacunae, we will always accept your proposals and see that the reorganised Railway Board functions more effectively.

AN HON MEMBER: Have the representatives of Railwaymen's union been associated in this?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: There are different levels at which they are associated. Now, who are the members of the Railway Board? They are not IAS officers brought from outside. They are people coming from various faculties; they are

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railwaymen themselves; they are technicians, engineers and so on. After some time they become general managers. As far as participation is concerned, we have a corporate enterprise group in which representatives of the recognised federations, representatives of the officers federations, members of the Railway Board and the Minister are all there and they discuss important policy matters. It was functioning at the central level and we felt that it must be taken down. We accepted the suggestions of the trade unionists. We have taken it even to the zonal level and divisional level and it is functioning. There is room for further improvement and we are trying to maintain their participation

बौधरी बलबीर सिंह (होशियारपुर) :
इमने नौकरशाही और ज्यादा गड़बड़ तो नहीं करेगी क्या कि वह और ज्यादा ताकतवर हो जाएगी ?

प्रो० मधु दण्डवते : वह कम हो जाय इसलिए यह रास्ता इस्तेमाल कर रहे हैं। आप ने जो कहा है वह ठीक है लेकिन यह न हो जाए इसलिए यह रास्ता हम इस्तेमाल कर रहे हैं।

बौधरी बलबीर सिंह : इस वक्त मारे मुल्क के गवर्निमेंटेशन में जितनी गड़बड़ है उस की वजह सिर्फ यह है कि नौकरशाही जो है वह छा गई है और जो मिनिस्टर करना चाहते हैं वह नहीं होने देते। इसलिए कही यह नौकरशाही और ज्यादा पावरफुल हो कर जो गड़बड़ हो रही है उस को और ज्यादा खराब न करे उस के लिये क्या कर रहे हैं ?

प्रो० मधु दण्डवते : आपका मुझाब ठीक है उस पर हम अमल करने की कांशिश कर रहे हैं :

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:
Prof. Mavalankar and others raised a question and this question was raised

by a number of States also, including Gujarat, Bengal, Punjab and Haryana. For some time there was a little dislocation as far as the allocation of wagons is concerned in the case of salt, coal and some other raw materials. Firstly, we have given clear instructions that top priority should be given to the movement of coal, foodgrains, salt and all these requirements because in that case, a lot of dislocation takes place. For some time, there was a little dislocation. But those who had complained to us have already written that now to a very great extent the problem has been solved. The difficulty is this. Some industrialists come to us and tell that the coal is being released but our wagons are not available, they go and meet the Energy Minister and say that the wagons are available, but the coal is not being released. Only when the Energy Minister and the Railway Minister meet together in the Cabinet meeting and exchange notes, they come to know what exactly is happening and therefore, only after the coordination, we come to know what are the facts. We have asked all the persons concerned and all the Governments concerned about this problem. I have received only yesterday a letter from a Punjab Minister that to a very great extent the problem has been solved. Similarly in the case of salt, as far as the small manufacturers are concerned, due to some order that was prevalent in the past, some difficulty was created and that order has been withdrawn and as a result of that the small manufacturer of salt will not suffer at all.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR (Gandhinagar): Why don't you let the coordination percolate downwards from the Cabinet so that there is more coordination?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:
Our friends, Mr. B. C. Kamble and a number of others have made certain references to the problems of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tri-

bes and backward classes. I am very much aware of it. I must tell you frankly that as far as this question is concerned, I would very much like the Trade Unionists to help me in this respect. There is a statutory provision for reservation for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and I am very proud to say that as far as the shortfalls are concerned, they are the least in the Railways. But even, then, I am not satisfied. I would like to point out our difficulty to the House. Whenever we go to certain industrial centres in the Railways, and meet certain trade unionists—I do not blame the top leadership of the trade unions—but some local trade unionists come to us and say: "If you give this preferential opportunity to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, then in that case our promotions and seniority are lost." To them my reply is, those who have lost social seniority for thousands of years we will have to make up for that backlog and therefore, this preferential treatment will have to be given. Therefore, on this issue, our Ministry will not budge even an inch. Whatever statutory provisions are there, they have to be complied with.

Sometimes when the Scheduled Caste candidates come for specific jobs, their performance may not be good. But we do not want them to be deprived of the job. We have opened training centres, where they can equip themselves better and give better performance. As far as the performance is concerned, the percentage of marks that is fixed for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is lower as compared to others. So, we will take care of that particular aspect and try to solve the problem.

AN HON. MEMBER: What about minority community?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: As far as the minority community is

concerned, there is no statutory provision. But you can rest assured that with my spirit of secularism I shall not allow the minorities to suffer only because they belong to the minority community. It is a solemn assurance that I would like to give to the Members of this House.

AN HON. MEMBER: What about economically backward people?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: That is a different aspect. Do not mix it up.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: Do not forget women in the process.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Not at all. I hope, Shrimati Parvathi does not want women to be described as backward classes.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: I am not saying this in a light vein, because recently when I had been to Guntakal there are women ELR, who have been refused to be given work and they were told by the DEN: "Since you are getting equal pay for equal work, what advantage is there for me. Therefore, I will not give you work." That is why, I say, do not neglect women because there are a large number of women and this problem is coming up.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Madam, you must be happy that he has now posted all women at the counters also.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I fully share the sentiments of Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan. Actually for taking a sympathetic attitude towards women, I am in the dock.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: 50 per cent of the population will be supporting the Minister on this.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I am not referring to this. For having adopted this attitude, I have started getting letters from the male members of the Railway establishment, which say that I am doing injustice to them. I wish to make this clear: while our experience shows that wherever women are posted at various counters, the malpractices are comparatively less, I don't want to cast any aspersion on the male species; but this is a fact. And only that I indicated in my speech. (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Time is very limited. The Minister has to conclude his speech.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: At 3.30, the Private Members' Business is to start. As far as the problems of the staff are concerned, a number of issues are taken up. Firstly, there is the question of recognition. A number of trade unions have said that this matter must be settled once and for all. In regard to those who have been enjoying the status of recognition for some years, we need not take it for granted that the same recognition will continue. And, therefore, a draft bill has been prepared; i.e., the Industrial Relations Bill. It is being circulated. The viewpoint of the Opposition will be ascertained; and once it is pushed through, it will be possible for us to see that if the sole Bargaining Agency is to be fixed up on the ballot of the workers, it is done. And it will be done in cooperation with all the unions, with the necessary safeguards which some of the unions have suggested.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: Where is it being circulated?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: It will be circulated. The draft is ready, on a number of occasions, sometimes in a cynical vein and sometimes by way of criticism. It has been pointed out that we have not been able to do justice to the workers. I am myself aware of the fact that there are

a number of problems that remain to be settled as yet; but at the same time, I wish to point out that we have been here only for eleven months. But I very proudly claim that the number of issues that we have settled and tackled in 11 months is more than what others have settled in the course of five years. That list I have already given. I am not satisfied. For instance, for 125 years, the lowest of the low in the Indian Railways, viz., Class IV employees, had no selection grade. With one stroke of the pen, we have seen to it that 50,000 Class IV men in the Railways are given selection grade. Certain grades have been given for the Firemen. All the unions unanimously have been demanding in this House, that as far as commissioned Bearers are concerned, they must be converted into regular employees. We have accepted it 100 per cent; and the process has already begun. There are some problems like casual workers; and there are a number of problems. We are attending to them. The difficulty is that it is a very ticklish issue. When the decasualization takes place, the problem will be finally settled. But till that time, we have given instructions to the general managers that whenever casual workers are taken for a particular constructional and seasonal job, when that job is over after 1, 2, 3 or 4 years, when some other construction work is to be started in the vicinity of that place, priority should be given to those casual workers who worked in the first construction work; and then only outsiders should be taken. But, there again, new regional tensions are coming up. In one place, if some casual workers were working for some years, when seasonal work starts we transfer these casual workers there. People from that area have picked up a new agitation; and party members—members belonging to the same party here—say that these people should be put there. And the parties in the local regions say that the local population must get those jobs. Therefore, they say: "Don't bring in those casual workers." We have to settle the matter.

SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM (Tiruchirapalli): There are casual labourers in regular service like Loco Shed and Permanent Way Gangmen. The nature of work is not seasonal: it is not casual. There are 3 lakhs of such casual labourers. What about their position?

PROF MADHU DANDAVATE: I have answered that question some time back. I will repeat it, because it is a solemn assurance. Wherever we have such casual workers of long standing it has been our categorical instruction: "Try to absorb them in the jobs and make them temporary and let us come to a stage where they will be absorbed." That process has already started at quite a number of places.

The problem of the Jamalpur workshop was raised. I want to give a very happy news. I had sat with the technicians and experts of the Jamalpur workshop, trade unions and some of the MPs of that area. And we have evolved a scheme. I have pointed out by facts and figures how the traction is shifting from steam one to diesel and electric ones. When that happens, outmoded modes of production have to go; and, therefore, the rolling mill has to be closed down, because there is no room for steam locomotives and other equipments. But in order to see that because steam traction is going away and dieselization is taking place due to our rationalization, workers do not suffer, we have approached the World Bank; and we are getting a financial sanction for the modernization of various workshops; and the Jamalpur workshop will be the first on our list, where this modernization will be brought about. Therefore, the problem of unemployment will be solved.

Then there is the ticklish problem, the question of bonus. I want to repeat, it is not that I am saying it only now. I made the first statement even before the Bhoothalingam Committee was formed, that we will try

to delink the other points from the bonus issue. As far as bonus is concerned, we are solving the problem in phases. The first phase was to re-introduce the old pre-Emergency Bonus Act. That has already been done. Those who are not covered by the old Bonus Act, their problem will be taken up after in-depth studies of wages-income-prices. That work has been undertaken by the Bhoothalingam Committee. Some people may find fault with the Bhoothalingam Committee. We are awaiting the findings of the Bhoothalingam Committee.... (Interruptions)

SHRI SAUGATA ROY (Barrack-pore): We call it Bhooth.... (Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: When hon. Members were speaking, I listened to them very patiently. I expect the same courtesy.

I would like to make it very clear privilege becomes an eye-sore in the Bhoothalingam Committee, it need not be taken for granted that all the recommendations will be accepted by us. We will examine every recommendation of the Bhoothalingam Committee in depth, and on the basis of their findings, our experience about the working class and the general approach of the Members of Parliament we will be able to formulate our attitude. That will be our approach, as far as the problem of bonus is concerned.

I have not referred to individual cases. I have formulated the broad policies. Regarding the individual points I will write to individual Members.

In 1947 our foreign dependence was 60 per cent. Today we are proud that our technicians have reduced our dependence on foreign countries to 7 per cent.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude your speech. There is the Private Members' Business.

SHRI HASI VISHNU HAMATH (Hoshangabad): He may conclude on Monday.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE
After this there is the discussion on the Demands, when you get an additional opportunity

I will conclude by paying my compliments to the railway workers and among them I include the officers, technicians, engineers, and men of the managerial cadre. We have taken certain steps which will take away certain privileges of the officers. Some of them may feel hurt. Our attitude is not to hurt anyone, our attitude is only to create a situation in which no privilege becomes an eye-sore in the eyes of the lower cadres of the railway employees or the general public. That is all what we have done. We will continue to take into account their legitimate demands. For instance, we have already created a separate Directorate for gazetted officers. We have already appointed a Director. We are already reviewing the entire question. All the legitimate demands, whether they belong to Class IV, III, II or I, will be gone into with the co-operation of all who are interested in the welfare of the railways.

15 35 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

THIRTEENTH REPORT

SHRI YADAVENDRA DUTT (Jaunpur) I beg to move

"That this House do agree with the Thirteenth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 8th March, 1978."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Thirteenth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 8th March, 1978."

The motion was adopted.

15.35 hrs

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL

(Amendment of Eighth Schedule)

SHRI C K CHANDRAPPA (Cananore) I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI C K CHANDRAPPA I introduce the Bill

15 36 hrs

FACTORIES (AMENDMENT) BILL

(Amendment of section 2)

SHRI K RAMAMURTHY (Dharmapuri) I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Factories Act 1948

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Factories Act, 1948."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI K RAMAMURTHY I introduce the Bill

15.36½ hrs.

PRICES FIXATION BILL

श्री विनायक प्रसाद यादव (सहरसा) : सभापति महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ कि देश में अधिक दाम लेने की लूट बन्द करने और वस्तुओं की उचित कीमत नियन करने का उपबन्ध करने वाले विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करने की अनुमति दी जाये ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for prevention of charging exorbitant rates and for fixing fair prices of commodities."

The motion was adopted

श्री विनायक प्रसाद यादव : सभापति महोदय, मैं उक्त विधेयक पुरःस्थापित करना हूँ ।

15.37 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL

(Substitution of article 16)

श्री विनायक प्रसाद यादव (सहरसा) : सभापति जी, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ कि भारत के संविधान का और सशोधन करने वाले विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करने की अनुमति दी जाये ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted

श्री विनायक प्रसाद यादव सभापति महोदय, मैं उक्त विधेयक पुरःस्थापित करता हूँ ।

15.37½ hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL

(Omission of article 44)

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): I beg to move for leave to in-

troduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, I want to add two sentences....

MR. CHAIRMAN: You cannot make a speech now.

The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA: I introduce the Bill.

15.38 hrs.

CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE (AMENDMENT) BILL

(Amendment of Section 80)

SHRI BALDEV SINGH JASROTIA (Jammu): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908."

The motion was adopted

SHRI BALDEV SINGH JASROTIA: I introduce the Bill.

15.38½ hrs.

HOMOEOPATHY CENTRAL COUNCIL (AMENDMENT) BILL

(Amendment of Section 2)

DR. BHAGWAN DAS RATHOR (Hardwar): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973."

The motion was adopted.

DR. BHAGWAN DAS RATHOR:
I introduce the Bill.

15 39 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT)
BILL

(Amendment of article 101)

SHRI C K CHANDRAPPAN
(Cannanore) I beg to move for
leave to introduce a Bill further to
amend the Constitution of India

MR CHAIRMAN The question is

"That leave be granted to intro-
duce a Bill further to amend the
Constitution of India"

The motion was adopted

SHRI C K CHANDRAPPAN
I introduce the Bill

15 39½ hrs

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT)
BILL

(Amendment of articles 102, 103 etc)

डा० रामजी सिंह (भागलपुर) सभा-
पति महोदय, मैं दलबदल निराध सम्बन्धी
भारत के संविधान में संशोधन करने वाले
विधेयक को पुरास्थापित करने की अनुमति
चाहता हूँ।

MR CHAIRMAN The question is

"That leave be granted to intro-
duce a Bill further to amend the
Constitution of India"

The motion was adopted

डा० रामजी सिंह : सभापति महोदय
मैं उक्त विधेयक को पुरास्थापित करता हूँ।

15 40 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT)
BILL

(Insertion of new article 83A)

डा० रामजी सिंह (भागलपुर) सभापति
महोदय, मैं जीविकोपार्जन के लिए काम का
अधिकार सम्बन्धी भारत के संविधान का
संशोधन करने वाले विधेयक को पुरास्थापित
करने की अनुमति चाहता हूँ।

MR CHAIRMAN The question is

"That leave be granted to intro-
duce a Bill further to amend the
Constitution of India"

The motion was adopted

डा० रामजी सिंह सभापति महोदय
मैं उक्त विधेयक को पुरास्थापित करता हूँ।

15 40½ hrs

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT)
BILL

(Amendment of articles 84 and 326)

डा० रामजी सिंह (भागलपुर) सभापति
महोदय मैं निर्वाचित प्रतिनिधियों का वापस
बुलाने के अधिकार सम्बन्धी भारत के
संविधान का संशोधन करने वाले विधेयक को
पुरास्थापित करने की अनुमति चाहता हूँ।

MR CHAIRMAN The question is

"That leave be granted to intro-
duce a Bill further to amend the
Constitution of India"

The motion was adopted.

डा० रामजी सिंह सभापति महोदय, मैं
उक्त विधेयक को पुरास्थापित करता हूँ।

15 41 hrs

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT)
BILL

(Insertion of new article 13A)

डा० रामजी सिंह (भागलपुर) सभा-
पति महोदय, मैं 21 वर्ष के बदले 18 वर्ष के

लोषों को बोट देने के अधिकार सम्बन्धी भारत के संविधान का संशोधन करने वाले विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करने की अनुमति चाहता हूँ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted

डा० रामजी सिंह : सभापति महोदय,
मैं उक्त विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करना हूँ।

15.41½ hrs.

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE (AMENDMENT) BILL

(Insertion of new section 78A)

SHRI SAUGATA ROY (Barrack-pore): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SAUGATA ROY: I introduce the Bill.

15.42 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL

(INSERTION OF NEW ARTICLES 329B, ETC.)

SHRI SAUGATA ROY (Barrack-pore): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SAUGATA ROY: I introduce the Bill.

15.42½ hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL

(Amendment of article 352)—Contd.

By Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now we take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath on the 29th July, 1977, namely:—

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, be taken into consideration."

Shri Shanti Bhushan may continue.

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): On the last occasion I had dealt with most of the provisions of the Bill which had been moved by the hon. Member, Shri Kamath. There is only a little more to be said on that.

I have dealt with the question of the ratification of the proclamation of the Emergency and said that it would not be proper that it should be permitted to be done by a bare majority of the two Houses and I have said that there should be a special majority. I only joined issue a little with Shri Kamath that if the Constitution can be amended by two-thirds majority of the Members present and voting, ratification of the proclamation may also be allowed to be done by the same kind of special majority.

15.43 hrs.

[SHRI DHIRENDRANATH BASU in the Chair]

The last part of the proposed Bill relates to the subsequent ratifications. Sir, the hon. Members of the House are aware that the original emergency

[Shri Shanti Bhushan]
provisions contained in the Constitution provide that after the proclamation has been made by the President it requires ratification by the two Houses of Parliament. But once it has been ratified by the two Houses, then in that case the Parliament has no say in the matter and that proclamation of emergency can continue indefinitely till the President makes up his mind to revoke that proclamation. It has been a rather unhappy experience of the people of this country that even in the case of external aggression when the whole country stood like a man and helped the Government and supported the Government in proclaiming an emergency in the country after the aggression was over and after everything had normalised even then the previous Government many a time had decided to continue with the emergency for many many years because when there is a proclamation of emergency then there are certain enlarged powers which are available to the Government. Therefore with the attraction of being able to use those enlarged powers it appears that even when the conditions had normalised those proclamations of emergency had still been continued.

I am thankful to the hon Member for highlighting that deficiency that inadequacy in the Constitution because the Parliament I believe and the Government believes should have the right to oversee not merely that the proclamation of emergency was properly proclaimed but that it is continued only so long as there is necessity for the continuation of a proclamation of emergency and as soon as this situation in the country alters when the emergency or the emergency powers which go along with it are no longer required then in that case the proclamation of emergency should be brought to an end. Therefore the hon Member has suggested that after intervals of not more than six months the matter of emergency should be reconsidered by the two Houses of Parliament. I am happy to say that the

Government's thinking on this subject is also in the same direction. Therefore, I hope when in this very session that comprehensive Constitution (Amendment) Bill is brought by the Government it will contain provision to provide that at an interval of not more than six months the Parliament should have an opportunity of re-considering the question as to whether the proclamation of emergency should be continued any further. In that connection I may be permitted to draw the attention of the hon Member, to one more thing although it does not primarily arise out of the Bill moved by my hon friend, Shri Kamath. I have had occasion to inform the hon Members of the House earlier also but it is such an important matter that I think it would bear repetition. Apart from amending the provisions of Article 352 in this connection it is also necessary that certain further safeguards be introduced so that the emergency powers cannot be abused and that kind of situation those dark days of this internal emergency—can not be brought back in this country where even the right to life or liberty had been suspended. We had the curious spectacle that if anybody was alive he was alive on account of the mercy of the executive Government of the day and if a person was free it was only on account of the mercy of the executive Government of the day because if you had taken away Article 21 which was the sole repository of the right to life and liberty as soon as the enforcement of that Article had been suspended that right to life and liberty had itself got suspended. It is in the contemplation of the Government to remedy that situation also by proposing an amendment to Article 359 to provide that so far as this very sacred and fundamental right is concerned—there cannot be a more sacred right than this which an individual can have—it shall neither be capable of suspension nor its enforcement shall be capable of suspension under any circumstances whether external emergency or any other kind of emergency.

After all, there are extensive powers with the Parliament and with the executive Government, etc. to control situations. So far as the present Government is concerned, it does not subscribe to the proposition that even the fundamental right to life or liberty which is granted requires suspension. As the hon. Members are aware, it is a qualified right. That is not an absolute right. It is qualified, namely, not to be deprived of one's right to life or liberty except by the procedure established by law. I cannot see any justification as to why it should be necessary to suspend even such a fundamental right to life or liberty, namely, it should be open to any executive power to take away a person's right to life or liberty without even complying with the procedure established by law.

I think this is a very important Bill which has been moved by the hon. Member, Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath, highlighting these things and, possibly, he wanted to use it as a catalytic agent in order to further quicken the pace of Government in bringing forward a comprehensive Constitution Amendment Bill.....

SHRI HARI VISHNU KAMATH (Hoshangabad): There is one more provision in my Bill which has been tucked away in a small amendment which I moved along with my Bill, and that seeks to restore the court's jurisdiction.

SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN: Yes; the introduction of clause 5 in various articles. Clause 5 or a similar clause had been added by earlier amendments. The idea was that such a proclamation should not be questionable in a court of law on any ground whatsoever. I am again happy to say that the Government's thinking on that subject is to restore the court's jurisdiction. Of course, the court's jurisdiction was not to sit in appeal over the decision of the Government or the decision of Parliament. It was a qualified jurisdiction in a sense that if there is a mala

fide proclamation, etc., in that case, on that limited ground on which the subjective decision of the President, etc. was questionable in a court of law, there is no reason why that limited power which the courts had should have been taken away. I am happy to say that the thinking of the present Government is also to delete that restriction which has been imposed on the courts' powers.

With these words, I would request the hon. Member not to press his Bill but to withdraw his Bill and to wait for the early introduction of a more comprehensive Constitution Amendment Bill in the Parliament in this very session.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Kamath.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR (Gandhinagar): Sir, if you will kindly recall what happened two weeks ago, the House had agreed that the Law Minister would intervene in this debate, leaving some scope for other hon. Members to speak before Shri Kamath replies. That is what was agreed to last time. Therefore, I do wish to take this opportunity of speaking briefly on the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister has already replied.

SHRI HARI VISHNU KAMATH: He does not reply. I have the right of reply.

SHRI SAUGATA ROY (Barrackpore): There is a very important Bill, the Unemployment Allowance Bill, coming up next standing in the name of Shri Lakkappa.

SHRI HARI VISHNU KAMATH: It will not come in the way of that Bill.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: I will be very brief. I only want to invite your attention to what was agreed to two weeks ago when the House decided that the Law Minister would intervene, leaving some scope for other

[Prof. P. G. Mavalankar]

hon. Members to speak before Shri Kamath replies. In any case, the hon. Minister does not reply. The right of reply is only for the mover of the Bill. The hon. Minister has only intervened. Kindly allow me some time; I will be very brief and then Shri Kamath may reply. I do not want to come in the way of Shri Lakkappa's Bill. In fact, I welcome that Bill also. :!]

MR. CHAIRMAN. Sir, I do wish to support my esteemed friend and elder, Shri Kamath on his Bill which deals with the very radical amendment of Article 352. Now, I do not want to go into the history of the entire gamut of emergency things that had happened in this country. I want to speak briefly. I want to suggest, first of all, that this Article 352, as it stands today in the Constitution is liable to be further abused and misused if proper, prompt and timely action is not taken to revise it suitably.

Now Mr. Kamath has come forward with his amendments and the Law Minister in his intervention gave an assurance that he will also go into the same direction, and perhaps Mr. Kamath, at that point of time, after getting some clarification, may even withdraw the Bill. We are not interested in seeing Mr. Kamath's Bill passed but we are interested to ensure that emergency provisions are never abused or misused by any power that be. That is the main objective.

I want to suggest that we must look at Article 352 in relation to Articles 358 and 359. I do not know what the Law Minister has to say in this regard, but Articles 358 & 359 also take away under the name of emergency so many fundamental rights during the continuance of emergency which again they need not, because in continuance of emergency and having blanket powers for the Government of the day during emergency did not call for abrogation of fundamental rights for all times. Once the executive has tasted

all these powers, it does not want to get rid of those powers. That is the difficulty.

I start by saying that Shri Kamath deserves to be congratulated. I also think that Shri Kamath said that he wants not only everything to be fool-proof but knave-proof. I repeat that. That is a very good point. We are grateful to him for that and we are happy that he is still with us in this House—one of the founding fathers of our Constitution. It may be said to his credit that he was a forefronter in the Constitution making, that he gave a very clear, and ample warning that there was a possibility of this article (352) being abused and misused. I hope Mr. Kamath will bear me out when I say that he did give the warning.

SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN: Is he a founding father or founding grand-father?

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: He is a bachelor. So, in one sense, he cannot be a father or a grand-father. But he is one of the founding fathers of the Constitution. Now, Sir, what he has done in this Bill is that he says, instead of internal disturbance, use the words 'armed insurrection'. This phrase, this internal disturbance, has always been a phrase which is very nebulous, very doubtful because a Government can misuse this; this can be taken as a nebulous ground, and Government could declare emergency as was done by Mrs. Gandhi only some time back because how do you define internal emergency? Now, Sir, I do not know whether internal emergency, once declared, can always be, simultaneously, in the same breath, justifiable. That point is worth consideration further. I think the Law Minister may have something to say on that point also because we all agree that the declaration of emergency is

particularly and largely a political act rather than a legal or constitutional act, and if there is an emergency, crisis, disturbance, etc., well, I do not think the law court can go into the question and decide whether the declaration was legal or not legal, constitutional or not constitutional. Therefore, I want to limit the justiciable part of it only to one word—whether declaration was *mala fide* or *bona fide*. But beyond that, judicial power must not be stretched. Otherwise, we will go into another danger and the remedy may prove to be worse than the disease. Having said that, why I want to support Shri Kamath is—I want to say briefly—that because he got rid of the phrase internal disturbance which is a very loose word capable of all kinds of definitions, capable of fresh crisis, abuse, as was done by Mr. Gandhi in 1975; and therefore, he used the word 'armed insurrection'. I would say that it is slightly better. But I would even say that there is a case for complete abolition of the whole Article 352. Why should we have internal Emergency? If there is an Emergency of such a grave disorder as an external aggression, do you think that anybody in this country, any patriotic citizen in this country, will be objecting to Government having vast powers? Was there no unanimity of opinion at the time of the Chinese Aggression in 1962 and the Pakistan Aggression in 1965 and again in 1971? People were one with the Government. It is only when there is no emergency and when Government wants to have the Emergency powers, that difficulties arise.

Therefore, I would like the hon. Minister to think on those lines and tell us, maybe at a later stage when he comes with his own Bill, whether this article has any justification whatsoever and if it has, whether he will make it so rigid and strict that it will become next to impossible to make use of it except in a very rare, genuine, extraordinary, critical situation which, one hopes, will never arise.

Mr. Kamath has very rightly said that the whole matter must be left, not to the President and, therefore, the Prime Minister and the Council of Ministers, but to the Parliament. The Parliament's approval is not to be given once and for all. The matter must come before the Parliament periodically, so that Parliament—meaning the people of India—has the right to find out, periodically, whether the Emergency still continues or not. The present provision is that the Proclamation will be presented to, and passed by Parliament. But its continuation is not under the supervision and control of Parliament. Once the Parliament approves of the Proclamation of Emergency as unfortunately it did in July, 1975—though some of us opposed it tooth and nail; we ultimately staged a walk out; that was all that we could do; it was passed—there is no further remedy, that becomes perennial until the President, that is the Prime Minister, chooses to get rid of it. Therefore, Parliament must come into the picture afterwards also. Parliament's powers must be increased or strengthened. Parliament must not be allowed to lose all control once they have got the approval of the Parliament in the beginning of Emergency-declaration.

Take the countries like the U.S.A., Canada and Australia, the three large countries, federal countries, democratic countries like India. I want the Government to tell me whether there is any provision for Emergency powers in these three countries, namely, in the USA, Canada and Australia. If these three countries, large as they are, resourceful as they are, rich as they are, prosperous as they are, do not need Emergency provisions in their Constitutions and they could use Emergency powers during emergency situations with the consent of the people without having Emergency powers laid down in their Constitutions, why do we in India want to anticipate, theoretically and academically, possibilities of Emergency and incorporate such provisions in our Constitution?

[Prof. P. G. Mavalankar]

Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, in the Constituent Assembly of India, when he referred to these Emergency provisions, said that these Emergency powers were unique in the world; Dr Ambedkar has gone on record in the Constituent Assembly debates to say that the Emergency powers given in the Indian Constitution, if they were used, would make the Indian quasi-federal structure completely unitary. Therefore, he had only a war situation in mind, no other internal disturbance of a local or regional character; he really thought of big Emergency like war. Dr. Ambedkar did not think in terms of any kind of internal disturbance—where it would be so used as to make a non-sense of the Constitutional provision.

From that point of view also I feel that we should support Mr. Kamath's Bill, and I hope that Government will assure us that not only article 352 but, along with that articles 358 and 359 also will be so radically amended that no future executive or government, will dare abuse the powers of the executive which are given in the Constitution both with a view to protecting the country and with a view to enhancing the democratic traditions of this great Republic

16.00 hrs.

SHRI HARI VISHNU KAMATH. It was well over 28 years ago that, in the Constituent Assembly, when the Emergency provisions of the Constitution were adopted in spite of the efforts that I and a handful of my colleagues in the Constituent Assembly had made to amend some of the provisions, soon after these provisions were adopted, I rose in my seat and said, with pain and agony in my heart "This is a day of sorrow and shame: may God help the Indian people". Today, Sir, I am deeply grateful to Hon Members of both sides of the House who have taken part in this (may I say) important debate—a very significant discussion on the key provisions, on the Emergency provisions of the Constitu-

tion which constitute a constitutional threat to democracy. I am deeply beholden to the Minister of Law and Justice who...

SHRI KRISHAN KANT (Chandigarh): And Company Affairs also.

SHRI HARI VISHNU KAMATH: Let us not speak of affairs. So let that be kept apart!

I am deeply beholden to the Minister of Law and Justice who has indicated to the House the mind of the Government and on what lines the Government proposes to move with regard to these provisions of the Constitution. It was only a little over two years ago that the fears expressed by me more than 28 years ago came true. The Government of the day sought to butcher democracy, to debauch the Constitution, to denigrate Parliament—particularly the Opposition, by dubbing them 'anti-national traitors'—to throttle the Press and emasculate the Judiciary. This was sought to be done in the name of the Constitution.

SHRI JAGANNATH RAO (Berhampur): Such strong language?

SHRI HARI VISHNU KAMATH: It is well-deserved. It can be stronger. In fact, I am amazed at my own moderation.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): No language is too strong to describe what happened.

SHRI HARI VISHNU KAMATH: I am glad that the Bill has evoked and provoked a very interesting debate, a stimulating debate. Sometimes it was exciting and there has been much heat but I must say there has been considerable light also during the debate.

When I first moved the Bill for consideration, on the 29th July, 1977—a historic year, an annus mirabilis if I may call it so, a year of miracles and wonders—soon after I moved the Bill for consideration, two friends on the other side, from the Congress (now

there are two Congress parties and I do not know to which Congress these two friends belong now) both Mr. Vasant Sathe and Mr. Stephen took part in the debate on that day, and I must say that nothing but heat emanated from their speeches. My friend Mr. Biju Patnaik rightly said at the conclusion of the discussion on that day, the 29th July (I am reading from the printed Hansard of ours): "When I listened to Shri Sathe and Shri Stephen I was reminded of Dante's 'Inferno and Devil's Advocate'. I would only say that both of them were inebriated by the exuberance of their own verbosity. That is all I would say about those two speeches. I am happy to say that most of the other Members who took part in this debate supported the Bill. Some hon. Member wanted, of course, the entire deletion or repeal of Art. 352 so far as internal extraordinary situations are concerned. The majority of the other Members who took part in the debate on the 29th July, on the 18th November and on the last occasion on the 24th February, 1978 when the hon. Minister was the only participant in the debate—most of the members and the Minister have, I am glad to say, happy to say, supported not only the principle of the Bill, but also the provisions of the Bill. That is a very happy augury for the future of our democracy in our country. My only objective in bringing the Bill was to see that democracy was, as far as the constitutional provisions or safeguard can make it, is established on a sound, safe and strong footing. And may this democracy of ours be fool-proof and knave-proof against all attempts to subvert it.

We are today the largest democracy in the world, but as Rabindra Nath Tagore once said in a poetic vein, what is huge is not great. Our democracy is large, huge: the largest nation in the world is a communist country and we have the honour and privilege to be the largest democracy in the world. But my objective is to transform, as far as is possible with human power, with divine grace and divine *shakti*,

our largest democracy into the greatest democracy on earth. That is my objective and I am sure it is shared by all Members on both sides of the House. That is our goal and objective.

I would now briefly refer to the observations made by the hon. Minister. The Minister has, more or less, agreed with most of the provisions of my Bill. I have used the words 'more or less, with most'. As I said on the last occasion on the 24th February, I am not a stickler for words. I want the substance, not the shadow, and so last occasion on the 24th February, I do not mind giving up the shadow willingly, gladly. Therefore, when the Minister says that he prefers, the Government prefers, the word 'rebellion' in place of the word 'insurrection', I have no objection. I did not look up the dictionary, Webster, Oxford or whatever bigger dictionaries there are, but the lawyer that the Law Minister is, the able, famous, jurist that he is, he knows these words, the nuances of these words, the meanings of these words far better than I do; if he thinks that 'rebellion' is a more appropriate word in this context. I have no objection. Let them have the word 'rebellion'. A colleague of mine wanted to substitute 'revolution' for the word 'insurrection'. I think, that would be inappropriate because a rebellion, if it succeeds is then called a revolution. Insurrection, if it succeeds, becomes a revolution, with hindsight. But if fails, it becomes a mutiny. That is what is said of our revolt of 1857 when we struck for independence and we lost—our forefathers, our ancestors. Therefore, it was called a mutiny. Had it succeeded it would have been a revolution. In 1905 Lenin in Russia struck but he failed. Again in 1917 when he succeeded, it became a revolution. Therefore, in my mind the word 'revolution' is inappropriate. Either for insurrection or rebellion—I have no objection. Let the Government come forward with their Bill and we can have a discussion on that and if necessary, we can amend it suitably even then.

[Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath]

The most important provisions in this Bill are with regard to the fundamental rights. My friend, Shri Chitta Basu—he is not here now—wanted that the courts' powers should be restored. I had overlooked that point, and I forgot about it when I introduced the Bill. Later on it struck me that I had lost sight of clause 5 and, therefore, I moved an amendment on the same day as I moved for consideration of the Bill—the Members perhaps have lost sight of it—whereby I have sought to delete clause 5 to the extant Art 352 which seeks to oust the courts' jurisdiction, with regard to testing the *bona fide* of a proclamation of emergency. The courts' jurisdiction which has been ousted by clause 5 of Art 352 is sought to be restored through this Bill.

Therefore, I am glad to see that the government's mind is also working on the same lines, to restore the jurisdiction of the courts. Here I may add one word that, as the Minister rightly observed, some of the fundamental rights should be—may I use the word—entrenched. I do not know whether the Minister agrees with it—fundamental rights in regard to Art 21, the right to life and personal liberty should be entrenched,—which became a national and almost an international issue in the Supreme Court in April 1976. That Article which guarantees the right to life and personal liberties should be an entrenched article of the Constitution, incapable of being subverted by any executive fiat or by Parliament. If that is done and with the power of the courts restored also. I for one feel that we would have evolved the necessary constitutional safeguards.

Along with that, I do not know whether Art 32 seeking to guarantee the right to move the Supreme Court, that also should not be suspended and this also should not be suspended, the right to personal liberty, in any circumstances whatever and however grim the circumstances may be. Even

the Britishers during the days of the Second World War did not suspend the right to move for *habeas corpus*. Our Supreme Court here unfortunately did it and in spite of 29 Judges of various High Courts in the country holding that the petitions were maintainable, a few Judges in the Supreme Court disallowed it and from that flowed a lot of evil and injustice. So, I do recognize that courts' powers will not guarantee everything that we have in mind with regard to restoration of democracy because I am sorry to say that when this *habeas corpus* case was being discussed and our Law Minister was one of the great Counsel—he was defending the rights and liberties of the citizen and he knows the case inside out. He must have felt a wrench in his heart when the judgment came. I am sorry to say—it pains me to say so, but I cannot help reading an extract from one of the judgments of the judges in the *habeas corpus* case.

I do not know how after 25 years of framing the Constitution, a judge of the Supreme Court in India, with this Constitution—one of the best Constitutions of the world—could have the heart to write What he did. This is what he wrote—

“The object of depriving a few of their liberty for a temporary period has to be to give to many the perennial fruits of freedom”

That is not so bad. Look what follows:

“Counsel after counsel expressed the fear that during the Emergency, the Executive may whip and strip and starve the detenu and if this be our judgment, even shoot him down. Such misdeeds have not tarnished the record of Free India and I have a diamond bright, diamond hard hope that such things will never come to pass.”

This is what the present Chief Justice wrote in his judgement in that case.

Compare with what a great British Judge Lord Atkins wrote in habeas corpus case—

"Amid the clash of arms, the laws are not silent. They may be changed, but they speak the same language in war as in peace. It has always been one of the pillars of freedom, one of the principles of liberty for which on recent authority we are fighting, that the judges are no respectors of persons and stand between the subject and any attempted encroachments on his liberty by the executive; alert to see any coercive action is justified in law."

In our Supreme Court, Justice Khanna did write judgment on the same lines and this is the only judgment of the Supreme Court which caused a very heartening editorial in one of the American newspapers.

I am quoting from the editorial in the New York Times:—

"Indian democrats are likely to remember only in infamy the four judges who obediently overturned the decisions of half a dozen lower courts scattered across India which had ruled in defiance of the Government that the right of Habeas Corpus could not be suspended, even during emergency that Mrs. Gandhi declared last June. But they will long cherish the lonely judge who said, in words reminiscent of other enduring declarations for freedom."

I now quote from Shri Kanna's judgment

"The power of the courts"

—almost redolent of Lord Atkins:—

"The power of the courts to issue a writ of habeas corpus is regarded as one of the most important characteristics of democratic States under the rule of law. The principle that no one shall be deprived of his life and liberty without the authority of laws is rooted in the consideration that life and liberty are precious possessions."

We have a hunting reminder. Mr. Justice Khanna went on to say:

"In a purely formal sense, even the organised mass murders by the Nazi regime qualify as law."

Because, under the Weimar Constitution it was done. Here also that same refuge was taken under our constitution. Therefore, Sir, I am glad that the hon. Law Minister has come forward to lay bare the mind of the Government in this matter. I would have been happy to agree with those of my friend who opined that the Article should be repealed so far as the internal situation is concerned. May I humbly and most earnestly submit that what I would like to do through my Bill is to strike a *modus vivendi*, *survarna madhyam*, golden mean, between the powers and functions of the State and the rights and liberties of the citizen in an extraordinary situation whether it be internal or external. I am glad that the hon. Minister agrees with most of the provisions of the Bill. I am grateful to him for the light that he has shed on this issue under this Bill. I remember—if my memory does not betray me—the hon. Home Minister in the last monsoon session said—whether it was the considered opinion of the entire Cabinet or his own personal view. I am not sure—that the Government intends to repeal Art. 352. I do not know whether he sticks to the same view now. I am sure the Government and the entire Cabinet has considered this matter. I am sure that the view that the law Minister expressed today and on the last occasion on February 24 is the view of the Government. And there is only one word more which I would like to add before I close and that is this. The Minister referred to it. I had indicated in my speech when I moved the Bill for consideration on 29th of July that this is not an adequate Bill. I recognised that the Bill is not adequate. I had said on that occasion that there are other, Articles Art. 356, 358 and 359. These should be taken care of and suitable amendments made so

[Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath]

that the danger that looms large to our democracy by these provisions could be obviated once for all with regard to Art. 356 I would say just one word. Dr. Ambedkar said so in the Constituent Assembly when there was a debate on the provision for imposition of President's rule in the States. Replying to the discussion on the amendment which I had moved, he said:

'I hope that this provision will remain a dead letter.'

It is not really dead; it is alive and kicking, Sir. Under the provisions of Art. 356 how many times has the President's Rule been imposed? Even in our time also how many times has this been imposed? As my colleague, Shri Mavalankar tells me, in thirty years forty times President's Rule has been imposed. My friend has got the figures at his finger tips—it is more than one per year. It is pretty bad. I hope you will agree with this observation of mine, Mr. Chairman, that this is pretty bad.

With regard to the provisions in Art. 352, 356 and 359, I said that these may lead to a dictatorship. Abusing such a powers conferred under these articles, this was what Hitler did in Germany, such a provision in the Weimar Constitution led to a similar dictatorship in Germany. In Dr. Ambedkar's own words—He was very sympathetic—I remember his words—I remember that this is what he said:

"I care for fundamental rights as much as my hon. friends do".

It was only Shri Krishnamachari who used the phrase 'constitutional dictatorship' with regard to the possibilities of Art. 352 and 359.

Lastly, I would briefly respond to the appeal made by the hon. Minister because, as indicated in my very first speech on the 29th of July, the only objective in my mind was to make the Government think. This was what I said on that occasion. I know that this

Bill is not adequate for making full amendment of the emergency provisions. As a matter of fact, my scheme was to set the ball rolling and make the Government and my colleagues think. I wanted to provoke thought about this emergency Chapter. I have succeeded in that. I am painfully aware that the crux of the matter does not lie only with this Art. 352 but also with Art. 356, 358 and 259. This is what I said on the 29th of July. I know it is futile—an exercise in futility—to press this Bill to the vote of the House because this Constitutional Amendment Bill by a private Member has to face many hardships and difficulties unless of course the Government obliges me by issuing a three line Whip and that kind of thing. I do not want to put them in that predicament. These three articles together make the head and front of the emergency chapter

Therefore, I hope the Minister's assurance is a solemn assurance and not something that can be diluted or watered down or deviated from or be the victim of amnesia. I hope nothing of that kind will happen because sometimes it happens that because of other pre-occupations, other work, other pressing engagements, other crowded work-load, promises are sometimes relegated to the limbo of amnesia, if not oblivion. But, I hope that this Bill will not share that fate; the emergency provisions will not share that fate because it will be a sad day for democracy and for our country again if this is relegated or deferred to the next session

I also hope that, as the Minister indicated on the 24th February, he would bring forward a comprehensive Constitution Amendment Bill which will include amendments also to the emergency provisions of the Constitution. Today in reply to a question, he has solemnly assured and promised that the Bill will be introduced in this very Session. I know it cannot be passed in this Session but let it be introduced in this Session. I hope it

is a gilt-edged guarantee from the Government, and that they do mean business. I do hope that the Government means business, and means business earnestly and sincerely and promptly. It should be introduced by the end of this month. It should not be postponed to April or May. There should be no excuses also that the Government is discussing with leaders of the Opposition. I know the difficulties of the Government in regard to a Constitution Amendment Bill. It must have the support of a two-thirds majority in both Houses. There is no difficulty in this House, but a difficulty may arise in the other House if the Opposition is allergic to the moves made by the Government. Even so, I would submit, we should go ahead. Government should go ahead even if there is opposition in regard to this important measure. We should honour the pledges made in our manifesto. That is the first and foremost duty of the government come what may. Let the ball go in the other court. Let the people know who are the culprits. Therefore, it is very necessary that the Government should make up its mind once and for all even if there is opposition either in this House or in the other House. Government should not be deterred by such an attitude on the part of the Opposition. They should go ahead and get the Bill passed in this House, the real House or the Peoples' House and then show to the people of the country as to who wants to retain Emergency provisions. If there is any doubt in the mind of the Government in regard to the comprehensive Bill, I would like to appeal: let Government bring only the Bill with regard to the Emergency chapter. Other amendments can wait. I know some honourable Members wanted the Forty-second Amendment to be done away with lock, stock and barrel. But I would request the Government not to dilly-dally or shilly-shally with regard to the Emergency provisions. Let the two Congresses—Congress I or J or K—oppose or do what they like.

AN HON. MEMBER: Why are you abusing us? We have heard you very patiently.

SHRI HARI VASHNU KAMATH: No. No. Is that abuse? I would not go to that extent. I would only say, Sir, let the Government not go on marking time, trying to ascertain what the Opposition is thinking on this matter. Let them bring forward a Constitution Amending Bill. On that solemn assurance given by the Minister, I am withdrawing the Bill. Otherwise, I would not have withdrawn the Bill. On the solemn assurance of the Government, I would withdraw the Bill. I hope they will bring forward a comprehensive Bill in this Session. If that is not possible, let them bring forward a Constitution Amending Bill seeking to limit this Emergency chapter and seeking to amend the provisions on the lines which he has indicated in his speech on the last occasion and today. That is all my appeal. I hope you would respond to my appeal in the same spirit and in the same manner and therefore I conclude by saying that let us all solemnly resolve that we, here, in the House, in the Parliament, and in the country shall strive, to the best of our ability, to make our largest democracy the greatest democracy on earth.

SHRI SAUGATA ROY: Sir, on a point of Order. Since Shri Kamath has waxed so eloquent about the demerits of Emergency and since he is so set against the Emergency and since the Law Minister is also inclined to accept his proposals, why not the Government set a precedent and accept his Bill. So, I shall protest against the withdrawal of the Bill. If a division is taken, we will vote against it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now in consideration of statements and assurances given by the hon. Law Minister, Mr. Kamath, do you withdraw your Bill?

SHRI HARI VISHNU KAMATH: Yes, I seek leave of the House to

[Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath]

withdraw the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR CHAIRMAN The question is

"That leave be granted to withdraw the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India"

The motion was adopted

SHRI HARI VISHNU KAMATH I withdraw the Bill

UNEMPLOYMENT ALLOWANCE BILL

SHRI K LAKKAPPA (Tumkur)
Sir I beg to move*

"That the Bill to provide for compulsory payment of allowance to all unemployed persons in the country be taken into consideration"

Sir the Bill is one of the historic Bills. It is a most important Bill which is now under consideration. Of course facilities for drafting the Bill in a more scientific manner were not available from the Secretariat, but still I have drafted it in a lucid manner. I hope the dynamic Minister Shri Ravindra Varma would bring forward a Bill on the same lines. But the basic object of this Bill is to provide allowance to the educated unemployed. There are doctors, engineers, diploma holders who are unemployed. They should be paid each an allowance of Rs 150 per month. I want that this allowance should be increased till such time they remain unemployed or start their own business. The number of unemployed persons must be on the increase. I have stated that more than 20,000 doctors, engineers and diploma holders are there in the country. Half a million job scheme was announced with high sounding words by the government. It has not fulfilled the aspirations and

desires of the unemployed people of this country. So this Bill is inevitable, if the government wants to establish egalitarian society.

In reply to a recent question of mine on unemployment my hon friend Shri Ravindra Varma has not given the correct picture of the situation in the country. He has given a sort of promise. But this country is not prepared to listen to the promises of the government. Government must understand the explosive and alarming situation in the country. It can lead to any situation any time, it can blow off the present government if they do not take it seriously. The Prime Minister got up and gave a reply saying I am not for unemployment doles. Some states in the country want to give social security to unemployed people. The Chief Minister of Maharashtra had brought forward a scheme. In Karnataka we had a scheme that if the income of a particular family or a person is below 3000-5000 certain unemployment doles and facilities should be given to that person. I cannot understand the helplessness of the present government. I do not know what is the philosophy. I am not satisfied with the answer given by Morarji Desai the Prime Minister of this country. I do not know how the young engineers, doctors or diploma holders, literate and illiterate can agree with his statement. The Prime Minister said that it was the philosophy of the Janata Party government to abolish unemployment within ten years. Mr Fernandes says we are considering providing opportunities in cottage industries and other things. Om Charan Singh has got beautiful philosophy and economic policy. He has written a book. He mentions Mahatma Gandhi. I do not know how it is relevant for him. He says Gandhian blueprint. I do not know what it is that he envisages for this country. The hungry

*Moved with the recommendation of the President

and angry nation of youths is on a war path. He wants to establish his own society, kulak society. It is his philosophy. The janata party President says that 10 years is small time to meet the challenge; he requires another 5 years, that is fifteen years. That is 15 years, 5 years, 10 years, that is 25 years. This is the thinking and philosophy of the janata party government.

Whenever we asked, the Government of India has not been able to give even the correct statistics in this regard. From the various Employment Exchanges that are functioning, it has not been able to find out the number of unemployed Graduates, literates, illiterates, diploma-holders, Engineers and Doctors. Every time we have put a question, I think they have come out with this answer: "The live registers are not maintained. The Government is conscious of the seriousness of the unemployment problem and proposes to follow an employment-oriented strategy in which primacy will be given to the development of agriculture, agro-industries, small and cottage industries." With these words, they want us to be satisfied. Is there any strategy worked out by the Government in the last one year? Nothing has been done. Recently, the Planning Commission came out with a statement that they are not for doles to unemployed persons. Then what is the strategy—Rolling Plan? Can the Rolling Plan go on rolling? Will it solve the unemployment problem of this country? No. Ultimately, it will blow off the present Government in the next Election. It is an indication which we have already seen.

Then, what is the job security that is provided in the public sector undertakings? Everywhere, there is nepotism, favouritism and every employment exchange is full of corruption. In fact, in certain States there are no Employment Exchanges at all. If you examine the position in the public sector undertakings, you will

see that if the Chairman belongs to a particular community, then his nephews, relatives, brothers-in-law, his kith and kin are given employment. There is no rule, no procedure. Nothing of that sort. Throughout the country, it is so. The various companies are also functioning in the same fashion. The near relatives of the person at the top are the Directors of the companies. Therefore, the entire country is in the stranglehold of a few persons, a few companies.

The educated people are also not provided with jobs and this is one of the important reasons for the frustration of the people in this country.

Now I come back to history. In the socialist countries and even in the imperialist countries, social security has been provided for. It has been done even in developing countries. But in our country which is lagging behind, no such security schemes are coming up. The security schemes have not even been introduced in various organisations. From this, you can see the pitiable condition that is prevailing in our country.

I would like to give certain facts which I have in my possession for the benefit of the hon. Minister. In Australia, unemployment and sickness benefits are paid to men over 16 and under 65 years of age, and to women over 16 and below 60—i.e., to those who are unemployed or who are temporarily incapacitated and thereby suffer loss of income. But here in India, people are hale and hearty; manpower is available in plenty. But there are no jobs available. When jobs are not available and no doles are given, where should they go? Do you want all those people to be turned into socially evil forces in this country? They will become a menace to the nation and to the society ultimately.

I would like to quote the case of certain countries which have provid-

[Shri K Lakkappa]

ed contributory social welfare measures like unemployment insurance under which payments are made in the event of unemployment. There are a number of countries giving such benefits. The Prime Minister has stated that the unemployment allowance will ultimately lead to beggary. I do not know how this fantastic theory has developed in his mind. I would like to know from the Prime Minister how unemployment allowance will be converted into beggary. This is how the seriousness of the problem has not been understood by the present Government. The number of educated job seekers—Matriculates and above—on the live registers of employment exchanges, has been showing a rising trend. This is so according to the statement of the Minister made on 7th July 1977. After the present Government came into power, Government said that they proposed to follow an employment oriented strategy, which will primarily be worked through the development of agriculture, agro-industries, small-scale and cottage industries, especially in rural areas. Government said that the educated and uneducated unemployed will get the benefit.

Now about the budget presented by Mr. Patel. Can we gather anything from it? It was such an uninspiring budget. Can it cover the schemes that he has stated in his reply? Can any developmental activity take place as a result of such a budget—which is going to be discussed? What is the strategy that the Government has adopted? What is the area of developmental activities that the Government have envisaged in the budget, to create an employment potential? Till such time these are done, what is the provision that has been made for the unemployed persons? Thousands and thousands of engineers are going out and seeking jobs in other countries. They are treated like animals in other countries. These instances are also

brought to our notice. Doctors are going out; so also engineers and diploma-holders, now you are packing off skilled and unskilled people to various parts of the other world.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA) Other world'

SHRI K LAKKAPPA I mean the other parts of the world.

This country is capable of absorbing any amount of employment potential because nature has given us plenty. We have rivers full of water and many natural resources. So employment can be created. Only will on the part of the Government is lacking. On a vital issue like providing jobs to the unemployed, there is complete failure on the part of the Janata Party during the last one year. In that background, what credibility will the people give to the assurances of the Janata Government?

In reply to one of the questions the hon. Minister has stated:

Government propose to follow an employment oriented strategy, in which primacy will be given to the development of agriculture, agro-industries, small and cottage industries especially in rural areas which will benefit both the educated and uneducated unemployed. The 6th Five Year Plan is also proposed to be formulated with a high employment content in order to tackle the problem of unemployment both among the educated as well as uneducated persons.

Again he says in reply to another question:

'The Union Budget for 1977-78 contains a provision of Rs 6 crores for a scheme to provide 'seed' money and other finance to enterprising educated unemployed considered eligible for assistance. In addition the Union Budget provides for addi-

tional outlays for agriculture, irrigation, power, khadi and village industries, sericulture, handlooms, postal and telephone facilities in rural areas and wide ranging rural infra-structure programmes."

Can they provide all these things with a meagre Rs. 6 crores? Then you have fixed a target period of ten years to achieve the objective of removing destitution. In another reply he has stated that statistics are not available about the number of educated and uneducated unemployed. The manner in which the present Government have dealt with this problem is an indication of their complete bankruptcy of ideas. Therefore, I say that a situation has arisen where they should accept this Bill.

He says in reply to another question:

"According to information available with the employment exchanges, 22.58 lakhs of educated (matriculates and above) men and 4.13 lakhs educated women sought registration during the year 1976 and 1.51 lakhs of men and 0.35 lakhs of women were placed in employment in the corresponding period, leaving 21.07 lakhs of men and 3.78 lakhs of women unemployed.

The number of educated (matriculates and above) men and women on the Live Register of employment exchanges (which is a cumulative figure and hence includes the back-log) as on 30th June, 1977 were 45.45 lakhs and 8.44 lakhs respectively."

What type of answers does he give?

17.00 hrs.

In reply to another question, the Minister of Irrigation has stated:

"Development of Agriculture with Employment-Oriented Scheme. A programme of Integrated Rural Development was initiated last year

and 20 districts were selected for it. It was realised that the programme was not making much progress because the preparation of Resources Inventories and Action Plans as envisaged under this programme was taking time. It has therefore been decided to have a new programme of Integrated Rural Development with the main objective of creating employment and production in the rural areas. Under the new programme, it is proposed to include rural industries and self-employment programmes in the tertiary sector besides the agricultural development programmes."

What is the result of it? Where have these programmes been started, how many people have been employed, what is the progress of the programmes in the last one year? Will the hon. Minister be able to clarify these things?

17.01 hrs.

[SHRI M. SATYANARAYAN RAO in the Chair]

This Bill has been pending for long I tried my very best even in the previous Lok Sabha to bring it, but somehow it lapsed.

I want to focus the attention of the Government on the fact that this is a simple measure which will help inspire full confidence in the younger generation, especially the educated people who are searching for jobs after having taken degrees.

You are talking of austerity measures in Government. I think you should provide doles to the unemployed people. The provision that I am suggesting is not more than Rs. 15 crores from the Consolidated Fund of India. Can you not spend at least Rs. 15 crores? It will give the benefit of providing a job and doles and give confidence to the people of this country

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): I want to know whether it is Rs. 15 crores per year or per month.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: It is per year.

This is not a big amount for the Government of India. We have seen that crores are being wasted on various schemes in various ways. Austerity measures have not even been introduced in the Government though they have been claiming that austerity measures and simplicity are the objects of the Janata Government. Only this morning, in reply to a question by Dr. Subramaniam Swamy, it was revealed that even on the decoration of the Ministers' bungalows they are spending lakhs of rupees. I do not know about other expenditures.

श्री नाथ सिंह (दोसा) : यह काग्रेस सरकार में होता था ।

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: It is not a question of the Congress. When we come to power, you can say that. Even when the Congress was in power I was saying that the utmost austerity measures should be taken.

This is a very simple Bill. The Minister must have been convinced by this time. Every day one question or other on the unemployment problem in the country comes up. If the Minister is ready to bring forward a comprehensive Bill, I will consider it. We can cover all the other unemployed persons, literates, illiterates, whatever the case may be. But it is not a new thing that I am now introducing. There are two States, progressive States, Maharashtra and Karnataka, which have introduced the scheme successfully and created confidence in the minds of the unemployed and the lower strata of the society. That is how you can redress the regional imbalance of economic programme. My friend Shri Kamath, was very vehe-

ment on civil liberties and democracy. I can appreciate the sentiments. Democracy should function. But what is that that has been guaranteed to the people? The living right of an individual is not there. Suppose, 'A' dies without medicine today, can his relative have any right to go to the court and claim damages? Tata, Birla and big companies can go to the court for claiming damages if their property is taken over. These are social revolutions, social systems and social security. Therefore, the success of democracy is not based on your high sounding words and by saying that civil liberties and democracy had been throttled and everything had been throttled. You rich people must have been throttled by somebody and that is why, you say that your civil liberties had been lost. The man in the street does not have even the basic necessities of life. Millions of people today have no house to live, no cloth to wear and no food to eat. And no attempt has been made by you to provide these things. The Government claims that they are restoring back the supremacy of democracy, civil liberties and everything. When you go out, you will see lines of beggars everywhere, destitutes everywhere, unemployed everywhere and frustration everywhere, disparity everywhere. All these things you will see then. Therefore, no democratic system will be successful unless you give social security to the people. This is of paramount importance in a democratic system that has been adopted by the present Government. But nothing has been done and no attempt has been made. It is impossible for this Government to run in this fashion.

I am appealing to the House to accept this Bill. This is a most important Bill which provides for social justice to the millions of people of this country.

With these words, I place this Bill before the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to provide for compulsory payment of allowance to all unemployed persons in the country be taken into consideration"

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALLA (Faridkot): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Member, Shri Lakkappa, in his speech, mentioned that the country is facing unemployment specially among the youth. Not only the young people are facing unemployment, there is dissatisfaction also among a large number of people even in the upper age bracket. I feel in a country where skilled people, unskilled people and highly skilled people are unemployed, the progress of that country will be retarded and affected badly. So, I am of the opinion that the Government should seriously think over this problem of unemployment and try to come forward with a solid and concrete programme so that this dissatisfaction is not there and the people of this country, particularly the unemployed youth which is the cream of this country, which is entirely responsible for the prosperity of this country, should be satisfied.

I fully support whatever the mover of the Bill has said in regard to giving unemployment allowance. I have a report with me according to which if Rs. 30/- per month are paid to 10 million persons, it would cost Rs. 360 crores per year to the Exchequer of the country. Even small States in the country are giving unemployment allowance. Only yesterday, we read in the newspapers that in Punjab the Minister of Finance, Sardar Balwant Singh, announced Rs. 40/- to 50/- per month as unemployment allowance to all those matriculates who got registered themselves with the employment exchange five years ago. If a small State like Punjab can do this, why not the Government of India which is more resourceful. They also should do so?

Some other methods should also be adopted to cope with the unemployment menace. I have a suggestion to make in this regard to the Government. The capital goods are mainly produced by using automation and large-scale machinery which results in two-fold effects. When automation is introduced, when large-scale machinery is used, it deprives more and more people of doing manual work through their self-oriented employment device. It also creates scarcity of essential goods. At the same time, luxury goods become available in large quantities in the market.

Just a moment ago, I was reading a statement made by the hon. Minister Shri Ravindra Varma which he made in Bihar that the Government will try to do the maximum to provide facilities for small-scale industries, to employ more and more people and to have self-employment. But there is a difference between what the Government says and what is actually done. I am sorry to say that the recent Budget has created dissatisfaction and frustration among youth. Even a small instance will be sufficient to assess the recent budget. Today in the papers, it was mentioned that the new advertisement policy of this Government would deprive 10,000 poor people from their jobs. Those who are in jobs, they will lose their jobs due to the new advertisement policy. I would request the hon. Minister to talk to the Finance Minister and reassess such a situation.

Moreover, unemployment is rampant in this country. There are two types of frustrations. One is that trained youngmen, skilled persons, persons with degrees do not get jobs. They go from one office to another office, but they do not get jobs; no job is there for them. On the other hand, the policy of the Government in Centre and even in the States—there may be States which are run by the Opposition or the Ruling party—the position is that whenever they advertise

[Shri Balwant Singh Ramoowalia]

they ask the candidates to apply with Postal Orders of Rs. 10 or Rs. 15 or Rs. 20 and so on. As far as these youngmen are concerned, in order to apply, they have to arrange for these Postal Orders. After that, they are called for an interview. Then they have to spend money there. For spending money on these things, they have to borrow money from somebody. After the interview is over, they are not sure to get jobs. So, I would request the hon. Minister to do away with this application fee altogether.

Application fee should not be there for unemployed persons who apply for a job.

Secondly, in the employment exchanges, there is a system of renewing the Registration Card. A candidate has to get his card renewed after a certain period. If a candidate does not get his Registration card renewed for a period of six months, then his name is automatically struck off the register. I would request the hon. Minister to make a provision of two years. At least for two years, his name must continue in the employment exchanges. The previous regime also played foul with the people and did not give serious thought to the unemployment problem.

When there are less jobs, when vacancies are not there, people apply and they are refused. Suppose a person has passed his BA examination this year, and he could not get a job for five years. Automatically, there will be frustration for him. The more frustrated situation will be, not to speak of getting a job, that he will not be eligible to apply for it. A person, after a specified period is not only able to get a job, but he is not eligible to apply for it, because he has crossed a specified age limit. So, I would request the hon. Minister to do away with this age limit for applying for a particular post in this country. There are a large number of people who are unemployed. I would request him to

raise it by five years more. They must be eligible to apply upto 30 years at least.

SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU (Chittoor): Suppose he is not able to get job even within that period.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALLA: There is no guarantee. I have bitter experience about it. There are certain concerns, cooperative departments in some States, even semi-Government departments, which advertise through their post box nos., they do not give their address. They say, 'For this job, apply to the Post Box number such and such'. What happens? Only a few people apply. And in that there is lot of scope for favouritism. I would request the hon. Minister that, if at the moment it is not possible to give unemployment allowance to all the people he may kindly categorise and grade the people and try to satisfy more and more unemployed youths of the country.

SHRI SHYAMAPRASANNA BHATTACHARYYA (Uluberia): Sir, I rise to support the content of the Bill moved by my hon. friend, Shri Lakkappa, about giving unemployment doles. It is interesting for me to see that at last the Kumbakarna sleep has been woken, so long, he was sleeping like a Kumbakarna now he has woken up from that sleep and has raised this problem. It is very good. It is a good thing. But is it being done with sincerity and patriotic feeling? I do not think so. Our problem of unemployment, as it is, is a serious one, if we consider the rural unemployment, if we consider the educated unemployment; nearly 5 crores of people are suffering. In this modern age of technological development, we can see with open eyes how to develop a country. Our country has sufficient natural resources and sufficient manpower to fulfil all the requirements of our country and to make our country healthy, good and prosperous. Still we are losing per day a labour power of

5 crores of people. An agricultural peasant or labourer, with his primitive implements, can produce goods worth at least Rs. 15 per day. If we take into account the technologically trained people, the value of goods produced by them per day may vary from Rs. 20 to Rs. 100—in the case of some it may be Rs. 20 and in the case of some it may be even Rs. 100. So, you can imagine how much we lose every day, how much our country loses, how much of national income we lose. If we see with deep patriotic feeling, we will find that the whole nation loses and so many people suffer. Our country is such a vast country; the people are so vast and glorious that, if only we utilise their labour power for production of agricultural goods and industrial goods, we can prosper rapidly. That is true. America and England are taking it for granted that monopolists must remain, big business houses must remain, the profiteers must remain. They require some unemployment scheme to bring down competition of the employed workers. It is their necessity. They have to do it: it is part and parcel of capitalism—unemployment in employment

Now, in our country, we must give thanks to Shrimati Indira Gandhi 'bat she has done something good. Somewhere it is written:

Moru ke she mere merai gojie tole ghas (Tagore-meaning).

"By attacking and attacking the desert land, nature compels the grass to grow".

So, Shrimati Indira Gandhi has done some natural good by developing her dictatorial power.

MR. CHAIRMAN. Now let us come to unemployment.

SHRI SHYAMAPRASANNA BHATTACHARYYA: I am coming to that.

By her dictatorial rule she has aroused the anger of the people and such a big wave has developed in our coun-

try that she was overthrown from the throne of Delhi and the Janata Government has come to power. They also, in their manifesto, promised to do something. Now the task is..... (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI RENUKA DEVI BARAKATTA-KI): Let him speak; Mr. Lakkappa spoke for more than 45 minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is because he is the mover. You can give the main points, Mr. Bhattacharyya, to help the Minister.

SHRI SHYAMAPRASANNA BHATTACHARYYA: What I say is, this big unemployment problem cannot be solved until the debris is cleared for the real development of our country. No one should remain unemployed; no one should remain illiterate; no one should, in this country, work against the interests of the masses. Why should profiteers raise the prices of things and make people suffer? The Janata Government is not yet ready to fulfil its promises, its manifesto.

I come from West Bengal. Now, the West Bengal Government came to the U.P. Government and asked for some mustard oil. The U.P. Government said they were ready to do so, but the traders of West Bengal told the traders of U.P. don't give them. We have got a sufficient stock and we shall be losers if you send mustard oil to West Bengal' and we could not get it. Our Minister, Mr. Dharja imported some rapeseed oil and partly solved our problem, and this year also they are trying to solve our problem. But the thing is, this must be solved when it can be solved.

The West Bengal Government, even before the Punjab Government, took the initiative and they are giving unemployment doles to 1,50,000 unemployed young men who have included

[Shri Shyamaprasanna Bhattacharyya].

their names in the Employment Exchange for five years. They are the first persons to get Rs. 50/- per month as unemployment dole. We are a poor State and we have got very little money, but we have started this. The feeling is there. Punjab is also paying; the feeling is there. This must be developed. But the main thing is what is the task of the Janata Government. Whatever the people want, they must solve all their problems. So long as they cannot solve them, they must give something to all these people so as not to starve, not to lead a dishonoured life and not to commit suicide. This basic problem of unemployment must be solved. The Janata Government must stand by its manifesto. At the time of elections, you promise to give something but after that you forget and think of your own self-interest. I would like to remind you that the old days are gone. The electorate has become very vigilant today. After the Janata Government came to power, I saw thousands of people coming to Delhi to find out how the Members of Parliament from their constituencies were functioning and trying to fulfil their task.

The Janata Government has not also been able to solve the problem of the cane growers and they are still suffering. This should not be allowed to continue. The things today are not very simple. Our country is striving to achieve new things. The Government must fulfil its task and try to remove the sufferings of the people, otherwise the people would not allow the Government even to complete its term. They would ask the Government to resign and go and ask for fresh elections. And this is the spirit of the people and the spirit of Shri Jayprakash Narayan.

In the end, I would urge the Government to be more serious, to be more practical, to be more patriotic, not to think of scrambles, but to think

of the people as a whole, the country as a whole with a big heart and not with a pigeon heart.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA (Cananore): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I stand to support the idea enshrined in the Bill of Shri Lakkappa. He wanted that the uneducated unemployment in the country should be given a certain allowance. I support this idea, because during the last thirty years since independence, the problem of unemployment had been mounting and it continue to be a serious and a growing menace. I think since we failed, all the Government failed to tackle this problem and the problem is becoming more and more serious, we have no right to tell the victims of unemployment that we will not be able to provide him anything. The Government failed to give him employment and now the question is whether the Government would be in a position to provide him at least something to bank upon so that he would not starve and die. What I would prefer is that the Government should solve the problem of unemployment itself because this is the basic problem. I have my own approach and that was made clear in the House many times. I think that so long as the Government pursue the capitalist path of development like any other capitalist country, the question of unemployment will be haunting. It is not the question whether this country is affluent or developing or poor, unemployment is a problem which is there even in the United States, a country which is so rich. Because it is the offspring of the capitalist system. I have seen poor countries. My friend, Shri Samarendra Kundu was there—in Vietnam. There is no unemployment, a country not rich in material terms but a country which succeeded in bringing about a social order where there is no exploitation of man by man. And then they have ensured the distribu-

tion of wealth equitably among the people. There, the problem of unemployment itself was solved. Even if they did not succeed in bringing about all that affluence, they have reduced the magnitude of poverty by everyone suffering and everyone taking a share of that poverty on himself. That is a very fundamental question and I do not want to go into that. There I would like to make one point very clear. I wish my Marxist friend would have been here to listen to that. The question is: it is a fact that Congress has failed and it is an equally important fact that the Janata will also fail because both of you pursue the same path..

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: No, no.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA: No issue. We will quarrel on that but history will judge you that issue.. (Interruptions). It is not a jyotish, it is a fact of life. It is a proven fact..

श्री नाथ सिंह : ज्योतिषी होते तो उस समय कांग्रेस का साथ न देने ।

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA: You are too young to understand. I do not want to argue with you.

Now let us face the facts of life. There are several millions of unemployed educated people in this country. What Mr. Lakappa wants is not something very revolutionary. He wants that they should be provided with some money, some subsistence allowance by way of unemployment dole so that they would not starve and die. Could we do that since we have failed in tackling the basic problem? I think we should be able to do that and for that, he says—I do not know the statistics—it requires Rs. 15 crores according to his calculations. I think that is not a very big amount, if that figure is correct. Rs. 15 crores, the government should find. If the figure is wrong, it is a different matter. I do not know. The Minister will clarify....

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): The difference is only in a few zeroes.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: He has got the biggest machinery. He can calculate it.

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: I have said the difference is only in a few zeroes.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA: Whatever it is, my point is that the Government has a moral responsibility to find that amount. If you cannot accept Mr. Lakkappa's proposal, then come forward with certain other proposal to have a lesser amount or some kind of relief provided to them. I may even say that if you cannot provide them money, can you organize relief work so that they will produce and enjoy food? That is not being done....

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: That will be done.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA: That was heard for 30 years. So the point is that they should not be allowed to die of starvation. There we need not quarrel who is correct and who is wrong. Whoever sit on those chairs have a special responsibility to see that this guarantee is ensured. I hope the government will not hesitate or shirk its responsibility.

Here a few practical things I would like to draw your attention to. May be the Minister himself is aware of the fact, that in certain States like Madhya Pradesh, the employment exchanges are under fire from those who are working there from outside that State because the employment exchange has refused in several cases to register the names of people who came from other States seeking employment. For example, in Bilai there

[Shri C. K. Chandrappan]

are a large number of people from Kerala, the State from where myself and the hon. Minister who is going to reply to this debate come. They settled for the last 20 or 30 years.

I do not know whether you have seen the film called 'Jannaranya' directed by Satyajit Ray, depicting the horrors of unemployment. It depicts how moral values will get shattered in a society which is ridden with unemployment. So, it is not merely a question of providing a few rupees as doles or providing facilities regarding extension of age limit and all that. If we fail in tackling the problem, I am sure, it will create a condition in our country which will be so explosive, which will shatter all the moral values that we cherish.

I conclude by saying that the hon. Minister will seriously consider this proposition and come forward with concrete suggestions to give the unemployed millions some kind of relief that at least you are serious in sympathetically considering this problem.

SHRI B. P. KADAM (Kanara): I am in agreement with the Bill moved by the hon. Member Shri Lakkappa and I am sure every one will agree by and large with the purpose of the Bill. When the Constitution was debated, particularly the provisions of the Constitution on the Fundamental Rights, very clearly remember the hon. member, Shri H. V. Kamath, suggested that the right to work must be guaranteed under the Constitution so that there would be no unemployment and people would have some certainly. But that was opposed by certain other hon. members in this House. Then Shri Kamath suggested—if unemployment cannot be solved, right to work cannot be guaranteed, then the provision in the Indian Penal Code must be amended, i.e. the right to commit suicide must be deleted so as to reform the victim. Because right to

commit suicide is an offence, that should be deleted. I very well remember the words of the hon. member—Shri H. V. Kamath.

Unemployment is a curse and there cannot be a greater curse than this. Mentally the man gets retarded. Physically the man gets invalidated and all the best values are weakened & shattered. Many of these suicides, I am sure, are on account of this.

The problem assumes gravity because in the rural areas also we find a large number of educated unemployed people. Education has spread everywhere. The evil is that—our education was not so oriented as to get employment or to help to seek self employment after the completion of education. It was the same clerical oriented policy which has been pursued—the policy laid down by our old rules.

In the U.N. Charter of Human Rights, the right to work is suggested to be guaranteed. I believe, it is Article 13 or 14. It has been suggested that it should be guaranteed by all the Governments.

In the USSR, work for an able bodied person is a honour. The right to work is guaranteed by and large not only by the socialist countries but some allowance is also paid in U.K. and also in U.S.A. and in a large number of countries. Israel even I do not believe in giving doles. Give them some sort of employment which would at least keep them living till full employment is given. They have to be assured of that. That is how it should be and it should not be a full allowance or a dole. That also is not the purpose of this Bill. It is a social security service.

Something was said by my hon. friend there about the employment centres in each district. Unfortunately they are woefully lacking in these statistics. Not even one-third of the unemployed personnel is indicated in these registers. There is also a great deal of fraud. Under

these circumstances, I feel, this is a thing which has to be attended to by the Government without delay.

Sir, the Janata Government is assuring us that the unemployment problem would be solved. I know hon. Shri Morarji Desai because he was my Chief Minister in the Bombay State where I was a Member of the Assembly in 1952. He was then the Chief Minister. I very clearly remember the words of hon. Shri Morarji Desai as Chief Minister of Bombay when he stated:—

'Under a democratic set-up there cannot be full employment.'

Lot of other things also he said, about capitalism and other things, which are out of context now.

Sir, I want to know from this Government whether Shri Morarji Desai cherishes the same view or simply because of prolonging himself in office, he is speaking of full employment. Mr. H. M. Patel, the hon. Finance Minister is speaking of employment for all. He said that full employment is assured. They are saying all these things from house-tops. They are there for nearly 11 months now. Just look at the huge magnitude of the problem. I doubt whether even a few hundreds have been employed by now. What have they done during these 11 months?

During the election meetings also they said, they have got this programme or that programme. They have not solved the problem. You have not touched even the fringe of it. Nothing has been done. So, let nobody be fooled by such tall-talks and the shouts and the slogans from the house-tops. At least I am not going to be a cynic; I am an optimist. Let there be concrete results. Otherwise it will be a Doomsday, it will be a very sad day for our democracy.

Sir, Liberty is hailed; Freedom is hailed; the hon. Prime Minister has stated again and again about 'right to

live without fear'. Very sublime words indeed! These are words which you will find in the Upanishads—fearless and so on. But in respect of those unemployed people, people coming from the weaker sections, from backward communities and so on, where is the question of fear? They have only one freedom and that is freedom to die non-violently. That is all.

I very well remember a saying in a book. A man who is in a pompous situation calls his servant and asks him to be perfectly nonviolent. He tells him, it is worthwhile to live hungry because he will be saved from indigestion.

It is worthwhile to live in open because there is not a question of having foul air and it is a question of having fresh air. It is something like telling that it is worthwhile to live without fear. There is no fear at all, where is freedom to the poor unemployed.

Therefore, I would urge upon the hon. Minister in charge, particularly, the Government, to view the magnitude of the situation. That is all I want to say.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR (Gandhinagar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I must say at the outset that I do sincerely and broadly agree with my good friend. Shri Lakkappa on the objectives of his Bill.

I must say, however, that the remedy that he is suggesting may not really be found workable and very satisfactory. I do not think anybody requires—none else in this House and certainly in the country, educated as we are all—I am talking of the limited educated classes—or needs to be told that unemployment is a very serious problem, that it is a great menace and that it causes a lot of frustration, and especially to those who are educated and to those who have spent a lot of money in training and equipment etc. and, at the end of which all, if they do not get a suitable,

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proper and adequate employment satisfactory to themselves and, in tune with the skills and training that they have got, then, obviously, you are not only creating an army of uneducated people but you are also creating an army of frustrated souls. Frustrated souls will not, for a long time, remain quiet. I do not think that the Government needs any further persuasion on this point. Actually, I think, they are seized of the matter that unemployment is a serious problem. The questions therefore, are to be looked at from different angles. But, before I go to these angles, let me also say this at the outset, that unemployment has always been a political problem—it is of course an economic reality—in all countries—developed, semi-developed, undeveloped—in the Western world, and in the Eastern world. Barring socialist countries where the nature of economy is such that the unemployment problem is not the kind of the problem or the challenge which is posed there. (Interruptions). Unemployment is not there in the socialist countries. There the nature and dimension of the problem is very limited. The problem of Unemployment in those countries is very different from the problems generally found in other countries. Because, the socialist countries and the communist ideology have a certain economic, political and general attitude towards implementation of this problem so that unemployment does not exist. Social security is there. The problem of unemployment is tackled from those angles. I was talking about other countries where unemployment problem is not so much an economic as a political problem. Even in the most developed countries, the problem of unemployment can become a political headache to the Government of the day. Take Great Britain for instance. Governments have fallen whether they belong to Labour Party or Conservative Party sometimes precisely on this problem, the problem of unemployment being one of the major problems. If the unemployment level

goes up from a particular level beyond a tolerable level, then it will become a political headache. As I said, Governments have fallen and new Governments have been created on this ground.

Take the case of the United States of America. President Franklin Roosevelt in the early thirties promised a new deal, a new programme for more employment, generation of state's resources, deficit financing as was envisaged by economists like, J. M. Keynes. Franklin Roosevelt announced a policy of "New Deal", because the people voted him to power. The Unemployment problem was not completely eradicated. But he was going in that direction. So, the problem of unemployment is there whether it is a developed, semi-developed or undeveloped country. But this is more glaring and more frustrating and more challenging in developing countries. Now, in the context of the Indian situation where we have problems of an enormous size, enormous population and an increasingly growing educated class talented enough to get employment but not lucky enough to get employment, many of these people are now going out to other countries.

Mr. Lakkappa has mentioned in his Bill, I think, as an example, engineers, doctors etc who are now going to various countries—not only in West Asia, but also in Africa, in Europe, in America, in Canada, in Australia and in New Zealand and so many other countries also. In fact, this is what you call brain drain, and undoubtedly it is a problem. This was the position in Britain before the Wilson Government, before he became Prime Minister of U.K. at one time Mr. Harold Wilson also said that if you do not tackle the problem of unemployment and the problem of brain drain, then the people in Britain will vote not through the ballot box; they were already voting through their feet! They were already going away from Britain and finding employment elsewhere. So, it is

really a multi-faceted problem to view from. Again, you may have an employment which is not commensurate with the training that you have got. What is the point, for example, of having employment in a particular situation for which I am not trained? There are certain socialist countries where employment is guaranteed, but it is not guaranteed according to the training and equipment received by the citizen. That also is not a satisfactory solution, although it does go somewhat on the lines which Mr. Lakkappa has suggested.

Coming back to various angles with which I started my speech, I want to say that although this problem of unemployment is a very difficult and a very perplexing one, I do not know why the new Janata Government have not yet been able to formulate a concrete strategy. I hope Shri Ravindra Varma, our distinguished Member and esteemed colleague would tell us in some detail and not just go on either moralising or in a very simple and decorative language say that it is a great problem and Government is seized of the problem and you will see the results in the next couple of years.

We are fed up with this kind of sweet words, as they do not lead us anywhere. I want to take this opportunity of participating in this Bill by inviting the attention of the Government to this great need. Please spell out if you have any programme in effective concrete terms as to what you are going to do with regard to employment opportunities. Are you going to generate more employment? Are you going to arrest the trends of brain-drain? Are you going to usefully employ educated people of this country by retaining them in this country? If you are not going to satisfy these young people they not only are you creating problems for them but also you are creating problems for the Indian polity. An idle mind is a devil's workshop, but if the idle mind is an educated mind,

then it is not merely a devil's workshop but it creates devilish conditions for any party in power. Therefore, I want them to understand the urgency of the matter. I want them to understand the gravity of the matter and I also want them to understand the impatience involved, and if they cannot do these things quickly I do not know what will happen.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I do not want to ask Mr. Lakkappa as to what his party did when it was in power, because one can ask such questions and do the rhetoric and get away feeling satisfied that one has criticised without making any constructive suggestion. But that does not help solve the situation. But, Sir, I want to ask my friend, Shri Lakkappa, as I ask this question to me, if I were in power and if I am faced with this situation am I really in a position to give unemployment benefit in terms of cash dolls in crores of rupees? The Minister has already said that he will have to add more zeroes to the total amount estimated by Mr. Lakkappa. Supposing our Government is able to afford it, I would say at this stage of India's economic, political and general development it would not be desirable for our economy and our country to go in for these doles. Even in the advanced western countries it took them decades before they came to the conclusion that if unemployment cannot be met then those who are unemployed would be looked after by the State. I want to ask my friend, Shri Lakkappa, have we reached that stage of a welfare state where having crossed through all the phases, we can now say that we have explored all the possibilities, all points of view, all problems, all aspects and now we are convinced that in spite of all efforts, employment is not possible and yet we are economically better off, well developed, therefore the economy can afford this additional burden and so let us go ahead? That is why the framers of our Constitution were wise in putting this matter as one of Directive Principles of State Policy and not putting

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it in the Chapter on Fundamental Rights, because they wanted that the State must move towards the direction of finding employment. And again to quote England, it was Lord Beveridge who wrote in 1944 about full employment. In the Report he wrote, in the work of Second postwar world, Great Britain did not see unemployment doles being given up such measures as is being expected by Mr. Lakkappa. In countries like Sweden and Norway, the Scandinavian countries, these provisions are there and in some other Western countries also these provisions are there I think Mr Lakkappa's intension is that by asking these provisions to be incorporated, he only wants to highlight the problem of unemployment, but by saying so he does not see this point that Government must go on giving money. If he were a Minister ..

18.00 hrs.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: I have put another clause, that is, the moment he gets the job (*Interruptions*)

PROF. P G MAVALANKAR: Sir, let me tell you also that if Mr. Lakkappa were to be a Minister, would he then really seriously consider accepting this proposal? It is one thing to say philosophically and politically on a platform, it is all

right; but if he were to be a Minister, would he do this? Did he really try his best to persuade his own party which was in power for so many years? This is all tall talk with which we are familiar. It is a desirable thing and a good objective. But it is very difficult to realise because the burden is too great. And the last important foot-note is that if a country like ours where hard work is still not very much rewarded, where hard work and continued hard work, efficiency and competence are still at a discount, if you go on telling people you are unemployed, I give you these allowances, go ahead, Sir, I am afraid that a tendency will grow also for some people not to work and get some money from the Government. Sir, Government cannot afford to pay this kind of allowance. If Government has not done many other things first, this case is not really a valuable point, just at this stage. The objective is good, attention has been well drawn, but I do not think the Government will be drawn into this question of giving allowance in the manner which my friend wants to do. That is my contention, that is my appeal

18.03 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, March 13, 1978/Phalgun 22, 1899 (Saka)