

# **LOK SABHA DEBATES**

## **(English Version)**

**Fourth Session**  
**(Part I)**  
**(Eleventh Lok Sabha)**



*(Vol. X contains Nos. 11 to 20)*

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**  
**NEW DELHI**

*Price : Rs. 50.00*

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**Corrigenda to Lok Sabha Debates  
(English Version)**

**Tuesday, March 18, 1997/Phalgun 27, 1918 (Saka)**

<u>Col./line</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Read</u>
(11)/7	Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava	Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava
37/5 (from below)	DR. Y. S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY	DR. Y. S. RAJA SEKHARA REDDY
47/17	SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA	SHRI F. N. SIVA
101/6 (from below) 442/6 (from below)	SHRI MAHAVIR LAL BISHVAKARMA	SHRI MAHABIR LAL BISHWAKARMA
121/12	3595	3593
154/15 (from below)	SHRI MANENDRA SINGH BHATI	SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH BHATI
322/25 from below)	THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA)	THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA)
356/10 (from below)	SHRI ANANDRAO V. ADSUL	SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL

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**LOK SABHA**

*Tuesday, March 18, 1997/Phalgun 27, 1918 (Saka)*

*(The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock)*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

**WELCOME TO PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION  
FROM SAUDI ARABIA**

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, at the outset, I have to make an announcement.

On my own behalf and on behalf of the hon. Members of the House, I have great pleasure in welcoming His Excellency Sheikh Mohammed bin Ibrahim bin Jubair, Chairman of the Majlis Al Shoura of Saudi Arabia and other Members of the Saudi Arabian Parliamentary Delegation who are on a visit to India as our honoured guests.

The other hon. Members of the Delegation are :—

1. Dr. Mansour bin Mohammed Al Nuzha
2. Mr. Abdullah bin Tahir Al Dabbagh
3. Dr. Abdul Aziz bin Ibrahim Al Fayaz
4. Dr. Faisal bin Ahmad Zaidan
5. Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Kamal bin Sirajuddin Al Marghalani

The Delegation arrived Delhi on the evening of Sunday, the 16th March, 1997. They are now seated in the special box. We wish them a happy and fruitful stay in our country. Through them, we convey our greetings and best wishes to the Custodian of the two Holy Mosques, His Majesty the King Fahd bin Abdul Aziz, the Consultative Committee and the friendly people of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

11.02 hrs.

**ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

[Translation]

**Industries Based on Mango, Lychee,  
Banana and Maize**

\*321. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up industries mainly based on mango, lychee, banana and maize in the country particularly in Bihar through NAFED;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken in this direction?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement**

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Nodal Ministry for promoting the processing industries for fruits is the "Ministry of Food Processing Industries". However, the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (Horticulture Division) and the National Horticulture Board (NHB), the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) under the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture also have schemes to assist the processing units in the cooperative/private sectors besides the programme of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries. The units established by State Government are provided financial assistance by the NHB and Ministry of Food Processing Industries.

The Ministry of Food Processing Industries have different schemes as per details given in Annexures-I and II. The schemes of Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (Horticulture Division) and the assistance provided to Bihar thereunder are at Annexure-III. However, NCDC provides financial assistance to cooperatives. The schemes and the number of units assisted are given in Annexures-IV and V.

The National Horticulture Board (NHB) also has assisted schemes for processing of fruits in the State of Bihar during the year 1993-94 (Rs. 27.51 lakhs), 1994-95 (Rs. 54.22 lakhs), 1995-96 (Rs. 24.15 lakhs). The NHB's schemes are given in Annexure-VI.

**Annexure I**

**Ministry of Food Processing Industries**

*Details of the Plan Schemes Formulated for  
Implementation during the Eighth Plan Period*

S.No.	Name of the Plan Schemes
1	2
1.	Scheme for Food Processing and Training Centres in Rural Areas.
2.	Scheme for Assistance to State Government Undertakings and Cooperatives for Establishing or Upgrading of Fruit and Vegetable Processing facilities.

1	2
3.	Scheme for strengthening backward linkages for the Fruit and Vegetable Processing Industries.
4.	Scheme for Development of infrastructure for Mushroom cultivation and processing.
5.	Scheme for development and processing of hops.

1	2
6.	Scheme for generic advertising of processing food and for providing marketing assistance.
7.	Scheme for research and development in food and vegetable processing.
8.	Assistance for infrastructure for fruit and vegetable products (From 1993-94).

### Annexure II

#### Ministry of Food Processing Industries

*Status of Projects Assisted in Various States During 1992-93 to 1996-97  
(upto 28.10.1996) under F & VP Plan Schemes*

Name of the Organisation	Project Assisted	Amount Released (Rs. in lakhs)					Present Status
		Year					
		92-93	93-94	94-95	95-96	96-97	
(1)	(2)	(3)			(4)		
ASSAM							
1.	Agriculture Deptt. Govt. of Assam, Guwahati.	10 FPTCs	30.00				These FPTCs has not yet become functional.
2.	Taalpur Sanchii Kumarkata (Through KVIC)	1 FPTC	3.00				-do-
3.	Lomananchi Voluntary Organisation, Guwahati	1 FPTC		3.00			-do-
4.	Modern Food Processing Co-op. Society Ltd., Guwahati.	3 FPTC		9.00			Implemented.
5.	-do-	Expansion/ modernisation of 2 F&VP Units.	37.00	12.10			Implemented.
6.	Women Welfare Society, Guwahati.	1 FPTC		3.00			Not yet implemented.
7.	Modern Food Processing Co-op. Society Ltd., Guwahati.	Generic Advt.		3.35			Implemented.
8.	Backward Area Development Society, Guwahati.	1 FPTC			2.70		Not yet implemented.

	(1)	(2)	(3)					(4)
			92-93	93-94	94-95	95-96	96-97	
9.	Rural Widow's and Un-employed Youth Welfare Society, Guwahati.	1 FPTC				2.85		Not yet implemented.
10.	Fruits and Vegetable Processing Society, Guwahati.	1 FPTC				3.00		Implemented.
11.	Modern Food Processing Co-op. Society Ltd., Guwahati.	2 FPTCs				6.00		Implemented
12.	Shanti Sadhana Ashram, Guwahati.	Mushroom Project				20.91		Not yet implemented.
13.	Modern Food Processing Co-op. Society Ltd., Guwahati.	Backward Linkage for 3 yrs.			1,224 2,047	4.09		Implemented.
14.	Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat	Quality Control Lab.				25.56		Not yet implemented.
15.	Fruit & Vegetable Processing Society, Guwahati.	2 FPTCs (Multi-product)					18.00	Recently Released.
ARUNACHAL PRADESH								
1.	Arunachal Horticulture Processing Ltd., Nigmoi.	1 FPTC		2.29			3.05	Recently Released.
MANIPUR								
1.	Wenjim Tentha Farmers Development Association, Thoubal.	1 Spices Unit Potato Chips Unit				6.159	6.621	In the advance stages of implemented.
2.	Teonjan Hazan Lakei Youth Un-employed Members Association, Imphal.							
MEGHALAYA								
1.	Assam Regimental Centre, Shillong.	1 FPTC				2.39		Not yet implemented.
MIZORAM								
1.	Mizoram Khadi and Village Industries Board, (Thro. KVIC)	1 FPTC		3.00				Not yet implemented.
2.	MIFCO, Aizawl	6 FPTCs	15.060					Implemented.
3.	-do-	Mushroom	29.80					Implemented.
4.	-do-	2 F&VP Units	70.00 (91-92)	142.02		24.28		Implemented.

	(1)	(2)	(3)					(4)
			92-93	93-94	94-95	95-96	96-97	
NAGALAND								
1	Director of Horticulture, Govt. of Nagaland, Kohima	F&VP Uni		22.82				Implemented.
2	-do-	Mushroom Project	6.00					Implemented.
3	-do-	-do-						Yet to be implemented.
4	Director of Industries, Govt. of Nagaland, Kohima	2 FPTCs						-do-
5	Nagaland Agricultural and Hort. Produce KTG. Multipurpose Co-op. Society Ltd., Dimapur.	Mushroom Project				26.60		-do-
TRIPURA								
1	Tripura Khadi & Village Industries Board. (Thru. KVIC)	1 FPTC						-do-
2	Tripura Small Scale Ind. Corpn. Ltd., Agartala	1 FPTC	3.00					-do-

*Status of Projects in all States & UTs (Except North-Eastern States—F&VP & SECTOR) During 1992-93 to 1996-97 (up to 28.10.96)*

	Name of the organisation	Project Assisted	Amount Released (Rs. in lakhs) Year					Status
			92-93	93-94	94-95	95-96	96-97	
ANDHRA PRADESH								
1	Girjan Coop. Corpn. Ltd., Vishakhapatnam.		25.65	—	—	—	—	Not yet implemented.
2	Girjan Coop. Corpn. Ltd., Vishakhapatnam.		17.21	—	—	—	—	-do-
3	Fresh Marketing Coop. Society Ltd., Hyderabad	Pre-Cooling system/upgradation	—	7.00	—	—	—	Implemented.
4	Vamseekshna Fruit Processing Industries, Reddigundum.	Backward linkages for 1991-92 to 1993-94	—	16.14	—	—	—	Reimbursement.
5	APIDC, Hyderabad.	Setting up of 2 F&VP units.	104.00	—	—	—	—	Not yet implemented.
6	Alankar Food Product, Bora Vancha Vill., Krishna Distt	Backward linkages —1992-93 & 1993-94	—	—	3.139	11.531	—	Reimbursement.
7	Fresh Marketing Coop. Society Ltd., Hyderabad	R&D-Solar Refrigeration.	—	—	5.00	—	—	Implemented.

(1)	(2)	(3)					(4)		
		92-93	93-94	94-95	95-96	96-97			
8.	Shree Surya fruit & vegetable growers and marketing Society, Jaggyapeta, Krishna Distt.		Post-harvest & Cold Chain facilities	—	11.70	—	—	—	Not yet implemented.
9.	Vinaqri fruit tech Ltd., Tirupati.		Setting up of fruit unit	—	—	—	25.00	—	Recently released.
10.	APIDC-Joint Sector-Sugam Agro tech. Ltd., Hyderabad.		Mushroom cultivation	—	—	—	—	25.00	-do-
11.	APIDC-Joint Sector-Regent Agro Products Ltd.		Integrated Coconut	—	—	—	90.00	—	Implemented.
BIHAR									
1.	Society for Rural Industrialisation, Ranchi.		3 FPTC's 1 FPTC	9.00	0.35 3.688				Implemented.
2.	Bihar Industries Asson., Ranchi.		Quality Control Lab.		9.50				Implemented.
3.	Adivasi Lok Sahitya Sanskritik Uthan Samiti, Lumbai.		FPTC			2.31			Implemented.
4.	Community Development Mahila Sarva Vikas Indus. Coop. Society Ltd., Jamshedpur.		FPTC			2.34			Implemented.
5.	Kathjorh Adarsh Mahila Vikas Coop. Society Ltd., Chandil, Jamshedpur.		FPTC			2.092			Implemented.
6.	Bhandara Lamps Ltd., Bhandara.		FPTC			2.25			Implemented.
7.	Birsa Environment Agriculture Research study and application, Chakardharpur.		FPTC			2.23			Implemented.
8.	Parvatiya Anusuchit Jangalia Kalyan Panshad, Asansole.		FPTC			2.35			Implemented.
9.	Women and Development Centre, Torpa, Ranchi.		FPTC			2.015			Implemented.
10.	Bihar Regimental Centre, Danapur Cantt., Patna.		FPTC					3.00	Recently released.
11.	Ichapidi Piru Tola Pahl Subzi Utpadak Sehyog Samiti, Ichapidi.		Dehydration & preservation unit.			4.50			Implemented.
12.	Sikh Regimental Centre, Ramgarh Cantt.		FPTC				2.37		Not yet implemented.
13.	Karma Jhania Adivasi Industrial Coop. Society Ltd., Jhania.		Mushroom Spawn production unit			1.30			Implemented.

	(1)	(2)	(3)					(4)
			92-93	93-94	94-95	95-96	96-97	
14.	Chhotanagpur Adivasi Coop. Vegetable Marketing Fed. Ltd., (VEGFED), Ranchi.	Generic Publicity for marketing of mushroom			3.38			Not yet implemented.
15.	Tara Mahila Udyogik Kalyan Samiti, Patna	FPTC				2.55		Not yet implemented.
16.	Society for Rural Industrialisation, Ranchi.	Integrated food processing centre		12.00				Implemented.
17.	Knshi Grain Vikas Kendra, Ranchi.	Mother Spawn unit			1.00			Not yet implemented.
DELHI								
1.	Rajputana Rifles Regimental Centre, Delhi Cantt.	FPTC	—	—	—	5.60	—	Implemented.
2.	All India Social Justice Organisation, Burari.	FPTC	—	—	—	3.00	—	Not yet implemented.
3.	National Agri. Coop. Marketing Fed. of India New Delhi. (NAFED)	Refrigerated Van	40.00	—	—	—	—	Implemented.
4.	Food Research and Analysis Centre, New Delhi.	Upgradation of quality control lab.	—	1.88	—	11.643	—	Implemented.
5.	APEDA, New Delhi	"AHARA" Fair	34.00	—	—	—	—	—
6.	APEDA, New Delhi	Vapour-heat treatment plant.	—	25.00	—	—	—	Implemented.
7.	Other Organisation		55.18	12.392	—	—	—	—
HIMACHAL PRADESH								
1.	Himachal Productivity Council, Shimla	FPTC	4.00	6.00				Implemented.
2.	Lahoul Hops & Chikori Growers coop. mktg.-cum-processing society, Lahoul Spiti.	Developing & processing of Hops.	40.00	33.00				Implemented.
3.	Food and Flower Society of HP, Palampur.	Food Processing and Essential oils mfg'ing unit.		28.44				Not yet implemented.
4.	Lahoul Potato growers coop. marketing processing Society Ltd., Kullu	Expansion of mushroom producing unit.				23.65		Implemented.
5.	HPSIDC-Joint Sector-Himalaya International Ltd.	F&VP Unit			100.00			Implemented.

	(1)	(2)	(3)					(4)
			92-93	93-94	94-95	95-96	96-97	
6.	Shivalik Khadi Ashram, Una	F&VP Unit.			20.00(grant partly released)			Not yet implemented.
7.	HPMC, Shimla	Tetra pack aseptic plant, Parwanoo.			22.07	127.93		Implemented.
8.	HPMC, Shimla.	Post harvest and Cold chain facilities.			150.00	60.00		Partly implemented.
9.	HPMC, Shimla.	Mango pulp unit, Solan.				60.00	15.00	Partly implemented.
10.	HPAIC-Joint Sector-Himalaya Vege fruit Ltd., Parwanoo.	Processing of various fruits & vegetables.				20.00		Implemented.
11.	Indcare Charitable Trust, New Delhi.	2 FPTCs					6.00	Recently released.
12.	HPAIC-Joint Sector-Dugodwala Udyog Ltd.	Edible Eastergum & allied products etc.					30.00	Recently released.
13.	14, Gorkha Training centre, Subhatu, Shimla Hills.	1 FPTC				6.00		Recently released.
HARYANA								
1.	Haryana Agro Industries Corpn. Ltd., Chandigarh.	6 FPTC	3.00	15.00	—	—	—	Not yet implemented.
2.	Stree Niketan, Bhuvenshwari, Gurgaon.	FPTC	3.00	—	—	—	—	Implemented.
3.	Haryana Agro Industries Corpn. Ltd., Chandigarh.	Integrated Mushroom Project-Murthal.	—	14.00	—	—	—	Not yet Implemented.
4.	Indian Institute of Delhi, New Delhi.	FPTC	—	—	3.00	.4866	—	Implemented.
JAMMU AND KASHMIR								
1.	Jammu & Kashmir village bd., Srinagar.	FPTC	—	3.00	—	—	—	Not yet implemented.
2.	Agriculture and Rural Development Deptt., Govt. of J&K, Srinagar.	5 FPTC	—	—	15.00	—	—	
3.	Shiva Gram Udyog Mandal, Kathua.	F&VP unit	—	—	20.00	—	—	
KARNATAKA								
1.	Khudigram Sahakari Utpadak Sangh Ltd., Haldi, Distt Raichur	FPTC	—	3.00	—	—	—	Not yet implemented.

(1)	(2)	(3)					(4)
		92-93	93-94	94-95	95-96	96-97	
2. Karnataka Agro Industries Copm. Ltd., Bangalore.	8 FPTC	—	12.00	—	12.00	—	4 FPTCs implemented.
3. Maratha Light Infantry Regimental Centre, Belgaum.	FPTC	—	—	—	5.3125	—	Not yet implemented.
4. Unicorn Agrotech Ltd., Bangalore.	Backward Linkages-94-95	—	—	—	6.06	—	Reimbursement.
5. Horticulture Producers' Coop. Marketing and Processing Society Ltd., Bangalore (HOPCOMS).	F&VP Unit	50.00	—	—	—	—	Implemented.
6. Coorg Orange Growers Coop. Marketing Society Ltd., Gonicoppal.	Expansion & Modernisation of F&VP unit.	—	15.50	—	—	—	Implemented.
7. Centre for Technology Development, Bangalore.	Feeder Processing plant.	—	7.50	7.50	—	—	Partly implemented.
8. Centre for Technology Development, Bangalore	Product Deve. lab	—	—	12.00	—	—	—do—
9. -do-	Post harvest cold chain.	—	—	24.00	—	—	—do—
10. Karnataka Agro Industnes Copm. Bangalore	Post harvest storage	—	13.00	—	—	—	Implemented.
11. MARKFED, Bangalore.	Refrigerated storage.	—	44.00	—	—	—	—do—
12. Reitzel India Ltd., Bangalore	Backward Linkages	—	—	3.22	—	—	Reimbursement.
13. CFTRI, Mysore.	R&D	—	—	65.00	—	—	Partly implemented.
KERALA							
1. Kerala Agro Industries Corpn Ltd., Thirunanthapuram.	Genenc Adv.	—	30.00	—	—	—	Implemented.
2. Kerala Agnculture Univ., Kerala.	2 FPTCs	—	—	3.76	—	—	Partly implemented.
3. Regional Agor Industnal Development Coop of Kerala Ltd., Kannur.	FPTC	—	—	2.977	—	—	-do-
4. All Kerala Ladies Education and Services, Calicut.	FPTC	—	—	—	2.86	—	Not yet implemented.
5. Changanachary Social Services Society, Changanachary.	FPTC	—	3.00	—	—	—	-do-

	(1)	(2)	(3)					(4)
			92-93	93-94	94-95	95-96	96-97	
6.	Kerala Agro Fruit Product, Arampunna.	Expansion of F&VP unit	—	—	13.83	—	—	Implemented.
7.	Regional Agro Industrial Development Coop. of Kerala Ltd., Kannur.	Generic Adv.	—	—	—	6.75	—	Recently released.
ORISSA								
1.	Sarvodaya Samithi Gandhinagar, Koraput	FPTC	—	2.70	—	—	—	Not yet implemented.
2.	Orissa Agro Industries Corpn. Ltd., Bhuvneshwar.	29 FPTC	—	78.36	11.60	—	—	10 FPTC implemented.
3.	Peoples Rural Reconstruction Institute for Youth Action, Distt. Balasore.	1 FPTC	—	—	—	2.66	—	Implemented.
4.	Weakers and Other Backward Development Society, Dabrdwar.	1 FPTC	—	—	—	2.36	—	Recently released.
5.	Peoples Institute for participatory action Research (PIPER), Distt. Dhenkanal.	1 FPTC	—	—	—	2.40	—	-do-
6.	Reliable Spawn Culture, Cuttack	Mushroom spawn production unit.	—	—	—	5.00	—	-do-
7.	Panda Spices (P) Ltd., -Joint Sector-OAIC	Spice & Oleoresin project	—	—	—	5.00	—	Implemented.
8.	Bilati (Orissa) Ltd. - Joint sector-OAIC	Tomato & Tropical fruit pulp concentrates	—	—	—	70.00	—	-do-
9.	New India Cultural spawn and mushroom, Bhuvneshwar.	Mushroom Production	6.00	—	—	—	—	Not yet Implemented.
10.	Kapilash Agro Producers PMCS, Biswanathpur.	1 FPTC	—	—	—	—	2.96	Recently released.
PUNJAB								
1.	Additional Dy. Commissioner (Development), Govt. of Punjab, Hoshiarpur.	FPTC	2.00	—	—	2.00	—	Recently released.
2.	Principal Thapar Polytechnic, Patiala	FPTC	—	—	—	2.50	—	-do-
3.	Punjab Agri Industries Copn. Ltd., Chandigarh.	Establishment of F&VP unit	63.50	100.00	—	—	—	Implemented.
4.	Pepsi Foods Ltd., Hoshiarpur	Backward Linkages	—	10.00	—	—	—	Reimbursement.

	(1)	(2)	(3)					(4)
			92-93	93-94	94-95	95-96	96-97	
5	Nijjer Agro Foods Ltd., New Delhi.	Backward Linkages	—	9.66	10.00	—	—	Reimbursement.
6	Punjab Agro Industries Corpn. Ltd., Chandigarh.	Generic Adv.	17.50	—	—	—	—	Implemented.
RAJASTHAN								
1.	Mahila Griha Udyog Pratishthan, Udaipur.	FPTC	—	2.70	—	—	—	Not yet implemented.
2.	District Collector, Udaipur.	FPTC	—	2.51	—	—	—	Not yet implemented.
MAHARASHTRA								
1.	Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Institute of Rural Technological Management Trimbak Vidya Mandir, Nasik.	FPTC	—	—	—	—	—	Not yet implemented.
2.	Carpentary and Blacksmithy workshop, Dhanu, Distt. Nasik.	FPTC	—	3.00	—	—	—	-do-
3.	Shiksha Mandal, Wardha	FPTC	—	2.84	—	—	—	-do-
4.	Saraja Fruit and Food Processing Pvt. Ltd.	F&VP Unit	—	5.40	—	—	—	Implemented.
5.	Prakash Coop Agro Insust. society Ltd., Sangalwati.	F&VP Unit	—	50.00	—	—	—	-do-
6.	Sanjivani Agro Producer Coop. Marketing Society Ltd., Kopargaon.	F&VP Unit	—	12.00	—	—	—	-do-
7.	Maharashtra State Agr. Bd., Pune.	"Mahagrapes Project"	50.00	—	—	—	—	-do-
8.	Bluefox Packaging Products Pvt. Ltd., Nasik.	Post Harvest treatment facilities	—	—	—	11.70	—	-do-
9.	Krushvi Vikas Sehkar Sanstha Ltd., Solapur	Pre Cooling & Cold Storage facilities	—	—	—	10.00	—	-do-
10.	Shyadri Shikshan Sansthan Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kharwade, Swarda.	Mushroom cultivation & processing	—	—	—	47.62	—	Recently implemented.
11.	Maharashtra State Agri- culture Marketing Bd., Pune	"Mahamango Project"	—	—	—	36.90	—	-do-
12.	Abhinav Grapes Gowers Coop. Society Ltd., Agar, Pune	Pre Cooling & Cold storage	—	—	—	7.47	52.53	-do-

(1)	(2)	(3)					(4)
		92-93	93-94	94-95	95-96	96-97	
13. Vighenahar Grapes Growers Coop. Society Ltd., Narayan-Gaon, Pune.	Pre Cooling and Cold Storage	—	—	—	7.50	52.50	Recently implemented.
14. Shingote Processed Food Pvt. Ltd., Ahmednagar.	Backward Linkages	—	5.48	4.23	—	—	Reimbursement.
15. Shivamuruti Palutapa, Sak Sahakari Sangh Maruadit, Distt. Solapur.	Infrastructure of F&VP/Pre Cooling	—	—	8.00	—	—	Implemented.
16. Baramati Taluka Coop. Phalotpadak Sangh Ltd., Baramati.	Infrastructure of F&VP/Pre Cooling	—	—	8.00	—	—	-do-
17. Pandhari Prasad Phal Utpadak Sahakari Sanstha Maryadit, Distt. Solapur	Infrastructure of F&VP/Pre Cooling	—	—	8.00	—	—	-do-
18. Jaikissan Bhajipala & Phal-Utpadak Shetkari Sahakari Society Ltd., Aurangabad.	Infrastructure of F&VP/Pre Cooling	—	—	8.00	—	—	-do-
19. Parwara Phale Bhajipala Sahakari Vikri Sanstha Ltd., Nasik.	Infrastructure of F&VP/Pre Cooling	—	—	8.00	—	—	-do-
20. Parashan Phale & Bhajipala Sahakari Vikri Sanstha Ltd., Nasik.	Infrastructure of F&VP/Pre Cooling	—	—	8.00	—	—	-do-
21. Trinmoorthy Grapes Growers Coop. Society Ltd., Jamkhed, Ahmednagar.	Infrastructure of F&VP/Pre Cooling	—	—	8.00	—	—	-do-
22. Maharashtra State Agriculture Marketing Bd., Pune (Mah.)	Post-harvest Technological Institute	—	—	—	44.50	—	Recently released.
23. Sanjivani Agro Products Mktg. Society, Ahmednagar.	Backward Linkages	—	—	—	—	5.64	Reimbursement
MADHYA PRADESH							
1. M.P. State Khadi Vill. Indus. Bd., Bhopal.	1 FPTC	—	3.00	—	—	—	Not yet implemented.
2. Mahar Regimental Centre, Saugor.	1 FPTC	—	—	—	3.00	—	-do-
3. Grendiers Regimental Centre, Jabalpur.	1 FPTC	—	—	—	6.00	—	-do-
4. Jammu and Kashmir Rifles Regimental Centre, Jabalpur.	1 FPTC	—	—	—	3.00	—	-do-

(1)	(2)	(3)					(4)		
		92-93	93-94	94-95	95-96	96-97			
5.	Satpura Integrated Rural Development Institute, Bhopal.	1 FPTC	—	3.00	—	—	—	Implemented.	
6.	Mahila Chetna Manch, Bhopal.	Mushroom Cultivation & Spawn Production	—	5.90	—	—	—	Implemented.	
7.	Satpura Integrated Rural Development Institution, Bhopal.	Spawn Production	2.585	—	5.00	—	—	Implemented.	
8.	MARKFED, Indore.	Cold Storage	—	72.00	—	—	—	Implemented.	
TAMIL NADU									
1.	Satyamurthy Centre for Democratic Studies, Madras	1 FPTC	—	1.62	—	—	—	Implemented.	
2.	Tamil Nadu KVIB, Madras	1 FPTC	—	3.00	—	—	—	Not yet implemented.	
3.	Gandhi Ashram Post, Gandhi Ashram, Thiruchengodu Distt. Salem	1 FPTC	—	2.54	—	—	—	-do-	
4.	22 Gandhigram KVI public Charitable trust, Gandhigram, Madurai.	1 FPTC	—	2.34	—	—	—	-do-	
5.	Tamil Nadu Agro Industries, Madras	4 FPTC	—	—	—	11.20	—	1 FPTC implemented.	
6.	Grama Mhalir Nalam Kakkum Samookha Nala Narpani Maddram Melur, Madurai.	1 FPTC	—	—	—	2.84	—	-do-	
7.	The Madras Light Infantry Regimental Centre, Wellington (Nilgiris)	1 FPTC	—	—	—	4.81	—	Not yet implemented.	
8.	Maharaja Institute of Peace Science, Madurai.	1 FPTC	—	—	—	2.87285	—	-do-	
9.	Rural Education and Economic Development Association (REEDA), Madras	2 FPTC	—	—	—	4.00	—	-do-	
10.	NERD, Society, Coimbatore	1 FPTC	—	—	—	—	—	Recently released.	
11.	WEAL Organisation, Pudukkotai.	1 FPTC	—	—	—	—	—	4580 released.	
12.	Indian Tropical Agro Products, Tuticorin	Backward Linkages —93-94	—	—	—	10.00	—	Reimbursement.	
13.	Duten Rama Agro Foods Ltd. Joint Sector-TNAIC	Cultivation & Processing of Mushrooms	—	—	—	20.00	43.00	Recently released.	

(1)	(2)	(3)					(4)
		92-93	93-94	94-95	95-96	96-97	
14. TANFED, Madras	Cold Storages	—	52.00	—	—	—	Implemented.
UTTAR PRADESH							
1. M.D.T.C. Haldwani	1 FPTC	—	3.00	—	—	—	Not yet implemented.
2. G.R. Sharama Archeological Society, Allahabad	5 FPTC's	6.00	—	6.00	—	3.00	Implemented (Recently released).
3. Horticulture and Food Processing Deptt., Govt. of UP, Lucknow.	16 FPTC's	48.00	—	—	—	—	Not yet implemented.
4. Horticulture and Food Processing Deptt., Govt of UP, Lucknow	Genenc Adv.	5.00	—	—	—	—	Implemented.
5. Nari Ulthan Samiti, Sultanpur.	FPTC	—	—	3.00	—	—	-do-
6. Peopal Gramodyog Seva Sanstha, Allahabad.	FPTC	—	—	—	3.00	—	Recently released.
7. Sitaram Gramodyog Ashram Vihar, Allahabad.	FPTC	—	—	—	3.00	—	Implemented.
8. Garhwal Rifles Regimental Centre, Lansdown.	FPTC	—	—	—	4.95	0.50	-do-
9. Kumaon Regimental Centre, Ranikhet.	FPTC	—	—	—	3.00	—	Recently released.
10. The Jat Regimental Centre, Bareilly	FPTC	—	—	—	2.80	—	-do-
11. The Rajput Regimental Centre, Fatehgarh	FPTC	—	—	—	5.75	—	-do-
12. 11, Gorkha Rifles Regimental Centre, Lucknow.	FPTC	—	—	—	5.50	—	-do-
13. Dogra Regimental Centre, Faizabad.	FPTC	—	—	—	5.52	—	-do-
14. Pushpanjli Gramodyog Sanstha, Pratapgarh	FPTC	—	—	—	3.00	—	Implemented.
15. Avadh Gramya Vikas Sanstha, Distt. Gonda	FPTC	—	—	—	2.57	—	Recently released
16. Stuti Gramodyog Seva Sanstha, Allahabad.	FPTC	—	—	—	3.00	—	-do-
17. Vikas Gramodyog Sanstha, Distt. Sonbhadra	FPTC	—	—	—	3.00	0.93	-do-
18. Sita Ram Gramodyog Ashram, Distt. Pratapgarh.	FPTC	—	—	—	3.00	—	-do-

(1)	(2)	(3)					(4)
		92-93	93-94	94-95	95-96	96-97	
19. Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Westland Rural Development, Palia, Gaurganj, Sultanpur	FPTC	—	2.75	—	—	—	Implemented.
20. Raja Avadesh Singh Memorial Educational Society, Partapgarh	FPTC	—	—	—	—	3.00	-do-
21. PICUP-Joint Sector-Mhaan Food Ltd.	Milk Product Project	—	100.00	100.00	—	—	-do-
22. Peepal Gaon Udyog Sewa Sanstha, Allahabad	Mushroom Processing & Infrastructure	—	—	—	17.25	—	Implemented.
23. Lagnesh Engineering Co. Pvt. Ltd., Varanasi	Multi-Commodity Cold Storage	—	—	—	25.00	—	Recently released.
24. Tarai Foods Ltd., New Delhi	Backward Linkages —1992-93 to 1994-95	—	4.04	10.00	10.00	—	Reimbursement
25. G.R. Sharma Archeological Society, Allahabad.	Adv on Processed Foods	—	—	—	5.98	—	Implemented.
WEST BENGAL							
1. Diamond Silk Khadi Samithi Malda.	FPTC	—	3.00	—	—	—	Not yet implemented.
2. FPI Deptt., Govt. of West Bengal, Calcutta.	FPTC	22.29	—	—	—	—	Implemented.
3. Ichapur Janaklayan, Parshad Ichapur, 24 North Parganas.	FPTC	—	—	—	2.925	—	Recently released.
4. Modular Consultants Pvt. Ltd., Calcutta	Food Processing Industrial Park	—	—	—	75.00	—	-do-
5. Kalyan Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bongabari.	FPTC	—	—	—	—	3.00	Recently released.
6. Darjeeling Gorkha Hills Council, Darjeeling.	Mushroom processing and cultivation	—	30.00	—	—	—	Implemented.
7. BENFISH, Calcutta	Genenc Advertisement on processed food	4.50	—	—	—	—	-do-
8. Dr. Subhash Mukherjee Memorial Reproductive Research Centre, Calcutta	Research and Development & Twin Solar Cooker	8.98	—	—	—	11.00	Implemented (Recently released).

**Annexure-III***Assistance provided to Bihar under Central Sector Schemes on Horticulture*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name of the Scheme	1993-94		1994-95		1995-96	
	Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release	Allocation	Release
Development of commercial floriculture	1.00	1.00	2.00	0.00	1.00	—
Development of mushroom	30.50	23.00	3.00	0.00	1.00	—
Development of coconut	21.80	17.48	19.00	20.62	—	—
Development of tropical arid & temperate fruits	84.34	63.26	100.88	0.00	71.14	—
Development of root & tuber crops	8.40	6.40	3.40	0.00	—	—
Development of spices	11.40	11.47	15.91	0.40	10.00	—
Development of vegetables	47.76	46.51	32.50	0.00	1.00	—
Use of plastics in agriculture	58.30	43.72	111.13	0.00	42.00	—
Development of betelvine	1.35	1.35	1.50	0.00	0.90	—
Schemes of National Horticulture Board	—	27.51	—	54.22	—	24.15
Development of medicinal & aromatic plants	—	—	—	—	0.75	0.75

**Annexure-IV***National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) Schemes*

1. Margin Money assistance to Cooperatives for marketing of horticulture produce.
2. Strengthening share capital base of fruit and vegetable marketing societies.
3. Assistance for purchase of transport vehicle by fruit and vegetable cooperatives.
4. Assistance for setting up fruit and vegetable processing units by cooperatives.
5. Assistance for construction of godowns/sheds by fruits & vegetable cooperatives.
6. Setting up of cold storages by cooperatives.

**Annexure-v**

*Statewise Cooperative Processing Units Assisted and installed by NCDC as on 31.3.96*

S.No.	State	Units assisted	Units Installed
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2	1
2.	Assam	1	1
3.	Himachal Pradesh	5	5
4.	Karnataka	1	1
5.	Kerala	10	7
6.	Maharashtra	2	2
7.	Manipur	1	1
8.	Orissa	1	1
9.	Punjab	1	1
10.	Rajasthan	2	2
11.	Tamil Nadu	5	5
12.	Uttar Pradesh	1	1
13.	West Bengal	2	1
14.	Nafeg	1	1
		35	30

**Annexure-VI**

*Development Programmes of National Horticulture Board (N.H.B.)*

1. Integrated project of post-harvest Infrastructure of Horticultural crops.
2. Development of Marketing of Horticultural produce through participation in Soft Loan.
3. Market Information Service of Horticultural Crops.
4. Introduction of New Technologies and Concepts in Horticulture.
5. Techno-Economic Feasibility Studies Surveys on various Aspects of Horticulture.
6. Establishment of Nutritional Gardens in Rural Areas.
7. Transfer of Technology through Training and Visits of Horticulture Growers.
8. Elimination of Jhoom Cultivation through Development of Horticulture in Nagaland.

9. Expansion of Area under Pineapple Cultivation in Madhya Pradesh.
10. Integrated Horticulture Development in Rajasthan (District Sikar).
11. Alternate Structure for Marketing of Fruit Juices/ Fruit Based Beverages.
12. Grant of Financial Assistance to Professional Organisations for the Development of Horticulture.
13. Development of Beekeeping for improving Crop productivity.

[Translation]

SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in reply the Minister has informed that some programmes have been started by the Horticulture Board constituted under him at all India basis. The Development Programme of the Board consists horticulture development in Nagaland, Annanas cultivation and Rajasthan under item No. eight, nine and ten but Bihar figures nowhere. I want to know from the Government whether the Government would like to extend assistance to Bihar by enlisting it in the National Horticulture Board's Development Programme in view of the fact that Mango, leechi and banana are grown there and small farmers are going to set up industries there based on these fruits.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : We extend help for the schemes formulated by the National Horticulture Board through Co-operative sector. Such effort is being done in Bihar. Recently I had been to Bihar, five sectors have been identified where this programme is being implemented in collaboration of the State government. But we want to give priority to more backward areas, such as North-east and Kashmir as these have more potential. No discrimination is being done to Uttar Pradesh or Bihar, the only difference is that these are being given priority.

SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : A list is there in Annexure-III. NCDC has set up and assisted Co-operative processing units in 13 states. In this list also Bihar has been ignored. I want to know from the Govt. whether NCDC intends to set up a unit in Bihar with its own assistance. In reply to this question it has been replied that Bihar is the largest producer of corn and Begusarai, Khagaria and Samastipur are the largest Corn producing areas there. The Directorate handling corn cultivation is at Delhi but no corn is grown here is Delhi. I want to know from the Government whether they desire to set up this directorate at Begusarai in Bihar. Bihar Government may moot a proposal to this effect because ultimately they have to support it we are not discriminating against instead Bihar is ignoring itself, then what can we do ?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Directorate will not be shifted from Delhi as other parts of the Country has also to be looked after. But opening of a regional Institute in Bihar is under consideration. As far the NCDC is concerned, I will feel happy if Bihar works in Co-operative sector. The Bihar Govt. may forward it as ultimately they have to support it. No discrimination is being made against Bihar, instead it is ignoring itself then what can we do ?

[English]

SHRI P.M. SAYEED : Sir, I am encouraged to ask a supplementary though it is not strictly within the framework of the question. The hon. Minister has gone beyond the scope of the question.

You have visited my constituency. You know that papaya of the best quality in the country is grown in Lakshadweep and that too in plenty. He is a man from the grassroot level. He has also agreed with me that he would visit Lakshadweep. May I know from the hon. Minister whether the Central Government will come forward with sufficient financial help in order to set up a food processing industry for papaya in Lakshadweep?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Food processing is not under me. Even then, I will request my colleague to consider his case sympathetically.

MR. SPEAKER : But you can help them to grow more papaya.

[Translation]

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, NAFED is engaged in food processing in co-operative sector. It produces tomato (or potato) Chips or Catchup which is consumed through out the country and exported as well. But its plant is obsolete due to which optimum production is not possible there. There is a need to increase its production. So far my information goes, NAFED has asked the Centre to provide land as they have funds with. After they get the land they will produce four times more catchup and work better in the Co-operative sector which will benefit the Cooperative sector. This is the Scheme. I would like to know from the Minister if he would approve the proposal and provide them land.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Centre does not provide land. That is done by the State Government. But I will ask NCDC to consider your question sympathetically. We don't provide land, that's rather provided by the State.

[English]

### Sale of Land by SC/ST and Adivasis

\*322. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have permitted the Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and Adivasis to sell their land;

(b) if so, whether the Government have any data about the number of Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and Adivasis in Orissa particularly in Kalahandi district who sold their land so as to prevent themselves from starvation;

(c) if so, the details thereof indicating the area of land sold by them;

(d) whether Government are aware that those Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and Adivasis became landless as a result thereof; and

(e) If so, the measures being taken by the Government to prevent them from becoming landless and for their development/rehabilitation?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) Under Section 3(1) of the Orissa Scheduled Areas Transfer of Immovable Property (By Scheduled Tribes) Regulations, 1956 (Regulation 2 of 1956) and through Sections 22, 23, 23-A of Orissa Land Reforms Act, 1980 the Competent Authority/Revenue Officer has been empowered to grant permission for alienation of land belonging to STs/SCs. A member of ST/SC who intends to transfer any of his immovable property to a member of any non-ST/non-SC, shall submit an application for the purpose and obtain the prior consent in writing of the Competent Authority/Revenue Officer under the above sections. In case of transfer effected in contravention of the above restrictive provisions, the Competent Authority/Revenue Officer, as the case may be, may, on receipt of application or *suo moto* declare the transfer invalid and cause restoration of the land to the transferor or to his heirs and also impose penalty upto Rs. 200/- per acre of such property per year or any part thereof during which unlawful possession continues. Provision has also been made in both the enactments for eviction of unauthorised occupation of any immovable property or holding belonging to ST/SC persons by way of trespass or otherwise and restoration of possession thereof to those persons or to their heirs.

(b) No instance of selling land by them so as to prevent themselves from starvation has come to notice of Government.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS (Kalahandi) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had a very specific question but in his reply it is written that the question does not arise. I have not got reply to my first question which reads as follows :

[*English*]

"(a) whether the Government have permitted the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to sell their land.

I meant to say, whether the Government of India has a national policy to allow the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to sell their land or not. It has not been answered, whereas part (b) of the question in respect of Orissa, has been answered. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government of India has a policy to allow the sale of land by Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes or not.

Under Section 3(1) of the Transfer of Immovable Property (Regulation) Act, 1956 and Land Reforms Act, 1980, the Revenue Officers or the Sub-Collectors are the competent authorities to grant permission for the sale of lands belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Strict principle should be observed in this behalf.

MR. SPEAKER : Please ask the question now.

SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : So many restrictions are there but they are not being observed. Only 31 days' notice is given. RI Reports are asked for and permissions are given by the Sub-Collectors to sell the land. There is one specific norm, that is the Assistant District Welfare Officers .. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : You please ask the question. You do not have to go on explaining the law. The Minister is supposed to know the law.

SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Without asking for the report of the Assistant District Welfare Officers and without making any local enquiry, thousands of permissions are being given in the State of Orissa. I had specifically asked for Kalahandi which is in the State of Orissa. I would specifically like to know why these kinds of irregularities are being committed. The hon. Minister has said, "Does not arise".

MR. SPEAKER : If you do not have any question to ask, I am passing on to the next Member.

SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : I would specifically like to know whether the Government will realise this fact and institute an inquiry to punish such guilty officers who have given permissions without observing the rules properly.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : Since land is a State Subject, granting of permission to Scheduled

Castes and Scheduled Tribes lies with the Government of Orissa. As the hon. Member has asked the question regarding Orissa, I have answered the question as per the provisions of the rules, Acts or laws concerning the State of Orissa.

As far as giving punishment to the officers, who have been such permissions is concerned, I would like to say that if they have gone out of the rules or the provisions of the Act, the matter may be brought to my notice. I will take it up with the State Government.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : So severe draught is there in Kalahandi. You know that people are running for their lives in Kalahandi, Bolangir and Western Orissa. Approximately two and half lakh people have left my constituency in search of job in various towns after having sold their land. The Sub Collector has permitted them to sell their land. In Kalahandi a permission has been given to sell out 7-8 acre to 36 acre of land.

[*English*]

The Sub-Collector has given permission. He has taken bribes from many people.

[*Translation*]

They have been permitted to sell one thousand acre within a year. It never happened during last five years.

[*English*]

In this way, the power is being misutilized. The Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people have become landless. That is why I would like to know whether the Government would institute an inquiry into this.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : I think the hon. Member has not got proper statistics with him. The number of cases ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : For all the questions he has replied saying, "Does not arise". So, what else can I say ?

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : I am replying regarding Kalahandi. The number of cases where transfer of land with the permission of the competent authority has taken place are 88 and the area of land involved is 192 acres. The number of cases involving transfer of land without permission are 516. Under the Orissa Land (Regulation) Act, action has been initiated to restore land to the transferrers.

SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is going to set up a Committee to give instructions to the State Government of Orissa to examine and check the sale of land by the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Adivasis of the backward districts of Orissa.

AN HON. MEMBER : It is a very serious matter, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : I know that. But it relates to Orissa only.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI P.M. SAYEED : This problem is there throughout the country.

MR. SPEAKER : I know that. But the question relates to Orissa only.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : So far as setting up of a Committee is concerned. I would like to say that I am not going to set up any Committee but I assure the hon. Member, through you, that I will leave no stone unturned to see that people are not compelled to sell their land in Orissa.

SHRI P.M. SAYEED : You may kindly allow a half-an-hour discussion on this. It is a very important matter. Alienation on the tribal land is there. It will never be taken up. Even in Tripura, most of the problems are because of alienation on the tribal land.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : This does not pertain to Orissa only. This problem is everywhere.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Since this Government is very very skillful in issuing Ordinances, the proper course would be to issue an Ordinance, then bring a Bill and then have a discussion. That is the only route.

MR. SPEAKER : All right. Please sit down.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : I am prepared for Half-an-hour discussion.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : I would rather suggest a discussion under Rule 193. Half-an-hour discussion will not be enough.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : I do not know, whether Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee is encouraging the issuance of Ordinance by the Government !

MR. SPEAKER : I know, it is a very important question but I do not think there will be any time left before recess to discuss it. We will find some time after the recess.

[Translation]

#### Juvenile Reforms Centres

\*323. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :  
DR. Y.S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of juvenile reform centres in the country and the number of boys and girls kept there separately, State/UT-Wise;

(b) whether the children kept in these centres are deprived of the basic facilities provided by the Government;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether there have been incidents of running away of the children from these centres;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to check such incidents ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (f) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

- Part (a) The information regarding Juvenile Reform Centres in the country and the number of boys and girls kept there separately, State-UT wise is given at Annexures I & II respectively.
- Part (b) and (c) The available information about some homes indicates that the conditions in these homes are not satisfactory reasons for which include poor infrastructure, staff shortage and lack of vocational training and recreational facilities.
- Part (d) and (e) There have been incidents of running away of children from these centres reasons for which include poor infrastructural facilities and inadequate security arrangement.
- Part (f) The steps taken by the Central Government to improve the conditions of these homes are as follows :—
- to provide financial assistance to the States and Union Territories for the maintenance of these homes;
  - repeated letters have been written to the State Governments and Union Territories to improve the working of these homes;
  - the matter had been raised and discussed in a meeting of the State/UT Governments Welfare Secretaries.

**Annexure-I***Institutions under the Juvenile Justice Act, 1986, for Neglected and Delinquent Children*

S.No.	Name of the State/U.T.	Observation Homes	Juvenile Homes	Special Homes	After-care Instt.	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9	5	2	1	17
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	1	1	—	2
3.	Assam	7	25	1	1	34
4.	Bihar	10	8	5	2	25
5.	Goa	2	2	2	—	6
6.	Gujarat	25	5	2	14	46
7.	Haryana	3	3	1	1	8
8.	Himachal Pradesh	—	1	1	—	2
9.	Karnataka	22	19	—	11	52
10.	Kerala	12	5	2	—	19
11.	Madhya Pradesh	22	2	3	1	28
12.	Maharashtra	45	101	3	3	152
13.	Manipur	1	2	1	—	4
14.	Meghalaya	1	—	—	—	1
15.	Mizoram	3	3	—	—	6
16.	Nagaland	—	1	1	—	2
17.	Orissa	12	2	—	—	14
18.	Punjab	7	2	1	2	12
19.	Rajasthan	11	4	1	—	16
20.	Sikkim	1	—	—	—	1
21.	Tamil Nadu	14	17	3	3	37
22.	Tripura	1	1	—	—	2
23.	Uttar Pradesh	59	10	1	—	70

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
24.	West Bengal	7	19	4	6	36
25.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	—	—	—	—	0
26.	Chandigarh	1	1	1	—	3
27.	Dadar & Nagar Haveii	—	—	—	—	0
28.	Daman & Diu	—	—	—	—	0
29.	Delhi	3	11	—	—	14
30.	Lakshadweep	—	—	—	—	0
31.	Pondicherry	1	1	1	1	4
		280	251	36	46	613

**Annexure-II***Institutions under the Juvenile Justice Act (1994-95)*

S.No.	States/Union Territories	Total Capacity of all the Institutions		
		Boys	Girls	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1825	185	2010
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—
3.	Assam	150	100	250
4.	Bihar	1050	290	1340
5.	Goa	125*	—	125
6.	Gujarat	1773	470	2243
7.	Haryana	250	150	400
8.	Himachal Pradesh	70	—	70
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—
10.	Karnataka	3640	—	3640
11.	Kerala	1325	425	1750
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1250	350	1600

1	2	3	4	5
13.	Maharashtra	7470	6925	14395
14.	Manipur	175	—	175
15.	Meghalaya	40	—	40
16.	Mizoram	45	—	45
17.	Nagaland	20	10	30
18.	Orissa	N.A.	N.A.	—
19.	Punjab	350	400	750
20.	Rajasthan	675	—	675
21.	Sikkim	—	—	—
22.	Tamil Nadu	N.A.	N.A.	—
23.	Tripura	75	—	75
24.	Uttar Pradesh	3450	—	3450
25.	West Bengal	800	765	1565
<b>Union Territories</b>				
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	—	—	—
2.	Chandigarh	30	—	30
3.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—	—	—
4.	Daman & Diu	—	—	—
5.	Delhi	1240	500	1740
6.	Lakshadweep	—	—	—
7.	Pondicherry	130	—	130
Total		25958	10570	36528

**Note :**

- In case of Goa total capacity of homes are both for boys and girls.
- The statement above gives the capacity of the institutions. The actual number of inmates maintained is subject to frequent variance.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had put a serious question to the Minister regarding juvenile delinquents and Juvenile Reform Centres. It is amazing that whatever question I asked him, he admitted that these things are happening here. I think these Juvenile Reform Centres are being converted into Crime centres and the Government is paying no attention towards them. My first question is whether the Central Government is aware of the guidelines framed under the Juvenile Justice Act, 1986 ? All over India 36,528 boys and girls are in prison. Whether the Central Government is aware of the fact that the some provisions of this act are being implemented everywhere. Whether the Government has a full report on it and fully aware of it and has set up a Committee to get information regularly ?

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : Hon'ble Member is referring to Juvenile Welfare Boards, Juvenile courts and Juvenile Justice Act, 1986. According to him Juvenile Welfare Boards and Juvenile Courts are functioning satisfactorily. So far as the hon'ble member has told, there are 36528 Juvenile delinquents in reform houses, not in jail. As far the monitoring aspect referred by him, my Ministry is holding quarterly meeting for their monitoring. So far no serious matter has come into our notice.

SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : The Minister has said that so far no serious matter has come to his notice, whereas he himself has admitted that arrangements are not good in these juvenile reform Centres and there had been cases of boys and girls fleeing from reform Centres, which are not serious in his view, but quite serious in my opinion. I don't know what steps Government has taken in these cases.

My second question is that the Minister has stated in the reply that the measures taken by the Government included providing financial assistance to the States and Union Territories for maintenance of juvenile reform centres. What the Minister has to say about the amount of assistance provided to them ? Written Communications are being sent to the State-Governments and Union territories instructing them to effect improvements in the functioning of these centres. The repeated letters are indicative of no response from them. I want the Central Government to state as to what sort of letters were written to and how much financial assistance had been released because in want of financial assistance, the whole management of the juvenile reform Centres is deteriorating. Atrocities and sexual exploitation is being done there, which is indeed very shameful. I want to know as to what reply states have given to the Government? What information he has and how much financial assistance has been given to them.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : Hon. Member, Shri Krishan Lal Sharma feeling very obliged while

asking the question. Well, he has asked about the letters issued by me or my department. He should appreciate the fact that I am not asleep, rather I am busy working.

SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Writing letters is no work, I am talking of 'no response'. You don't tell as to how many letters were written and what reply you got ? You tell that.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : If they do not respond, that is their laxity, not mine ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Meghe, I have not allowed you.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : He has asked as to how much funds were released. I don't have the details in this regard. If I read it out, that would take much time. I can say that Rs. one crore and seventeen lakh were released till 21st February.

SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : If you have taken the statement of it, then you should have taken statement in this regard as well.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : Now I will take and furnish. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, shall will continue ?

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, please.

SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Juvenile Reform Centres are meant for reforming the juvenile delinquents and the juvenile delinquency is alarmingly on rise in our country. We all know that. They have to be brought back to the mainstream. I would like to know whether these homes have adequate psychiatrists, medical personnel and educationists. It is because the work of the Juvenile Reform Centres is not just to provide food and shelter but the main thing is to reform them. Do you have infrastructure for doing that ? Do you have psychiatrists, medical personnel and educationists ?

MR. SPEAKER : Very good question.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : Yes, Sir, we have infrastructure.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, while replying all these questions, the hon. Minister has expressed apprehension that the funds allocated for this

particular purpose has not been utilised properly. This is one thing. All these juvenile institutions are not functioning properly as a result of which the Ministry has written number of letters to all these institutions.

My question is this. Has the hon. Minister visited any such centres anywhere in the country? I think the Minister concerned has visited it. He had observed that irregularities are going on in all these institutions. I would like to know the hon. Minister's Observations on this. Mere writing letters will not help. How much funds are we allocating for them? I want to know whether he has got any inspection machinery to inspect the activities of all these institutions.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : So far, I have not visited any Juvenile reform centre. But the moment the Session is over, I will visit.

MR. SPEAKER : Very good reply.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA : The children who come out of these Juvenile Reform Centres are generally viewed as criminals and are neglected by society in every walk of life. I would like to know whether the Government will give special importance to such children in jobs so as to enable them to join the mainstream of the society like others, without any discrimination.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : According to the Juvenile Act, the Government have the responsibility towards the children, viz., up to 16 years in case of boys and 18 years in case of girls. There are many ways and provisions through which the children are restored to lead a normal life. We are also having some other channels through which we provide self-employment to such children.

#### Clove Production

\*324. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Cloves grown in India are of good quality;

(b) if so, the details of total production, domestic need and import of cloves during each of the last five years, State-wise;

(c) the details of domestic prices of cloves from 1985 onwards, year-wise, and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to help the clove growing farmers?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (i) As per latest available rough estimates, the State-wise production of clove is given below :—

(in metric tonnes)

State	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
Kerala	734	750	750	750	750
Tamil Nadu	690	674	650	822	830
Karnataka	75	75	75	75	75
A&N Islands	1.17	1.39	1.62	1.88	1.92
Total	1500	1500	1477	1649	1657

(ii) The quantity of clove imported each year of the years 1991-92 to 1995-96 is given below :—

Year	Quantity imported (MT)
1991-92	1594.35
1992-93	2924.46
1993-94	4503.87
1994-95	2523.17
1995-96	3305.45

(iii) The annual domestic consumption of clove is around 5,000 tonnes.

(c) The prices of clove (non-extracted) in Kottayam and Trichur market for the years 1985-86 to 1996-97 (upto January, 1997) are given below :—

Year	Price (Rs./kg.)	
	Kottayam	Trichur
1	2	3
1985-86	189	189
1986-87	186	188
1987-88	222	216
1988-89	172	160
1989-90	151	146

1	2	3
1990-91	207	199
1991-92	257	245
1992-93	233	175
1993-94	165	110
1994-95	145	83
1995-96	142	95
1996-97 (upto January, 1997)	148	94

(d) The clove farmers are being supported under the Centrally Sponsored Integrated Programme for Development of Spices being implemented during 8th Plan with an outlay of Rs. 125 crores. The Programmes for clove includes :

- (i) Production and distribution of seedlings at subsidised rates; and
- (ii) Establishment of demonstration plots. In addition, Demonstration-cum-Progeny gardens are also being set up in each State of North-Eastern region for collection and multiplication of improved varieties of spices including clove.

Besides, subsidy at 90% for SC/ST, small & marginal farmers and 70% for other farmers is given for use of drip irrigation under a different scheme.

Apart from the above, the research institutions have identified 40 superior clones & standardised vegetative propagation technique for their large scale multiplication & distribution to the farmers. Fertilizer schedule and control measures for pests and diseases have been standardised, which are passed on to the farmers.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Sir, as per the answer, clove production in India is not much. It is also very clear that the farmers are not being benefited much, though India can be proud of growing the best quality cloves in the world.

From the answer, we see that the price, ten years back, viz., in 1985-86, was Rs. 189 per kg whereas in 1996-97, the price is just Rs. 94 per kg the cost of production has gone up steeply. Will the hon. Minister take a very serious note of this to see what could be done to save the farmers to get a remunerative price, especially, when they are producing the best quality cloves in the world ?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : It is a fact that we produce good quality cloves in the world compared to any other country. Regarding import of cloves, I would

like to say that the unit value in 1995-96 was Rs. 29.61 per kg.

The domestic price varies from Rs. 98 to Rs. 142. This is a very serious matter and keeping the consumers interest also in view, we are still allowing import of cloves.

Regarding the second part of the question which the hon. Member has asked, I am serious about that and I have asked the Ministry to work it out as to why our productivity is so low. It should be enquired into.

Regarding what should be done to improve the quality of the sapling or the tissue culture, I would like to mention that that question should also be gone into.

On the question that our cost of production is high, it is reported to us that it is about Rs. 200 per kg. Though no official assessment has been so far made, I have asked the Ministry to go into the matter in detail so that India can come up in trade in the international market.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : There is another aspect also which cuts at the root of the hopes of the farmers. The hon. Minister has said, the cost of production is about Rs. 220 per kg, the price has come down to Rs. 94 per kg and the imports are also going up. But apart from all this, a lot of smuggling is taking place from certain countries. We find that through other means, cloves are coming to some of the ports, from there they are taken by road and while they are being taken by road, they are being smuggled.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether this has come to the notice of the Ministry and if so, whether serious action will be taken to catch hold of these culprits so that the Indian farmers can be saved.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Sir, the unofficial report is that it is coming. When the price variation is so high, one can understand that smuggling will go on, but even then there is import duty levied on cloves coming from outside and that is up to 32 per cent.

Of course, we have asked the Government and other departments to be more vigilant and do something. But the real solution lies in improving our own productivity. I will look into that.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Sir, Karnataka is the third largest clove producing State in the country. If we see the production rate, it has remained static from 1991 to 1994-95. It is only 75 metric tonnes. The hon. Minister in his reply has said that for improving production, they have taken some steps like establishment of demonstration plots in addition to demonstration-cum-progeny gardens in the North-Eastern States.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether such programmes are being undertaken in the traditional

growing areas also, including Karnataka, so that the production can go up.

My next part of the question is this. The import particulars are given up to 1995-96. In the year 1995-96 as much as 3,305.45 metric tonnes of clove was imported. That means more than Rs. 50 crore worth of clove was imported. So that much of money in hard currency is being spent on import of cloves. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government would think of expanding the traditional areas like Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka by providing more facilities to the clove growing agriculturists.

[Translation]

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in Karnataka clove plants grow well but do not bear flowers. I have asked to carry on tests to find out the causes of non flowering of clove plants. Clove plants bear flowers in Kerala and Tamil Nadu but not there. We can conduct tests to find out reasons. We have asked to look into this aspect.

[English]

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM : Now, Tamil Nadu has the highest production of cloves in India. Even though the production has been heavy, the farmers are not willing to go in for clove production. Have you got any programme through the ICAR to produce hybrid variety ? So far no research has been done. Have you got any idea to produce hybrid variety of cloves ? The Andaman and Nicobar Islands are very much suitable for clove production. Have you got any programme there ? Will the Minister answer to this question?

MR. SPEAKER : The earlier question was related to that. Mr. Minister, do you have any plan for exploration in non-traditional areas ?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : As I have told you, the first idea is to see how productivity is increased and find out what are the places climatically suitable for this. The Andaman and Nicobar Islands is certainly one of the traditional areas. But in the other areas also like Karnataka, as the hon. Member has said and as I have already told you that there is a defect. So, surely it will be looked into. Firstly, how to have a hybrid or tissue culture or something like that ? If that is decided, then we can go ahead.

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM : So far, there is no research done on hybrid variety.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : In a nutshell, this situation reflects the economic policies of the Government also. Let me put the question. Firstly, on a rough calculation, let us say the price difference between the imported and the domestic clove is Rs. 30 crore. Then who does the import and who gets the profit ? That is my first point.

My second point is this. You have 32 per cent import duty. Why can't that be raised in order to collect more for the Government instead of reducing in the import duty ?

My third point is this. Why do you not have a quantitative restriction ? It is because before you begin to improve, they will shift away from clove. The reason being it is becoming a losing proposition. So, some protection is necessary. At the same time, some egging on is also necessary to increase the quality and productivity. I would like to know whether such a view is possible by the Government or not.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Sir, the point is that cloves are coming from neighbouring countries like Sri Lanka and other places. We do not want to impose such a high duty that it adversely affects us.

The hon. Member is aware that for the SAARC countries, we are going to reduce it. That will go against the policy that we have been pursuing. But by increasing our own production, we can compete with them. As I told you, in non-traditional areas like North-East, we are trying to increase our production. I have told you about Andaman and Nicobar Islands. By doing that, we can compete with them and not by raising the import duty. That will not be desirable. It is because we are having good relations with them. It is not the only item. Had it been some developed countries, then I would have considered this question for quantitative restriction also. But with our neighbours we have to go for higher and higher trade. I do not think it is advisable.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Who makes the profit ? Who are the importers ?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : I cannot give you the importers' name.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : It is not Public Sector Undertaking.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : How can we do it ? Do you think that India is now for Public Sector ?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I want a confirmation from you.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : do not think Communists have any illusion about that. The Communists would not have any illusion about where our country is going.

[Translation]

### Supply of Seeds and Fertilizers

\*325. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the farmers are not getting fertilizers and seeds in time in several States and the yield of agricultural production is declining as a result thereof;

(b) if so, whether any concrete steps have been taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement**

(a) to (c) Urea is the only fertilizer which is under statutory price, movement and distribution control at present; whereas phosphatic and potassic fertilizers stand decontrolled with effect from 25.8.1992. Although efforts are being made to improve the supply of fertilizers and seeds in all parts of the country but still the demand at present outstrips supply. To meet this demand, nearly 20-30% of the requirement of urea and DAP is imported whereas in case of M.O.P. the entire requirement is met through imports only.

Making available seeds to the farmers in time is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. They arrange for distribution of certified/quality seeds to the farmers through various agencies including private dealers. Efforts of the State Govts. are supplemented by the National Seeds Corporation and the State Farms Corporation of India in making available seeds to the farmers in time.

In order to ensure adequate availability of fertilizers and seeds, a close liaison is maintained amongst various agencies responsible for production, procurement, movement and distribution. This year Government announced the Fertilizer Policy well in time by enhancing concession on Phosphatic & Potassic fertilizers to a considerable extent and providing transport subsidy to Jammu & Kashmir and North-Eastern States, including Sikkim with a view to improve the supply position even in the remote areas. In case of decontrolled and de-analysed fertilizers, a provision was made for importing 25% of the requirement through Public Sector Undertakings to further improve their availability. Supply plan is regularly monitored and reviewed to ensure timely supply of fertilizers.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister has stated that efforts are being made to improve the supply of fertilizers and seeds to all parts of the country but presently the demand for these is more than their supply. In this regard my submission is that when farmers reach the Centres of these societies, he finds that the despatch of seeds and fertilizers have not reached there. If seeds and fertilizers reach in time, then the big farmers and the officers connive with each other and take away the whole lot in

dark hours. The marginal farmer goes on approaching them for fertilizers but to no avail. Whether the Minister is aware of it ? Will you make arrangements to arrange for availability of these items to the marginal and medium farmers?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I agree with the criticism made by the hon'ble Member the fertilizers and seeds do not reach the small and poor farmers which is indeed a problem. We make supplies the basis of assessments sent to us by the State Governments. But that assessment is not enough to cater to the needs of all the farmers as demand for seeds and fertilisers is far more than their assessment.

The steps being taken presently include construction of one fertilizer godown in each such districts as it fall very far from the fertilizer plants. Stock should be kept there in off-season itself. Secondly, open offices and agencies of National Seeds Corporation in each district and thereafter in each block so that they get their requirements fulfilled near their dwelling places. If Panchayat system works well in other States, as is going on in Kerala, then it can be made available at Panchayat level also.

SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is the responsibility of the State Governments to make fertilizers and seeds timely available to farmers and the agencies like National Seeds Corporation and the Fertilizer Corporation of India assist them in this regard. Mr. Minister please introduce these committees at Panchayat level, so that the farmers get seeds and fertilizer because it is seen that generally the Government does not make these items timely available to farmers in the villages as a result of which the farmers have to procure these from privately owned shops to carry on their work. There is exaggeration if I may say that had not been these private shops, the farmers could not undertake their agricultural activities. What do you intend to say about it, Mr. Minister ?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Sir, I have already replied that we are trying to provide it in each district.

SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I myself have experienced the shortage of seeds and fertilizers. That's why I want to tell Mr. Minister that earlier there used to grow 80-90 seeds in a wheat plant whereas now a days one plant gives only 50-60 seeds. That means sub-standard seeds are being supplied. If so, then what the Government is doing to supply quality seeds to farmers with a view to increase wheat production.

Secondly, as the hon'ble Member has rightly shown the concern that farmers do not get fertilizers and seeds in time. The seed is received by them when the rains are over and seeding time has already passed. Thus he resorts to open market purchase. Similarly seed are not received in time for wheat cultivation. The wheat seeds reach your godowns only when the farmers have already done seeding

in their fields. What you are going to do to make the timely supply of fertilizers and seeds.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have already stated that we are making arrangements to make timely supply of these items to ensure opening of one depot in each district, and thereafter in each Block. I said so just now...*(Interruptions)*. I did not say that we have already opened. I said I would try ...*(Interruptions)*

My Speaker, Sir, first let me reply to the Member who has raised this question. Earlier Wheat plants used to give more seeds, now a day they give seeds in relatively less number. What actually happens is that we have to replace the improved seeds developed in our research centres after every four-five years. If we do not do that and keep it as national seed, that would not do. Hence we have to replace it every four-five years and that is why such a situation is arising ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it might be that seeds available in market are okay whereas seeds available in Government godowns are sub-standard ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN : It is a practical fact that after the decontrol of fertiliser the cultivators are neither getting them adequately nor at reasonable prices. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government will control at least one component, the phosphatic and the potassic fertiliser and the price. The subsidy provided should be at the level of the consumer's sale price to farmers.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Sir, as you know, urea is controlled but DAP is decontrolled. When the whole country is going towards decontrol, how can I now control one thing which has not been controlled ? This is the crisis that I am facing. If the House so desires, I can do that. I am only a firm believer to do it but the country is going towards decontrol.

*[Translation]*

SHRI ANANT GUDHE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as the Hon'ble Minister has stated in the reply that it is the responsibility of the State Government to provide seeds to the farmers ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : I did not say that.

SHRI ANANT GUDHE : My question is whether the Central Government has any say regarding the seeds provided by National Seeds Corporation. The seeds provided are sub-standard which lead to poor yields at times. I would like to know from the Minister as to whether the Central Government gives any compensation to the farmers for

losses suffered by them due to supply of such seeds ? A demand has been made for provision of compensation in such a case however the Central Government has not made any such provision as yet.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, if National Seeds Corporation is responsible for it and if receipt issued by them is submitted to me, I'll ask them to pay the compensation. We are thinking about making amendments in legislation regarding Seeds Act so that those selling spurious seeds not only pay the fine but also the compensation. I have directed the Ministry to initiate action in this regard. We are taking action on it ...*(Interruptions)* That you will be doing by then. We will bring the bill ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Often pebbles are found in the Fertilisers ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI RAJNI PATIL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, just now Hon'ble members have raised the matter of losses suffered by farmers due to supply of inferior quality seeds. I would like to know from the Minister whether any step has been taken to seek commitment from those who supply inferior quality seeds. We do not want compensation because that would be given only once. The farmers came to know about the inferior quality of seeds only after sowing the crops. We are farmers so we do know that when one comes to know at a later stage that one has been duped, one faces difficulties. Whether any step has been taken for such companies?

As for the fertilisers, it has always been the practice, especially in Maharashtra that fertilisers arrive in godowns only after it has rained and all the work has been completed. You have stated in that regard that you will try your best. But the suppliers indulge in black-marketing and charge arbitrary amount from the farmers and even then do not supply fertilisers in time. What steps have been taken by the Government against those who do such a thing deliberately.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this question has two parts. The first part is regarding seeds so far as the criminal aspect regarding the supply of seeds is concerned, it is already there in law. Hence it is yours as well as the responsibility of the State Government to file a case. If you ask us, we are there to help you. But the course of action is already provided under the law. What is not provided is the provision for compensation. We are initiating the action for payment of compensation. As far the fertilisers not reaching in time, we admit this lapse and criticism and we are making arrangements. I would also request you to inform us if the required inputs do not reach in time and then we'll try our best to supply the same.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : Sardar Surjit Singh Barnala.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I have to give chance to the former Agriculture Minister.

SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA : Sir, my question is regarding fertilisers. The answer given by the Minister regarding fertilisers is : "The demand at present outstrips the supply."

The demand of fertiliser is more than the supply. Now the prices of urea have been raised by ten per cent. They say that they are importing some urea. Last year also an effort was made and we saw Rs. 133 crore scandal in which not a bag of urea came to India and the money passed away.

Now, I would like to know one thing from the hon. Minister. Because of short supply of fertiliser, particularly in Punjab and Haryana, there has been a shortage of food production in the country which necessitated imports to the tune of two million tonnes of wheat. We are, at this point of time, importing this huge amount of wheat. If the supply of fertiliser continues to be short again, it is likely that next year also we will have shortage of food supplies in the country. This is a very serious matter. Would the hon. Minister reply whether efforts are being made to meet the entire demand of the people ?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA . Yes Sir. As far as possible it is being planned ... (Interruptions) We are trying for that.

[Translation]

#### Godowns in Uttar Pradesh

\*326. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the locations and capacity of the FCI godowns situated in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up offices/ godowns of the Food Corporation of India in those districts of State where they are non-existent,

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (d) A statement is being placed on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) Details of locations and capacity of godowns (covered and open) available with the Food Corporation of

India at different locations in Uttar Pradesh are given at Annexures-I and II, respectively.

(b) to (d) The Food Corporation of India sets up offices/ godowns on the basis of requirement and viability and not necessarily in every revenue district of a State. At present, FCI has godown facilities in 62 revenue districts of Uttar Pradesh.

Construction of new godowns has been sanctioned in the following revenue districts:

- (1) Padrauna
- (2) Pithoragarh
- (3) Muzaffarnaga
- (4) Rampur
- (5) Shahjahanpur

#### Annexure-I

Statement Showing the Storage Capacity (Covered) (Owned & Hired) Available with the Food Corporation of India in Uttar Pradesh as on 01.02.1997

(Fig. in '000' Tonnes)

Location of the centre	Total Covered Storage Capacity (Owned & Hired)
1	2
Agra	54.98
Shikhabad	24.20
Karhal	0.71
Mainpur	13.35
Baheri	8.00
Bareilly	39.51
Parsakhera	49.17
Bilsanda	4.00
Bilaspur	9.10
Pilibhit	23.53
Puranpur	11.91
Bulandshahar	36.68

1	2	1	2
Khurja	36.10	Tanakpur	3.00
Shyamnagar	8.79	Kitcha	0.90
Barabanki (New)	55.00	Pithoragarh	2.50
Barabanki (Old)	17.56	Bilaspur	25.00
Faizabad	43.73	Rampur	18.20
Sultanpur	9.00	Orai	29.50
Basti	6.37	Jhansi	21.96
Gorakhpur	35.34	Lalitpur	6.53
Nakha	0.01	Etawah	26.33
Purandarpur	2.50	Jaswantnagar	2.78
Dumaria Ganj	0.53	Farrukhabad	5.00
Hapur	76.15	Chanderi (Bins)	72.00
Loni	50.00	Chanderi (FSD)	130.98
Janjathi	2.00	Naubasta	0.32
Meerut	2.00	Pukharayan	2.47
Partappur	29.58	Raibareilly	40.00
Almora	3.00	Jais	3.90
Bazpur	10.00	Maharajganj	1.25
Gadarpur	15.00	Darogakhera	3.75
Gularbhoj	4.20	Lucknow	58.17
Halduchur	30.00	Bangarmau	5.71
Haldwani	4.90	Unnao	6.03
Jaspur	5.70	Badaun	5.00
Kamaluaganj	3.60	Ujhani	8.56
Kashipur	12.40	Bijnor	0.65
Khatima	12.20	Nagina	2.50
Ramnagar	1.00	Amroha	3.55
Rudrapur	52.10	Chandausi	13.00
Sitarganj	8.30	Moradabad	23.34

1	2	1	2
Thakurdwara	2.80	Jangipur	5.63
Bamanhari	45.00	Behraich	6.47
Saharanpur	16.91	Gonda	30.00
Pilkhani	35.00	Prasadpur	5.00
Jaunpur	3.34	Pawayan	2.00
Mirzapur	11.81	Roza	30.00
Robertganj	4.00	Shahajahanpur	13.83
Varanasi	71.00	Hardoi	11.92
Vyasnagar	25.00	Sandila	23.92
Dehradun	11.00	Lakhimpurkheri	14.73
Rishikesh	4.17	Pallia	8.60
Vikasnagar	3.00	Tikunia	2.82
Uttar Kashi	1.28	Sitapur	25.79
Allopiabagh	9.00	Jawalapur	5.31
Allahabad	5.00	Roorkee	3.59
Karchana	23.00	Srinagar	5.00
Naini	51.97	Kotdwar	7.50
Fatehpur	39.34	Aligarh	16.07
Pratapgarh	5.00	Harduaganj	82.20
Azamgarh	22.30	Hathras	13.34
Deoria	5.00	Sikandra Rao	5.00
Mau	0.70	Etah	11.89
Attra	13.84	Kasganj	9.16
Banda	14.56	Kosikalan	55.30
Mahoba	10.00	Mathura	13.22
Ballia	2.75	Total (Covered Capacity)	2180.14

**Annexure-II**

Statement Showing Cap (Open) Storage Capacity  
(Owned & Hired) Available with Food Corporation of  
India in Uttar Pradesh as on 01.02.1997

(Fig. in '000' Tonnes)

Location of the Centre	Cap Storage Capacity (Owned and Hired)
1	2
Agra	16.01
Bareilly	3.00
Pilibhit	4.50
Bilaspur	34.00
Bulandshahar	1.40
Khurja	1.40
Lalpur	57.50
Shyamnagar	1.40
Barabanki	21.30
Basti	2.50
Gorakhpur	2.30
Hapur	7.80
Haldwani	3.50
Khatima	3.00
Rudrapur	2.20
Bilaspur	7.50
Dhamora	65.00
Jhansi	9.40
Chandari	14.00
Talkatora	8.40
Raibareilly	25.00
Moradabad	1.66

1	2
Vyasnagar	13.34
Mirzapur	1.12
Naini	9.50
Azamgarh	4.62
Attra	2.40
Mahoba	2.60
Banda (M.Y.)	12.00
Pawayan	20.00
Roza	40.00
Shahajahanpur	10.00
Hardoi	3.25
Sandila	20.00
Lakhimpurkheri	16.80
Sitapur	1.10
Harduaganj	3.15
Hathras	0.84
	453.57

[Translation]

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : How many lakhs of rupees are lost every year due to storage of wheat and other foodgrains in open godowns ? Whether amount of money lost thus could not have been utilised to construct new godowns ?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, whether they are constructed out of losses incurred or through some other manner....

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Tell us about the losses suffered.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Are you enquiring about the loses of a particular godown or about the losses incurred throughout the country ?

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : No, please give me the data pertaining to four districts of Bundelkhand.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : You should give a separate notice for that and then I'll tell you.

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Inform us about these four districts or give me the data pertaining to the entire state of U.P. I would like to know about losses incurred every year in case of lakhs of tonnes of foodgrains stocked in open godowns.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the stock of foodgrains is far below the available capacity in all the godowns of Uttar Pradesh. The godowns have a storage capacity of two million tonnes but the procurement is far lesser hence it would not be correct to say that storage capacity is not available as per requirement. We have more than required capacity and godowns. But at the moment I do not have any information about the amount of wastage that has taken place in each godown. Approximately 87,000 tonnes of foodgrains are lying in the godowns lying closed in 29 districts by the orders of labour tribunals. As there is a dispute, that's why the stock has not been removed.

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : I am talking about the open godowns.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : I can tell you about the number of such godowns.

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : How much loss is incurred?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : I can't give you any information or figures regarding wastage right now.

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : What I want to ask is ...

MR. SPEAKER : He has already replied. You may ask the second supplementary.

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : The first question has not been answered as yet.

MR. SPEAKER : That is not the way.

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Hon'ble Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am going to ask second supplementary question. I seek your protection. The reply furnished by Hon'ble Minister is not correct what I wanted to know was that all the open godown constructed by the Government in U.P....

MR. SPEAKER : If you ask for authentic informations only after giving ten days' time, how can it be managed ?

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Losses of lakhs of rupees are being incurred. What is the extent of losses suffered in open godowns of Uttar Pradesh where the stock is lying. If he has not got the information at present, he could furnish it in writing.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : I said that I do not have the information as yet. I'll send it.

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Now I would ask my second supplementary.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Do you want informations regarding Uttar Pradesh only ?

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Yes, regarding Uttar Pradesh only.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : All right.

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Hon'ble Minister, my second question is that there is an open godown in District Lalitpur which is at a distance of just 30 kilometres from Jhansi and there was a godown in Moranipur in District Jhansi but you have shifted it and transferred the staff to Gorakhpur. On one hand, tonnes of stock is lying in open uncovered godowns. Then what are the reasons for closing down the godowns in Uttar Pradesh ? Under what policy of F.C.I. and under which Departmental policy, such godowns are being vacated which were once hired by it and instead F.C.I. is storing tonnes of foodgrains in open godowns. What are the reasons therefor ?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will get an enquiry conducted into the specific matter he has referred to. As for the new locations under consideration for setting up of godowns, I have already furnished the list and we are facing problems in case of two locations. Chamoli is located far off. It is a hilly area. Right now the facilities available in Srinagar and Haldwani are utilised but it is still quite far off. Secondly Tehri Garhwal is another far off area, I have asked the Department to consider this matter.

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : I have not got the reply. Hon'ble Minister, kindly listen to my questions.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Kindly listen to me at least.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Agnihotri, you cannot go on interrupting like that. Please listen to the Minister.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Hon'ble Minister does not want to hear the questions and he also does not wish to reply to it later on.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Why don't you listen to me. You were saying about Jhansi that staff has been transferred from there ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot do like that.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Hon'ble Minister, that is not my question. The Government has set up open godowns at a number of places in Uttar Pradesh. There is one such godown in Lalitpur. But you are getting vacated the godown located at Moranipur in Jhansi and also transferring the staff. What I mean to say is that on one hand you are setting up open godowns and on the other hand you are getting vacated the godowns available with you. I would like to know the reasons therefor ?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : I have been informed that there is no open godown in Lalitpur. But now that you are saying it, I'll get an enquiry conducted.

MR. SPEAKER : Please look into this matter.

[English]

### Shrimp Farming

327. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :  
SHRI T GOPAL KRISHNA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up an authority under clause (3) of Section 3 of the Environment Protection Act, 1986 as per the directions of December 11, 1996 of the Supreme Court;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the restrictions imposed on the shrimp farming as per orders of the Court;

(d) the total loss of foreign exchange earnings due to this judgement;

(e) whether Government are planning to rehabilitate the affected fishermen; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### Statement

(a) and (b) The Ministry of Environment and Forests through a Notification (No. S.O. 88(E) dated 6.2.97 constituted an "Aquaculture Authority" under Sub-Section (3) of Section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act 1986, in accordance with the Supreme Court's judgement dated 11.12.96. The Authority shall be headed by a retired judge of a High Court with members drawn from the Ministries of Agriculture, Commerce, Environment and Forests as well as experts in the field of Environment protection, aquaculture

and pollution control. The functions of the Authority include issue of approval to undertake shrimp culture activities, implementation of "precautionary principles" and the "polluter pays" principle, ensuring payment of compensation to workmen employed in the shrimp culture industries; deal with environmental issues pertaining to coastal areas, etc. as indicated in the Supreme Court's judgement dated 11.12.96.

(c) The Supreme Court in its judgement delivered on 11.12.96 has imposed certain restrictions on shrimp farming along the coastal belt. The judgement *inter-alia* states that :

- (i) No shrimp culture pond can be constructed or set up within the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) except farms practising traditional and improved types of technologies in the coastal low lying areas. This shall be applicable to all seas, bays, estuaries, creeks, rivers and backwaters.
- (ii) All aquaculture industries/shrimp culture industries/shrimp culture ponds operating/set up in the coastal regulation zone as defined under the CRZ Notification shall be demolished and removed from the said area before March 31, 1997.
- (iii) No aquaculture industry/shrimp culture industry/shrimp culture ponds shall be constructed/set up within 1000 metre of Chilka Lake and Pulicat lake (including Bird Sanctuaries, namely, Yudurapattu and Nelapattu).
- (iv) Agricultural lands, salt pan lands, mangroves, wet lands, forest lands, land for village common purposes, shall not be used/converted for construction of shrimp culture ponds.
- (v) Aquaculture industry/shrimp culture ponds other than traditional and improved traditional may be set up/constructed outside the Coastal Regulation Zone with prior approval of the 'authority'.

(d) It is not possible to estimate the quantum of loss of foreign exchange at this stage.

(e) and (f) The Government has filed a petition in the Supreme Court seeking review of its judgement dated 11.12.96 which has not been listed as yet. The question of rehabilitation if any will arise after the decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, on this review Petition. The matter is sub-judice.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the recent landmark judgement, the hon. Supreme Court has ordered the demolition and removal of aqua farms in the Coastal Regulation Zones before March 31, 1997. The findings of the Supreme Court are that these

aqua farms cause salinity, sedimentation and health hazards, besides polluting drinking water.

Under these circumstances, may I know from the hon. Minister whether any scientific study has been conducted by the experts under the I.C.A.R. ? If so, what are the findings thereof ? If not, I would like to know whether the Government propose to conduct any in-depth study to determine the bad effects on the ecology as well as the environment of our country.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Sir, it is a fact that a very serious situation has arisen due to the judgement of the Supreme Court. But the Supreme Court is the Supreme Court. So, we have to abide by their judgement. We are trying to have some type of legislation. If the House so agrees, it can, both protect the ecology as well as the farmers' rights. We are thinking about it.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Sir, my question is, whether any study has been conducted under the I.C.A.R. about the bad effects on the ecology and the environment of our country.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Sir, the I.C.A.R., as a whole, has not conducted it, but it has done it partly. Some other organisations have done it and based on that the Supreme Court has given its judgement.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Sir, we all know that a great damage has been done to the ecology of our coastal belts due to the setting up of these aquaculture farms. May I know from the hon. Minister whether there are any concrete plans or proposals with the Government to rectify the ecological damage already done to the land ? If so, what are the proposals ? Will the hon. Minister spell out the concrete proposals ?

12.00 hrs.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Sir, the matter is before the Supreme Court for review. I cannot give him the details. Let them pass orders. Only then I can say something.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : But do you have any plan to rectify the ecological damage ?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : I will tell you that the aquaculture business which will be carried on in future, will take into account the ecology first and then other things.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

### New Varieties of Cash Crops

\*328. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Agriculture Research Institute has developed some new varieties of cash crop seed recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the States where the new seeds are likely to be used; and

(d) the results likely to be achieved therefrom ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Cotton variety — 'Pusa B-6' has been identified for late sown conditions in Punjab, Haryana, Northern Rajasthan and Western Uttar Pradesh.

Grape hybrid 'Pusa Navrang' has been developed for Northern India. It is good for making juice and coloured wine.

Bhindi variety 'Okra A-4' a yellow vein mosaic virus resistant variety has been released for the whole country.

Four varieties of Gladioli namely Neelam, Suryakiran, Dhanwantri and Sangervani and five varieties of roses namely Mother Teresa, Nehru Centenary, Dr. S.S. Bhatnagar, Lahar and Chitra have been released recently.

Additionally a wide choice of improved varieties/hybrids of different cash crops have been developed and released for general cultivation by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research through its Institutes spread all over the country.

(d) The above varieties will help in increasing productivity of these crops resulting into higher profitability to the farmers.

[Translation]

### Productivity Rate of Foodgrains

\*329. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA  
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have identified the areas where productivity rate of foodgrains is below than that at the national level;

(b) if so, the names of such areas along with the rates of productivity of wheat, rice, pulses, oilseeds and other foodgrains there; and

(c) the details of schemes formulated/proposed to be formulated by the Government on priority basis to raise productivity level of the foodgrains in the said areas ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) A statement giving the average productivity for triennium ending

1995-96 in respect of wheat, rice, pulses, oilseeds and other foodgrains (*i.e.* coarse cereals) for the States where there are lower productivity rates than the national averages, is attached.

(c) To increase the production and productivity of foodgrains and oilseeds the Government is implementing various Central/Centrally sponsored schemes namely :

- (i) Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice Based Cropping System Areas (ICDP-Rice);
- (ii) Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Wheat Based Cropping System Areas (ICDP-Wheat);

- (iii) National Pulses Development Project (NPDP);
- (iv) Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Coarse Cereals Based Cropping System Areas (ICDP-Coarse Cereals);
- (v) Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP).

Through these schemes, assistance is provided for use of location specific high yielding seeds including hybrids of paddy and coarse cereals, improved farm and plant protection implements, drip & sprinkler irrigation sets, bio-fertilizers adoption of integrated pest management, organisation of field demonstrations and training of farmers.

### **Statement**

*Average Productivity of Selected Crops for triennium ending 1995-96 for the States, where these are lower than the national average productivity levels*

(Kg/Hec.)

Wheat		Rice		Pulses		Oilseeds		Coarse Cereals	
State	Yield	State	Yield	State	Yield	State	Yield	State	Yield
Assam	1222	Arunachal Pradesh	1102	Andhra Pradesh	423	Assam	507	Assam	610
Bihar	2062	Assam	1345	Assam	534	Bihar	626	Gujarat	858
Gujarat	2342	Bihar	1323	Gujarat	575	Gujarat	829	Haryana	924
Himachal Pradesh	1375	Gujarat	1466	Himachal Pradesh	303	Jammu & Kashmir	490	Madhya Pradesh	788
Jammu & Kashmir	1446	Himachal Pradesh	1314	Jammu & Kashmir	532	Karnataka	629	Maharashtra	869
Karnataka	735	Madhya Pradesh	1152	Karnataka	420	Kerala	596	Orissa	779
Madhya Pradesh	1661	Maharashtra	1616	Maharashtra	538	Maharashtra	762	Rajasthan	466
Maharashtra	1379	Meghalaya	1124	Orissa	509	Orissa	530		
Rajasthan	2230	Mizoram	1530	Rajasthan	428	Rajasthan	766		
Sikkim	1801	Nagaland	1315	Tamil Nadu	417	West Bengal	780		
Uttar Pradesh	2422	Orissa	1418						
West Bengal	2324	Rajasthan	988						
		Sikkim	1316						
		Tripura	1843						
		Uttar Pradesh	1875						
		Pondicherry	1590						
All India	2478	All India	1885	All India	586	All India	831	All India	936

Note : States having production less than 10,000 tonnes not considered.

*States having Higher Productivity than the National Average*

Wheat		Rice		Pulses		Oilseeds		Coarse Cereals	
State	Yield	State	Yield	State	Yield	State	Yield	State	Yield
Punjab	3993	Punjab	3342	Kerala	1069	T.N.	1458	W Bengal	2198
Delhi	3769	T.N.	3234	Haryana	1008	Haryana	1355	Punjab	2008
Haryana	3663	A.P.	2581	U.P.	840	Punjab	1258	H.P.	1967
		Haryana	2576	Punjab	833	M.P.	843	Bihar	1578
		Karnataka	2379	Bihar	729	U.P.	639	J&K	1556
		W. Bengal	2059	M.P.	659	A.P.	832	U.P.	1283
		Kerala	1963	W Bengal	623			T.N.	1203
								Karnataka	1192

**Wheat Stocks**

\*330. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :  
SHRI SURENDRA YADAV :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether stock of only two million tonnes of wheat is estimated to be available in the godowns of the Food Corporation of India on 1st April, 1997;

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

(c) whether it is the lowest quantity of wheat stock as compared to previous years of the ninth decade;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure that sufficient stocks of wheat are built up without any further delay so as to provide food safety and protect interests of vulnerable sections of the society ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The likely stock of wheat in the Central Pool as on 1.4.1997 is projected at 2.72 million tonnes.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Government have decided to import upto two million tonnes of wheat in 1996-97 to augment availability in the country. A quantity of 16.75 lakh tonnes of wheat has already

been contracted for import from Australia, Canada and Argentina. Some of other important steps taken to ensure that sufficient stocks of wheat are built up include:—

- (i) increase in the Minimum Support Price of wheat for procurement during 1997-98;
- (ii) preponing procurement season from 1.4.1997 to 17.3.97;
- (iii) ban on issue of fresh Registration-cum-Allocation Certificates (RCACs) or revalidation of RCACs already issued for export of wheat and wheat products during 1996-97;
- (iv) decision not to announce any export ceiling of non-durum wheat in the Export Policy for 1997-98;
- (v) import of wheat in 1997-98 as and when necessary.

Government constantly review the stock position of wheat, likely production, anticipated procurement, requirement for PDS, open market prices etc. for appropriate additional measures.

**Area Under Soyabean Cultivation**

\*331. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the area in hectares under the cultivation of soyabean during the 1994, 1995 and 1996 in each State;

(b) whether there is a vast scope for increasing the soyabean cultivation in various States particularly in Madhya Pradesh;

(c) if so, the additional areas proposed to be brought under the soyabean cultivation in various States particularly in Madhya Pradesh during 1997-98; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) State-wise area under Soyabean cultivation during 1994-95 to 1996-97 is indicated in the attached statement.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. There is scope for increasing Soyabean cultivation in various States in the country particularly in Madhya Pradesh.

The targets in terms of area are not fixed. However there is a substantial scope for expansion of soyabean in coming years in Vidarbha region of Maharashtra, Kota and Bundi area of Rajasthan, Northern belt of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, North-Eastern regions and the western part of Madhya Pradesh covering Gwalior and Morena divisions.

(d) In order to bring more area under soyabean cultivation and to increase its production and the productivity a Centrally Sponsored Oilseeds production Programme (OPP) is in implementation in various States. Under the scheme, financial assistance is being provided by way of subsidies for the following critical inputs—

S.No.	Name of Component	Rate of Assistance
1	2	3
1.	Purchase of Breeder seed	Total cost to be reimbursed and to be shared by Centre and State Governments on 75:25 basis
2.	Production of Foundation seed	At the rate of Rs. 200/- per qtl
3.	Production of certified seed (under seed village scheme)	Rs. 200/- per qtl.
4.	Distribution of certified seed	Rs. 300/- per qtl
5.	Distribution of seed minikits	Free of cost to the farmers
6.	New Retail Outlets	Rs. 5000/- only one time grant.
7.	Infrastructure Development	Based on State Govts. proposals
8.	Block Demonstrations	50% of the cost of inputs.
9.	Seed treatment	50% of the cost of chemical.
10.	Integrated Pest Management (IPM)	Rs. 1500/- per ha.
11.	Root Grub control	Rs. 500/- per ha.
12.	Pheromone Traps	Rs. 500/- for demonstration of 2 ha.
13.	Micro-nutrients	Rs. 100/- per ha.
14.	Improved farm implements	50% of the cost or Rs. 1500/- implements.
15.	Distribution of Gypsum/Pyrite	Rs. 200/- per ha.
16.	Distribution of spnkler sets	(i) 90% of the cost of set or Rs. 25,000/- per ha. whichever is less for Small and Marginal farmers, SC/ST & Women farmers. (ii) 70% of the cost or Rs. 25,000/- per ha. whichever is less for other category of farmers.

1	2	3
17.	Farmers Training	Rs. 10,000/- per training.
18.	Staff and contingencies	As per requirement.
19.	Supply of Rhyzobium culture and/or Phosphate Solubilising Bacteria (PSB)	50% of the cost or Rs. 25/- per ha.
20.	Grant to Agriculture Finance Corporation (AFC) for Concurrent Evaluation	As per requirement.
21.	Assistance to ICAR for Front-line Demonstration	As per requirement.
22.	Assistance to NSC & SFCI on seed related components	100% of the prescribed rate of assistance.
23.	Supply of P.P. Equipments	50% of the cost of equipment subject to maximum limit of Rs. 600/- per equipment, for manual operated. For power sprayers and dusters the maximum limit is Rs. 1500/- per equipment.

**Statement***Estimates of Area of Soyabean**('000 ha)*

State	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97 (Advance Estimates)
Andhra Pradesh	6.2	6.1	9.0
Arunachal Pradesh	2.2	2.6	2.0
Gujarat	19.9	12.9	7.0
Himachal Pradesh	0.8	0.8	0.8
Karnataka	53.8	41.2	65.0
Madhya Pradesh	3225.2	3703.8	3925.0
Maharashtra	560.5	635.4	685.0
Meghalaya	0.9	0.9	0.8
Mizoram	1.3	0.9	0.8
Nagaland	4.0	4.0	4.0
Orissa	0.1	Neg.	4.0
Rajasthan	403.3	427.7	479.0
Sikkim	3.9	3.8	3.6
Uttar Pradesh	35.2	44.8	73.0
West Bengal	0.6	2.3	3.0
All India	4317.9	4887.2	5262.0

[Translation]

### Demand and Supply of Fertilizers

\*332. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV  
SHRI RAJESH RANJAN *alias* PAPPU YADAV :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the actual demand and supply of various kinds of fertilizers including urea in the country during each of the last three years and the reasons for short supply thereof, if any;

(b) whether this shortage adversely affects the Kharif and Rabi crops; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to deal with the said situation and ensure sufficient supply of fertilizers to the State Governments in accordance with their requirement?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Urea is the only fertilizer which is under statutory price control, at present. All Phosphatic and Potassic fertilizers stand decontrolled

with effect from 25.8.1992. Ammonium Sulphate, Animonium Chloride and Calcium Ammonium Nitrate were also under price control from 25.8.1992 to 9.6.1994. Demand and supply (both from indigenous and imported sources) of decontrolled fertilizers are governed by the market forces. A statement indicating the assessed requirement, supply and consumption of Urea and potential requirement and consumption, as reported by the State Governments, in respect of other fertilizers during the years 1993-94, 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 is attached. The availability (both from indigenous and imported sources) of urea for which allocation is made by the Central Government during the last three years was, by and large, satisfactory except for pockets of shortages reported by some State Governments. Corrective measures by way of rushing urea through alternative sources were taken to overcome such situations.

(b) No, Sir

(c) In order to ensure adequate availability of urea in different States, a close interface is maintained amongst organisations responsible for production, procurement, movement and distribution. Besides, periodical meetings to review sales and availability are held to take corrective measures.

### Statement

(Lakh Tonnes)

Sl. No.	Product	Particulars	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Urea	Assessed requirement:	163.54	172.52	189.09	204.75
		Supply:	182.7	187.17	210.26	195.20 (upto 28.2.97)
		Consumption:	158.1	171.12	179.09	200.96 (likely)
2.	DAP	Potential requirement :	44.77	45.79	46.86	48.18
		Consumption :	34.8	35.86	34.51	46.45 (likely)
3.	MOP	Potential requirement:	13.55	15.5	16.46	18.17
		Consumption:	10.52	12.7	13.92	17.28 (likely)
4.	SSP	Potential requirement:	29.7	33.04	36.52	37.2
		Consumption:	23.52	26.26	29.83	33.22 (likely)
5.	Complexes	Potential requirement:	39.63	40.72	51.79	50.63
		Consumption:	31.59	39.74	38.51	46.22 (likely)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>Nutrient</b>						
1.	N	Demand/Potential requirement:	94.2	99.39	108.72	115.28
		Consumption:	87.89	95.07	98.23	112.48 (likely)
2.	P	Demand/Potential requirement:	34.13	35.29	38.57	39.23
		Consumption:	26.69	29.32	28.98	37.09 (likely)
3.	K	Demand/Potential requirement:	12.04	13.15	14.21	15.35
		Consumption:	9.08	11.25	11.56	14.65 (likely)
4.	N+P+K	Demand/Potential requirement:	140.37	147.83	161.5	169.86
		Consumption:	123.66	135.64	138.77	164.22 (likely)

DAP = Di-Ammonium Phosphate; MOP = Muriate of Potash; SSP = Single Super Phosphate; N = Nitrogen; P = Phosphate and K = Potash.

[English]

#### **Cotton Testing Laboratories**

\*333. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of places where Cotton Testing Laboratories have been established, location-wise;

(b) whether there is any proposal to establish more Cotton Testing Laboratories in the country particularly at Bellary in Karnataka to meet the needs of the cotton growing farmers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Under the aegis of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, there is one laboratory namely, Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology with Head Quarters in Mumbai (Maharashtra) and 13 Regional Units situated at Ludhiana, Hissar, Sirsa, Sriganaganagar, Surat, Indore, Akola, Nagpur, Rahuri, Nanded, Dharwar, Guntur and Coimbatore.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The question does not arise.

#### **Area under Jute Cultivation**

\*334. SHRI RAJKESHAR SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total area of land under jute cultivation in the country at present. State-wise;

(b) the extent to which it has increased/decreased in each State as compared to the previous two years;

(c) the reasons for decrease in the area of land under jute cultivation, if any, during the said period; and

(d) the steps taken to check decline in the area under jute cultivation?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) The area under jute cultivation for the country as a whole during 1995-96 was around the same level of 738 thousand hectares as in 1994-95, whereas it registered an increase of 6.2 per cent over 1993-94. Statement-I giving State-wise percentage change of area under jute during 1995-96 in comparison to 1994-95 and 1993-94 is annexed.

(c) and (d) As can be seen from the statement, there has hardly been any decline in the area under Jute in the country, hence any corrective checks are not considered necessary at this stage. However, inter-State variations in the area under Jute crop is attributed to varied weather conditions. The prices of jute have otherwise been generally favourable as may be seen from the Statement-II enclosed.

**Statement-I***Statewise Estimates of Area under Jute During 1995-96 in Comparison to 1994-95 and 1993-94*

1	Area (Thousand Hectares)			Percentage Increase (+)/ Decrease (-) in 1995-96	
	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1993-94	1994-95
	2	3	4	5	6
Assam	76.2	90.9	88.6	16.3	-2.5
Bihar	121.3	126.3	119.8	-1.2	-5.1
Meghalaya	4.3	4.2	4.2	-2.3	0.0
Nagaland	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Orissa	15.6	7.4	8.1	-48.1	9.5
Tripura	1.5	1.7	1.1	-26.7	-35.3
Uttar Pradesh	0.4	0.1	0.1	-75.0	0.0
West Bengal	475.2	507.9	515.8	8.5	1.6
All India	694.7	738.7	737.9	6.2	-0.1

**Statement-II***Wholesale Prices of Raw Jute*

(Rs. per quintal)

State/Centre	Variety	Year	Minimum Support Price	Aug.	Oct.	Dec.	Feb.	April	June	Annual Average
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<b>West Bengal</b>										
Calcutta	(W-5)	1992-93	411.00	435	385	—	440	460	645	456.50
		1993-94	466.00	515	575	795	805	800	800	710.41
		1994-95	483.50	585	670	705	780	865	1225	816.16
		1995-96	506.50	895	1205	1365	1430	1550	1630	1340.83
		1996-97	532.50	800	890	850	930	—	—	—
	(TD-5)	1992-93	431.00	470	410	—	500	515	610	492.50
		1993-94	491.00	655	595	815	825	830	830	745.83
		1994-95	513.50	615	700	735	815	900	1260	854.00
		1995-96	536.50	920	1240	1400	1480	1610	1690	1382.50
		1996-97	562.50	860	950	910	—	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<b>Assam</b>										
Nowgong	(TD-5)	1992-93	400.00	370	340	270	270	270	410	312.92
		1993-94	450.00	510	600	700	720	750	750	658.75
		1994-95	470.00	550	600	630	680	—	—	623.33
		1995-96	490.00	—	—	1225	1450	1500	1650	1459.29
		1996-97	510.00	750	830	750	—	—	—	—
<b>Bihar</b>										
Purnea	(WD-5)	1992-93	403.50	390	340	335	390	480	530	410.83
		1993-94	476.00	490	700	760	770	820	760	693.33
		1994-95	498.50	550	630	675	750	825	1050	723.33
		1995-96	519.00	810	1100	1300	1400	1400	1450	1238.33
		1996-97	541.00	750	825	775	850	—	—	—

—Not Reported.

#### Sealing of Border of Gujarat

\*335. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has proposed to the Centre to seal the border of the State across Pakistan so as to stop infiltration and smuggling of arms, ammunition and drugs;

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

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken for sealing the border across Pakistan; and

(d) the expenditure likely to be incurred on this programme ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) to (d) Government is aware that with the sealing of Punjab and Rajasthan borders, terrorists/smugglers have been trying to use the Gujarat border as one of the alternative routes for infiltration, smuggling of arms and ammunition and other contraband. To control the situation, BSF has been deployed on the land border along the Rann of Kutch including the Creeks in sufficient strength. Following steps have been taken to ensure proper surveillance of the border including the creek and coastal areas.

- (i) Mounted patrolling on camels and tractors is being done.
- (ii) OP Towers have been erected.
- (iii) Patrolling/Nakas have been increased/intensified. State Police has also deployed

Border Home Guards in the bordering areas under the command of a DIG (Border) at Bhuj to supplement BSF's efforts.

- (iv) Binoculars, Goggles, Twin telescopes, PNV binoculars and hand held search lights have been provided for enhanced vigilance on the border.
- (v) Helicopters are being provided for air surveillance of the international border and creek area.
- (vi) Boats/motor boats have been provided for patrolling in creek area.
- (vii) Coast Guard/Indian Navy is patrolling the Coastal area. State Police and Customs are also jointly patrolling shallow waters close to the coast by hired trawlers.

2. Due to seasonal inundation, no fencing in Rann area is possible, however, feasibility studies for ditch-cum-bund and erecting modified type of border fencing suitable for such terrain are being carried out by CPWD and BSF. The likely expenditure on fencing will be known only after the fencing programme is finalised.

#### Recognition of Peasants Struggle

\*336. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether expeditious action has been taken by the Central Government with regard to recognition of Kayyur-Morazha-Punnapra-Vayalar peasants struggle after consulting the matter with the Government of Kerala;

(b) the progress made after taking up the matter with the State Government;

(c) the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the decision to accord recognition to the struggle would be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) to (d) The matter is under active consideration in consultation with the Government of Kerala.

#### **Eco-Clearance to Industrial Units**

\*337. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have reviewed and revised the norms and procedure for grant of mandatory eco-clearance to the industrial units; and

(b) if so, the details of the new schemes and the main innovations introduced in the system thereby ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) The norms and procedure for grant of environmental clearance to industrial projects are governed by the regulations under Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 1994 which *inter-alia* provide for preparation of Environmental Management Plan, consultation with Expert Committees and interaction with project affected populations.

The Government has recently decided to make public hearings mandatory for Developmental Projects. A National Environment Appellate Authority is being established for hearing of appeals against the decisions of competent authorities under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

#### **Atrocities on SCs/STs**

\*338. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI :  
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases of crimes against SC/ST registered in 1995 and 1996 and the percentage of such cases sent to courts, state-wise;

(b) the names of the States which have set up special courts for SC/ST; and

(c) the number of cases disposed of by these courts in the said period ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) State-wise incidence of atrocities and other crimes committed against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes during 1995 and 1996 is given as statement. The details about percentage of the cases sent to courts during 1995 and 1996 are under collection and would be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) In accordance with the provisions contained in the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, all States and UTs (except Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland) have specified for each District, a Court of Sessions to be a Special Court to try offences under the Act. Besides, State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan have also set up 3, 3, 4, 10 and 18 exclusive Special Courts, respectively for this purpose.

(c) Information for 1995 and 1996 is under collection from the State Governments and U.T. Administrations and would be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Statement**

##### *State/UT-wise incidence of atrocities and other crimes committed against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes during 1995 and 1996*

S.No	State/UT	Crime				Data for 1996 upto
		1995		1996		
		SC	ST	SC	ST	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1764	165	1339	196	November*
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	5	September
3.	Assam	0	0	0	0	September
4.	Bihar	747	232	NA	NA	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
5.	Goa	4	0	1	0	
6.	Gujarat	1724	486	1764	369	
7.	Haryana	82	0	49	1	September
8.	Himachal Pradesh	82	5	66	3	
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	25	8	8	5	August
10.	Karnataka	1171	96	983	171	December**
11.	Kerala	696	185	576	115	November
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3979	1690	4041	1466	
13.	Maharashtra	1622	505	1352	337	
14.	Manipur	1	2	0	0	
15.	Meghalaya	2	2	0	0	February
16.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	
17.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	
18.	Orissa	329	143	266	92	July
19.	Punjab	8	4	9	1	July
20.	Rajasthan	5197	1784	5110	1143	October
21.	Sikkim	33	40	14	46	
22.	Tamil Nadu	1293	40	1656	85	November
23.	Tripura	0	0	0	0	
24.	Uttar Pradesh	14285	105	10158	307	November
25.	West Bengal	0	0	0	0	September
26.	A&N Island	0	0	0	0	
27.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	
28.	D&N Haveli	0	3	0	1	
29.	Daman & Diu	2	1	NA	NA	
30.	Delhi	6	0	11	0	
31.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	October
32.	Pondicherry	24	0	13	0	
<b>Total</b>		<b>32996</b>	<b>5498</b>	<b>27416</b>	<b>4343</b>	

Source : Monthly crimes statistics-National Crimes Record Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs.

Note: 1. Figures are based on Monthly Crime Statistics and may be treated as provisional.

2. Figures for 1995 in respect of Daman & Diu are upto November.

3. N.A. = Not Available.

4. \* = excluding October data.

5. \*\* = excluding November data.

**Pesticides**

\*339. PROF. OM PAL SINGH 'NIDAR' : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are providing assistance to State Governments for controlling the pests and insects which are harmful to the crops;

(b) if so, the details of such assistance provided to each State during 1995 and 1996;

(c) whether Government have made good progress in controlling the menace of pests in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government is providing technical and financial assistance to the States for controlling the pests and insects which are harmful to crops.

**1. Technical Assistance :**

(i) Technical assistance is being extended for promotion and adoption of Integrated Pest Management practices by the farmers in rice, cotton, vegetables, oilseeds and pulses crops. Thrust of the programme is on human resource development by training extension functionaries and farmers on IPM technology. Statewise achievements are as per Statement-I.

(ii) Through constant research input, IPM strategy has been developed for control of major pests in rice, cotton, pulses, oilseeds, sugarcane, horticultural and plantation crops by the various Institutes under the ICAR.

**2. Financial Assistance:**

(i) Financial assistance is being extended for setting up of State Biological Control Laboratories for furtherance of IPM technology in the States/UTs (Details as per Statement-II).

(ii) Financial assistance is also being extended to States for controlling pests and insects under various Crop Production Oriented Schemes on cotton, wheat, rice and coarse cereals (Statewise details are as per Statement-III).

(iii) Technology Mission on Oilseeds and Pulses is extending financial assistance for controlling harmful pests and insects under Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) and National Pulses Development Project (NPDP) (Details are as per Statement-IV).

(iv) Need based assistance is also available for control of pests and diseases of horticultural crops.

(c) and (d) In view of reply to parts (a) and (b) of the question as above, the Government has made good progress in controlling the menace of pests in the country. As such, incidences of major pests and diseases epidemics have been averted thereby minimising the crop losses to a great extent.

**Statement-I***Achievement in Training Extension Functionaries and Farmers to Promote IPM Technology*

S.No.	State/UT	Number of Persons Trained			
		1994-95		1995-96	
		Extension Officers	Farmers	Extension Officers	Farmers
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	390	3204	760	4560
2.	Assam	276	1680	520	3120
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	40	240
4.	A&N Islands	12	103	5	85
5.	Bihar	340	2040	340	2040

1	2	3	4	5	6
6.	Goa	40	265	16	240
7.	Gujarat	196	1200	400	1320
8.	Haryana	120	720	360	2160
9.	Himachal Pradesh	39	210	40	240
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	80	480	160	960
11.	Karnataka	269	1849	660	3960
12.	Kerala	180	1020	100	600
13.	Madhya Pradesh	280	1680	511	3360
14.	Maharashtra	354	2160	1438	8640
15.	Mizoram	37	240	33	480
16.	Manipur	—	—	80	480
17.	Nagaland	40	240	32	480
18.	Orissa	245	1560	160	960
19.	Punjab	179	1080	540	3240
20.	Pondicherry	60	360	60	360
21.	Rajasthan	80	480	336	2880
22.	Sikkim	21	240	—	—
23.	Tamil Nadu	139	850	180	1080
24.	Uttar Pradesh	620	3780	720	4320
25.	West Bengal	157	960	360	2160
Total		4435	28151	7851	47965

**Statement-II***Financial Assistance Extended for Establishment of State Bio-Control Laboratories (SBCLs)*

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	State/UT	1994-95	1995-96
1	2	3	4
1.	A&N Islands	10.00	20.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	10.00	20.00
3.	Bihar	20.00	—
4.	Goa	5.00	—
5.	Gujarat	20.00	—

1	2	3	4
6.	Haryana	20.00	15.00
7.	Himachal Pradesh	20.00	10.00
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	20.00	5.00
9.	Karnataka	20.00	10.00
10.	Kerala	20.00	10.00
11.	Lakshadweep	5.00	25.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	20.00	10.00
13.	Manipur	10.00	20.00
14.	Meghalaya	10.00	20.00
15.	Mizoram	10.00	20.00
16.	Nagaland	10.00	20.00
17.	Orissa	20.00	10.00
18.	Pondicherry	—	25.00
19.	Punjab	20.00	5.00
20.	Rajasthan	20.00	5.00
21.	Sikkim	10.00	20.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	—	17.50
23.	Tripura	10.00	—
24.	Uttar Pradesh	30.00	—
25.	West Bengal	20.00	—
	Total	360.00	287.50

**Statement-III**

*The Central funds allocated for IPM component for control of pests under  
Crop Production Oriented Schemes during 1994-95 and 1995-96*

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	State/U.T.	1994-95				1995-96			
		ICDP-R	ICDP-W	ICDP-CC	ICDP	ICDP-R	ICDP-W	ICDP-CC	ICDP
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	27.00	NS	NS	35.99	27.00	NS	NS	63.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	4.50	NS	NS	NS	4.50	NS	NS	NS
3.	Assam	16.88	NS	NS	NS	16.88	NS	NS	NS

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
4.	Bihar	49.50	NS	NS	NS	49.50	NS	NS	NS
5.	Goa	0.90	NS	NS	NS	0.90	NS	NS	NS
6.	Gujarat	NS	NS	1.80	9.18	NS	NS	6.75	9.19
7.	Haryana	NS	4.13	NS	19.87	NS	12.38	NS	23.63
8.	Himachal Pradesh	NS	9.00	NS	NS	NS	9.00	NS	NS
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	NS	11.25	NS	NS	NS	11.25	NS	NS
10.	Karnataka	NS	NS	6.75	13.86	NS	NS	5.00	14.81
11.	Kerala	12.38	NS	NS	NS	12.38	NS	NS	NS
12.	Madhya Pradesh	20.25	NS	5.63	6.65	20.25	NS	5.67	6.98
13.	Maharashtra	NS	NS	8.10	70.31	NS	NS	8.32	59.86
14.	Manipur	2.70	NS	NS	NS	2.70	NS	NS	NS
15.	Meghalaya	2.70	NS	NS	NS	2.70	NS	NS	NS
16.	Mizoram	1.80	NS	NS	NS	1.80	NS	NS	NS
17.	Nagaland	2.70	NS	NS	NS	2.70	NS	NS	NS
18.	Orissa	25.88	NS	NS	3.60	25.88	NS	NS	6.00
19.	Punjab	NS	15.75	NS	27.37	NS	15.75	NS	58.12
20.	Rajasthan	NS	2.25	4.50	5.68	NS	0.72	0.90	25.59
21.	Sikkim	NS	NS	0.22	NS	NS	NS	0.36	NS
22.	Tamil Nadu	31.50	NS	NS	73.87	31.50	NS	NS	85.50
23.	Tripura	1.80	NS	NS	NS	1.80	NS	NS	NS
24.	Uttar Pradesh	40.50	45.00	NS	1.20	40.50	45.00	NS	0.54
25.	West Bengal	28.13	NS	NS	NS	28.13	NS	NS	NS
26.	Pondicherry	0.90	NS	NS	NS	0.90	NS	NS	NS
Total		270.02	87.38	27.00	267.18	270.02	94.1	27.00	353.22

ICDP-R : Integrated Cereals Development Programme-Rice.

ICDP-W : Integrated Cereals Development Programme-Wheat.

ICDP-CC : Integrated Cereals Development Programme-Coarse Cereals.

ICDP : Intensive Cotton Development Programme.

NS : No Scheme.

**Statement-IV**

*The Allocated Financial Assistance for Controlling the Harmful Pests and Insects under Oilseed Production Programme (OPP) and National Pulses Development Programme (NPDP)*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	State/UT	1994-95		1995-96	
		OPP	NPDP	OPP	NPDP
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	185.851	11.00	202.17	11.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.351	—	0.315	—
3.	Assam	5.214	2.00	15.00	1.00
4.	Bihar	3.166	13.00	2.975	12.67
5.	Gujarat	122.15	10.00	41.75	8.00
6.	Haryana	9.658	7.00	8.500	2.67
7.	Himachal Pradesh	0.158	1.00	0.75	1.00
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.946	1.00	3.50	1.00
9.	Karnataka	112.222	5.00	110.00	12.67
10.	Kerala	0.728	1.50	0.725	1.50
11.	Madhya Pradesh	61.308	25.00	84.050	25.00
12.	Maharashtra	76.012	14.00	57.50	16.00
13.	Manipur	0.075	0.50	0.075	0.50
14.	Meghalaya	0.158	0.50	0.158	2.50
15.	Nagaland	—	1.50	0.155	1.50
16.	Orissa	40.994	4.00	30.00	7.00
17.	Punjab	3.047	1.00	3.40	1.00
18.	Rajasthan	154.443	14.00	107.00	17.33
19.	Sikkim	0.294	—	0.40	—
20.	Tamil Nadu	92.446	11.00	91.786	11.00
21.	Tripura	0.158	—	0.158	—
22.	Uttar Pradesh	56.805	20.00	74.00	25.33
23.	West Bengal	8.990	1.50	12.00	1.15
24.	Goa	—	0.50	—	—
Total		935.74	145.00	846.367	159.82

### Upgraded Technology in Sugar Industry

\*340. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister has urged the sugar industry to upgrade technologies and work for the improvement in production of sugarcane so that the projected demand of sugar for the Ninth Plan could be met;

(b) if so, the details of Upgraded technology so far introduced in the sugar industry;

(c) whether foreign technology has also been introduced in this sector;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps being considered to introduce the latest technology in the sugar sector ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :  
(a) Yes, Sir.

The Prime Minister has on several occasions urged the sugar industry to improve the quality and productivity of sugarcane so that the projected demand for the 9th Five Year Plan can be met. He has also emphasised the importance of initiating appropriate modernisation measures in order to upgrade the current technologies being used in the sugar industry.

(b) to (f) A Mission Mode Project of sugar technologies has been set up under the Department of Science and Technology to focus on the various requirements to technology upgradation in the sugar industry and to facilitate induction of technologies. A number of technologies are under trial in different sugar factories for example low pressure extraction system for juice extraction, cane separation system, vacuum filtrate treatment system, etc. In addition, a number of entrepreneurs in the country have entered into collaboration with various foreign companies for introducing the latest technologies in the Indian Sugar Industry. In a few cases new technologies have directly been obtained from the foreign companies through purchase of equipments and know-how.

Government also provides loans at concessional terms for assisting modernisation and upgradation of sugar mills, from Sugar Development Fund.

### Barbed Wire Fencing around a Religious Place

3566. SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI :  
SHRI HANPAL SINGH SATHI :  
SHRI MAHAVIR LAL BISHVAKARMA :  
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the reports that the erection of barbed wire fencing

around a religious place located on the Upper Ridge Road of Delhi has created grave risks of lives for the visitors in the case of calamity;

(b) if so, whether the Government have made proper security arrangements and provided other civic facilities to the people visiting the place;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d) A piece of land measuring 196 feet x 198 feet has been allotted to Shri Asharam Babu Ashram in the Central Ridge opposite Rabindra Rangshala. The area around the Ashram has been fenced in pursuance of the order of the Supreme Court of India to protect the Ridge. A passage of 6 feet has been provided from the Ridge Road to the Ashram. Necessary arrangements exist for the security of the devotees.

[Translation]

### Pension to Handicapped Persons and Widows

3567. SHRI BACHU SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that pension has not been given to the newly registered widows, helpless and handicapped persons in the hilly Uttaranchal area of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government propose to take any action to ensure disbursement of pension to them; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (c) The required information has been called for from the Government of Uttar Pradesh and the concerned Ministries/Departments.

[English]

### Cases Handled by CBI

3568. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer given to Unstarred Question No. 565 dated November 26, 1996 regarding "cases handled by CBI" and state :

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the cases in which the charge-sheet is still to be filed, case-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) The requisite information has since been collected. The Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions (Department of Personnel & Training) have also sent a statement in fulfilment of the assurance given in reply to the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 565 for 26.11.1996 vide their O.M. No. 361/1/97-AVD. III, dated 4th March, 1997 (shown as Statement).

**Statement**

No. 361/197-AVD. III

Government of India

Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions  
(Department of Personnel and Training)

New Delhi, 4th March, 1997.

Subject: Assurance given in Lok Sabha Unstarred  
Question No. 565 dated 26.11.96 by Shri Sriballav  
Panigrahi, regarding cases handled by CBI.

The undersigned is directed to invite the attention of Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs on subject noted above and to enclose 15 copies each of English and Hindi version shown as annexures I & II of the reply to Parts (a), (b) & (c) of the Question referred to above towards fulfillment of Assurance arising thereof.

(2) It is also requested that approval of the Committee on Govt. Assurances may also kindly be obtained for extension of the period beyond 26.2.97 upto 4.3.1997 for fulfillment of the Assurance.

This issue with the approval of MOS(PP).

Sd/-  
(Jaswant Singh)  
Under Secretary (V.II)

To

M/o of Parliamentary Affairs,  
80, Parliament House,  
New Delhi.

Copy to Parliament Section DOP&amp;T for information

**Annexure-I**

IIIrd Session, 1996 of Eleventh Lok Sabha

Ministry of Personnel, P.G. and Pensions (Department of Personnel and Training)

Date of fulfillment 4.3.97

Question No. date and name of MP	Subject	Promise made	How fulfilled	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5
Lok Sabha USQ No. 565 dated 26.11.1996 by Shri Sriballav Panigrahi	<b>Cases handled by CBI</b> Asking for : (a) the details of the cases CBI handled during the last two years, crime-wise. (b) the number and details out of these cases where charge-sheets are yet to be filed; and (c) the reasons for delay in filing the charge-sheets, case-wise?	(a), (b) & (c)  The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.	(a) According to the information furnished by the CBI during the period of last two years i.e. 1994, 1995 and upto 30.9.1996, a total of 5287 cases have been handled and investigated as per the enclosed Statement indicating crime-wise details (Annexure 'II'). (b) Out of the above 5287 cases a total of 3509 cases have been disposed of by either filing charge-sheets in the court of Law, recommending departmental action or by closing. A balance of 1778 cases were still pending investigation as on 30.9.96. (c) The delay in completion of investigation is the prime cause of delayed charge-sheets. Investigations got delayed due to complicated nature of cases, reference made to experts, letters Rogatory sent abroad to various countries who have different legal systems and investigations being spread over to several States.	The information relating to the investigation was awaited from CBI.
			In some cases delay also occurs due to stay granted by the courts.	

**Annexure-II**

Name of Offences	Cases pending under investigation as on 1.1.94	Number of cases registered		
		1994	1995	1996 (30.9.96)
Trap Cases	39	245	275	161
Disproportionate Assets	107	49	43	67
Criminal misappropriation	194	229	150	166
Illegal Pecuniary Advantage	383	309	266	298
Departmental misconduct	92	208	326	282
ACD other cases	10	3	5	12
Murder	32	19	13	15
Suspicious/Dowry deaths	7	4	5	5
TADA Cases	6	2	—	—
Cheating	193	169	141	87
Passport cases	10	6	4	1
Import & Export cases	54	16	8	8
Narcotic Drugs & Psychotropic Substance Act cases	6	7	9	5
Kidnapping cases	4	6	9	9
SOD Other cases	94	115	147	72
Bomb Blast cases	7	—	1	1
EOW other cases	—	2	36	33
<b>Total</b>	<b>1238</b>	<b>1389</b>	<b>1438</b>	<b>1222</b>

**Operation Flood**

3569. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) whether "Operation Flood" has been extended to all the districts in Kerala;

(b) if not, the districts yet to be covered under the said scheme; and

(c) the assistance, if any, given to the Kerala Government for the scheme during 1995-96 and 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) In Kerala, the Operation Flood Programme has been implemented in the districts of Trivandrum, Quilon, Alleppy, Pathanamthitta, Kottayam, Ernakulam, Idukki and Trichur. In addition, a Centrally sponsored programme of dairy development is being implemented with Swiss aid in the districts of Kannur, Kozhikode, Malappuram, Palghat, Wynad and Kasarkod.

(c) The details of the funds released to Kerala under

Operation Flood and the Swiss aided project in 1995-96 and 1996-97 are given below.

	Rs. in lakhs (Provisional)	
	1995-96	1996-97
(i) Operation Flood-III	401.16	54.43
(ii) Swiss aided North Kerala Dairy Project	109.89	200.62

#### **Migratory Birds in Doon Valley**

3570. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a new winter home of the migratory birds in the western part of the Doon Valley has been discovered by Scientists of the Zoological Survey of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the facilities provided by the Government for this new winter home of the migratory birds ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) and (b) The Scientists of the Zoological Survey of India have identified Asan Reservoir in the Dehra Dun Valley as an habitat of migratory birds. 36 species of water birds have been recorded from the reservoir. Of these, 15 are migratory, 12 resident and 9 are resident migrants.

(c) This Ministry provides assistance for the development of notified national parks and sanctuaries and Asan reservoir is not declared as a sanctuary or national park.

[Translation]

#### **Industrial Units**

3571. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of industrial units in Delhi which conform to the pollution control norms according to the Master Plan;

(b) the locations thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) and (b) According to the Government of Delhi, out of a total of 1.35 lac industries, approximately 24,000 industries are located in conforming areas. These industries are located in 28 industrial areas of Delhi.

#### **Effect of Pesticides**

3572. CHAUDHARY RAMCHANDRA BENDA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news regarding the effect of pesticides on the pregnant women;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to conduct any study in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) There is no epidemiological data indicating that women are more vulnerable to pesticide effects nor are there data indicating any causal association between pesticide residue ingestion and adverse effect on maternal or foetal health. There are only a few reports indicating that occupational pesticide exposure results in reproductive health problems such as abortions, premature births, pregnancy complications, foetal malformation and growth retardation. Details are attached as statement.

(c) Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has conducted a study on pesticides residue of DDT in pregnant women which indicated presence of pesticides in breast milk, maternal blood, placental blood and placenta.

#### **Statement**

(1) The effects of occupational contact with pesticides on the function of the fetoplacental system. Abdur akhmanov M.K. et al. *Akush Ginekol (Mosk) Russia* (1993), Vol. 1, PP. 46-49.

110 pregnant women engaged in cotton growing. Occupational exposure pregnancy and labor were often associated with obstetrical and perinatal abnormalities.

(2) Prevalence of adverse reproductive outcomes in a population occupationally exposed to pesticides in Columbia. Restrepo M. et al. *Scad. J. Work Env. Hlth.* (1990), Vol. 16 (4), PP. 232-8.

A population of 8867 persons (2951 men and 5916 women) exposed to 127 different types of pesticides. Prevalence rates of abortion, Prematurity, still births and malformations were estimated. Moderate increase observed.

[English]

#### **Smuggling of Timber**

3573. SHRI DWARAKA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3029, dated August 27, 1996 and state :

(a) whether the Government are aware, 15 wagon load of valuable timber booked for Kongkoria railway station in Gujarat from Bhairabi railway station in Mizoram reached Badarpur railway junction of Karimganj District Assam while in transit;

(b) whether the timber with an approximate value of Rs. 5 crores is being smuggled out from Hailakandi district of Assam; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check this menace ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) The State Government of Gujarat reported that the said material was detained by the railway police at Kankaria as per the fax message received from the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Assam. They have further intimated that on an enquiry conducted by a Forest Officer from Assam, the detained material was found to be procured legally.

(b) and (c) Information from Government of Assam is being collected and will be placed on the Table of House.

#### **Stock Holding Limit**

3574. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been invited to the news-item captioned "Bid to streamline PDS functioning," appearing in the 'Times of India', dated January 23, 1997;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry had earlier accused some State Governments of not enforcing the stock holding limit and other related laws to ensure fair distribution of wheat;

(c) the names of the said states and the details of laws not abided by them;

(d) the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action taken by the Government against these States ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) No news-item with this caption has appeared in the Times of India dated 23rd January, 1997 (New Delhi edition).

(b) to (e) In December, 1996, the Central Government decided to reintroduce licensing and also to enforce stock-limits on wheat and wheat products with a view to contain the rising trend in the open market prices of wheat. Accordingly, all the State Governments/U.T. Administrations were advised to take necessary action in this regard. The State Governments of Delhi, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh & Orissa have brought wheat and its products under the purview of licensing and also enforced stock-limits on these Commodities. The State Governments of Mizoram, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur & Chandigarh Administration have brought wheat under the purview of licensing. West Bengal has also imposed stock-limits on wheat. Other State Governments/ Union Territories are yet to respond.

*[Translation]*

#### **Automobile Pollution**

3575. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the Government are aware that leaded petrol is the main cause for the automobile pollution in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Central Government have conducted or propose to conduct any enquiry regarding the pollution caused by the leaded Petrol in the country particularly in Gujarat;

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

(d) the measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Central Government to check the environmental pollution caused by the leaded petrol ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) The main causes of vehicular pollution in the country are emissions from petrol and diesel vehicles.

(b) The Central Pollution Control Board have conducted two major surveys in 1987 and in 1994 covering 12 metropolitan cities in the country including Ahmedabad in Gujarat.

(c) The level of air pollution in Ahmedabad due to vehicular pollution has risen from 243.94 tonnes per day in 1987 to 292.94 tonnes per day in 1994.

(d) The measures taken/planned by the Central Government to check the environmental pollution caused by leaded petrol include the following :

- (i) Low-lead petrol of 0.15 grams per litre was introduced in the four metro cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai with effect from 1.6.1994 and throughout the country from 1.1.1997.
- (ii) A major programme for introduction of unleaded petrol in the country is under implementation. As per this programme, unleaded petrol was introduced in the four metros of Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai with effect from 1.4.1995 for new 4-wheeler petrol driven vehicles fitted with catalytic converters. In the next phase effective from 1.1.1999, the programme is planned to be extended to cover the capitals of all States and UTs and major cities in the country. Unleaded petrol is planned to be supplied through selected retail outlets in the entire country with effect from 1.4.2000.

[English]

#### Floriculture

3576. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken by the Government to promote and encourage the floriculture in the country;

(b) the total area of land under floriculture at present indicating the sizeable increase in the area as compared to the previous two years;

(c) the names of countries to whom flowers are being exported presently alongwith the quantity being exported and the potential of export of flowers for the Ninth Plan Period; and

(d) the present size of condiment (masala) crop exported from the country and potential for export during the Ninth Five Year Plan Period ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The Government of India is implementing a Central Sector Scheme on Commercial Floriculture in all the States/UTs of the country at a total cost of Rs. 14.29 crores. The National Horticulture Board provides financial assistance in the form of soft loan for integrated projects on floriculture on project basis. In addition APEDA (Ministry of Commerce) has Schemes for infrastructure development and market support for floriculture projects for exports.

(b) Statistics of area under floriculture at present are not available. As per the latest figures of 1992-93 available, the total area under floriculture was 50,351 hectares which was 19,442 hectares more than the area during 1991-92

(c) Quantity-wise figures for floriculture exports are not available. However, the destination countries and the value of exports of floriculture products during 1995-96 are given in the statement attached.

Floriculture exports are expected to grow by 20 per cent annually during the Ninth Plan.

(d) The total exports of spices during the current year (till February, 1997) is 193205 MT valued at Rs. 1017.40 crores. During 1995-96 the total exports were 202197 MT valued at Rs. 785.89 crores. During Ninth Plan Period (1997 to 2002) a total export of 1142065 MT is anticipated.

#### Statement

##### Export of Floriculture

(Value Rs in lakhs)

Country	1995-96 Value
1	2
U.S.A.	1778.05
Netherland	1280.62
Germany	774.74
Japan	609.40
U.K.	532.59
Italy	208.15
Sri Lanka	50.50
France	84.22
U.A.E.	71.21
Spain	65.97
Saudi Arabia	62.08
Australia	42.05
Hongkong	40.07
Ireland	37.25
Belgium	36.94
Chines Taipei	26.42
Isreal	25.27
Egypt	24.95

1	2
Malaysia	22.34
Newzealand	22.04
Russia	21.37
Canada	21.17
Singapore	15.85
Denmark	13.79
Greece	12.70
Hungry	12.79
South Africa	11.05
Thailand	9.90
Switzerland	8.78
Quwait	8.35
Sweden	8.33
Austria	8.30
Nepal	7.36
Maldives	7.09
Quatar	5.19
Oman	4.59
Indonesia	3.43
Bahrain	3.25
China	2.83
Kenya	2.47
Portugal	2.14
Lebanon	1.89
Pakistan	0.70
Chile	0.63
Chad	0.49
Djibouti	0.36
Fed. Rep. of Ghanna	0.28
Turkey	0.22
Nigeria	0.17
American Samos	0.09
Czechoslovakia	0.04
Honduras	0.03
Production Total	6014.16

### Forestry Clearance

3577. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Government have issued any guidelines to the State Governments regarding the forest clearance of different projects in their States;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the powers entrusted to them for giving such clearance;

(c) whether any review had since been undertaken by the Government regarding the implementation and implications of these guidelines; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) to (d) The Central Government have issued guidelines to the State Governments for preparing and submitting the proposal to the Government of India for seeking clearance under Forest Conservation Act, 1980. However, no provision exists in Forest Conservation Act, 1980 to delegate such power to the State Governments.

[*Translation*]

### Crimes in Tihar Jail

3578. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the crimes in Tihar Jail has now been continuously increasing for the last six months;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to curb the crimes there ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The steps being taken to curb the crime in the Central Jail, Tihar include :--

(i) Thorough frisking of prisoners while going to court/ Hospital/Interviews and back;

(ii) Segregation of hard-core criminals from ordinary criminals;

(iii) Routine search of wards;

(iv) Organising reformative activities like education, vocational training, sports, cultural programmes, etc. on regular basis;

(v) Organising yoga and meditation courses; and

(vi) Provision of facilities for drug de-addiction and rehabilitation.

**Subsidy to Fishermen**

3579. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of subsidy admissible at present to the traditional fishermen for the out board motors upto 10 HP;

(b) whether the Government propose to enhance the amount of the subsidy;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the fishermen Cooperatives would be exempted from the payment of import duty on importing the board motors and spare; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) An amount of Rs. 10,000/- is provided to the traditional fishermen as subsidy towards the cost of out board motor upto 10 HP for motorisation of traditional craft under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Development of Coastal Marine Fisheries'.

(b) and (c) The Ninth Plan Schemes have not yet been finalised.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. However, specified parts of out board motors are exempted from basic customs duty, if imported by State Fisheries Corporation or any Fisheries Cooperative Federation recognised by the State Government concerned.

**Encroachment on Forest Land**

3580. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 444 on 3.9.96 and state :

(a) whether the comments from the Sikkim Government on the report of the Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Bhubaneswar in regard to encroachment, illegal transfer and sale of the Forest Khas Land and encroachment of reserve forest in North Sikkim have been received;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) to (c) It has been intimated by the Government of Sikkim that based on the report of Chief Conservator of Forests(C), Bhubaneswar, the Forest Department has filed a case in the court of District Magistrate, North Sikkim, for recovery of forest land and action is being initiated under relevant acts and rules.

**Cases of Character Verification**

3581. SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of cases of Character verifications etc., of the employees selected in the Government jobs are long pending with the concerned Police authorities of the Delhi Police;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some cases are pending for more than a month;

(d) the policy of the Government in this regard; and

(e) the action contemplated in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (e) No case of character verification is pending with the Delhi Police (Special Branch) for more than one month. In accordance with the standing instructions, the process of verification is required to be completed within a period of six to eight weeks. However, cases of verification are normally disposed of by the Delhi Police within three to four weeks only.

[Translation]

**Sugar Export**

3582. SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of sugar for which export licence has been issued to each of the sugar mill as against its production of sugar in the country particularly in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether the Government have not exported sugar for the last two months; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the loss suffered by the Government due to this ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) So far no licence for export of sugar has been issued to any individual sugar mill in the country including mills in Uttar Pradesh.

(b) Government does not undertake any export of sugar. However, it issues release orders for export of sugar as per the requests of the export agencies under the Sugar Export Promotion Act, 1958 which has since been repealed and the Registration-cum-Allocation Certificate (RCAC) issued by Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) after decanalisation as per the Sugar Export Promotion (Repeal) Ordinance, 1997 (No. 4 of 1997).

(c) Does not arise.

*[English]***Endangered Species**

3583. DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any survey has been conducted with regard to endangered species of flora and fauna in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether endangered species are also used for experimentation in the College and University laboratories; and

(d) if so, the action proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Zoological Survey of India has conducted status surveys of a number of endangered and threatened fauna and have brought out three volumes on them. The Botanical Survey of India has also conducted Surveys on flora and have published three volumes on the rare and endangered plants of India.

(c) and (d) No such instance has come to notice. A Committee for the Purpose of Control and Supervision of Experiments on Animals (CPCSEA) has been formed under the provisions of Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 to examine such issues and to recommend appropriate action.

*[Translation]***New Fertilizer Industry in Bihar**

3584. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up Chemicals and Fertilizer based industries in Giridih, Koderma and Hazaribag districts in Bihar;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up chemicals and fertilizer based industries during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(c) if so, the details thereof, Statewise;

(d) the time by which the survey work in this regard is likely to be completed; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) There is no proposal at present with the Government from any of the Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) or Cooperative under the administrative control of the Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers for setting up plants of chemicals or fertilizers at Giridih, Koderma and Hazaribag districts in Bihar.

(b) to (e) A statement showing statewise details of the Fertilizers and Chemicals projects which are at present under implementation or proposed for implementation by the PSUs/ Cooperatives under the administrative control of Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers during the Ninth Five Year Plan is enclosed.

**Statement***Details of Fertilizer & Chemicals Projects Under Implementation in the Country*

Sl. No.	Name of PSU/ Cooperative	Location	Estimated capital cost (Rs. in crore)	Production envisaged		Zero date	Approved date of commissioning
				Product	Capacity (Lakh MTPA)		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	IFFCO	Kandla (Gujarat)	212.20	NPK DAP	3.70 2.27	22.1.97	22.10.99
2.	IFFCO	Kalol (Gujarat) (Expansion)	119.08	Urea	1.50	01.3.95	01.9.97
3.	IFFCO	Phulpur (U.P.) (Expansion)	993.00*	Urea	7.26	20.4.95	20.1.98

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
4.	NFL	Vijaipur	987.30**	Urea	7.26	30.9.93	30.9.96** Now expected to be commissioned by 31.3.97.
5.	MFL	Manali (Madras) (Expansion)	487.47***	Urea NPK	0.76 1.84	01.1.93	30.6.96 Latest Scheduled completion date is 7.5.97.
6.	RCF	Thal (Maharashtra) Phase-I Phase-II (Ammonia Plant Retrofit)	49.00 93.00	Urea Urea	1.65 1.10	07.3.94 01.11.95	07.10.96 01.11.97 Expected to be commissioned by 30.9.97.
7.	FACT	Udyogamandal (Kerala) (Ammonia Placement Plant)	618.00@	Ammonia	2.97	10.5.93	30.6.97 Likely to be commissioned by 31.8.1997.
8.	HOC	Cochin (Kerala)	—	Hydrogen Peroxide	0.05		

\* Likely to be revised to 1031.00.

\*\* Likely to be revised to 1034.00

\*\*\* Likely to be revised to 518.50.

@ Likely to be revised to 642.36.

*Projects Proposals Submitted by PSUs/Cooperative Units Under Consideration of the Government*

Sl. No.	Name of PSU/Cooperative	Location	Estimated capital cost (Rs. in crore)	Production envisaged		Status
				Product	Capacity (Lakh MTPA)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	KRIBHCO	Hazira, Gujarat (3rd ammonia-urea stream at existing site)	1096.00	Urea	7.26	Being submitted for 1st stage clearance of PIB.
2.	KRIBHCO	Gorakhpur, UP (New Ammonia-urea plant at existing site of FCI.)	1289.73	Urea	7.26	Being submitted for 1st stage clearance of CPIB for preparing DFR.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3.	IFFCO	Nellore, Andhra Pradesh (Grossroots Project)	1568.70	Urea	7.26	1st stage of clearance of PIB accorded. Process to seek 2nd stage PIB clearance is on.
4.	RCF	Thal, Mumbai (Ammonia-urea third stream at existing site)	1157.33	Urea	7.26	Being submit- ted for 1st stage clear- ance of PIB.
5.	HIL	Alwaye (Kerala)	5.40	Pesticides		
6.	HOC	Rasayani, Maharashtra	386.73	MDI		

[*English*]

#### **Refugees from Bangladesh**

3585. SHRI R.B. RAI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of refugees from Bangladesh who entered into India during the war of 1971;

(b) the number of refugees out of them who returned to Bangladesh; and

(c) the number of refugees settled in India alongwith the location of their settlement, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) According to information available, around 9.9 million refugees had arrived in India from Bangladesh in 1971. Practically all the refugees returned to Bangladesh by 25th March, 1972.

[*Translation*]

#### **Smuggling of Idols**

3586. SHRIMATI KETAKI DEVI SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Murtiyon ke taskar ab rajnaikon ka istemal karte hain" appearing in 'Dainik Jagran' dated February 26, 1997;

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

(c) the steps taken to check such activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of External Affairs have sent advisories to Diplomatic Missions that their baggage should not contain any antiques which are more than one hundred years old except under the authority of a licence issued by the competent authority. The Government also lays stress on modernisation and strengthening of infrastructure relating to intelligence and enforcement agencies to enable them to take more efficient steps to prevent smuggling of antiques/ idols etc. out of the country.

[*English*]

#### **Exemption to Drugs from the Excise duty**

3587. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH HOODA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether in excise notification No. 4/97 in the recent budget, certain drugs in List-I are exempted from the Excise Duty and C.V.D.;

(b) whether under the same notification in List-II, the intermediates used in manufacture of drugs of List-I are also exempted from duty and C.V.D.;

(c) if so, whether 2-cenopyrazide, an intermediate used for manufacture of pyrazanimide is not mentioned in List-II; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) and (b) Under notification No. 4/97 dt. 1.3.97, 21 specified bulk drugs as mentioned in list 1 and only 24 specified goods used in their manufacture as mentioned in list 2 attract nil rate of Excise Duty.

(c) and (d) List 2 under notification No. 4/97 dt. 1.3.97 does not include all the goods used in the manufacture of bulk drugs mentioned in list 1 but only such goods in whose case the Govt. has decided to levy Excise Duty at nil rate.

#### **Investigation of FIRs**

3588. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (HARDOI) : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether cases have been reported where investigating officers of Delhi and Uttar Pradesh police (IOs) have finalised/filed FIRs without actually visiting the sites and collection of evidence; and

(b) if so, the number of such cases and action taken against the defaulters ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) No such case has been reported in respect of the Delhi Police. Information in regard to the State of Uttar Pradesh is being collected.

*[Translation]*

#### **Pollution from Tehri Dam**

3589. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the dust emanating from the digging work by construction companies at Tehri Dam has been adversely affecting the forests, flora, fauna, health of people and animals;

(b) whether the people had lodged complaints in December, 1996 in this regard with Hanumant Rao Expert Committee appointed by the Government on environmental and Rehabilitation aspect;

(c) if so, whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action proposed to be taken in this regard; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Expert Committee constituted by Ministry of Power visited project site in December 1996. During the Committee's visit some local persons mentioned problem of dust from vehicles playing on the haul roads at the Tehri dam. Project authorities undertake measures to contain rising of dust by sprinkling water at intervals on the haul roads.

*[English]*

#### **Sunderbans**

3590. SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large chunk of the Sunderbans Sanctuary has been converted into residential site;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to protect the sanctuary?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Agriculture Development Finance Companies**

3591. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State level agriculture development finance companies are being set up in the Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether the setting up of these State level companies was announced by the Finance Minister in the Budget 1996-97;

(c) if so, the names of States where such companies have been set up so far; and

(d) the extent to which the setting up of the State level companies have produced the desired results ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir. State level Agricultural Development Finance Companies have been incorporated in Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka.

(b) Yes, Sir. Hon'ble Finance Minister in his Budget Speech 1996-97 has announced that the State level Agricultural Development Finance Companies would be set-up with NABARD as chief promoter.

(c) and (d) So far, three companies have been incorporated in the States of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh

and Karnataka only and they are yet to commence their business.

[*Translation*]

### **Smuggling of Deer's Meat**

3592. PROF. OM PAL SINGH 'NIDAR' : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the meat of Deer and Blue bull is being smuggled to Pakistan from India;

(b) if so, the states from which the meat is being smuggled; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to check such smuggling?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) to (c) No such case has come to notice. However, the steps being taken to prevent smuggling of wildlife and wildlife products are given below :

- (i) Hunting of wild animals included in Schedules I to IV of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, has been banned by law.
- (ii) This Ministry has set up a National Coordination Committee consisting of representatives of all major enforcement organisations such as : Customs, revenue intelligence, CBI, Police, BSF, ITBP, RPF and foreign Post Office, Traffic-India and Wildlife authorities to enable effective inter-departmental cooperation and coordination to deal with the problem of illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products.
- (iii) Training programmes on enforcement and implementation of wildlife and other related laws and international conventions have been organised for all the enforcement agencies during 1995 and 1996.
- (iv) Raids are carried out by the wildlife authorities, in cooperation with other enforcement agencies if necessary, whenever information of illegal trading in wildlife is received.
- (v) India is a signatory to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) under which international trade in endangered species and their parts and derivatives is strictly regulated.
- (vi) Rewards are given to informers for gathering intelligence regarding illegal trade and smuggling of wildlife products.

(vii) A Committee set up by this Ministry to look into issues related to illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products has recommended specific measures to deal with this problem and these are being followed up with the States for implementation.

(viii) Regional and sub-regional offices of Wildlife Preservation have been set-up mainly at the major export centres of the country to prevent illegal trade and smuggling of wildlife products.

### **Deployment of Central Industrial Security Force in Uttar Pradesh**

3595. DR. BALI RAM : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of places and units in Uttar Pradesh where the security personnel of Central Industrial Security Force are posted for the security duty;

(b) the number of duty hours for which these security personnel are to work daily; and

(c) the facilities provided by the Government to the security personnel for working more than the eight hours?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAOBOOL DAR) : (a) A statement is attached.

(b) Security personnels are deployed on continuous duty for 8 hours in a day.

(c) Security personnels are provided with Refreshment Allowance for working more than eight hours in a day.

### **Statement**

1. Government Opium & Alkaloid Factory, Ghazipur.
2. Indian Telephone Industries, Naini, Allahabad.
3. Fertilizer Corporation of India, Gorakhpur.
4. Telephone Instruments Factory, Naini.
5. Bharat Pumps and Compressors Limited, Naini.
6. Indian Oil Corporation, Mathura.
7. Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited, Jhansi.
8. BHEL, Haridwar.
9. BHEL, Central Foundry & Forge Plant, Haridwar.
10. Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited, Rishikesh.
11. Singrauli Super Thermal Power Project, Shakti Nagar.
12. Paricha Thermal Power Station, Jhansi.

13. Hardwarganj Thermal Power Project, Kasimpur.
14. Obra Hydel Thermal Power Project, Mirzapur.
15. Panki Thermal Power Station, Kanpur.
16. HMT, Ranibagh.
17. Rihand Super Thermal Power Project, Mirzapur.
18. Indian Telephone Industries, Raibarelli.
19. Anpara Thermal Power Project, Mirzapur.
20. Tanda Thermal Power Project, Faizabad.
21. ITI, Manakpur.
22. Narora Atomic Power Project, Narora.
23. ONGC Dehradun.
24. BHEL, Jagdishpur.
25. Kanakpur Hydro Electric Project, Banabasa.
26. Rihand Hydel Power Project, Pipri.
27. Feroze Gandhi Unchahar Thermal Power Project, Raibarelli.
28. Triveni Structural Limited, Naini.
29. Auriya Gas Based Power Project, Itawah.
30. NCT Thermal Power Project, Ghaziabad.
31. Tehri Hydro Electric Power Project.
32. IFFCO, Anola.
33. IFFCO, Phulpur, Allahabad.
34. U.P. Petrochemical Complex, Pata.

[English]

#### **Amendment in Drug Price and Control Order**

3594. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to amend the Drug (Price and Control) Order and set up a National Drug Council Authority;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) :  
(a) to (c) For streamlining the pricing and monitoring mechanism for bulk drugs and formulations and making it

more effective as envisaged in the "Modifications in Drug Policy, 1986", a National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) is being set up and is expected to become functional in the near future. This does not need any amendment in DPCO, 1995, which has been promulgated in accordance with the provisions as contained in the 'Modifications in Drug Policy, 1986'.

#### **Land Allotment to Uprooted Families**

3595. SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of families uprooted during the 1971 War in Jammu & Kashmir;

(b) the area of land to be allotted to each family for their settlement in Jammu & Kashmir;

(c) the total deficiency of land as per fixed scale of land to be allotted;

(d) whether any scheme has been formulated by the Government for cash compensation @ Rs. 5000/- per kanal to meet the deficiency; and

(e) the total amount involved in the scheme and the amount released to the State Government for disbursement to displaced persons and time by which the remaining amount will be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (e) About 3,800 families were uprooted in Jammu and Kashmir during the 1971 Indo-Pak War. The agricultural families among those displaced were eligible for land at the scale of 4 acres (Abi) or 6 acres (Khuski). Since the State Government was not in a position to allot land to the agricultural families to the full scale, an administrative sanction was issued by the Govt. of India in 1990 for providing cash compensation in lieu of deficiency in the allottable scale of land as verified by the State Government subject to a maximum of Rs. 5000/- per kanal, the maximum rate being permissible only to those families in whose areas the rate of land was Rs. 5000/- per kanal or more. The total number of families to be benefitted was not to exceed 699, which was the figure originally intimated by the State Government. Claims for payment of compensation for land deficiency are being received from the Government of J & K. During the last financial year an amount of Rs. 1 crore was released to the State Government under this scheme. Another claim has been received during the current financial year for an amount of Rs. 1.80 crore and the same is being processed. The total deficiency of land as per the fixed scale and the total amount of compensation involved are being worked out by the Government of J & K.

*[Translation]***Use of Hindi at International Functions**

3596. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made any arrangement regarding preparation of speeches in Hindi for the international conferences and delivery thereof in Hindi by the representatives of the country and Heads of the State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) Some orders have been issued in regard to accord due importance to Official Language Hindi in International Conferences. However, the matter is being reconsidered.

**Killing of Wild Animals**

3597. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether an inter-State gang involved in the illegal killing of lions, spotted deer and other wild animals and black-marketing of their skins and body parts has been arrested in the forests of Balaghat and Bhandara border;

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

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) to (c) According to the State Govt. three cases of illegal trade in wildlife articles were detected and registered on 26th & 27th December, 1996 in the Katni Sub-division of Jabalpur District. Four leopard skins and two trapping nets were seized from three persons who were arrested and produced in court. Other people involved in these cases are reportedly absconding.

*[English]***Prices of Urea**

3598. SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the prices of bulk urea fixed for different producers in private, public and cooperative sectors under the Retention Price Scheme along with quantity produced thereof by each of them during 1995-96, 1996-97;

(b) the average landed cost of bulk urea imported during the said period; and

(c) whether any incentive for renovation, modernisation and expansion of the units has been provided by the Government with a view to curb the overall subsidy or otherwise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) The Retention Price of urea is fixed unitwise on the basis of normative capacity utilization and a combination of norms and actuals in respect of various cost elements and expenses. A pre-tax return on networth corresponding to a post tax return of 12% is included in the Retention Price. The desired information in respect of unitwise production and Retention Prices of urea during 1995-96 and 1996-97 has been furnished in the statement attached.

(b) The average C & F cost of urea imported during 1995-96 and 1996-97 (provisionally estimated upto February, 1997) was Rs. 7510/- and Rs. 7308/- per MT, respectively.

(c) The following incentives have been provided by the Government for renovation, modernization and expansion of the domestic urea industry:

- (i) The domestic urea industry is supported through the Retention Price-cum-Subsidy scheme.
- (ii) Liquid petroleum products used as feed stock and fuel in fertilizer plants are supplied at concessional price.
- (iii) Customs duty has been abolished on import of capital goods required for setting up new fertilizer plants and also for renovation/modernisation of the existing plants.
- (iv) A scheme has been sanctioned for refund of customs duty paid on capital goods and 3% concession in the interest on term loans in respect of plants commissioned on or after 1/1/1991.
- (v) Indigenous suppliers of capital goods to fertilize; projects are eligible for deemed export benefits, provided such supplies are made under the procedure of international competitive biddings.

**Statement***Unitwise Production & Retention Prices of Urea During 1995-96 and 1996-97*

Particulars	Production 1995-96 (Lakh/MT)	Retention Price as on 1/1/96 (Rs/MT)	Production 1996-97 (upto 31.1.97) (Lakh/MT)	Retention Price as on 28.2.97 (Rs/MT)
<b>PUBLIC SECTOR</b>				
FACT-COCHIN	2.67	5943	1.86	5943
FCI-SINDRI	2.25	5477	2.06	5477
FCI-RAMAGUNDAM	1.07	8562	0.42	8562
FCI-TALCHER	1.19	7957	1.04	7957
HFC-BARAUNI	0.56	8155	0.38	8155
HFC-DURGAPUR	0.76	7304	0.33	7304
HFC-NAMRUP-I & II	0.00	3628	0.00	3628
HFC-NAMRUP-III	1.40	3652	1.86	3652
NEYVELI LIGNITE	1.04	6519	0.94	6519
NFL-BHATINDA	5.31	6974	2.87	6580
NFL-NANGAL	3.72	5614	2.74	6307
NFL-PANIPAT	5.33	5418	3.57	6010
NFL-VIJAIPUR	8.58	4523	7.02	4534
RCF-THAL	14.76	3863	9.59	3863
RCF-TROMBAY-I	0.00	7730	0.00	7733
RCF-TROMBAY-V	2.41	4721	2.49	4588
<b>CO-OPERATIVE SECTOR</b>				
IFFCO-AONLA	8.82	4850	6.71	4850
IFFCO-AONLA (EXPANSION)		0		5590
IFFCO-PHULPUR	5.82	5523	4.56	5523
IFFCO-KALOL	4.55	3928	3.39	3928
KRIBHCO	17.22	3866	12.88	3866
<b>PRIVATE/JOINT SECTOR</b>				
CHAMBAL FERTILIZERS	8.94	6547	7.24	6547
GNFC	6.91	5114	5.25	5114
GSFC-BARODA	2.87	5207	2.67	5207
ICI (DUNCANS)	7.12	6724	5.91	6724
INDOGULF	8.96	4926	5.32	4926
MADRAS FERTILIZERS	2.79	6329	1.81	6329
MCFL	2.33	5230	2.91	6321
NFCL	7.08	8640	5.91	8640
OSWAL CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS	2.09	6547	6.62	6547
SHRIRAM	3.94	5149	3.31	5149
SPIC	6.75	5743	5.01	5743
TATA FERTILIZERS	8.40	6500	7.80	6500
ZUARI AGRO	4.10	5323	2.87	5323

### Welfare Schemes

3599. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes meant for the welfare of poor, old people, widows and destitutes fully and partly financed by the Central Government;

(b) the number of persons benefited from these schemes during each of the last five years and the current year, State/Union territory-wise;

(c) the total funds allocated for these schemes; and

(d) the State given maximum grant under these schemes?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

### Loan to Farmers

3600. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of financial and physical targets fixed for providing loans at concessional rates to the small and marginal farmers under the Multi Agency System during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97;

(b) the financial and physical achievements made under the scheme during the said period, State-wise and year-wise; and

(c) the rates of interest of loans being provided under the scheme, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No separate financial and physical target is fixed for providing loans at concessional rate of interest to small and marginal farmers. Moreover, as per the present policy, the interest rate to ultimate borrowers is determined on the basis of the quantum of loans issued and not on the basis of category of farmers.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[English]

### Economic Package for North East States

3601. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of packages announced by the Prime Minister during his tours in the country till date;

(b) whether any high-powered Committee has been constituted to suggest the ways and means to implement these packages;

(c) the date of announcement of development package of Rs. 7,000 crore for the north-east; and

(d) the present position of the packages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d) Statements I and II, one relating to the North-East and the other to Jammu & Kashmir, are enclosed.

### Statement-I

(a) to (d) The Prime Minister had visited all the seven States of the North-East from October 22 to 27, 1996. On conclusion of the visit, PM announced certain New Initiatives for the North-Eastern Region. The key features of the New Initiatives are:—

1. All Central Ministries/Departments will earmark at least 10% of their budget for specific programme in the North Eastern States.
2. Full funding for ongoing projects.
3. Brahmaputra flood control projects to get 100% grant from the Centre.
4. Employment Assurance Scheme to be extended to all Blocks in the North Eastern States.
5. Improved credit flow to North Eastern States.
6. Full coverage of the North East through telecommunication and electronic media.
7. A new Industrial Policy will be evolved for the North-Eastern Region.
8. An integrated Tourism Development Plan will be drawn up.
9. A package of projects for each State at a total estimated cost of Rs. 6100 crores was announced.

These projects are being intensively monitored both by the Ministry of Home Affairs (NE Division) and the Special Cell created in the Prime Minister's Office.

The implementation of this has commenced and is expected to be fully implemented by the end of the 9th Five Year Plan.

### Statement-II

Prime Minister, during his visit to Jammu & Kashmir on 13-14th February, 1997 announced following measures with

a view to accelerate the process of development and normalisation in Jammu & Kashmir:—

- The increased outlay of State Annual Plan 1996-97 of Rs. 1250 crores.
- The State Government will be enabled to have a reasonable outlay in 9th Five Year Plan.
- The Annual Plan of 1997-98 would be further enhanced and necessary support will be provided for this purpose so as to ensure that the plan outlay fixed for each year is protected and funds are also made available for meeting the non-plan gap in resources.
- Central Government would provide additional assistance to restore infrastructure damaged due to militancy. Nearly Rs. 1500 crores would be provided for the purpose of rural development and basic minimum services in the 9th Plan. The State Government would be authorised to debit restoration of damaged infrastructure to this amount.
- More towns in the State will be brought under Prime Minister Integrated Poverty Eradication Programme.
- Allocation of power from Central Projects would be increased from 600 MW to 876 MW to fully meet the power shortage in the State.
- Special funding mechanism including external assistance for implementation of projects like Protection and Development of Dal and other important lakes, masterplan for control of floods in the valley and action plan for improving the navigation and environmental aspects of Jhelum on the lines of Ganga Action Plan would be devised.
- Transportation of fertilisers in Jammu & Kashmir would be fully subsidised.

This is in addition to the other announcements of Prime Minister made in both Houses of Parliament on 23.07.1996 and 02.08.1996.

Follow-up action has been initiated for implementing the above mentioned announcements and the progress monitored regularly.

[Translation]

#### **Death of Fish**

3602. KUMARI UMA BHARATI :  
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the deaths of millions of fish in Mansar lake situated about 60 km. away from Jammu;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken against those found guilty for the same?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) A report from the Government of Jammu & Kashmir indicates that the Mansar Lake is associated with a place of worship and classified as a religious water body. The Fisheries Department of the State has no jurisdiction or administrative control over the lake. Small size fish of certain species with average weight of 1-2 grams died in large numbers. The depletion of oxygen in the lake owing to thermal stratification, and inadequate photosynthetic activity, due to cloudy days, was the main cause of death. Species of fish with secondary mode of respiratory mechanism, were not much affected. No sabotage is suspected.

(c) The question does not arise.

#### **Share Holders of Super Bazar**

3603. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of share holders of the Super Bazar;

(b) whether any dividend is being paid to them;

(c) if so, the dividend given during each of the last three years;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government provide any cash incentive to the share holders on the purchase of items from the Super Bazar;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) According to the information furnished by Super Bazar, Delhi, the number of share holders of the Super Bazar as on 28.2.1997 is 34127.

(b) to (d) The Super Bazar is paying dividend to the share holders and the amount of dividend paid during the last three years is as under :—

1992-93	—	Rs. 5,138.00
1993-94	—	Rs. 20,59,526.77
1994-95	—	Rs. 9,59,537.40

(e) to (g) The Super Bazar, Delhi provides 2% rebate on specific items and offers preference to the members in the supply of commodities at the time of scarcity.

[English]

#### **Freedom Fighter Pension**

3604. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal to increase the pension and other facilities being provided to the freedom fighters is under consideration of the Government in the 50th year of nation's freedom; and

(b) whether one job one freedom fighter family programme can be considered by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAOBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) At present no such proposals are under consideration of the Central Government.

#### **Strength of IPS Officers**

3605. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the sanctioned cadre strength of the IPS Officers as on December 31, 1996, State-wise;

(b) the number of Officers on deputation as on December 31, 1996 to the Union Government (Ministry of Home Affairs) or any attached or subordinate office of MHA or Para military forces, cadre-wise and state-wise; and

(c) whether the Government maintain a balance among various States in this regard in proportion to their cadre strength while drawing upon the deputation reserves ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) A Statement is attached.

#### **Statement**

(a) and (b)

*As on 31.12.96*

States	Sanctioned Cadre Strength of IPS officers	No. of officers on deputation as on 31.12.1996 to the Union Government (Ministry of Home Affairs) or any attached or subordinate office of MHA or Para-Military Forces
Andhra Pradesh	183	6
Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Mizoram, Union Territories	162	15
Assam-Meghalaya	136	18
Bihar	250	17
Gujarat	133	5
Haryana	109	6
Himachal Pradesh	72	6
Jammu & Kashmir	94	1
Karnataka	147	8
Kerala	121	8
Madhya Pradesh	278	16
Maharashtra	205	10
Manipur-Tripura	105	27
Nagaland	49	—
Orissa	151	6
Punjab	144	3
Rajasthan	146	6
Sikkim	21	3
Tamil Nadu	189	10
Uttar Pradesh	395	32
West Bengal	254	20

(c) Government is making every effort to maintain a balance among various States in proportion to their cadre strength while drawing upon the deputation reserve but it

has not always been found feasible to maintain the same due to various reasons such as administrative requirements of the States, availability of suitable and willing officers for Central deputation.

#### **Reservation to Handicapped Persons**

3606. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the percentage of reservation for the physically handicapped persons in the Central Government Jobs;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As per Section 33 of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995, every appropriate Government shall appoint in every establishment such percentage of vacancies not less than three percent, for persons or class of persons with disability of which one percent each shall be reserved for persons suffering from (i) blindness or low vision, (ii) hearing impairment, (iii) locomotor disability or cerebral palsy, in the posts identified for each disability. Since the Act has been enacted only recently, it is too early to contemplate any amendment to its provisions including section 33.

#### **Destruction of Coral Reefs**

3607. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that consequent upon throwing the effluents into the sea the coral reefs are being destroyed on the kutch coast;

(b) if so, whether any steps are taken to stop these effluents from being diverted to the sea;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) to (d) According to the information received from the Government of Gujarat, Coral Reefs on the Kutch Coast are not being destroyed by the throwing of industrial effluents into the sea as no untreated effluents are allowed to be thrown into the coastal area of Kutch.

#### **Criminal Case Against PAC Personnel**

3608. SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of UP have filed a criminal case against the PAC personnel indicated by CID for massacre of Hashimpura youth in 1987;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the CID had indicated some other personnel who are not being prosecuted; and

(d) if so, their names and rank and reason for their being let off?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

#### **Import of Milk, Butter etc.**

3609. SHRI S.P. JAISWAL : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the import of milk, butter, wool, hairs and milk powder is continuously increasing; and

(b) if so, the details of such imports during last three years and the value thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) A statement is enclosed.

#### **Statement**

*Quantity and Value of Milk Powder, Butter, Raw Wool and Hair Imported in the Past Three Years*

*Quantity in Metric Tonnes  
Value in Crore Rs.*

Item	1993-94		1994-95		1995-96	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Milk Powder	2559	16.7	944	5.7	5013	36.6
Butter	123	0.7	4389	25	4010	25
Raw Wool	57220	370.7	36575	345.7	45547	485
Hair and bnstles	305	4.3	696	11.3	455	10

### Agriculture Universities

3610. SHRI SOHAN BEER : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of agriculture universities functioning in the country;

(b) the details of the benefits reaped by the farmers from the research and development works carried out in these Universities;

(c) whether the Government propose to open some more Central Agriculture Universities in the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) There are 33 Agricultural Universities functioning in the Country as detailed below :

State Agril. Universities	28
Central Agril. Universities	1
Deemed to be Universities	4

(b) The universities have mandate to generate site specific technologies suited to the agro climate of the state where they are situated. They are supported in these activities through the All India Coordinated Research Projects in different crops, soil related problems, nutrient management, crop production and protection.

A large number of improved varieties have been developed by the Universities in food crops, pulses, oil seeds crops, vegetables & horticulture crops. Similarly, technologies have been developed for efficient cropping system for irrigated areas of different agro ecological regions. For example, pearl, millet - wheat - cowpea (fodder) in Western Haryana, castor-pearlmillet in North Gujarat, rice, gobhi sarson - mung bean in Punjab, pearl-millet, mustard, sunflower in South Central Uttar Pradesh, rice wheat, sorghum and cowpea (fodder) in Eastern Uttar Pradesh, soybean, wheat, mungbean in Madhya Pradesh, rice, mustard in Chhatisgarh region, cotton-gram and sorghum - wheat in Rewa region, cotton-gram and sorghum-wheat in Vidharbha region of Maharashtra, cotton-groundnut and sorghum-sunflower-groundnut in Marathwada region, pigeonpea - wheat in western Maharashtra, rice - maize - mungbean in Telangana region of Andhra Pradesh, maize-fingermillet in Bhadra command area of Karnataka, rice-mustard-groundnut in Hirakud command area of Orissa, rice-groundnut-cowpea in soyabean - rice - groundnut and groundnut-rice-sesame in Thanjavur delta of Tamil Nadu.

The farmers have been greatly benefitted by the training imparted to them by the Universities and Krishi Vigyan Kendras. During 1995-96, 6717 training and 2174 extension programmes have been conducted. These benefitted over 1.40 lakhs and over 2.18 lakhs farmers respectively. They were exposed to the recent developed technologies. Thus, farmers have been benefitted by achieving higher yields and better returns.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise in view of answer at (c) above.

[English]

### Development of Animal Husbandry

3611. SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat and other States have submitted proposals for the development of animal husbandry in the State;

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

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

### Polluting Industries

3612. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :  
SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH :

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

(a) whether bone and leather industries' pollution is on the increase in Ghaziabad and Unnao districts of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether the tanneries of Kanpur are being shifted on the agriculture land in Unnao district;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to shift the said industries out of the populated area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

*[English]***West Zone Food Ministers' Conference**

3613. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL :  
SHRI DINSHA PATEL :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Conference of West Zone Food Ministers has been held at Ahmedabad recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the matter discussed and the suggestions made thereat; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) The Conference of Food Ministers of West Zone States was held on 14.2.1997 at Ahmedabad.

(c) and (d) The prospect of higher procurement of foodgrains in the region and the preparedness for launching of the targetted PDS were discussed in the meeting. The State Governments were advised to take action as per the guidelines issued for the targetted PDS. The new scheme of PDS was generally well received by the States.

**Ban on Open Sale**

3614. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :  
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether in view of corruption charges against the officials of the Food Corporation of India, private traders and mill owners, the Government have decided to immediately ban the open market wheat allotment;

(b) whether the Government have also issued directions to the Food Corporation of India to allow the States to decide the percentage of wheat to be sold through the Public Distribution System and by open sale;

(c) if so, the main points of the decision taken by the Government in the matter;

(d) whether reports about the position of wheat in the country have been obtained from the States in January, 1997; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) No, Sir. Presently, the Open Market Sale Scheme of Wheat is valid upto 31st March, 1997.

(b) and (c) In December, 96, the Government directed the Food Corporation of India to communicate the State-wise monthly ceiling of open sale wheat to States/UT's for distribution through District Officers. The earlier System of selection of allottees was to continue only in those States/UT's where they were not willing to take over this Scheme.

(d) Yes Sir, from the States holding stocks for the Central Pool.

(e) The stock position of wheat in the Central Pool at the end of January, 1997 was estimated at 50.80 lakh tonnes, including 23.42 lakh tonnes and 3.78 lakh tonnes held by Punjab and Haryana State Governments respectively for Central Pool.

*[Translation]***Service Rule for Government Employees of Chandigarh**

3615. SHRI SATYAPAL JAIN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal regarding formulation of service rules for the Government employees of Chandigarh is pending with the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) In accordance with the extant instructions contained in MHA Notification dated 13th Jan., 1992, the Conditions of Service of persons appointed to the Central Civil Services and Posts under the administrative control of the Administrator of Union Territory of Chandigarh shall, subject to any other provision made by the President in this behalf, be the same as the Conditions of Service of persons appointed to corresponding Posts in Punjab Civil Services and shall be governed by the same Rules and Orders as are for the time being applicable to the latter category of persons.

*[English]***Compensation to the Families of the Victims**

3616. PROF. JITENDRA NATH DAS :  
SHRI BALAI CHANDRA RAY :  
DR. ASIM BALA :  
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :  
SHRI HARADHAN ROY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to take up the cases of killing of the innocent bus passengers during the terrorist movement in Punjab with the intention to compensate families of the victims;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said issue has been referred to the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) for consideration; and

(d) if so, the position thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) The Government of Punjab had formulated a scheme for these victims of terrorist movement and according to which an ex-gratia grant of Rs. 1,00,000/- (previously it was Rs. 50,000/-) to the next of kin of persons killed in terrorist movement was to be paid. Widows of the deceased persons are also allowed subsistence allowance of Rs. 1,500/- per month till one member of the family is absorbed in Government service. Injured persons are paid an ex-gratia grant of Rs. 5,000/- plus total reimbursement of expenditure on indoor treatment. A lumpsum grant of Rs. 50,000/- is paid in case of 100% disability. Marriage grant of Rs. 10,000/- is paid for the marriage of daughter and sister of person killed. Facility of loan at concessional rates and free education to the children of victims of terrorist movement are also extended.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Separate Corporation for Trans-Yamuna Area

3617. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a separate corporation for the trans-yamuna area in Delhi to provide better civil services there;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) There is no such proposal under the consideration of the Central Government at present.

#### Development of the Himalayan Region

3618. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :  
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH :

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

(a) the amount allocated to the States of the Himalayan region under various programmes for the all round development of the said region during the last three years and current year, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) whether there is any proposal for setting up a National Biodiversity Protection Board to look after the flora and fauna in the Himalayan region; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) The amount allocated to the States of the Himalayan region under various programmes of the Ministry of Environment & Forests for the development of environment and protection of forests of the region during last three years is given in the statement attached.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Statement

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Name of the Scheme	Broad Objectives	States covered	Financial assistance provided			
				93-94	94-95	95-96	96-97
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Project Tiger	To ensure viable population of Tigers	(i) Arunachal Pradesh (ii) Assam (iii) Mizoram (iv) Uttar Pradesh (v) West Bengal	32.01 36.38 — 91.71 84.31	34.54 42.35 — 90.55 87.54	35.87 55.65 13.45 96.64 90.16	26.00 37.43 8.36 106.21 104.68

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2.	Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries	To develop National Parks/Sanctuaries	(i) Arunachal Pradesh (ii) Assam (iii) Himachal Pradesh (iv) Jammu & Kashmir (v) Manipur (vi) Meghalaya (vii) Mizoram (viii) Nagaland (ix) Sikkim (x) Tripura (xi) Uttar Pradesh (xii) West Bengal	30.87 103.97 84.73 15.58 15.15 19.81 15.84 2.62 29.90 9.75 75.55 41.26	31.44 — 84.22 2.70 19.30 19.03 25.05 — 33.42 3.44 75.10 63.24	7.30 — 61.23 27.31 25.29 26.25 7.46 5.01 23.93 24.72 68.34 70.53	30.02 — 12.10 13.02 23.01 — 4.60 4.31 15.29 — 56.00 39.31
3	Eco-development around Reserve areas	To provide alternative sustenance to communities living on the fringes of Reserve Areas	(i) Arunachal Pradesh (ii) Assam (iii) Himachal Pradesh (iv) Jammu & Kashmir (v) Manipur (vi) Meghalaya (vii) Mizoram (viii) Nagaland (ix) Sikkim (x) Uttar Pradesh (xi) West Bengal	6.75 11.25 12.20 13.05 4.45 6.54 — — 10.30 25.27 53.51	7.93 — 35.78 — — — 2.33 2.75 13.95 12.00 57.17	10.88 — 15.75 — — 3.78 9.32 — 4.35 24.01 51.02	7.50 8.80 5.05 5.00 5.00 — — 10.00 18.16 35.61 67.25
4.	Integrated afforestation and eco-development project scheme	Promote afforestation and Eco-development	(i) Arunachal Pradesh (ii) Assam (iii) Himachal Pradesh (iv) Jammu & Kashmir (v) Manipur (vi) Meghalaya (vii) Mizoram (viii) Nagaland (ix) Sikkim (x) Uttar Pradesh (xi) West Bengal	59.52 — 205.65 287.10 83.75 170.00 140.00 57.05 253.07 230.16 98.49	92.53 28.00 313.28 296.45 155.15 222.02 139.28 40.15 315.63 389.50 69.54	106.87 54.00 220.35 428.17 374.00 45.00 78.14 29.10 246.45 369.36 46.68	74.32 34.90 80.42 294.88 261.50 16.31 81.50 — 179.65 244.46 81.20

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5.	Area Oriented Fuelwood and Fodder scheme	Augmenting supply of Fuelwood & Fodder in identified Fuelwood deficit districts	(i) Arunachal Pradesh (ii) Assam (iii) Himachal Pradesh (iv) Jammu & Kashmir (v) Manipur (vi) Meghalaya (vii) Mizoram (viii) Nagaland (ix) Sikkim (x) Uttar Pradesh (xi) West Bengal	8.83 119.84 118.95 15.00 130.05 89.24 294.20 — 70.00 278.39 118.49	7.50 94.01 121.64 — 112.11 50.00 355.60 15.15 66.00 195.00 129.06	11.50 135.00 125.00 40.00 60.00 40.00 335.00 — 74.00 340.78 139.95	12.23 120.66 125.00 72.01 146.82 74.46 275.00 10.00 52.25 360.47 151.64
6.	Non-Timber Produce including Medicinal plants	Raising Non-Timber Produce including Medicinal plants	(i) Arunachal Pradesh (ii) Assam (iii) Himachal Pradesh (iv) Jammu & Kashmir (v) Manipur (vi) Meghalaya (vii) Mizoram (viii) Nagaland (ix) Sikkim (x) Uttar Pradesh (xi) West Bengal	19.00 7.00 59.71 16.00 10.00 111.37 37.60 — 70.00 1.53 54.94	25.00 11.20 183.25 101.65 19.25 110.00 31.69 17.85 65.50 7.46 43.61	21.51 6.33 103.36 85.00 61.50 — 18.00 — 119.50 — 79.45	25.84 15.00 83.08 100.00 71.76 — 8.50 10.00 69.00 — 61.65
7.	Seed Development	To develop infrastructure for quality seeds	(i) Arunachal Pradesh (ii) Assam (iii) Himachal Pradesh (iv) Jammu & Kashmir (v) Manipur (vi) Meghalaya (vii) Mizoram (viii) Sikkim (ix) Uttar Pradesh (x) West Bengal	30.05 — — 20.00 6.95 — 15.00 4.31 10.00 4.93	6.51 10.07 11.79 45.88 11.00 — — 8.50 6.50 7.35	5.00 18.28 9.98 22.00 5.50 6.08 — 9.51 — 5.87	5.53 — 8.83 11.00 5.50 — — 7.70 6.90 4.34
8.	Conservation of Wetlands	To protect and regenerate the wetlands	(i) Assam (ii) Himachal Pradesh (iii) Jammu & Kashmir (iv) Manipur	— 5.00 — —	4.20 5.75 — 41.00	4.20 13.00 31.20 60.25	— 8.00 34.00 110.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9.	Biosphere Reserves	To set up Biosphere Reserves	(i) Assam	—	—	13.50	47.00
			(ii) Meghalaya	3.77	15.00	6.79	5.08
			(iii) Uttar Pradesh	48.26	20.90	43.15	47.00
10.	Paryavaran Vahini	Create environmental awareness	(i) Arunachal Pradesh	0.34	—	—	7.44
			(ii) Assam	0.68	—	—	—
			(iii) Himachal Pradesh	1.36	—	1.90	—
			(iv) Manipur	0.34	—	—	—
			(v) Meghalaya	0.34	—	—	—
			(vi) Mizoram	0.34	0.34	0.48	—
			(vii) Uttar Pradesh	2.04	—	—	6.52
11.	Project Elephant	To ensure viable population of elephants	(i) Arunachal Pradesh	11.17	19.12	7.52	26.50
			(ii) Assam	3.00	51.15	—	—
			(iii) Meghalaya	288.60	24.50	20.95	2.39
			(iv) Nagaland	—	7.10	—	6.08
			(v) Uttar Pradesh	21.48	58.40	47.76	81.80
			(vi) West Bengal	39.74	50.10	62.06	62.76
12.	Beneficiary Oriented for tribal development	To rehabilitate the Tribal Families under relocation plan	(i) Mizoram	—	39.16	—	—
			(ii) Nagaland	15.00	—	—	—
			(iii) West Bengal	23.94	—	—	—
13.	Modern Forest Fire Control Methods	To protect the forest from fires	(i) Himachal Pradesh	19.73	12.00	—	—
			(ii) Uttar Pradesh	—	—	—	18.01
14.	National River Action Plan	Abatement of Pollution of river water	Uttar Pradesh	—	—	—	30.25
15.	Grants in aid Scheme	Afforestation & tree Planting	(i) Himachal Pradesh	2.42	0.93	3.09	2.67
			(ii) Jammu & Kashmir	—	1.80	—	—
			(iii) Meghalaya	—	—	—	4.44
			(iv) Uttar Pradesh	22.44	12.78	21.50	35.40
			(v) West Bengal	17.43	15.40	15.40	34.19
16.	Central Zoo Authority	Upgradation of zoos	(i) Arunachal Pradesh	2.85	2.38	6.35	—
			(ii) Assam	6.67	11.05	2.50	—
			(iii) Himachal Pradesh	1.98	7.55	—	—
			(iv) Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	22.69	—
			(v) Manipur	4.30	13.46	—	4.52
			(vi) Mizoram	2.00	2.75	—	—
			(vii) Nagaland	—	10.02	—	—
			(viii) Sikkim	—	6.28	9.67	—
			(ix) Tripura	—	—	25.50	—
			(x) Uttar Pradesh	—	16.00	14.50	15.00
			(xi) West Bengal	26.55	13.42	17.05	15.23

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
17.*	Govind Ballabh Pant Himalaya Paryavaran Evam Vikas Sansthan	To take care of Ecological & Environmental problems of the fragile region of Himalayas.		435.00	485.00	439.00	252.00
18.*	Integrated Action Oriented research, demonstration and Extension Projects for Himalayan Region	To conduct location specific research for problems of Resource Management of Himalayan Region		34.00	39.00	39.00	39.00

\*Funds are released to the Institute, no statewise releases.

[English]

### Pesticides

3619. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Promotion of India's potential bogged down by country's red tapism-Belated adulation for Pune Scientist" appearing in the "Indian Express" (Mumbai Edition) dated February 21, 1997;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The news item refers to a herbal pesticide called 'Indiara' which is claimed to control major fungal diseases of grapes. 'Indiara' is a herbal extract containing diallyl disulphide, allyl propyl disulphide and allyl isothiocyanate which is included in the Schedule to the Insecticides Act.

Any chemical or substance included in the Schedule to the Insecticides Act and intended to be used as an insecticide is required to be registered by the Registration Committee constituted under Section 5 of the said Act. No application for registration of 'Indiara' is pending with the Registration Committee.

### Children Racket

3620. SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE :  
SHRI DATTA MEGHE :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have probed into the racket in regard to the sending of children to the Gulf countries for the purpose of begging and camel race;

(b) if so, the progress made in the probe; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to rehabilitate them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

### Task Force for Storage and Transportation Facilities

3621. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India has formed a task force under the Planning Commission for a pilot project for better bulk storage and transportation facilities;

(b) if so, the main functions of the task force;

(c) whether any concrete efforts have been made by this task force for improving the storage and transportation;

(d) whether any recommendations have been made by the task force in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the extent to which the task force has helped in checking the pilferage/wastage of foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (f) Questions do not arise.

### Unrecognised Voluntary Organisations

3622. SHRI MANENDRA SINGH BHATI : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications received from the unrecognised voluntary organisations engaged in the human welfare for recognition during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97;

(b) the number of organisations out of these recognised so far; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken for an early decision on the pending applications?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) Applications from unrecognised voluntary organisations are not entertained for assistance under the scheme of assistance with the Ministry of Welfare.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

### Spurious Cement

3623. SHR! I.D. SWAM! : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of manufacturing of spurious cement have been unearthed in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether the connivance of Government officials/Delhi Police with the mafia making spurious cement has come to light;

(c) if so, details in this regard; and

(d) the action taken against the erring officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. 8 cases of manufacture of spurious cement have been unearthed in Delhi during the year 1996 and 1997 (upto 28.2.97).

(b) No, Sir. A vigilance inquiry conducted into the matter did not substantiate the allegation of police connivance.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

### Forest Products

3624. SHRI NITISH BHARADWAJ : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether large scale trees are felling in almost every State in the country and poor people and adivasis are not being allowed to collect even the forest products and fuel for burning;

(b) if so, whether the most harassed people are adivasis belonging to Bihar; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken for creating the alternative source of fire wood for adivasis in the country who are not allowed to collect the forest products even for lighting their hearths?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected from the States and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

### Reservation for OBCs in Promotions

3625. SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the candidates belonging to the Other Backward Classes are entitled for entry point reservation in Government service not entitled for reservation in promotion as is given to the candidates belonging to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Hon'ble Supreme Court in its Judgement in Indira Sawhney and others Vs Union of India & others case have

stated that the reservation has no application to promotion for OBCs.

### Self-Employment Scheme for OBCs in Uttar Pradesh

3626. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have launched Self-Employment Scheme for the people belonging to Other Backward Classes in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the amount provided as assistance to the unemployed youth under the scheme during 1996-97 so far; and

(c) the amount for which the provisions likely to be made for the year 1997-98?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) . (a) Yes Sir, National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation (NBCFDC) is implementing Self Employment Scheme through concessional loan in the State of Uttar Pradesh through State Channelising Agency (SCA).

(b) A total amount of Rs. 70.45 lakhs has been released by the NBCFDC to the State Channelising Agency (Uttar Pradesh) during the year 1996-97 for further disbursement to the identified beneficiaries.

(c) No State-wise allocation of funds is made by NBCFDC. However, the Corporation disburses loans to State Channelising Agencies against sanctioned schemes as per their demand and fulfilment of the conditions and availability of funds with the Corporation.

[*English*]

### FCI's Training Institute

3627. DR. ARVIND SHARMA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2454, dated August 1, 1996 and state :

(a) whether the construction work of FCI's Training Complex at Gurgaon has since been completed as the revised date of completion of the said work was December 31, 1996;

(b) if so, the reasons for not shifting the Training Institute of FCI, East of Kailash, New Delhi over there; and

(c) the time by which the Training Institute is likely to be shifted to Gurgaon?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) The construction work of Training Complex of the Food Corporation of India at Gurgaon is in the process of completion and is expected to be ready for occupation by 1st August, 1997. The Training Institute shall be shifted from New Delhi to Gurgaon immediately thereafter.

**Scheduled Tribe Status to Ladakh Tribals**

3628. SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) the population of Jammu and Kashmir State as on 1st January, 1996, ethnic group-wise;
- (b) whether some ethnic groups of Jammu and Kashmir made representation for granting them Scheduled Tribe status;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the decision taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) Government of India carries out Census every ten years. The last Census was held in respect of all States and UTs except J&K in 1991. Population of Jammu & Kashmir as on 1.1.1996 is, therefore, not available.

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. Balti, Bada, Bot, Boto, Brokpa, Drokpa, Dard, Shin, Changpa, Garra, Mon, Puriqpa, Gujjar, Bakarwal, Gaddi and Sippi communities have been specified as Scheduled Tribes in relation to Jammu & Kashmir.

[*Translation*]

**Indian Management Centre for Watershed and Farming Centre**

3629. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any proposal for setting up of Indian Management Centre for Watershed and Farming Centre in Madhya Pradesh is pending with the Union Government; and
- (b) if so, the time by which the approval is likely to be accorded to the said proposal?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no such proposal pending with the Union Government.

[*English*]

**Bauxite Mining**

3630. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the study conducted by the Engineering India Limited, a public sector undertaking on the environmental impact of bauxite mining in the Indravati river basin of undivided Kalahandi and Koraput districts in Orissa;
- (b) if so, the salient features of the survey; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) In 1994 Engineers India Ltd. conducted

environmental impact assessment of bauxite mining in the Indravati river basin falling largely in the undivided Koraput district and partly in Kalahandi district of Orissa for M/s Utkal Alumina International (Private) Ltd.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Environment & Forests granted environmental clearance in September, 1995 to M/s Utkal Alumina International (Private) Ltd. for their Baphimali bauxite mine project.

**FCI Godown at Jajpur**

3631. SHRI ANCHAL DAS : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the FCI godown at J.K. Road in Jajpur district of Orissa is inoperational;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the date from which it is inoperational; and
- (d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to make it operational?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) There is no FCI godown at J.K. Road in Jajpur District of Orissa.

(b) to (d) The questions do not arise.

**Investment in Drug Sector**

3632. SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have received proposals for investment from the multinational companies in the Drug Chemical Sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, company-wise;
- (c) the present status of the proposals under consideration and details of the proposals cleared so far;
- (d) the policy of the Government in regard to the investment in drug sector by the multinationals; and
- (e) the details of policy changes under consideration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. As per the modified drug policy announced in 1994, proposals with foreign equity upto 51% are cleared through automatic route. The details of proposals above 51% relating to multinational companies are given in the attached statement.

(d) and (e) The existing policy makes provisions for foreign investment upto 51% in the case of all bulk drugs, their intermediates and formulations. Investment above 51% is considered on a case to case basis in areas where investment is not forthcoming and the production of bulk drug is from basic stage.

**Statement**

S.No.	Name of the Indian Company	Name of the foreign Company	Foreign Equity (in %)	Purpose
1	2	3	4	5
1.	—	M/s. Warner Lambert Co., USA	100%	The Company was issued approval letter dated 12.12.94, for setting up a 100% subsidiary in India to introduce new drugs for treatment of Cancer and Diabetes.
2.	—	M/s. American Cyanamid Co., USA	100%	Approval letter dated 18.8.94 issued to the Company for the manufacture of Pharmaceuticals items as well as Chemical items.
3.	—	M/s. Astra-AB, Sweden	100%	Approval letter dated 13.2.95 issued to the Company for manufacturing and research purposes in pharmaceutical sector.
4.	—	M/s. Ciba Geigy Ltd., Switzerland	100%	Approval letter dated 20.12.95 issued to the Company for setting up a holding Co. which would be used as a vehicle for entering into joint venture with Indian companies. The approval is subject to the condition that for setting up any further downstream joint ventures in India they shall require prior approval of Govt. of India.
5.	—	M/s. Hoechst AG, Germany	100%	Approval letter dated 16.11.95 issued to set up a wholly owned subsidiary in India : (i) For providing technical services; (ii) Setting up joint ventures for manufacture of FIBRES, High Performance Plastics and HDP. The approval contains a condition that joint venture set up for down-stream activities would require prior approval of Govt.
6.	—	M/s. Madaus Ltd., Germany	100%	Approval letter dated 15.4.96 issued for the manufacture of laxative formulations from Psyllium Seeds and Senna leaves for 100% exports.
7.	—	M/s. Knoll AG, Germany	100%	Approval letter dated 7.10.96 issued for the manufacture of Varapamil HCL and ibuprofane
8.	—	M/s. Sandoz, Switzerland	100%	Approval letter dated 18.10.96 issued to the Company for the manufacture of five products viz. (i) Lactobionic Acid; (ii) Calcibronat; (iii) Sulphatrazazole; (iv) Mepyramine Maleate; and (v) Pesticide products.
9.	—	(i) M/s. Merck KGaA, Germany (ii) M/s. Merck Generics, UK	50% 50% (100%)	The proposal of the Company for the manufacture of drugs viz. (i) Butaphenol (ii) Calcium Donesilate etc. was cleared by FIPB on 11.1.97.
10.	—	M/s. Hoechst Roussel Vet. Ltd., Germany	100%	The proposal of the Company to take up manufacture of new drugs in India was cleared by FIPB on 22.2.97.

1	2	3	4	5
11.	M/s. Ciba-CKD Biochem Ltd.	(i) Ciba Geigy Ltd., Switzerland (ii) Chong Kung Dang Corpn., S. Korea	9.80%  49.00%	Approval letter dated 31.10.94 issued for the manufacture of Rifampicin Bulk Drugs and its intermediates.
12.	M/s. Rajendra A Shah & D.D. Chopra	M/s. Tiger Medicals Ltd., Singapore	60.00%	Approval letter dated 9.1.95 issued for manufacture of pharmaceutical products such as Tiger Balm
13.	M/s. Banyan Chemicals Pvt. Ltd.	M/s. Invavd Inc., USA	95%	Approval letter dated 5/12.1.95 issued for 100% export for the manufacture of Pseudoephadrine Hydrochloride/Sulphate and Terfenadine.
14.	M/s. Boehringer Mannheim (I) Ltd.	M/s. Boehringer Mannheim (Far East) PTE Ltd., Singapore	37.47% to 63.36%	Approval letter dated 9.2.95 issued to the Co. for the manufacture of Bulk Pharmaceuticals, Chemicals and Formulations. The Foreign Equity was again revised to 74% vide SIA's approval No. FC. II: 502(96)/205(96) dated 20.7.96.
15.	M/s. Hoechst Mario Roussel Ltd.	M/s. Hoechst AG, Germany	50.1% to 56.1%	The Company were issued approval letter No. FC. II:795 (96)/620(96) dated 30.9.96 for R&D work for new products.

### Cooperative Institutions

3633. SHRI RAMSAGAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether frauds to the tune of 1200 crore have taken place in the cooperative institutions in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether the Government are considering to enquire into those frauds and bring to book the persons involved therein;

(c) the total number of cooperative institutions in Uttar Pradesh and the number of the institutions whose accounts have been audited;

(d) the reasons for not auditing the accounts of the remaining institutions; and

(e) the details of the salient observations made in the audit of accounts of the institutions and the action taken thereupon?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (e) 'Cooperative Societies' is a State subject. The question does not come under the purview of Central Govt. which, therefore, has no information readily available on this. However, State Governments of U.P. has been requested to furnish the information.

### Central State Farms

3634. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Central State farms functioning in the country, location-wise;

(b) whether these farms are functioning profitably;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the total production of various foodgrains in these farms during 1995 and 1996;

(e) whether the Government have any plan to improve the functioning of these farms; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) At present there are 12 farms of State Farms Corporation of India located in various parts of the country as shown in the statement attached as per Statement-I.

(b) and (c) All the farms have shown profit during 1995-96 except five farms *i.e.* Sardargarh, Jetsar, Raebareli, Raichur and Chengam. A statement showing net profit/loss incurred by the Central State Farms is attached as per Statement-II.

(d) A Statement-III showing the total production of these farms during the years 1994-95 and 1995-96 is attached.

(e) and (f) The Corporation was provided assistance under the National Seeds Project-III for financial, operational and organisational restructuring with a view to improve the viability of the farms.

**Statement-I**

Sl.No	Name of Farm	Distt.	State
1	CSF, Suratgarh	Sriganganagar	Rajasthan
2	CSF, Sardargarh	-do-	-do-
3	CSF, Jetsar	-do-	-do-
4	CSF, Hisar	Hisar	Haryana
5	CSF, Ladhawal	Ludhiana	Punjab
6	CSF, Bahraich	Bahraich	U.P.
7	CSF, Raebareli	Raebareli	U.P.
8	CSF, Kokilabari	Barpeta	Assam
9	CSF, Barpeta	-do-	-do-
10	CSF, Raichur	Raichur	Karnataka
11	CSF, Chengam	TVM Sambuvarayar	Tamil Nadu
12	CSF, Aralam	Kannur	Kerala

CSF—Central State Farm.

**Statement-II**

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name of the farm	Net profit (+)/Loss(-)
CSF, Suratgarh	(+) 69.72
CSF, Sardargarh	(-) 0.35
CSF, Jetsar	(-) 2.17
CSF, Hisar	(+) 163.50
CSF, Ladhawal	(+) 14.26
CSF, Bahraich	(+) 23.17
CSF, Raebareli	(-) 10.55
CSF, Raichur	(-) 101.18
CSF, Chengam	(-) 45.31
CSF, Aralam	(+) 10.24
CSF, Kokilabari (including Barpeta)	(+) 1.57

CSF—Central State Farm.

**Statement-III**

(prodn. in qtls.)

Sl.No.	Name of the farm	1994-95	1995-96
1.	CSF, Suratgarh	81,894	1,14,248
2.	CSF, Sardargarh	49,937	39,035
3.	CSF, Jetsar	27,671	24,263
4.	CSF, Hisar	1,24,999	1,50,890
5.	CSF, Ladhawal	26,865	49,173
6.	CSF, Bahraich	1,85,462	1,68,154
7.	CSF, Raebareli	1,542	2,434
8.	CSF, Kokilabari	19,595	21,684
9.	CSF, Barpeta	962	803
10.	CSF, Raichur	7,414	4,473
11.	CSF, Chengam	5,750	2,848
		5,32,091	5,78,005

12. Aralam: In so far as the Aralam farm is concerned, the production is mainly of plantation crops and details are as under:—

Sl.No.	Crops	1994-95	1995-96
(a)	Coconut	22-32 Lakhs No.	20.93 Lakhs No.
(b)	Cashew	4164 qtls.	4046 qtls.
(c)	Rubber	1083 ..	1280 ..
(d)	Cocoa	1368 ..	2000 ..
(e)	Pepper	73 ..	165 ..
(f)	Areca nut	517 ..	761 ..
(g)	Mango	16 ..	51 ..
(h)	Coffee	27 ..	9 ..
(i)	Other Misc.	497 ..	—

CSF—Central State Farm

**Decanalisation of Sugar Export**

3635. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :  
SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether sugar industry and others have complained to the Government that the hasty decanalisation of sugar exports and inordinate delay in its implementation by the Government has created great unrest amongst the people;

(b) if so, whether it has also been conveyed that the sugar decanalisation is full of frauds;

(c) if so, the main allegations made against this decision; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) Some representations have been received urging the Government not to repeal the Sugar Export Promotion Act, 1958 without consulting the people concerned with sugar export.

(b) and (c) The following arguments have been conveyed against decanalisation, viz. :

(i) The repeal of the said Act is ill-conceived and ill-timed. The announcement of the decision has had an adverse impact on the international prices and no private trader or individual sugar mill will be able to export sugar.

(ii) The private parties have not been able to find a market.

(iii) That the idea of decanalisation will not be able to boost exports.

(d) The Sugar Export Promotion (Repeal) Ordinance, 1997 has been promulgated on 15.1.1997 thereby decanalising the export of sugar. This will allow sugar factories, companies, individuals and firms alike to export sugar along with the Indian Sugar and General Industry Import Export Corporation (ISGIEIC) leading to a healthy competition and resulting in a better overall export performance for the country.

Private parties have already participated in the tender enquiry floated by the Agricultural Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) on 17.2.1997.

**Addition to STs List**

3636. SHRI SUKHRAM : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Himachal Pradesh Government has recommended for inclusion of Labana community of state in the list of Scheduled Tribes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b) The Government of Himachal Pradesh in their letter dated 24th May, 1994 has recommended inclusion of Labana community in the list of Scheduled Tribes.

**Legislatures for Union Territories**

3637. SHRI V. PRADEEP DEV : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been demands from the Union Territories without legislatures for providing legislatures there;

(b) if so, the names of the Union Territories from where such demands have been received;

(c) the reaction of the Government in this regard;

(d) whether despite the assurances by the Government for providing Legislatures there nothing concrete has yet emerged out; and

(e) if so, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) . (a) to (e) At present, there are five Union territories without legislature viz. (i) The Andaman and Nicobar Islands, (ii) Chandigarh, (iii) Daman & Diu, (iv) Dadra & Nagar Haveli and (v) Lakshadweep.

So far as the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands is concerned, a Private Member's Bill entitled "The Government of Union territory of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Bill 1996" providing for the Creation of a Legislative Assembly and a Council of Ministers was introduced in the Lok Sabha. However, the same was withdrawn by the Member concerned after an assurance was extended that an All Party Meeting would be convened by the Government to take a final decision in the matter. The said All Party Meeting was subsequently held on the 12th March, 1997. The matter about the future set-up for the Union territory of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands is accordingly receiving the attention of the Government.

A Private Member's Bill entitled "The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 1997" to provide for a Legislative Assembly and a Council of Ministers for Chandigarh has been introduced in the Lok Sabha recently. A demand has also been raised recently for the creation of a mini-Legislative Assembly on the lines of Pondicherry by joining the territories of Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli. No demand for a Legislature has been received from the Administration of Lakshadweep.

[Translation]

### Procurement Prices of Wheat, Rice and Sugar

3638. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH :  
SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI  
CHIKHALIA :  
SHRI K. PARASURAMAN :  
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the procurement prices of wheat, rice and sugar during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97;

(b) the reasons for increase each time;

(c) whether the procurement of wheat, rice and sugar was satisfactory during the said period;

(d) if so, the details thereof, year-wise; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) The Minimum Support prices fixed by the Government for wheat and paddy during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 marketing seasons are as under :—

(Rs. per qtl.)

	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
Wheat	350	360	380
<b>Paddy</b>			
Common	340	360	380
Fine	360	375	395
Supertine	380	395	415

Statement-I showing procurement prices of levy rice for the last three Kharif Marketing Seasons is attached.

Statement-II showing the ex-factory prices of levy sugar for the last three sugar seasons is annexed.

(b) The Minimum Support Prices of wheat and paddy fixed by the Government are remunerative in nature. The MSP have been raised on the basis of the recommendations of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) which takes into account a number of factors such as cost of production, reasonable return to the farmers, etc.

Procurement prices of levy rice are increased after taking into account MSP of paddy, statutory taxes and levies, milling charges and other incidental charges, out-turn ratio of rice from paddy, etc. etc.

As regards sugar, the increase in Statutory Minimum Price for Sugarcane and conversion costs results in rise in ex-factory levy sugar prices.

(c) to (e) The procurement of wheat and paddy under price support scheme is voluntary in nature for the farmers. Similarly, the collection of rice under levy scheme also depends on the purchase of paddy made by the millers. Hence, no targets as such are fixed for procurement of wheat and rice.

Quantities of wheat and rice procured for Central Pool since 1994-95 Marketing Season are as under :—

(In Lakh Tonnes)

	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97 (As on 12.3.97)
Wheat	118.69	123.27	81.82
Rice	134.03	99.49	95.86

The sugar production during the season 1994-95 was about 146.43 lakh tonnes and during 1995-96 it was about 164.29 lakh tonnes. 40% of the production, less incentives, is taken by the Government as levy sugar.

The above quantities procured were adequate for meeting the requirement of PDS/RPDS.

**Statement-I***Procurement Prices of Levy Rice for 1994-95 Kharif Marketing Season*

	State	Common 1994-95	Fine 1994-95	Superfine 1994-95
1.	Andhra Pradesh	565.45	596.95	628.45
2.	Assam	545.25	584.30	615.10
3.	Bihar	—	—	—
4.	Gujarat	—	—	—
5.	Haryana	579.80	630.30	668.50
6.	Delhi	553.85	602.05	638.50
7.	Karnataka	538.35	568.25	598.20
8.	Madhya Pradesh	546.05	576.40	606.75
9.	Orissa	576.15	608.30	640.40
10.	Rajasthan	566.15	611.10	653.10
11.	Punjab	582.55	633.40	671.85
12.	Uttar Pradesh	556.35*	587.20*	631.90*
13.	West Bengal	531.95	575.55	605.85
14.	Maharashtra	546.30	576.60	606.85
15.	Pondicherry	—	—	—
16.	Chandigarh	566.35	615.70	653.05

\*U.P. Levy prices of rice upto 15.12.1994 are given above and with effect from 16.12.1994 the levy prices will be as follows:

Common	—	Rs. 558.85
Fine	—	Rs. 589.85
Superfine	—	Rs. 634.75

*Procurement Price of Levy Rice (Raw & Parboiled) for 1995-96 & 1996-97 [Oct.—Sept.]*

State	Common				Fine				Superfine				
	1995-96		1996-97		1995-96		1996-97		1995-96		1996-97		
	Raw	P.Bld	Raw	P.Bld	Raw	P.Bld	Raw	P.Bld	Raw	P.Bld	Raw	P.Bld	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
1.	Andhra Pradesh**	596.30	599.45	676.90	680.60	619.90	622.60	701.50	704.80	651.20	653.50	734.40	737.20
2.	Assam	585.60	588.85	637.30	641.50	608.70	611.55	660.30	664.20	639.40	641.85	691.00	694.50
3.	Haryana/Delhi	620.20	622.90	671.70	675.50	644.60	646.25	696.10	699.50	677.15	679.05	728.70	731.60
4.	Karnataka	580.20	583.55	625.90	630.30	603.10	606.05	648.50	652.60	633.50	636.05	678.60	682.30

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
5.	Madhya Pradesh	574.90	578.25	625.90	630.30	597.50	600.00	648.50	652.50	627.60	630.25	678.60	682.30
6.	Maharashtra	576.10	579.50	627.10	631.50	598.70	601.75	649.70	653.80	628.80	631.45	679.80	683.40
7.	Orissa	601.70	604.75	654.20	658.30	625.50	628.10	677.90	681.60	657.10	659.30	709.60	712.80
8.	Punjab	626.40	629.05	678.30	681.90	651.10	653.35	702.90	706.30	684.00	685.80	735.90	738.70
9.	Rajasthan	609.00	611.90	663.30	667.20	633.00	635.55	687.40	690.90	665.00	667.15	719.50	722.60
10.	UT Chandigarh	609.00	611.90	659.90	663.80	632.90	635.50	683.80	687.40	664.90	666.95	715.80	719.00
11.	U.P.*	600.90	603.95	651.40	655.50	624.50	627.50	675.00	678.70	656.00	658.25	706.50	709.80
12.	West Bengal	572.15	575.60	623.00	627.50	594.65	597.80	645.65	649.70	624.65	627.35	675.50	679.20

\*In U.P. if the paddy is subject to Market Fee @4% the levy prices will be as under :

	1995-96		1996-97	
	Raw	P.Bld.	Raw	P.Bld.
Common	611.70	614.55	662.70	666.60
Fine	635.75	638.25	686.80	690.30
Super Fine	667.80	669.85	718.90	722.00

\*\* Prices of levy rice in Andhra Pradesh re-fixed for 1995-96 Kharif Season after taking into account RDC @5% on MSP, effective from 24.2.96 as under :

Raw	Common		Fine		Superfine	
	P.Bld.	Raw	P.Bld.	Raw	P.Bld.	
623.20	625.90	647.80	650.20	680.70	682.50	

### **Statement-II**

#### *Statement Showing the Ex-Factory Prices of Levy Sugar*

All ISS Grades

(Rs. per quintal)

S.No.	Zone	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	800.81	937.73	1071.60
2.	Assam, Nagaland, Orissa and West Bengal	815.67	1039.88	1420.07
3.	Bihar (North)@	840.92	940.69	1140.37
4.	Bihar (South)@	942.25	1034.70	—

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Gujarat (South)	746.60	852.14	938.58
6.	Gujarat (Saurashtra)	778.05	940.93	1055.69
7.	Haryana	762.56	861.56	985.43
8.	North-West Karnataka	751.63	851.05	970.70
9.	Rest of Karnataka	746.80	889.66	1001.84
10.	Kerala, Goa and Coastal Karnataka	(A) 805.62 (B) 792.58	931.75	1127.98
11.	Madhya Pradesh	812.70	981.36	1112.02
12.	Maharashtra (South)	804.75	847.68	976.52
13.	Maharashtra (North)	801.51	873.27	983.60
14.	Maharashtra (Central)	763.60	824.24	958.33
15.	Punjab	773.90	871.04	1084.04
16.	Rajasthan	903.16	945.39	1110.45
17.	Tamil Nadu & Pondicherry	782.46	937.38	1049.04
18.	Uttar Pradesh (Central)	795.62	881.03	994.05
19.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	846.30	938.50	1038.74
20.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	796.80	898.62	981.81

@ The price for North and South Bihar Zones are subject to final orders of the Court in respect of Purchase Tax etc. In case any amount is to be realised from the factories in the aforesaid zones of Bihar, it would have to be refunded by the concerned factories to the Sugar Price Equalisation Fund.

### **Subsidy on Chemicals and Fertilizers**

3639. SHRI NITISH KUMAR :  
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the amount of subsidy being given on chemical fertilizers has been increasing since 1990-91;

(b) if so, the amount of subsidy given in the Budget of 1990-91 and 1996-97;

(c) whether the subsidy on the imported fertilizers has

considerably increased in comparison to the indigenously produced fertilizers;

(d) if not, the amount of subsidy given on the imported and indigenously produced fertilizers during 1990-91 and 1996-97; and

(e) the consumer prices of various chemical fertilizers in the country during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (d) The amount of subsidy paid on fertilizers under Statutory Price Control,

both indigenous and imported, during 1990-91 to 1996-97 is as under :

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Subsidy paid		
	Indigenous	Imported	Total
1990-91	3729.73	659.33	4389.06
1991-92	3500.00	1299.60	4799.60
1992-93	4800.00	996.11	5796.11
1993-94	3800.00	598.97	4398.97
1994-95	4075.00	1166.00	5241.00
1995-96	4300.00	1935.00	6235.00
1996-97 (Estimated)	4743.00	1350.00	6093.00

(e) A statement indicating retail prices of fertilizers under Statutory Price Control during 1990-91 to 1996-97 is attached.

**Statement**

Name of Fertiliser		(Prices in Rs. per tonne) with effect from					
		31.1.86	25.7.91	14.8.91	25.8.92	10.6.94	21.2.97
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Urea (46% N)	2350	3300	3060	2760	3320	3660
2.	Ammonium Sulphate (20.6% N)	1650	%		1920+	**	
3.	Calcium Ammonium Nitrate (25%N)	1700	%		2000+	**	
4.	Calcium Ammonium Nitrate (26% N)	1770	%		2080+	**	
5.	Muriate of Potash (60% K)	1300	1820	1700	%%		
6.	Sulphate of Potash (50%K)	2100	—	—	%%		
7.	Di-Ammonium Phosphate (10:46:0)	3600	5040	4680	%%		
8.	NPK (17:17:17)	2600	3640	3380	%%		
9.	NPK (15:15:15)	2100	2940	2740	%%		
10.	NPK (19:19:19)	2950	4140	3840	%%		
11.	Ammonium Phosphate Sulphate (20:20:0)	2600	3640	3380	%%		
12.	Nitro Phosphate (20:20:0)	2400	3360	3120	%%		
13.	Nitro Phosphate (23:23:0)	2930	4120	3800	%%		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
14.	Ammonium Phosphate Sulphate (16:20:0)	2300	3220	3000	%%		
15.	Urea Ammonium Phosphate (24:24:0)	3050	4280	3960	%%		
16.	Urea Ammonium Phosphate (28:28:0)	3600	5040	4680	%%		
17.	NPK (14:28:0)	3050	4280	3960	%%		
18.	NPK (14:35:14)	3400	4760	4420	%%		
19.	NPK (10:26:26)	2950	4140	3840	%%		
20.	NPK (12:32:16)	3250	4560	4220	%%		
21.	Triple Super Phosphate (46% P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> ) (Granular)	2600	3640	3380	%%		
22.	Triple Super Phosphate (Powder)	2400	3360	3120	%%		
23.	Single Super Phosphate (Powder) (14% P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> )	820	1160	1000	%%		
24.	Single Super Phosphate (Powder) (16% P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> )	950	1340	1240	%%		
25.	Single Super Phosphate (Granular) (16% P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> )	1100	1540	1440	%%		
26.	Ammonium Chloride (25% N)	1700	%	—	2000*	**	
27.	Anhydrous Ammonia	3770	5280	4900	4420*	5300	5840
28.	Zincated Urea	—	—	—	3940*	4480	4800

+Brought under Statutory  
Price Control w.e.f. 25.8.92.

%Taken out of  
Statutory Price  
Control w.e.f.  
25.7.91.

%% Taken out  
of Statutory  
Price Control  
w.e.f. 25.8.92.

\*\*Taken out  
of Statutory  
Price Control  
w.e.f. 10.6.94.

[English]

### Regulatory Body for Chillies

3640. SHRI N. RAMAKRISHNA REDDY : Will the  
Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to form a

regulatory body to aid and advise the farmers, traders and  
exporters of the chilly;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to advise farmers to use quality  
seeds and controlled pesticides to increase the production  
of Chillies?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The farmers are being advised to use quality seeds and need based pesticides through extension programmes, mass campaign like Seminars, field days etc. The Spices Board is planning to open an office in Guntur for assisting the growers especially in the areas of quality management and post harvest handling of storage of chillies for exports. The Governments are also providing assistance for increasing production and productivity of chillies and training being organised by State Agriculture Universities and Spices Board.

#### **Foodgrains Requirement of North-Eastern States**

3641. SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the requirement and supply of rice and wheat/Atta under the different projects like Public Distribution System, food for work etc. in the North-Eastern States during 1996-97;

(b) whether the States of this region have been demanding for a long time from the Central Government for building up buffer stock of foodgrains with the view to facing the natural calamities;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) The monthly demand for rice and wheat under PDS in the North Eastern States is around 1.33 lakh tonnes of rice and 0.89 lakh tonnes of wheat. The monthly allocation of rice and wheat in January, 1997 was 1.22 lakh tonnes and 0.37 lakh tonnes respectively. Allocations of foodgrains to States/UTs are based on their relative needs, availability of stocks in the Central Pool, offtake trend etc. and are supplemental in nature and not meant to meet full requirement of the States/UTs. Similarly, allocation of foodgrains for various welfare schemes are made and placed at the disposal of nodal Ministries/Depths. as a whole for utilisation in various States/UTs. A statement showing allotment and lifting of wheat and rice for PDS and various other schemes in the States in North Eastern Region during the year 1996-97 (upto January, 97) is enclosed as statement.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The states have been demanding maintenance of adequate buffer stocks in FCI godowns in the Region so as to meet the requirement of foodgrains throughout the year.

(d) As on 31st January, 1997, FCI had a stock of 1.90 lakh tonnes of foodgrains comprising 0.15 lakh tonnes of wheat and 1.75 lakh tonnes of rice as against the allocation of 1.63 lakh tonnes of foodgrains comprising 0.40 lakh tonnes of wheat and 1.23 lakh tonnes of rice made to North Eastern States for February, 1997.

Despite various constraints viz. transshipment of wagons from Broad Gauge to Metre gauge at Lumding, heavy rains over a long period of six months in a year; frequent bandhs, difficult and hilly terrain in most of the States; lack of adequate infrastructure and limited availability of trucks, FCI has been able to move adequate quantity of stocks for meeting the requirement of PDS as well as other Central sponsored welfare schemes, in States in North Eastern Region. The details of stocks of foodgrains moved during the past 3 years are given below :—

(In '000 Tonnes)

Year	Total Stocks Moved Ex. North		
	By Rail	By Road	Total
1993-94	1376.1	92.7	1468.8
1994-95	1028.1	175.4	1203.5
1995-96	1747.0	104.6	1851.6
1996-97 (upto Feb., 97)	1834.0	27.5	1861.5

The details of road movement effected within the North Eastern Zone (entra Zone/Region) during the past 3 years are as under :—

	('000 Tonnes)
1993-94	452.0
1994-95	186.9
1995-96	361.3
1996-97 (upto Dec., 96)	356.7

**Statement***Details of Allotment/Lifting Under Various Schemes during 1996-97 (upto January, 97)*

Operational Data 'Provisional' (Figs. in '000' MT)

State	PDS-RPDS		M.D.M.		J.R.Y.		N.P.		SC/ST		BPL		MFIL		F.U.		Total	
	Allotment	Lifting																
<b>WHEAT</b>																		
Assam	295.5	270.4	--	--	3.5	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.3	0.7	0.2	--	299.2	270.9
Arunachal Pr.	6.0	4.9	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	6.0	4.9
Manipur	27.0	26.6	--	--	0.3	--	4.9	5.7	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	32.2	32.3
Meghalaya	24.5	24.1	--	--	0.2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	24.7	24.1
Nagaland	7.2	7.6	--	--	0.6	0.6	6.0	4.1	--	--	--	8.1	--	--	--	--	18.3	20.4
Mizoram	19.7	18.7	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	19.7	18.7
Tripura	18.0	13.3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	18.0	13.3
<b>RICE</b>																		
Assam	513.7	427.2	62.3	12.3	5.7	--	--	--	--	--	3.8'	--	--	--	--	--	572.2	443.7
Arunachal Pr.	88.0	81.7	2.9	--	1.0	--	--	--	--	--	1.2'	--	--	--	--	--	91.9	82.9
Manipur	100.0	46.7	4.1	0.6	0.5	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	104.6	47.3
Meghalaya	156.0	149.5	6.6	4.0	0.8	--	--	--	2.4	--	0.2	--	--	--	--	--	163.4	156.1
Nagaland	67.0	75.9	3.0	2.7	1.0	1.0	--	--	--	--	12.4	--	--	--	--	--	71.0	92.0
Mizoram	76.0	72.1	2.9	1.3	0.4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	79.3	73.9
Tripura	162.0	122.0	11.4	8.6	1.6	1.3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	175.0	131.9

M.D.M.	Mid-day Meal
J.R.Y.	Jawahar Rozgar Yojana
N.P.	Nutrition Programme
SC/ST	Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe Other Backward Class Hostels
BPL	Below Poverty Line
MFIL	Modern Food Industries Ltd.
F.U.	Franchised Units
PDS	Public Distribution System
RPDS	Revamped Public Distribution System

**Funds for Agriculture Development**

3642. SHRI MURALIDHAR JENA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1600 on December 3, 1996 regarding assistance for agriculture development and state:

(a) whether the requisite information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in collecting the information?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A copy of the Implementation Report for fulfillment of the Assurance given in Lok Sabha on 3.12.1996 in reply to Unstarred Question No. 1600 is enclosed as statement.

**Statement**

*III Session, 1996 of Eleventh Lok Sabha*

Date of fulfillment 21.1.1997

Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Cooperation)

Q.No., Date and name of M.P. (s)	Subject	Promise Made	When and How Fulfilled	Reasons for Delay
1	2	3	4	5
	<b>Assistance for Agriculture Development</b>			
	Asking for:—			
USQ No.1600 Date 3.12.96 by Shri Muralidhar Jena	(a) the total amount of assistance given to the States and Union territories for the development of Agriculture during the each of last three years, State-wise;	(a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.	(a) Assistance provided to States for development of Agriculture during 1993-94, 1994-95 & 1995-96 is given in Annexure-I.	The information sought related to detailed information which was to be collected from many places.
	(b) whether some State Governments have demanded more assistance during the current year for the purpose and submitted some proposals in this regard;		(b) to (d) Funds are released to the States based on the proposals received, total allocation in the budget of the Department and the amount remaining unutilised in a particular State out of earlier releases made. Funds released to the various States during 1996-97 (up to 30.10.96) based on the above factors is given in Annexure-II.	
	(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and			
	(d) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?			

**Annexure-I***Statewise Releases of Funds for Development of Agriculture under Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	Name of State	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6933.59	5594.55	6453.41
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	174.31	316.21	472.85
3.	Assam	839.90	1251.67	861.00
4.	Bihar	1737.49	766.02	1537.13
5.	Goa	156.65	189.29	219.34
6.	Gujarat	3822.12	3247.27	2852.42
7.	Haryana	2157.17	1992.42	3113.22
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1130.33	1648.91	1400.71
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	640.43	603.13	1219.51
10.	Karnataka	7326.85	5502.01	5271.14
11.	Kerala	3365.59	3381.32	2904.05
12.	Madhya Pradesh	5845.91	4661.31	5973.27
13.	Maharashtra	6123.35	8562.26	11248.26
14.	Manipur	116.82	583.46	1033.77
15.	Meghalaya	208.95	254.99	159.59
16.	Mizoram	537.77	724.94	501.07
17.	Nagaland	407.52	774.62	737.61
18.	Orissa	3167.72	3078.82	3774.39
19.	Punjab	3348.31	1859.87	2966.50
20.	Rajasthan	5525.22	5872.99	8595.70
21.	Sikkim	425.69	384.81	421.90
22.	Tamil Nadu	5774.15	5140.71	5698.12
23.	Tripura	250.61	307.16	308.31
24.	Uttar Pradesh	9198.12	9773.35	11023.32
25.	West Bengal	1347.21	1507.26	2475.25
26.	A&N Island	93.15	81.14	99.93
27.	Chandigarh	44.23	11.33	5.39
28.	D&N Haveli	49.48	15.81	42.08
29.	Daman & Diu	36.80	20.38	29.34
30.	Delhi	63.21	41.60	68.35
31.	Lakshadweep	39.03	28.50	22.47
32.	Pondicherry	96.73	37.24	84.53
<b>Total</b>		<b>70984.41</b>	<b>68215.35</b>	<b>81577.92</b>

**Annexure-II***Release of Funds to States for Development of  
Agriculture to various States*

(Rs. in lakh)

S.No.	Name of State	1996-97
		Amount Released*
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2421.35
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	72.91
3.	Assam	108.55
4.	Bihar	24.53
5.	Goa	3.89
6.	Gujarat	953.53
7.	Haryana	725.23
8.	Himachal Pradesh	413.98
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	208.03
10.	Karnataka	1684.03
11.	Kerala	995.62
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1889.10
13.	Maharashtra	4447.66
14.	Manipur	74.70
15.	Meghalaya	125.15
16.	Mizoram	159.51
17.	Nagaland	217.23
18.	Orissa	424.89
19.	Punjab	974.83
20.	Rajasthan	2690.20
21.	Sikkim	39.96
22.	Tamil Nadu	1414.35
23.	Tripura	35.05
24.	Uttar Pradesh	4952.92
25.	West Bengal	249.74
Total		25306.93

\*upto 30.10.96

**Misuse of Funds**

3643. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Council for Advancement of People Action and Rural Technology (CAPART) have blacklisted many voluntary organisations registered under FCRA and receiving foreign assistance;

(b) whether the registration of such organisations under FCRA has been cancelled;

(c) if so, the names and addresses of such organisations, State-wise;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the details of action being taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The accounts of quite a few organisations have been inspected. As a result of these inspections, two of the organisations have been placed in the prior permission category. These two organisations can not receive foreign contribution now without obtaining the prior permission of the Central Government.

**Buy Back Scheme for Plastic Waste**

3644. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to direct several soft drink giants to initiate a buy back scheme for the plastic waste;

(b) if so, whether National Pollution Control Board and Plastic Waste Management Task Force have issued any instructions to these companies in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether this policy is likely to inflate the rates of soft drinks; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to check the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) Presently there is no such proposal.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

### Predatory Animals

3645. SHRI L. RAMANA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of predatory as well as prey animals which were on the brink of extinction in the country about three decades ago;

(b) whether the population of predatory animals have increased especially in Kanha National Park in Madhya Pradesh; and

(c) the guidelines issued for implementation of eco-development plans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZI): (a) The population of tiger and the Central Indian Swamp deer had declined to very low levels about three decades ago, but they were not on the brink of extinction.

(b) Yes, Sir. The comparative population of the major predators in the country, in the years when their census were conducted, is given below :

	Population/Year	Population/Year
Tiger	1827/1972	3750/1993
Leopard	4744/1984	6828/1993
Lion	177/1968	304/1995

In Kanha National Park of Madhya Pradesh the comparative population of tiger and leopard is as given below :

Tiger	43(1972)	97(1996)
Leopard	60(1992)	62(1996)

(c) The guidelines issued for the implementation of the ecocodevelopment scheme aim at supporting measures for ensuring the socio-economic welfare of villages living near the national parks and sanctuaries, including tiger reserves, mainly through the enhancement of supply of fuelwood, fodder and small timber, improvement of livestock and agricultural productivity, alternative energy, eco-friendly income generating cottage industries, education and health care, including family planning. The important criteria for selecting the programmes are that they should be compatible with the conservation needs of the protected area and ensure the cooperation of the local communities in conservation.

### Training Camps

3646. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some training camps are being run in Bangladesh by the insurgents operating in the North-Eastern States;

(b) whether arms are being supplied into the North-East from these camps;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have supplied a list of those camps to the Government of Bangladesh so as to ensure their closure; and

(e) the reaction of the Bangladesh Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) Reports indicate that there are camps in some of our neighbouring countries which are being used by North East insurgent Groups for safe havens, sanctuary and training purposes. The Government is aware of the misuse of the territory of Bangladesh by some insurgent groups operating in the North-East.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The Government of Bangladesh have assured that they will not allow negative elements to use their territory for activities prejudicial to our interest.

### Dairy Processing Technologies

3647. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) the details of animal production and dairy processing technologies developed at NDRI during last three years; and

(b) the number of such technologies adopted by the farmers and entrepreneurs and the achievements made thereunder?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### Grants to Wakf Boards

3648. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI :  
SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI  
CHIKHALIA :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Government provide grants to the Wakf Board functioning in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of the grants given to each Wakf Board during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Use of Plastic**

3649. SHRI CHINĀMAN WANAGA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have declared the scheme "Use of Plastic" for the year 1996-97;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total outlay of the scheme for the year 1996-97; and

(d) The pattern of providing assistance and total number of beneficiaries thereunder, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Assistance is being provided under plastic scheme for the items of drip installation, drip demonstration, green house, plastic mulch, shading nets, anti hail nets, anti bird nets, low tunnels and drying of agricultural produce.

(c) The present outlay under the scheme is Rs. 68.36 crores for the year 1996-97.

(d) the pattern of assistance followed for different components is as under:

Drip Installation : 90% of the cost for SC/ST, Small/Marginal and woman farmers, 70% of the cost for other farmers or Rs. 25,000/ ha. whichever is less.

Drip Demonstration : 75% of the cost or Rs. 22,500/ ha. whichever is less with an area ceiling of 1 ha.

Green House : 50%, 40% and 10% of the cost or Rs. 62.50/sq.m., Rs. 200/sq.m. and Rs. 200/sq.m. for low cost, medium cost and high cost green houses respectively.

Plastic Mulch : 50% of the cost or Rs. 5000/ha. whichever is less with an area ceiling of 1 ha.

Shading Net : 50% of the cost or Rs. 14.00 per sq. m. whichever is less with an area ceiling of 500 sq.m.

Antihail Nets : 50% cost or Rs. 500 per tree with a ceiling of 20 trees per beneficiary.

Anti bird Nets : 50% of the cost or Rs. 2000 per ha. whichever is less with an area ceiling of one ha. per beneficiary.

Low tunnels : 50% of the cost or Rs. 12.50 per sq.m. whichever is less with an area ceiling of 800 sq.m. per beneficiary.

Drying of Agricultural Produce : 50% of the cost or Rs. 22.50 per sq.m whichever is less with maximum ceiling of 48 sq.m. per beneficiary.

Information on the number of beneficiaries is not maintained.

[Translation]

**Export of Fruits/Vegetables**

3650. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to set up any corporation for undertaking the export of vegetables and fruits;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The Central Government have no proposal to set up any Corporation for undertaking export of vegetables and fruits under consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government have already set up an Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) for undertaking export of fruits and vegetables.

**Compensation for Persons Killed by Wild Animals**

3651. SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the persons killed by wild animals are mostly poor people living in the forests and given a small amount as compensation;

(b) whether the amount of compensation given in such cases differs widely from that given in cases of air, road and rail accidents;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to bring uniformity in compensation amount given for these untimely deaths; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The economic condition of most of the people living in and around the forests can, on an average, be termed as poor. Under the Centrally Sponsored

Schemes of Project Tiger and Project Elephant, ex-gratia relief is given to the dependents of the persons killed by wild animals in and around tiger reserves and elephant bearing areas. This provision has now been extended to Scheme for National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries also. A minimum amount of Rs. 20,000 is recommended to be paid as compensation/relief for loss of life. However, in some states, the compensation/relief paid is less. The maximum compensation/relief is given by the Gujarat Government at the rate of Rs. 1 lakh for killing of human beings by lions. Thus the relief given by the States varies from State to State and also from that given in case of air, rail and road accidents.

(d) and (e) In order to bring uniformity in the minimum amount of payment of compensation/relief by the competent authorities in the State Governments, the Ministry of Environment and Forests has recommended to all States and UTs in 1990 to pay at least Rs. 20,000 in each case of loss of life due to wild animals.

#### **Purchase of Aircraft for BSF**

3652. SHRIMATI PURNIMA VERMA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air King V-200 aircraft purchased for Border Security Force is parked in the hanger of Indormer Company at Mumbai Air Port due to the technical defects; and

(b) the date on which this aircraft was purchased and the value thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) No, Sir. The aircraft is providing satisfactory service to BSF.

(b) Date of purchase — 18-7-1995

Cost — Rs. 12.5 Crores.

[English]

#### **Agriculture Finance Corporation**

3653. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up an Agricultural Finance Corporation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Unsafety of Women**

3654. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Delhi's shame : Women most unsafe" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times', dated March 5, 1997;

(b) if so, whether the said news item is based on a recent report of the Delhi State Commission for Women;

(c) if so, the other observations of the report; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken in the light of these observations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

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

#### **Closure of IDPL**

3655. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of IDPL units, State-wise;

(b) the number of units lying sick and likely to be closed;

(c) the number of workers, likely to be affected as a result thereof;

(d) the alternative arrangement made by the Government for their suitable employment; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) to (c) IDPL has three plants one each located at Rishikesh in Uttar Pradesh, Hyderabad in Andhra Pradesh and Gurgaon in Haryana. IDPL also has two wholly owned subsidiaries, namely, IDPL (Tamil Nadu) at Chennai and Bihar Drugs and Organic Chemicals Ltd. (BDOCL) at Muzaffarpur (Bihar). The production in IDPL plants and units has stopped since October, 1996 mainly on account of financial constraints. Nominal operations are, however, being carried on in the Gurgaon plant and the Chennai wholly owned subsidiary. The total number of workers in the three IDPL plants and two wholly owned subsidiaries is 8138.

(d) and (e) IDPL is a sick company registered with the BIFR. IDBI, Bombay, the Operating Agency appointed by the BIFR has submitted its report on the techno-economic viability of IDPL. A final decision regarding the future of IDPL has yet to be taken by the Government.

**Atrocities on Tribals**

3656. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Tribal Couple Stripped by Villages" appearing in 'Statesman', (New Delhi Edition) dated February 15, 1997;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken against the culprits?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**FCI Godowns in Gujarat**

3657. SHRI RAJENDRASINH RANA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the locations and the capacity of FCI godowns situated in Gujarat;

(b) the number of godowns hired by FCI;

(c) whether the Government have any plan to open up new Divisional offices/godowns in Gujarat in the near future; and

(d) if so, the locations and the storage capacity thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) Statements -I and II containing details of Food Corporation of India godowns (owned & hired/covered & CAP) in Gujarat as on 1.2.1997 are attached.

(b) The total number of godowns hired by FCI in Gujarat as on 1.2.1997 is 25.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

**Statement-I**

*The Covered Storage Capacity (Owned & Hired) Available with the Food Corporation of India in Gujarat State as on 1.2.1997*

(Fig. in '000' Tonnes)

Name of the FCI Distt	Name of the Revenue Distt.	Name of the Centre	Covered Storage capacity
1	2	3	4
Baroda	Kheda	Bharuch	9.00
		Marida	7.60
		Palana	9.00
		Anand	1.33
		Nadiad	0.29
-do-	Panch Mahal	Bhomaiya	30.00
		Godhra	25.00
-do-	Vadodra	Baroda	15.99
		Chhani	4.20
		Dashrath	1.07
		Ranoli	1.83
-do-	Valsad	Valsad	10.00
Rajkot	Bhavnagar	Bhavnagar	20.78
-do-	Jamnagar	Jamnagar	34.23
-do-	Junagarh	Veraval	3.11

1	2	3	4
-do-	Rajkot	Rajkot	8.22
		Wankaner	10.00
-do-	Surendranagar	Surendranagar	10.00
		Thangadh	32.00
Sabarmati	Ahmedabad	Sabarmati	108.04
		Taragad	17.36
		Viramgam	85.00
-do-	Bansakantha	Palanpur	39.50
-do-	Gandhinagar	Adalaj	103.75
		Shahalam	0.44
-do-	Mehsana	Mehsana	12.18
JM(PO), Kandla	Kutch	Gandhidham	55.18
		Kandla	93.36
Total of Gujarat State :			749.26

**Statement-II**

*The CAP (Open) Storage Capacity (Owned & Hired) Available with the Food Corporation of India in Gujarat State as on 1.2.1997*

(Fig. in '000' Tonnes)

Name of the FCI Distt.	Name of the Revenue Distt.	Name of the Centre	CAP Storage Capacity
1	2	3	4
Baroda	Kheda	Marida	32.20
		Ahmedabad	25.00
		Nadiad	30.00
	Panchmahal	Bhomaia	25.00
		Godhra	1.83
Rajkot	Rajkot	Rajkot	1.14
		Wankaner	18.53
	Surendranagar	Dudhrej (S.Nagar)	140.00
		Surendranagar	0.75
		Jamnagar	11.18
Sabarmati	Ahmedabad	Viramgam	26.00
	Gandhinagar	Adalaj	15.12
J.K. (PO) Kandla	Kutch	Gandhidham	42.00
		Kandla	20.00
Total (CAP) Storage Capacity			388.75

**Breeding Policy**

3658. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any breeding policy for the preservation of animal breed in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) The breeding policy for the indigenous breeds is to promote upgradation of the genetic stock through selection. There are central sector and centrally sponsored schemes such as the Central Government owned farms and schemes like the National Bull Production Programme etc., which contribute towards indigenous breed preservation.

**Construction of Fertilizers Factory at Nellore**

3659. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated cost of the project for fertilizers to be set up at Rachariapadu in Nellore District, Andhra Pradesh by IFFCO;

(b) the expected production of urea per annum;

(c) the time schedule for completion of the fertilizer plant for execution; and

(d) the present status of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) to (c) The capital cost of IFFCO's proposed fertilizer project in Nellore district of Andhra Pradesh has been estimated at Rs. 1568.70 crore for a production capacity of 7.26 lakh metric tonnes of urea per annum. The project is expected to be completed within 39 months from the date of Government's approval.

(d) Under the prescribed procedure for investment approval, first stage clearance for the preparation of the Detailed Feasibility Report (DFR) of the project has been accorded to IFFCO. The DFR has since been circulated to the appraising agencies.

[Translation]

**Import of Maize**

3660. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have entered into any agreement with America to import maize;

(b) if so, the conditions thereof;

(c) whether any limit has been fixed to import maize; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure that the maize producers do not suffer any loss due to this import?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

**Rehabilitation of Burma Refugees**

3661. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some cases of rehabilitation of Indian repatriates from Myanmar (Burma) are pending for the last ten years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide housing facility to them;

(d) whether the Government have waived loans provided for agriculture, trade, house building to the Indian refugees from Burma after 1980 as a rehabilitation measure;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if so, whether the Government have provided/propose to provide loan-waive certificate to those refugees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) The Government of India presently implements only two schemes for the benefit of the Burma repatriates. These are grant of loans for house construction and for business/small trade. These schemes are being implemented through the State Governments and the loans are released to the

State Governments for disbursement to the repatriates. The repatriates are required to apply to the State Governments. The State Governments examine the applications and forward the cases of eligible repatriates to the Government of India for sanction of rehabilitation assistance. At present, no request from any State Government for sanction of such assistance to Burma repatriates is pending with the Government of India.

(d) to (f) On the basis of the recommendations of the 8th Finance Commission, the Government of India had taken following decisions:—

- (i) The entire outstanding as on 1.4.85 of all pre-1974 loans (Consolidated Rehabilitation loan) (i.e. loans advanced to the State Governments prior 1.4.74 for relending purpose as well as straight loans) advanced to the State Governments for rehabilitation purposes by this Department would be written off.
- (ii) The relending loans advanced to the State Governments for rehabilitation purposes during 1.4.74 to 31.3.84 and outstanding as on 1.4.85 would also be written off.
- (iii) The repayment of straight loans sanctioned for rehabilitation purposes during 1.4.74 to 31.3.84 would continue to be governed by the existing terms and conditions of the respective sanctions and the State Governments would be making repayments to the Central Government accordingly.

Orders in this regard were issued to all the State Governments on 13th May, 1985.

### **Polluting Industries**

3662. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has given verdict on the polluting industries in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) to (c) The Supreme Court has given verdict on 13.2.96 on 5 polluting industries in district Udaipur, Rajasthan, namely, M/s Hindustan Agro Chemicals Ltd., M/s Silver Chemicals, M/s Rajasthan Multi Fertilisers, M/s Phosphate India, and M/s Jyoti Chemicals. As per the

order, the industries have caused environmental damage to 350 hectares of area and polluted well water in village Bichhri and other adjacent villages, district Udaipur on account of disposal of sludge from the production of H-acid and discharge from the sulphuric acid plant. The Central Government has directed the respondent industries to deposit the costs required for carrying out the remedial measures including the removal of sludge. In case of Madhya Pradesh, no such order has been passed by the Supreme Court.

[English]

### **Expansion of FCI Godowns**

3663. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to expand any of the existing FCI Godowns particularly in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) There is no plan to expand the existing FCI storage godowns in Kerala. However, FCI proposes to start construction of new godowns at the following 3 centres in Kerala during the Annual Plan 1997-98:

1. Arakulam (Idukki)	5000	MT
2. Meenangadi (Wynad)	5000	MT
3. Payyannur	25000	MT (Non-RPDS).

### **Sale of Urea**

3664. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have ordered an immediate suspension of sales by the urea manufacturers and importers;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the approximate amount Government hope to save on the urea subsidy after the recent price rise of urea by 10%?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) and (b) In order to minimise the likelihood of urea sales

to farmers at the revised price in anticipation of an impending proposal to increase its statutory issue price, sales by manufacturers were temporarily suspended with effect from 19.2.97. This restriction was lifted with effect from 21.2.97 consequent upon the 10% increase in price of urea.

(c) On a projected Consumption of 210 LMT in 1997-98, the estimated saving in urea subsidy would be nearly Rs. 714 crores.

#### **Ban of Militant Groups**

3665. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Tripura has requested for a ban on the major militant groups;

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

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) The Government of Tripura has requested for a ban on two major insurgent groups. The matter is under active consideration.

#### **Prices of Essential Commodities**

3666. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken steps to supply the essential commodities of mass consumption at uniform prices throughout the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Under the existing Public Distribution System the Central Government procures and supplies six essential commodities of mass consumption viz. Wheat, rice, levy sugar, imported edible oils, kerosene and soft coke to the State Governments/UTs for distribution at uniform prices throughout the country. These commodities are made available at fixed Central Issue Prices which are determined by the Central Government from time to time.

#### **Imbalance Application of N.P.K. Nutrients**

3667. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the increasing imbalance in the application of N.P. and K Nutrients to the soils is being accepted all over;

(b) if so, the actual consumption of N.P. and K during the Kharif and the Rabi crops of 1996-97;

(c) the details of the demand for N.P. and K for the 1996-97 crops, State-wise;

(d) the actual supply made to the States; and

(e) the steps being taken to achieve the targeted production in the agriculture sector?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes Sir, after the decontrol of phosphatic and potassic fertilisers, the N.P.K. ratio has widened.

(b) The estimated consumption of N.P.K. during Kharif and Rabi 1996-97 is as follows :

	Lakh tonnes			
	N	P	K	Total
Kharif 96	53.74	16.02	6.63	76.39
Rabi 96-97	58.74	21.07	8.02	87.83
Total (1996-97)	112.48	37.09	14.65	164.22

(c) After decontrol of phosphatic and potassic fertilizers, the demand of only urea for various States is assessed. The State-wise information is given in the Statement-I.

(d) After decontrol of phosphatic and potassic fertilizer, information on supply of only urea is available. The State-wise information on supply of urea is given in the Statement-II.

(e) Ministry of Agriculture is implementing the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Integrated Cereal Development Programme (ICDPs) for crops like rice, wheat and coarse cereals for propagation of crop production technologies through field demonstrations, integrated pest management demonstrations, training of farmers assistance on distribution of certified seeds and improved farm implements and award to gram panchayats for increasing production through integrated and balanced use of nutrients. Other programmes under implementation are Intensive Cotton Development Programme, sustainable Development Programme of sugarcane based cropping system and special jute Development Programme. The scheme for concession on sale of phosphatic and potassic fertiliser is also under implementation to improve the balanced nutrient application. In addition, promotion of micro nutrients, organic manure and bio fertilizer are ensured through the scheme on balanced and Integrated Use of Fertilisers and technology mission and National Project on Dev. and use of bio-fertilizers.

**Statement-I****State-wise Demand Assessment of Urea for 1996-97**

('000 tonnes)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Kharif 1996	Rabi 1996-97	Total 1996-97
1.	Andhra Pradesh	953.50	1020.00	1973.50
2.	Karnataka	525.00	364.80	889.80
3.	Kerala	69.17	63.70	132.87
4.	Tamil Nadu	390.00	505.00	895.00
5.	Gujarat	620.00	500.00	1120.00
6.	Madhya Pradesh	620.00	686.00	1306.00
7.	Maharashtra	1100.00	610.00	1710.00
8.	Rajasthan	450.00	650.00	1100.00
9.	Haryana	550.00	750.00	1300.00
10.	Punjab	1075.00	1050.00	2125.00
11.	Uttar Pradesh	2070.00	2550.00	4620.00
12.	Himachal Pradesh	30.00	22.00	52.00
13.	Jammu & Kashmir	70.00	42.00	112.00
14.	Bihar	660.00	650.00	1310.00
15.	Orissa	340.00	175.00	515.00
16.	West Bengal	440.00	610.00	1050.00
17.	Assam	35.00	33.00	68.00
18.	Others	96.47	99.28	195.75
	All India	10094.14	10380.78	20474.92

**Statement-II****State-wise Supply of Urea During 1996-97**

(Figure in '000 MTs)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Kharif 1996	Rabi* 1996-97	Total 1996-97
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1026.18	1019.25	2045.43
2.	Karnataka	547.10	348.15	895.25
3.	Tamil Nadu	356.61	485.56	842.17
4.	Gujarat	565.12	450.09	1015.21

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Madhya Pradesh	566.57	637.47	1204.04
6.	Maharashtra	1093.07	517.33	1610.40
7.	Rajasthan	476.15	587.77	1063.92
8.	Haryana	545.80	632.93	1178.73
9.	Punjab	963.58	885.92	1849.50
10.	Uttar Pradesh	2198.71	2282.16	4480.87
11.	Bihar	761.52	658.62	1420.14
12.	Orissa	277.18	151.85	429.03
13.	West Bengal	424.62	567.10	991.72
14.	Assam + N.E. State	99.18	65.43	164.61
15.	Others	168.60	160.30	328.90
	Total	10069.99	9449.93	19519.92

\*As on 28.2.97.

### Delhi Milk Scheme

3668. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi Milk Scheme issues bulk supply tokens to the chowkidars, widows and others for home delivery;

(b) if so, the terms and conditions thereof;

(c) whether the Government are also aware that the black marketing of milk is being done in an open way and that too under active supervision of the officials concerned of Delhi Milk Scheme; and

(d) if so, the action proposed to be taken in this regard to stop bulk supply of milk to such categories of persons and divert the entire supply to nearby booths for the general public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) Home Delivery Cards have

been issued to physically handicapped persons, widows and to persons belonging to the economically weaker section whose income is less than Rs. 300/- per month.

(c) and (d) Fresh Home Delivery Cards are not being issued. Card holders indulging in black marketing are punished by cancellation of their cards, Depot staff found engaging themselves in mal-practices are removed. The Vigilance over Home Delivery Card Holders and Depot Agents has been strengthened.

### Forestry on National Highways

3669. DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any specific measures are being taken for raising forests on both sides of the National Highways under the social forestry programme; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) and (b) Afforestation and tree planting activities

are carried out annually under the 20-Point Programme throughout the country including along the National Highways. This is done under various schemes of the Central Ministries/Departments and of State Plans.

#### **Inclusion of Castes in SC/ST Lists**

3670. SHRI R.B. RAI : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have received representations for various communities belonging to Nepali/Gorkha for their inclusion in the Scheduled Tribe List;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the West Bengal Government have also recommended some castes for inclusion in the Scheduled Caste list;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the decision taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b) Representations have been received for the inclusion of Tamang Limbu, Kirati Khambu (Rai) and Gurung (Gorkha) communities in the list of STs of West Bengal.

(c) and (d) The Govt. of West Bengal have recommended inclusion of Hela, Balmiki, Bansphore and Chain communities in the list of Scheduled Castes.

(e) These are under consideration alongwith other such claims for revision of SCs and STs lists.

[*Translation*]

#### **Setting up of Environment Commission**

3671. SHRIMATI KETAKI DEVI SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to constitute Environment Commission at National and State level to deal with matters relating to environment;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

#### **Improvement in Rishikesh Under Ganga Action Plan**

3672. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether garbage and waste of Tehri is being thrown in Bhagirathi, the main stream of Ganga; and

(b) if so, the action taken in this regard and the steps taken for the improvement of upper areas of Rishikesh under the Ganga Action Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) and (b) According to the information received from the Nagar Palika, Tehri and Garhwal Jal Sansthan, garbage of Tehri is disposed in the dumping yard and not thrown in Bhagirathi. The waste water of Tehri is disposed of into septic tanks or soak pits. For permanent disposal of sewage of the new Tehri township a sewage treatment plant is under construction by the UP Government. Under the Ganga Action Plan Phase II, pollution abatement works have been sanctioned in the upper areas of Rishikesh in 8 towns namely; Joshimath, Gopeshwer, Karanprayag, Rudraprayag, Badrinath, Srinagar, Devprayag and Uttarkashi.

[*English*]

#### **Anti-National and Smuggling Activities Across Indo-Nepal Border**

3673. SHRI VIJAY PATEL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Nepal have launched a joint survey to check the anti-national and smuggling activities across the Indo-Nepal border; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) Check Posts all along the Indo-Nepal border are being strengthened and concerned State Governments have been asked to intensify patrolling along the border by specially deputed Task Forces of State Police. Intelligence gathering, in addition, all along the border, has been strengthened and better coordination between the various State and Central agencies has been brought about.

2. Regular meetings between District Officials of Border Districts of India and Nepal are being held for exchange of useful information and sorting out local problems. Recently, His Majesty's Government of Nepal announced formation of a 5 members Team led by a retired Cabinet Secretary for the Joint Indo-Nepal Working Group for discussions on problems relating to Trans-Border Activities like infiltration/smuggling activities. India has also constituted a Team led

by Special Secretary (Internal Security) in the Ministry of Home Affairs. The first meeting of this group is to be held very soon.

[Translation]

### Dikshit Award

3674. SHRI RAMCHANDRA BENDA CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the 'Times of India' dated December 21, 1996 that an agreement was reached between two States (Haryana and U.P.) as per the "Dikshit Award" through his Ministry according to which in case of any diversion in the flow of the Yamuna river certain rules are likely to be adhered to in regard to the land situated on the bank of this river;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether reports regarding fresh disputes between the Uttar Pradesh and Haryana have been received and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A copy of the Award is attached as statement.

(c) and (d) After the enactment of the Act pursuant to the Dikshit Award, some private parties have filed Writ Petitions in the Supreme Court of India challenging the Dikshit Award. The matter is sub-judice.

### Statement

#### *In the Haryana, Uttar Pradesh Boundary Dispute*

The Chief Ministers of Haryana and Uttar Pradesh at a meeting with me on the 17th May, 1978 have agreed that the boundary dispute between the two States may be arbitrated upon by me and that my award will be accepted by both the parties. It was further agreed at this meeting that for the purpose of the arbitration, joint discussion would be held between the officers to be nominated by the two State Governments and as officers to be nominated by me and that the entire boundary question would be gone into by the officers to be nominated and the matter submitted to me thereafter.

2. Ch. K.V.K. Sundaram, Adviser to the Home Ministry was nominated by me to convene meeting and conduct joint discussions with the officers so nominated by the two State Governments. These discussions have been

completed by the Advisor and he has submitted to me his report together with the statements, maps and other documents given by the representatives of the two State Governments.

3. Having given the matter by earnest consideration, I give the following Awards:

### Award

1. The boundary between Ambala and Kurukshetra districts of Haryana on the one side and Saharanpur district of Uttar Pradesh on the other, is already fixed a boundary as to the location of which there is no dispute.

2. The boundary between Karnal and Sonapat district of Haryana on the one side and Saharanpur, Muzaffarnagar and Meerut Districts of Uttar Pradesh on the other side has been taken on both the parties to be the fluctuating deep stream of the River Yamuna. Hereafter, this boundary will be fixed at the present deep stream line of the river as verified and determined by the Survey of India during the months of November 1974 December 1974 and January 1975. This has been agreed to by the representatives of both the State Governments and the River Survey is being conducted by the Survey of India with an observer from each side.

3. The boundary between Gurgaon District of Haryana on the one side and Bulandshahr and Aligarh districts of Uttar Pradesh on the other side shall hereafter be fixed at the line specified below:

- (i) The line shall commence from the point where the present deep stream line crosses the north West boundary at Basantpur and proceed along the said boundary upto the point where it crosses the north bank of the River Yamuna as ascertained at the 1971-72 River Survey conducted by the Survey of India.
- (ii) It then proceeds along the said north bank upto the point where it meets the boundary between Basantpur and Salarpur, hence along the northern and eastern boundaries of Salarpur, the eastern boundary of Asalatpur the north-eastern boundary of Badasia, northern and north eastern boundaries of Kirawali, the northern boundary of Lalpur, the northern and eastern boundaries of Mahabatpur, the eastern boundary of Muzzamabad, the eastern and northern boundaries of Rajpur Kalan including Chak Phulera, the northern and eastern boundaries of Nirpur, the eastern boundary of Chirai, the eastern boundary of Akbarpur, the eastern boundary of Mozamabad—Mazar Shaikhpur, the eastern boundary of Manjhawali, the eastern boundary of Garhi Begampur, the South-Eastern boundary of

Dalalgarh, the eastern boundary of Shahjahanpur, the eastern boundary of Lalitpur, the eastern boundary of Parasrampur alias Dulahpur, the eastern boundary of Makanpur, the north-eastern boundary of Walipur, the Western northern and the north-eastern boundary of Sheikhpur, the northern and the north-eastern boundary of Behrampur and the north-eastern boundary of Neglia upto the point where it meet the present deep stream line.

- (iii) From this point it proceeds along with the present deep streamline following the boundary on Uttar Pradesh side of Nagalia, Jhuppa, Baghpur-Kalan, Baghpur Khurd, Solhra, Bholra, Dostpur, Gurwari and Chandhat upto the junction of the old main stream of the river Yamuna and the channel or branch of the river commonly known as Zair Nala and thence along the present deep stream line upto the southern boundary of Maholi.

*Explanation*

In this paragraph

(a) any reference to the boundary of a village named in sub-paragraph (1) or (2) shall be construed as a reference to the boundary of that village as ascertained and mapped at the settlement of Gurgaon District completed in 1943.

(b) the reference to the present deep stream line of the end of sub-paragraph (2) and at the beginning of sub-paragraph (3) shall be construed as reference to the deep streamline pertaining to the old main stream of the river Jamuna as verified and determined by the Survey of India in the month of January, 1975.

4. The boundary between Gurgaon district of Haryana on the one side and Mathura District of Uttar Pradesh on the other is already a fixed boundary in regard to the location of which there is no dispute.

Sd/- Uma Shankar Dikshit  
14.2.1975

14.2.1975  
True copy

**Camp Office of Chief Minister of Delhi**

3675. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court had issued any directions in December, 1996 for constituting a three member commission of inquiry into the alleged allegations of misuse of power and rights by the Chief Minister of Delhi for making a camp office in a park in Netaji Nagar;

(b) whether the said Committee has submitted its report;

(c) if so, the details of the recommendations made therein; and

(d) the action taker, or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) The Supreme Court of India, in its order dated the 6th December, 1996 in IA No. 34 in Writ Petition No. 4677/85 (M.C. Mehta Vs. Union of India and Others), had asked a group of three learned counsels to inspect the park in question and furnish its report.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The Government is not aware of the recommendations made in the report, as the same was submitted to the Hon'ble Court. However, as per directions of the Supreme Court of India, the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) has demolished the entry gate and constructed a boundary wall to confine the use of the park for recreational activities only.

[*English*]

**Bills from Kerala**

3676. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of bills passed by the Government of Kerala and received by the Union Government for the President's assent; and

(b) the position thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) The Kerala Scheduled Tribes (Restriction on Transfer of Lands and Restoration of Alienated Lands) Amendment Bill, 1996, and the Kerala Board of Revenue Abolition Bill, 1996, as passed by the State Legislature and reserved by the Governor of Kerala, have been received by the Union Government for the assent of the President.

(b) The Kerala Scheduled Tribes (Restriction on Transfer of Lands and Restoration of Alienated Lands) Amendment Bill, 1996 is receiving attention of the Government. On the Kerala Board of Revenue Abolition Bill, 1996, clarifications have been sought from the State Government on the observations made by the concerned Ministry. Clarifications of the State Government are awaited.

[Translation]

### Misuse of Untouchability Law

3677. SHRI JAGATVIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the law pertaining to untouchability is being misused in villages and reports against a lot of innocent, upper caste and backward class persons are being registered under this law;

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

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to check misuse of the same?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

### Pending Border Disputes Between States

3678. SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of border dispute between some States pending with the Union Government for a solution;

(b) the dates from which these border disputes are pending with the Government; and

(c) the details of the efforts made by the Government to make a solution for them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) The following Inter-State boundary disputes are pending:—

- (i) Maharashtra-Karnataka-Kerala boundary disputes.
- (ii) Punjab-Haryana-Himachal Pradesh boundary disputes.
- (iii) Orissa-West Bengal boundary dispute over village Shakhmochi.
- (iv) Tamil Nadu-Kerala border dispute over Kannagi Temple.
- (v) Uttar Pradesh-Bihar Border dispute.

No formal complaint regarding the dispute at serial no. (iii) above has been received from the concerned State Governments. The dispute between Tamil Nadu and Kerala is in regard to the precise location of the Kannagi Temple.

The Maharashtra-Karnataka-Kerala boundary disputes and the Punjab-Haryana-Himachal Pradesh border disputes are pending ever since the reorganisation of States in 1956 and the reorganisation of the composite State of Punjab in 1966 respectively. While the Maharashtra-Karnataka-Kerala border disputes relate to conflicting territorial claims over certain border villages, the Punjab-Haryana border dispute relates to transfer of Chandigarh to Punjab and some Hindi speaking areas from Punjab to Haryana in lieu of Chandigarh.

The Uttar Pradesh-Bihar border dispute is on account of change of names of certain villages in the process of transfer/re-transfer of these villages between the two States.

While the Central Government has made efforts from time to time to help resolve the disputes, it is essentially for the State Governments concerned to amicably resolve their differences. The Central Government will be happy to extend all possible assistance to the State Governments concerned in this regard.

### Exploitation of Children

3679. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "The people Trade" appearing in the 'Times of India', dated January 28, 1997;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

### Old Age and Orphanage Homes

3680. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of old age homes and orphanages functioning in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the number of elder citizens and orphan children kept there;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up more old age homes and orphanages in Uttar Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

#### Import and Export of Chemical Fertilizers

3681. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the chemical fertilizers imported/exported by the country during the years 1994, 1995 and 1996 till February 28, 1997;

(b) the quantum of import along with the types of fertilizers decided to be made during the said period and the countries from where the import was made; and

(c) the quantity of fertilizers exported during the said period and the countries to which the export was made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) to (c) Out of three major fertilizers namely urea, Di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP) and Muriate of Potash (MOP) being imported by India, only urea is under price, distribution and movement control and is being imported on Government account. The quantities of urea along-with names of the countries from where it was imported during 1994-95 to 1996-97 are given in the statement attached.

As the demand for major fertilizers such as Urea and DAP normally exceeds the indigenous production, the entire production of these fertilizers is earmarked for domestic consumption. Accordingly, in the Export Import Policy, Fertilizers have been placed in the Negative List for exports. Exports of SSP to neighbouring countries have been permitted in view of a substantial excess of the production capacity over the domestic demand, mainly to Bangladesh. Exports of urea have been allowed in exceptional cases to meet the requirements of Bhutan and the emergent needs of Nepal.

The quantities of major fertilizers exported during the above period are given below :

(in lakh tonnes)

Fertilizers	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97 (upto Feb. '97)	Country
Urea	0.014	0.258	0.10	Bhutan & Nepal
DAP	—	0.20	—	Nepal
SSP	3.39	1.88	1.19 (provisional)	Bangladesh

#### Statement

The Countrywise Imports of Urea from 1994-95 to 1996-97 (upto February '97)

(Qty. in lakh Metric Tonnes)

Sl.No.	Country	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97 (upto Feb '97)
1.	Bangladesh	0.87	1.35	1.44
2.	Bulgaria	0.21	0.73	—
3.	CIS	11.29	12.79	6.84
4.	Croatia	—	1.07	—
5.	Germany	—	0.42	—
6.	Indonesia	1.02	1.36	—
7.	Kuwait	3.07	2.64	3.80
8.	Libya	2.00	3.70	2.14
9.	Qatar	2.80	2.37	2.95
10.	Romania	0.99	3.56	1.60
11.	Saudi Arabia	4.23	4.92	2.98
12.	UAE	2.22	2.43	1.47
13.	Pakistan	—	0.48	—
Total		28.70	37.82	23.28

[English]

#### Victim Compensation Scheme in CPC, 1973

3682. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Law Commission of India has suggested to incorporate a new section "Victim Compensation Scheme" in the Criminal Procedure Code, 1973;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons cited by the Commission for incorporation of the said section; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Law Commission in its 154th Report has suggested incorporation of a new Section 357-A in the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 in view of the weakness of the existing provision for compensation to victim of Crime.

(c) The matter is receiving attention of the Government.

**Raids on Indian Land Borders**

3683. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been any incident of raids on the land borders of India during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken to deal with such situations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) As per available information, Pakistani troops carried out unsuccessful raids across the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir on two occasions during the relevant period. These incidents took place in July 1994 and May 1995.

(c) Vigilance is being maintained. Patrolling in the border areas has been intensified.

[Translation]

**Small and Marginal Farmers**

3684. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :  
DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any data about the number of small and marginal farmers in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Statement giving State-wise details of the number of small and marginal farmers in the country as per Agricultural Census, 1990-91 (latest) is attached.

**Statement**

*The Number of Small and Marginal Farmers in the Country State-wise Based on Agricultural Census 1990-91*

(Number in '000 Unit)

S.No.	Name of States/ UTs	Marginal Holdings Number	Small Holdings Number
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5211	1972
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	16	17
3.	Assam	1521	560
4.	Bihar	10193	1438

1	2	3	4
5.	Goa	58	8
6.	Gujarat	924	915
7.	Haryana	622	304
8.	Himachal Pradesh	532	166
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	902	197
10.	Karnataka	2262	1586
11.	Kerala	5016	280
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3136	1917
13.	Maharashtra	3275	2728
14.	Manipur	69	49
15.	Meghalaya	50	51
16.	Mizoram	29	23
17.	Nagaland	13	21
18.	Orissa	2118	1035
19.	Punjab	296	204
20.	Rajasthan	1517	1019
21.	Sikkim	26	11
22.	Tamil Nadu	5848	1275
23.	Tripura	217	69
24.	Uttar Pradesh	14819	3118
25.	West Bengal	4639	1107
26.	A&N Island	2	2
27.	Chandigarh	1	Neg.
28.	Daman & Diu	3	Neg.
29.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	6	4
30.	Delhi	26	8
31.	Pondicherry	26	5
32.	Lakshadweep	6	Neg.
All India		63388	20089

Note: Neg.—Negligible.

**Dairy Development Projects**

3685. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Dairy Development Projects proposed to be set up at Barauni and Vaishali in Bihar have been lying pending with his Ministry after the approval of the State Government; and

(b) if so, the time by which the said projects are likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) No proposal for Vaishali has been received. The proposal received for Barauni was examined and the State Govt. was informed that the Barauni Milk Union may prepare a proposal for consideration under the Central Sector Plan Scheme "Assistance to Cooperatives".

[English]

**Incident of Crimes**

3686. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Virginity test of girls now comes under the purview of NHRC" appearing in 'Dainik Bhaskar', dated January 2, 1997;

(b) if so, the causes responsible for the test; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) The news item captioned "Virginity test of girls now comes under the purview of the NHRC" does not appear in the 'Dainik Bhaskar' dated 2nd January, 1997.

(b) and (c) However, the National Human Rights Commission took suo moto cognizance of the incident on the basis of the news item titled "Dignity of Test" appearing in the 'Pioneer' dated 12.12.1996 and issued notices to the Chief Secretary and the Director General of Police, Government of Madhya Pradesh, calling for reports. Appropriate action will be taken on the basis of the recommendations of the National Human Rights Commission, as and when received.

**Backlog of SC/ST/OBC Vacancies**

3687. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of backlog of SC/ST/OBC vacancies in the Ministry;

(b) the special drive taken or proposed to be taken to clear the backlog; and

(c) the targets set up for their clearance during the year 1997-98?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) As per information available, 52 SC/ST posts are lying vacant at present in the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, its attached and subordinate offices, Public Sector Undertakings, autonomous bodies etc. So far 5 SC/ST posts have been filled up after launch of the Special Recruitment Drive.

(b) The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has launched a Special Recruitment Drive for filling up the available SC/ST/OBC vacancies in the Department, attached and subordinate offices, Public Sector Undertakings, autonomous bodies etc.

(c) Filling up of the backlog vacancies has been delayed due to the difficulties in obtaining timely recommendation from recruitment agencies and want of required certificates such as Character antecedents from the police, caste or medical certificates. The various recruitment agencies are being reminded to expedite filling up of the posts from time to time.

[Translation]

**Development of Animal Husbandry**

3688. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV :  
SHRI R.L.P. VERMA :

Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware about the vast potential of animal husbandry development in Bihar;

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the Government to exploit the same;

(c) if so, whether there is any proposal to set up an Animal Husbandry Research Centre in the State;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying has been implementing 11 Centrally Sponsored Schemes to supplement the efforts of the State Government to exploit the potential of the animal husbandry development. A list of the scheme is enclosed as statement.

(c) to (e) The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying has no proposal at present to set up any Animal Husbandry Research Centre in the State. The two Agriculture Universities in the State are taking care of the research needs for the development of the sector.

#### **Statement**

##### *List of Schemes of Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying*

##### *Centrally Sponsored Schemes*

1. Extension of Frozen Semen Technology and Progeny Testing Programme.
2. Assistance to States for Feed and Fodder Development.
3. National Project on Rinderpest eradication.
4. Assistance to States for control of Animal Disease.
5. Professional Efficiency Development.
6. Assistance to States for Improvement/Establishment/Modernisation of abattoirs/carcass utilisation centres and primary flaying units.
7. Integrated sample surveys for estimation of production of major livestock products.
8. National Bull Production Programme.
9. National Ram/Buck Production Programme and Programme of Rabbit Development.
10. Development of Pack Animals.
11. Assistance to States for Integrated Piggery Development.

#### **Central Institute for Fisheries**

3689. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnataka State Government has requested to set up a Central Institute of Fisheries, Nautical and Engineering Training Institute at Maipе in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (c) While Karnataka State Government had not sent a formal proposal, it had forwarded a request of Akhila Karnataka Fishermen's Parishad for opening of a branch of the Central Institute of Fisheries Nautical and Engineering Training (CIFNET) at Malpe in Karnataka. Since there was no provision in the Eighth Five Year Plan for opening new branches of CIFNET it has not been possible to pursue the proposal.

*[Translation]*

#### **Pollution in Ganga River**

3690. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :  
SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH :

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

(a) whether due to release of effluents by several industries of Uttar Pradesh in Ganga, the water of the river is getting polluted;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of most polluted areas;

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government against these industries to protect the Ganga from pollution; and

(d) the number of industries against whom the cases have been registered in this connection during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) Under the Ganga Action Plan, 34 grossly polluting industries were identified for causing pollution of Ganga in Uttar Pradesh. Out of these, 22 industries are located in Kanpur which were contributing most to the river pollution.

(c) and (d) All these industries were directed to set up effluent treatment plants. As a result, presently, effluent treatment plants in 14 units are working satisfactorily and 6 units have been directed to upgrade their treatment plants. The remaining 14 units which failed to install proper treatment systems have been closed down.

*[English]*

#### **Cashew Processing Units**

3691. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cashew processing units functioning in the country at present, location-wise; and

(b) the capacity utilisation thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) At present there are 825 cashew processing units functioning in the country. The location-wise figures are as follows :

State	No. of Processing Units
Kerala	271
Karnataka	58
Goa	57
Maharashtra	49
Tamil Nadu	209
Andhra Pradesh	103
Orissa	33
West Bengal	45

(b) No official statistics on capacity of utilisation by the processing units are available. However, as per rough estimate the total capacity of utilisation of these processing units is about 7.0 lakh M. Tonnes of raw cashewnuts per annum.

#### **Infiltration**

3692. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian coast guards detected infiltration of Pakistani agents by using the sea route through Gujarat and other States;

(b) if so, the number of infiltrators detected by the BSF and the Indian Coastal Guards;

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to check the infiltration through the sea and land routes;

(d) whether the infiltrators infiltrate through Nepal, Bangladesh, Pakistan borders; and

(e) if so, the preventive measures taken to check infiltration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (e) No infiltration through Gujarat sea route has been detected by Coast Guard. BSF has, however, intercepted/apprehended infiltrators on Indo-Pak, Indo-Bangladesh & Indo-Mynamar borders, details of which are given in the

statement attached. The following steps have been/are being taken to check infiltration:—

- (i) Additional Bns have been sanctioned and deployed under expansion plan to reduce the gaps between the BOPs.
- (ii) Patrolling/Nakas have been increased/intensified.
- (iii) Border patrolling have been intensified by providing jeeps and motor cycles.
- (iv) Mounted patrolling on horses, camels and tractors is being done.
- (v) Observation Post Towers have been erected.
- (vi) Binoculars, Goggles, Twin Telescopes, PNV binoculars and hand held search lights have been provided for enhanced vigilance on the border.
- (vii) Border fence and flood lights has been/are being erected.
- (viii) Intelligence machinery has been alerted to keep closer vigilance.
- (ix) Coast Guard/Indian Navy is patrolling the coastal areas and State Police and Customs are also patrolling shallow waters by hired trawlers.
- (x) The matter has also been taken up with the Govts. of Pakistan, Bangladesh and Nepal on various occasions.

#### **Statement**

##### *Interception/Apprehension by BSF*

	1994	1995	1996
<i>Indo-Pak Border :</i>			
J&K	654	1156	860
Punjab	1938	728	166
Rajasthan	3255	1662	1053
Gujarat	63	72	232
Total	5910	3618	2311
<i>Indo-Bangladesh Border :</i>			
West Bengal	17665	13215	10323
Assam	396	391	391
Meghalaya	364	440	529
Mizoram	14	17	14
Tripura	1649	951	896
Total	20088	15014	12153
<i>Indo-Mynamar Border :</i>			
Manipur	365	105	36
Nagaland	1	5	7
Total	366	110	43

[Translation]

### Funds for Natural Calamities

3693. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN *alias* PAPPU YADAV :  
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :  
SHRI K. PARASURAMAN :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have asked the State Governments to submit the memorandum regarding the losses suffered due to various natural calamities like flood, drought, cyclone, hailstorms etc. in 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of the States from which the memorandum have been received indicating loss of lives, livestock, crops, houses and area suffered by them, State-wise; and

(d) the amount of financial assistance provided to these States for relief and rehabilitation measures so far, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) In accordance with the established practice, Government of India receives from the State Governments Memoranda about the extent of damage in various sectors as a result of natural calamities. The State Governments undertake relief and rehabilitation measures in the affected areas utilising the allocations in the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF). They are required to send a detailed Memorandum to the Government of India only in the event of a calamity of rare severity where additional funds are sought from the National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR).

(c) and (d) During 1996-97 Memoranda have been received from 17 States seeking additional assistance from the NFCR. A Statement indicating the area affected, loss of human lives and livestock, damage to crops and houses due to natural calamities during 1996-97 in these States and funds released from the Central share of CRF and the NFCR is enclosed.

### Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the States from where memorandum received	Calamity	Extent of damage					Financial assistance extended from	
			Human lives lost (No.)	Animals lost (No.)	Area affected (in lakh ha.)	Cropped area affected (in lakh ha.)	Damage to houses (No.)	Central share of CRF (Rs. in crore)	NFCR (Rs. in crores)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	Anhara Pradesh	Flood/ cyclone	1685	66694	22.51	22.47	714040	93.14	142.00
2	Arunachal Pradesh	Flood	15	1256	0.07	0.06	330	5.28	3.00
3	Assam	Flood	38	—	5.75	2.00	7848	37.51	21.00
4	Bihar	Flood	207	66	11.29	7.14	66955	38.97	7.00
5	Guarat	Flood	117	1962	22.31	4.28	54575	104.70	—
6	Haryana	Flood	19	544	0.86	0.23	12314	18.79	—
7	Himachal Pradesh	Flood	45	2250	3.20	2.58	5774	20.21	10.56
8	Jammu & Kashmir	Flood	58	9534	0.58	0.46	24521	14.78	—
9	Karnataka	Flood	244	5254	0.83	0.83	135462	31.39	—
10	Kerala	Flood	159	—	0.46	0.39	18729	41.55	—
11	Madhya Pradesh	Flood/ Draught	48	344	0.14	0.14	7075	38.31	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
12.	Orissa	Drought	—	—	—	20.53	—	36.76	50.00
13.	Rajasthan	Flood	138	6438	10.88	2.10	119241	134.28	—
14.	Sikkim	Flood	9	—	—	—	20	3.53	5.52
15.	Tamil Nadu	Flood/ Cyclone	210	2826	3.28	3.28	700818	44.51	25.00
16.	Uttar Pradesh	Flood	352	1279	11.24	6.78	70858	93.84	—
17.	West Bengal	Flood	48	84	0.83	0.83	203987	38.49	—

[*Translation*]

#### Incidents of Crime in U.P.

3694. SHRI SOHAN BEER :  
SHRI HARPAL SINGH SATHI :  
PROF. OM PAL SINGH 'NIDAR' :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the crimes committed in U.P. during the current year, crime-wise;

(b) the number of persons arrested during this period; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check the incident of crimes in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) Available information in regard to commission of crimes under major heads in the State of Uttar Pradesh during the current year (upto 15.2.1997) is as follows :

Crime	Number
1. Dacoity	144
2. Robbery	506
3. Murder	928
4. Burglary	1346
5. Kidnapping for ransom	27
6. Forced hold-up	15
7. Total I.P.C. Crimes	18050

During the month of January, 1997, 31,144 persons were arrested under various preventive sections. 11,998 criminals wanted in various cases have been arrested since 1.2.1997. An action plan for curbing crime and improving law and order in Uttar Pradesh chalked out recently has been communicated to the State Government for implementation.

[*English*]

#### Autonomy to States

3695. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :  
SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received the report of the Committee constituted to go into the question of autonomy to the States;

(b) if so, the precise details of the recommendations contained therein; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) The Government has not constituted any Committee to consider exclusively the question of "Autonomy to States". However, the Inter-State Council, in its meeting held on 15.10.1996, recommended inter-alia that there should be a Standing Committee of the Council.

The first meeting of the Standing Committee was held on 15th January, 1997. The following issues were considered by the Standing Committee :—

(i) Review and update of the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission on Centre-State Financial relations especially the devolution of

financial powers from the Central Government to State Governments. (Chapter X of the Report of the Sarkaria Commission).

- (ii) To examine the changes required in Article 356 of the Constitution of India. (Chapter VI of the Report of the Sarkaria Commission).

The Committee is yet to finalise its views on these two items. As decided in the meeting, views of the State Governments and members of the Standing Committee on these two issues have been received and compiled. The matter will be discussed in the next meeting of the Standing Committee which is likely to be convened shortly.

[Translation]

**Crop Insurance Scheme**

3696. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :  
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :  
SHRI D.P. YADAV :  
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of claims paid to the farmers under the Crop Insurance Scheme in the country during the Eighth Five Year Plan, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the amount to be paid to the farmers outstanding so far, State-wise;

(c) the reasons for not paying the remaining amount; and

(d) the time by which the outstanding dues are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) State-wise and year-wise details of admissible claims paid under the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme during the Eighth Five Year Plan are given in the statement.

(b) State-wise details of admissible claims outstanding are as under :—

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	State	Amount
1.	Gujarat	16.35
2.	Madhya Pradesh	795.32
3.	Maharashtra	39.34
4.	Tamil Nadu	681.91
5.	West Bengal	321.04

(c) and (d) Outstanding claims are pending due to non-receipt of 1/3rd share from the concerned State Governments. The outstanding claims will be settled as soon as the share of State Government is received.

**Statement**

*State-wise and year-wise Details of Claims paid under the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme During the Eighth Five Year Plan*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	States	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1713.93	482.91	2569.00	1859.72	
2.	Assam	4.73	0.15	1.18	0.66	
3.	Bihar	1495.31	108.24	35.30	343.89	
4.	Goa	0.20	0.06	0.69	0.12	
5.	Gujarat	87.50	16239.76	450.84	8422.20	
6.	Himachal Pradesh	5.07	3.02	0.89	0.00	
7.	Karnataka	534.22	282.58	108.88	367.82	
8.	Kerala	21.07	47.94	314.45	24.92	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9.	Madhya Pradesh	273.25	43.18	3.67	0.00	
10.	Maharashtra	130.63	92.33	743.17	1366.51	
11.	Meghalaya	0.95	0.40	1.16	0.22	
12.	Orissa	467.30	116.85	902.03	759.30	
13.	Tamil Nadu	306.92	1244.87	184.43	54.56	
14.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.45	0.00	
15.	West Bengal	53.32	120.22	130.05	0.00	
16.	A & N Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
17.	Pondicherry	1.10	42.78	0.00	0.00	
Total		5095.50	18825.29	5446.19	13199.32	

\*Claims for the year 1996-97 shall be known after the receipt of yield data.

#### Forecasting Information to Fishermen

3697. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :  
SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to forecast information to the fishermen about the natural calamities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps taken by the Government to save the fishermen from the natural calamities?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (c) The India Meteorological Department issues Fishermen's Bulletins regularly four times a day through All India Radio for broadcast in regional languages. During cyclone or depression, these bulletins contain information about (i) its position and direction of movement, (ii) the associate weather in respect of strong winds and state of the sea and (iii) advice to the fishermen not to venture into the sea. Fishermen are also advised during the monsoon season not to venture into the sea as and when there is likelihood of strong winds exceeding 45 kmph, squally weather, gale and very rough sea.

A pilot project for installing shore to boat communication system on fishing vessels, safety equipment, life saving devices and out-board motors for selected beneficiaries have been recently approved for implementation in East Godavari District of Andhra Pradesh with the assistance of the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations.

The Department of Ocean Development has also taken up a scheme on Shore to Fishing Vessel Communication System for implementation during the Eighth plan period onwards for demonstrating the usefulness of communication technology for safety of fishermen at sea.

[English]

#### Kaziranga Wildlife Sanctuary

3698. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether eighty one rhinos were killed during 1995 and 1996 in Kaziranga wildlife sanctuary by the poachers;

(b) if so, the reasons for not protecting the lives of the wildlife animals in the sanctuary;

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this direction; and

(d) the details of other wildlife animals killed by the poachers died of natural deaths in the last three years in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) During 1995 and 1996, 53 rhinos are reported to have been killed by poachers in Kaziranga, which is a National Park.

(b) and (c) According to the State Government a large number of protection camps have been established and regular day and night patrolling is undertaken through armed Home Guards and departmental staff. The use of wireless communication, boats and vehicles as well as gathering of intelligence by payment of incentives to informers are the other strategies adopted for dealing with the poaching problem in the national park.

(d) Information on wild animals which die due to natural causes is not compiled and collated in this Ministry. However, information received from various States and UTs on the number of poaching cases detected during the last three years is given as statement.

**Statement**

*Poaching Cases*

S.No.	Name of the State	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	18	40	50
2.	Assam*	76	34	48
3.	Bihar	48	03	NA
4.	Goa	01	09	01
5.	Haryana	842	533	287
6.	Himachal Pradesh	04	06	04
7.	Kerala*	164	207	35
8.	Maharashtra	108	99	102
9.	Manipur	01	01	08
10.	Meghalaya	02	05	08
11.	Mizoram	07	15	26
12.	Nagaland	Nil	Nil	01
13.	Orissa	96	103	NA
14.	Punjab	369	368	247
15.	Tamil Nadu	23	30	21

1	2	3	4	5
16.	Rajasthan	75	82	107
17.	Sikkim	Nil	Nil	Nil
18.	Tripura	01	Nil	01
19.	Uttar Pradesh*	788	583	255
20.	West Bengal	07	05	06
<b>Union Territories</b>				
	Chandigarh	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Daman & Diu	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Delhi*	20	33	61
	Pondicherry	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total		2650	2156	1268

\*As per Calender Year.

**Illegal Shipping of Emigrants**

3699. SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the racket of organizing illegal shipping of emigrants from India to Europe has been busted recently;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken up the matter with the Government of Greece to ascertain facts in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) The incident of illegal shipping of emigrants from India to Europe came to light on the basis of a drowning accident of around 170 Indian youths in the high seas in the Malta-Sicily Channel on the night intervening 24th/25th December, 1996. The investigation of the case was handed over to the Central Bureau of Investigation vide FIR dated 17.1.97. Based on the version given by the 22 Indian survivors of the accident who arrived at Sahar Airport, Mumbai, on 27.1.97, the CBI proceeded further in the matter. As a result of CBI's investigation, 13 persons have been arrested so far in this case. According to information furnished by the Ministry of External Affairs, our mission in Athens had got in touch with the Greek Government who extended their cooperation which included an interview by our Ambassador with the survivors which had also helped CBI to get in touch with Interpol to examine into all other aspects of the

tragedy. A large number of incriminating documents have been recovered by the CBI from the accused persons.

#### **Area under Oilseeds Cultivation**

3700. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH BHATI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of land under the oilseeds cultivation in the country at present, State-wise and oilseeds-wise;

(b) the extent to which it has been increased/decreased in each State as compared to the previous two years, oilseed-wise and year-wise;

(c) whether any steps have been taken by the Government to increase the area under cultivation of oilseeds; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) The statement giving State-wise, oilseeds-wise area of land under cultivation for the years 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96, and the per cent increase/decrease of area in 1995-96 as compared to 1993-94 and 1994-95 is attached.

(c) and (d) To increase the production of oilseeds, Government is implementing Oilseeds Production Programme since 1990-91 in which assistance is given to the farmers for purchase of breeder seeds, production of foundation seeds, infrastructure development, distribution of farm implements, sprinkler sets, gypsum/pyrites, rhizobium culture and micro-nutrients, besides technology transfer through frontline demonstration and training of farmers.

#### **Statement**

*State-wise Estimates of Area under Oilseed Crops During 1995-96 in Comparison to 1994-95 and 1993-94*

State	Area (Thousand Hectares)			Percentage Increase (+)/ Dec. (-) in 1995-96 over	
	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1993-94	1994-95
1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>Crop : Groundnut</b>					
Andhra Pradesh	2351.8	2176.0	2209.3	-6.1	1.5
Bihar	5.0	4.7	4.8	-4.0	2.1
Goa	1.1	1.1	1.2	9.1	9.1
Gujarat	2053.0	1989.3	1902.9	-7.3	-4.3
Haryana	2.3	2.4	2.1	-8.7	-12.5
Himachal Pradesh	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.0
Jammu & Kashmir	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0
Karnataka	1243.3	1200.0	1178.4	-5.2	-1.8
Kerala	12.4	16.5	16.5	33.1	0.0
Madhya Pradesh	276.8	266.2	280.9	1.5	5.5
Maharashtra	659.0	602.6	511.0	-22.5	-15.2
Nagaland	0.5	0.5	1.0	100.0	100.0

1	2	3	4	5	6
Orissa	100.1	87.3	91.1	-9.0	4.4
Punjab	10.0	8.0	9.0	-10.0	12.5
Rajasthan	287.4	249.9	214.7	-25.3	-14.1
Tamil Nadu	1158.3	1079.9	1116.1	-3.6	3.4
Tripura	2.3	2.0	1.5	-34.8	-25.0
Uttar Pradesh	138.6	136.2	138.5	-0.1	1.7
West Bengal	17.5	23.4	22.9	30.9	-2.1
Pondicherry	2.3	2.1	2.2	-4.3	4.8
All India	8322.2	7848.6	7704.6	-7.4	-1.8

**Crop : Castorseed**

Andhra Pradesh	259.6	270.7	262.6	1.2	-3.0
Assam	1.8	1.7	1.7	-5.6	0.0
Bihar	1.1	0.9	0.9	-18.2	0.0
Gujarat	312.3	382.6	388.1	24.3	1.4
Karnataka	22.3	22.5	23.7	6.3	5.3
Madhya Pradesh	5.6	4.7	3.6	-35.7	-23.4
Maharashtra	7.9	9.3	9.1	15.2	-2.2
Orissa	25.6	26.4	27.6	7.8	4.5
Rajasthan	15.0	25.1	38.6	157.3	53.8
Tamil Nadu	33.1	35.1	50.6	52.9	44.2
Uttar Pradesh	0.1	0.1	Neg.	0.0	0.0
West Bengal	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0
All India	684.5	779.2	806.6	17.8	3.5

**Crop : Nigerseed**

Andhra Pradesh	18.9	20.3	19.1	1.1	-5.9
Bihar	30.2	27.6	26.7	-11.6	-3.3

1	2	3	4	5	6
Karnataka	42.4	39.9	39.1	-7.8	-2.0
Madhya Pradesh	220.4	218.9	219.0	-0.6	0.0
Maharashtra	86.5	73.7	76.8	-11.2	4.2
Orissa	193.9	204.4	210.6	8.6	3.0
West Bengal	6.4	6.8	6.8	6.2	0.0
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0
All India	598.8	591.7	598.2	-0.1	1.1

**Crop : Sesamum**

Andhra Pradesh	184.0	174.3	195.8	6.4	12.3
Arunachal Pradesh	1.1	1.4	1.4	27.3	0.0
Assam	14.7	15.8	15.7	6.8	-0.6
Bihar	24.8	18.4	17.2	-30.6	-6.5
Gujarat	257.8	260.9	249.7	-3.1	-4.3
Haryana	3.4	3.2	3.2	-5.9	0.0
Himachal Pradesh	6.5	6.2	6.2	-4.6	0.0
Jammu & Kashmir	8.0	7.8	7.8	-2.5	0.0
Karnataka	109.6	111.5	108.1	-1.4	-3.0
Kerala	7.3	7.9	7.3	0.0	-7.6
Madhya Pradesh	234.9	190	209.4	-10.9	10.2
Maharashtra	274.6	249.9	194.8	-29.1	-22.0
Manipur	0.6	1.7	1.7	183.3	0.0
Meghalaya	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.0	0.0
Mizoram	4.3	4.5	4.4	2.3	-2.2
Nagaland	1.5	1.5	1.0	-33.3	-33.3
Orissa	96.7	70.3	68.3	-29.4	-2.8
Punjab	18.3	17.6	22.7	24.0	29.0
Rajasthan	524.7	408.5	329.4	-37.2	-19.4

1	2	3	4	5	6
Tamil Nadu	129.4	127	163.5	26.4	28.7
Tripura	3.2	3.2	2.7	-15.6	-15.6
Uttar Pradesh	195.6	178.7	195.6	0.0	9.5
West Bengal	114.9	108.7	108.8	-5.3	0.1
Pondicherry	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
All India	2217.4	1970.5	1916.2	-13.6	-2.8

**Crop : Soyabean**

Andhra Pradesh	4.5	6.2	6.1	35.6	-1.6
Arunachal Pradesh	2.0	2.2	2.6	30.0	18.2
Gujarat	18.4	19.9	12.9	-29.9	-35.2
Himachal Pradesh	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0
Karnataka	35.1	53.8	41.2	17.4	-23.4
Madhya Pradesh	3415.0	3225.2	3703.8	8.5	14.8
Maharashtra	501.7	560.5	635.4	26.6	13.4
Meghalaya	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.0	0.0
Mizoram	1.3	1.3	0.9	-30.8	-30.8
Nagaland	4.0	4.0	4.0	0.0	0.0
Orissa	0.9	0.1	0.0	-100.0	-100.0
Rajasthan	345.5	403.3	427.7	23.8	6.1
Sikkim	3.6	3.9	3.8	5.6	-2.6
Uttar Pradesh	36.3	35.2	44.8	23.4	27.3
West Bengal	0.5	0.6	2.3	360.0	283.3
All India	4370.5	4317.9	4887.2	11.8	13.2

**Crop : Sunflower**

Andhra Pradesh	389.6	402.6	372.1	-4.5	-7.6
Bihar	5.0	10.7	8.0	60.0	-25.2
Haryana	40.0	34.4	50.0	25.0	45.3

1	2	3	4	5	6
Karnataka	1469.3	839.5	1013.7	-31.0	20.8
Madhya Pradesh	18.4	13.0	12.4	-32.6	-4.6
Maharashtra	571.5	510.1	496.3	-13.2	-2.7
Nagaland	2.5	1.5	2.5	0.0	66.7
Orissa	5.6	1.9	2.3	-58.9	21.1
Punjab	85.0	95.0	103.0	21.2	8.4
Rajasthan	4.8	3.7	3.1	-35.4	-16.2
Tamil Nadu	39.9	45.0	56.4	41.4	25.3
Uttar Pradesh	35.9	39.5	37.3	3.9	-5.6
West Bengal	0.3	0.4	0.4	33.3	0.0
All India	2667.8	1997.3	2157.5	-19.1	8.0

**Crop : Safflower**

Andhra Pradesh	25.4	35.3	19.3	-24.0	-45.3
Bihar	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.0	-16.7
Karnataka	175.0	262.7	178.2	1.8	-32.2
Madhya Pradesh	4.6	2.4	3.4	-26.1	41.7
Maharashtra	584.4	485.4	478.6	-18.1	-1.4
Orissa	3.2	4.4	3.8	18.7	-13.6
All India	793.1	790.8	683.8	-13.8	-13.5

**Crop : Rapeseed & Mustard**

Andhra Pradesh	4.0	2.7	2.5	-37.5	-7.4
Arunachal Pradesh	19.9	21	21.1	6.0	0.5
Assam	279.4	281.5	279.0	-0.1	-0.9
Bihar	108.2	105.1	105.8	-2.2	0.7
Gujarat	374.6	389	368.1	-1.7	-5.4
Haryana	579.0	580	581.0	0.3	0.2
Himachal Pradesh	9.6	10.2	10.2	6.2	0.0

1	2	3	4	5	6
Jammu & Kashmir	63.1	54.2	54.2	-14.1	0.0
Karnataka	5.6	5.3	5.1	-8.9	-3.8
Madhya Pradesh	697.4	665.1	736.5	5.6	10.7
Maharashtra	13.4	14	10.0	-25.4	-28.6
Manipur	3.6	2	2.0	-44.4	0.0
Meghalaya	6.8	6.8	6.8	0.0	0.0
Mizoram	2.2	2.2	2.4	9.1	9.1
Nagaland	11.7	8.7	8.0	-31.6	-8.0
Orissa	96.7	29.5	23.7	-75.5	-19.7
Punjab	63.0	88	93.0	47.6	5.7
Rajasthan	2401.0	2280.2	2809.3	17.0	23.2
Sikkim	4.8	4.9	5.8	20.8	18.4
Tamil Nadu	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.0	0.0
Tripura	9.0	7.9	7.6	-15.6	-3.8
Uttar Pradesh	1146.8	1115.5	1140.9	-0.5	2.3
West Bengal	380.9	377.7	377.7	-0.8	0.0
Delhi	7.8	7.8	7.8	0.0	0.0
All India	6289.4	6060.2	6659.4	5.9	9.9

**Crop : Linseed**

Andhra Pradesh	7.9	11.5	6.6	-16.5	-42.6
Assam	9.1	9.6	9.6	5.5	0.0
Bihar	68.4	60.7	59.3	-13.3	-2.3
Himachal Pradesh	3.5	3.6	3.6	2.9	0.0
Jammu & Kashmir	1.3	1.1	1.1	-15.4	0.0
Karnataka	24.0	29.5	25.1	4.6	-14.9
Madhya Pradesh	450.2	463	463.4	2.9	0.1
Maharashtra	145.9	154.5	143.2	-1.9	-7.3

1	2	3	4	5	6
Nagaland	0.8	0.8	1.0	25.0	25.0
Orissa	30.6	31.2	35.6	16.3	14.1
Punjab	0.5	0.6	0.6	20.0	0.0
Rajasthan	32.5	17.8	16.2	-50.2	-9.0
Uttar Pradesh	166.4	150.2	161.1	-3.2	7.3
West Bengal	12.3	13.7	13.7	11.4	0.0
All India	953.4	947.8	940.1	-1.4	-0.8

[*Translation*]

#### **Illegal Sale of Green Land**

3701. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the green land along the roads in various areas of Delhi is being illegally sold by the land mafia;

(b) if so, the number of cases in which the encroachments have been removed; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to check the encroachments of green land by the land mafia in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) to (c) The Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House

#### **Welfare Schemes**

3702. SHRI NITISH BHARADWAJ :  
SHRI MURALIDHAR JENA :  
SHRI DATTA MEGHE :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by the Central Government so far on various welfare schemes in the country during the last five years, year-wise;

(b) the quantum of grant given to each state, for these welfare schemes during the aforesaid period, scheme-wise;

(c) the number of new schemes to be launched in the near future; and

(d) whether there is any new Welfare scheme specifically for Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b) A statement is enclosed.

(c) Two new schemes proposed for launching are :

I. Development of Primitive Tribals.

II. Kasturba Gandhi Shiksha Sansthan for promoting female literacy among Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the low literacy pockets/districts.

(d) No, Sir.

#### **Statement**

*Central Share Released for State/UT Level SCDCs*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	Name of State/UT	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	682.68	409.00	875.52	577.33	575.67 (262.67 as arrear of 1994-95)
2.	Assam	171.02	22.89	22.10	24.02	30.74
3.	Bihar	76.89	85.25	113.52	Nil	57.64

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4.	Gujarat	56.69	100.07	96.07	17.82	15.00
5.	Haryana	57.65	106.54	169.31	75.31	49.00
6.	Himachal Pradesh	34.30	46.63	53.43	40.43	70.14
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	82.08	37.65	61.00	86.47	44.00
8.	Karnataka	99.00	107.80	212.35	300.21	585.31 (485.31 as arrear of 1994-95)
9.	Kerala	115.18	88.87	124.20	79.20	84.13
10.	Madhya Pradesh	89.24	24.00	57.65	51.88	44.19
11.	Maharashtra	51.83	81.92	138.16	56.97	600.00
12.	Orissa	23.41	31.22	59.22	28.82	96.05
13.	Punjab	163.20	252.96	14.13	28.82	69.20
14.	Rajasthan	35.22	19.22	18.60	9.80	74.95
15.	Tamil Nadu	97.99	122.44	318.50	186.54	268.96 (133.96 as arrear of 1994-95)
16.	Tripura	24.00	10.60	9.60	—	Nil
17.	Uttar Pradesh	356.38	211.93	238.77	282.32	Nil
18.	West Bengal	384.00	288.93	206.56	233.29	254.43 (214.43 as arrear of 1994-95)
19.	Chandigarh	26.68	4.59	4.80	4.32	24.00
20.	Delhi	90.25	40.04	57.65	62.45	96.07
21.	Pondicherry	28.22	Nil	21.13	4.80	9.60
22.	Goa	—	Nil	49.96	13.45	13.45
23.	Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—	Nil	17.75	17.75	37.47
Grand Total		2746.05	2200.07	2934.00	2200.00	3100.00

*State/UT's Wise Expenditure under National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers and Their Dependent*

(Rs. in crore)

S.No.	Name of State	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2.00	2.55	4.59	0.625	—
2.	Assam	0.125	2.02	—	—	—
3.	Bihar	3.50	3.13	—	—	—
4.	Gujarat	2.50	1.86	2.00	—	—
5.	Haryana	1.50	1.76	7.14	—	—
6.	Himachal Pradesh	0.60	2.53	Not due	—	—
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.025	1.00	-do-	—	—
8.	Karnataka	1.75	3.99	-do-	4.00	—
9.	Kerala	0.25	0.30	-do-	—	—
10.	Madhya Pradesh	4.00	13.36	12.26	15.89	20.18
11.	Maharashtra	3.70	6.59	3.78	5.00	5.80
12.	Orissa	3.50	0.58	1.19	—	2.56
13.	Punjab	3.50	0.58	Not due	—	2.55
14.	Rajasthan	4.75	1.01	2.27	—	6.86
15.	Tamil Nadu	5.00	0.80	Not due	2.44 Re	13.85
16.	Uttar Pradesh	8.00	14.94	37.63	45.05	38.16
17.	West Bengal	2.00	3.63	—	—	—
18.	Delhi	3.75	0.05	Not due	—	—
19.	Pondicherry	0.025	0.05	—	—	—
20.	Nagaland	—	—	0.11	—	—
21.	Meghalaya	0.025	—	—	—	—
Total		50.50	60.73	70.97	73.005	89.96

*Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship to SC and ST Students  
Central Assistance Released During Last Five Years*

(Rs. in lakh)

S.No.	Name of State/UT	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	480.63	636.06277	1077.365	1440.612	2980.339
2.	Assam	17.06	218.98079	Nil	314.885	625.985
3.	Bihar	102.562	799.184	590.144	451.00	Nil

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4.	Goa	0.01	0.44	1.46	0.90	0.40
5.	Gujarat	291.27	310.87	357.951	767.239	762.75
6.	Haryana	31.68	63.16	68.00	75.49	70.70
7.	Himachal Pradesh	Nil	0.296	3.272	3.8352	14.38
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.77	18.132	33.754	62.39	79.83
9.	Karnataka	223.95579	463.86824	1077.436	830.997	1078.82
10.	Kerala	109.734	24.952	106.764	510.646	41.294
11.	Madhya Pradesh	377.8395	53.8105	474.76	725.23	820.89
12.	Maharashtra	350.792	887.837	1240.04	2084.482	2557.20
13.	Manipur	23.08	37.73	59.47	115.56	227.78
14.	Meghalaya	0.61921	34.242	74.279	143.275	96.60
15.	Mizoram	Nil	62.1484	164.35	142.40	122.40
16.	Nagaland	102.37	120.00	60.00	Nil	243.427
17.	Orissa	55.30	56.21	385.74	313.559	741.291
18.	Punjab	29.44	19.492	120.878	73.80	237.05
19.	Rajasthan	264.768	241.92	348.02	311.68	665.40
20.	Sikkim	0.74	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
21.	Tamil Nadu	263.32	458.30	736.98	778.17	693.00
22.	Tripura	45.435	42.146	54.944	82.181	82.358
23.	Uttar Pradesh	700.00	700.00	350.00	386.9588	1669.82
24.	West Bengal	7.04	146.395	73.20	Nil	635.286
25.	Andaman & Nicobar	Nil	1.15	1.30	0.75	1.28
26.	Daman & Diu	0.8045	1.3603	2.562	1.60	2.64
27.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1.00	1.84	3.13	4.06	5.68
28.	Delhi	11.00	6.303	Nil	Nil	Nil
29.	Pondicherry	3.78	7.91	10.56	11.30	26.03
30.	Guwahati, Project	5.00	5.00	3.00	2.00	3.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>3500.00</b>	<b>5419.74</b>	<b>7479.359</b>	<b>9635.00</b>	<b>14485.63</b>

*Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Pre-Matric Scholarship to the Children of those engaged in Unclean Occupations*

*Central Assistance Released during last five years*

(Rs. in lakh)

S.No.	Name of State/UT	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1.	Andhra Pradesh	77.015	20.515	83.68	85.43312	71.98363
2.	Assam	13.00	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
3.	Bihar	20.1635	5.97811	65.80839	22.00	Nil
4.	Gujarat	25.4725	14.376	14.5725	44.959	335.13975
5.	Haryana	12.9183	48.5388	14.568	14.53864	54.81581
6.	Himachal Pradesh	Nil	7.63125	4.40225	3.50775	2.00
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	Nil	Nil	Nil	6.28825	0.708
8.	Karnataka	1.00	5.5055	1.862	0.83237	5.0355
9.	Kerala	11.3875	4.582	1.902	Nil	Nil
10.	Madhya Pradesh	98.7377	207.9293	168.963	121.765	153.105
11.	Maharashtra	14.72	5.431	20.03675	29.702	28.2695
12.	Meghalaya	0.225	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
13.	Orissa	1.305	5.32358	6.00945	2.00	2.48293
14.	Punjab	20.27	105.13136	32.976	Nil	33.73866
15.	Rajasthan	35.692	68.237	30.087	37.774	63.82
16.	Sikkim	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.55	0.50
17.	Tamil Nadu	5.16	19.94075	7.32375	57.28025	32.05125
18.	Tripura	9.416	12.5536	12.70775	12.1135	12.7765
19.	Uttar Pradesh	49.7875	78.53075	80.33175	166.3125	68.13497
20.	West Bengal	3.73	1.436	3.01325	1.00	Nil
21.	Andaman & Nicobar	Nil	1.75	0.405	0.10	Nil
22.	Delhi	Nil	25.28	12.60	19.128	27.4385
	<b>Total</b>	<b>400.00</b>	<b>638.67</b>	<b>561.24884</b>	<b>625.28438</b>	<b>892.00</b>

*Details of Central Assistance Released During Last Five Years Under Book Banks Scheme for SC/ST Students*

(Rs. in lakh)

S.No.	Name of State/UT	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1.	Andhra Pradesh	12.59	2.00	70.50	43.39	73.80
2.	Assam	0.33	0.30	5.78	3.00	3.00
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—
4.	Bihar	7.50	2.00	9.91	16.99	5.00
5.	Gujarat	1.58	0.30	0.05	10.61	7.33
6.	Goa	0.05	0.32	0.251	0.17	0.39
7.	Himachal Pradesh	0.45	0.45	0.61	0.38	1.53
8.	Haryana	1.27	1.92	5.85	3.00	3.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.77	0.80	0.13	1.59	2.91
10.	Karnataka	4.49	5.13	4.87	9.52	10.19
11.	Kerala	5.92	1.00	13.58	7.00	7.56
12.	Maharashtra	2.00	3.00	20.49	35.54	29.22
13.	Madhya Pradesh	1.95	24.37	36.90	42.14	33.87
14.	Mizoram	—	—	—	—	—
15.	Manipur	1.00	1.99	0.72	0.35	—
16.	Orissa	1.00	0.30	8.86	10.16	11.01
17.	Punjab	0.60	0.10	2.66	4.33	4.33
18.	Rajasthan	1.00	2.50	10.00	15.00	9.97
19.	Tamil Nadu	9.60	1.50	29.48	31.74	40.40
20.	Tripura	0.80	0.99	1.03	0.87	0.25
21.	Uttar Pradesh	2.00	11.49	103.09	54.00	15.00
22.	West Bengal	0.28	0.50	2.98	1.50	—
23.	A & N Island	0.15	—	—	—	—
24.	Chandigarh	0.30	1.50	0.25	—	—
25.	Delhi	—	4.26	2.49	3.69	3.99
26.	Daman & Diu	—	—	0.38	0.22	0.28
27.	Pondicherry	0.60	0.60	1.72	1.00	0.25
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—	—	—	—	0.84
<b>Total</b>		<b>56.23</b>	<b>67.32</b>	<b>332.581</b>	<b>296.19</b>	<b>264.12</b>

*Details of Central Assistance Released During Last Five Years  
Under Girls Hostel Scheme for SCs*

(Rs. in lakh)

S.No.	Name of State/UT	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1.	Andhra Pradesh	150.00	102.75	310.31	489.68	200.85
2.	Assam	7.00	—	—	9.00	9.00
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—
4.	Bihar	72.98	25.28	40.44	—	—
5.	Gujarat	11.88	—	15.06	—	14.13
6.	Haryana	—	3.64	—	—	—
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	5.00	8.31	—	2.10	—
8.	Karnataka	85.94	19.24	3.09	64.39	37.50
9.	Kerala	20.00	4.92	25.03	—	23.51
10.	Maharashtra	16.18	—	56.43	—	—
11.	Madhya Pradesh	207.26	134.52	0.64	—	—
12.	Manipur	1.25	0.98	2.32	6.54	—
13.	Orissa	25.00	40.00	38.76	41.40	49.59
14.	Punjab	1.00	—	1.00	3.30	3.00
15.	Rajasthan	3.47	—	5.05	—	12.78
16.	Sikkim	8.56	—	—	—	—
17.	Tamil Nadu	32.47	80.88	50.55	—	100.00
18.	Tripura	4.00	—	1.68	3.59	24.00
19.	Uttar Pradesh	51.35	76.36	15.77	—	31.82
20.	West Bengal	25.11	36.13	33.87	—	58.70
21.	Pondicherry	20.22	—	—	—	—
<b>Total</b>		<b>748.67</b>	<b>533.00</b>	<b>600.00</b>	<b>620.00</b>	<b>564.88</b>

*Details of Central Assistance Released During Last Five Years under  
Boys Hostel Scheme for SCs*

						(Rs. in lakh)
S.No.	Name of State/UT	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1.	Andhra Pradesh	270.42	32.18	181.98	—	198.90
2.	Assam	7.00	—	—	—	9.00
3.	Bihar	311.96	40.78	70.77	—	—
4.	Gujarat	60.66	—	39.50	—	65.16
5.	Haryana	—	3.64	—	—	1.82
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	5.00	—	0.145	—	3.15
7.	Karnataka	142.05	101.10	108.68	174.25	324.45
8.	Kerala	10.05	4.12	6.95	—	—
9.	Maharashtra	24.35	—	68.24	—	93.83
10.	Madhya Pradesh	—	101.84	—	—	216.30
11.	Manipur	1.25	2.51	2.04	—	—
12.	Orissa	15.00	30.00	34.00	35.60	25.29
13.	Punjab	1.50	2.50	2.50	2.70	2.00
14.	Rajasthan	7.58	—	2.52	—	220.01
15.	Sikkim	8.56	—	—	—	—
16.	Tamil Nadu	40.44	60.66	43.63	17.0305	100.00
17.	Tripura	4.90	—	5.00	0.47	6.00
18.	Uttar Pradesh	75.83	101.10	60.66	—	66.93
19.	West Bengal	13.93	19.60	23.37	—	134.01
20.	Pondicherry	1.00	—	—	—	—
21.	Chandigarh	—	—	—	—	15.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>1002.43</b>	<b>500.00</b>	<b>650.00</b>	<b>230.05</b>	<b>1482.85</b>

**Details of Central Assistance Released During Last Five Years under Coaching & Allied Scheme for SC/ST Students**

(Rs. in lakh)

S.No.	Name of State/UT	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1.	*Andhra Pradesh	23.68	17.88	3.00	40.25	55.41
2.	Assam	0.57	0.50	0.62	—	1.93
3.	Bihar	7.50	2.00	8.57	1.70	2.96
4.	*Gujarat	4.38	3.05	5.53	5.62	6.22
5.	Goa	0.82	0.15	—	—	—
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1.29	1.00	1.00	—	—
7.	Haryana	3.24	2.92	3.56	2.74	2.52
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	2.00	0.50	0.50	—	—
9.	*Karnataka	2.07	13.25	2.43	11.71	2.91
10.	Kerala	1.46	3.08	6.96	2.16	15.65
11.	*Maharashtra	2.21	1.00	1.00	5.44	6.80
12.	*Madhya Pradesh	22.29	8.30	10.16	8.63	9.27
13.	Manipur	—	0.25	0.25	—	—
14.	Meghalaya	0.25	0.50	0.50	—	—
15.	Nagaland	—	—	0.60	—	—
16.	Orissa	0.58	1.50	1.50	—	—
17.	*Punjab	8.26	11.77	9.99	25.59	13.92
18.	Rajasthan	15.27	16.12	22.94	4.60	—
19.	Tamil Nadu	4.00	2.00	2.00	—	—
20.	Tripura	2.96	0.90	6.39	—	—
21.	*Uttar Pradesh	17.35	26.22	21.49	22.16	17.03
22.	West Bengal	0.63	0.50	0.50	—	—
23.	*Delhi	*7.95	47.56	28.74	53.58	70.74
24.	*Arunachal Pradesh				*7.54	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>128.76</b>	<b>160.95</b>	<b>138.23</b>	<b>191.72</b>	<b>205.36</b>

\*This includes exp. for State Institutions and Private Institutions.

*Central Assistance Released During Last Five Years for Scheme of Upgradation of Merit of SC/ST Students*

(Rs. in lakh)

S.No.	Name of State	Grant Released					1991-92
		1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	—	0.97	—	—	—	—
2.	Assam	—	—	—	—	—	—
3.	Bihar	—	—	—	—	—	—
4.	Haryana	1.52	2.90	2.90	2.90	3.20	48
5.	Himachal Pradesh	0.56	1.00	1.10	1.03	0.32	23
6.	Maharashtra	—	—	—	—	—	—
7.	Madhya Pradesh	—	—	—	20.95	—	—
8.	Orissa	—	—	3.92	21.07	17.85	—
9.	Punjab	—	—	—	3.75	—	—
10.	Rajasthan	4.74	4.11	5.85	8.33	—	164
11.	Tamil Nadu	—	—	—	31.82	—	—
12.	Tripura	0.54	1.57	—	0.84	0.09	9
13.	Uttar Pradesh	11.40	5.35	—	4.93	—	366
14.	West Bengal	—	—	—	2.18	—	—
15.	Kerala	—	—	—	—	—	—
16.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	1.69	1.37	—	0.71	—
17.	Karnataka	—	4.45	—	2.20	—	—
Total		18.76	22.04	15.14	100.00	22.17	610

*The Central assistance released to the State Govts/UT Admns. under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Implementation of Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 during 1991-92 to 1995-96*

(Rs. in lakh)

S.No.	Name of State/UT	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	90.20	46.50	91.02	121.12	36.675
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—
3.	Assam	—	—	—	—	2.50

	2	3	4	5	6	7
4. Bihar		16.95	15.00	26.50	—	116.00
5. Goa		—	—	0.05	—	0.25
6. Gujarat		33.21	78.335	92.745	112.11	268.045
7. Haryana		1.85	6.05	5.215	4.818	4.716
8. Himachal Pradesh		1.30	1.04	1.00	1.00	1.50
9. Jammu & Kashmir		—	—	—	—	—
10. Kamataka		149.63	22.352	148.87	139.815	158.515
11. Kerala		1.625	7.685	19.99	25.074	35.368
12. Madhya Pradesh		89.445	101.00	16.75	204.52	194.62
13. Maharashtra		1.54	35.247	96.147	10.52	124.36
14. Manipur		—	—	—	—	—
15. Meghalaya		—	—	—	—	—
16. Mizoram		—	—	—	4.20	—
17. Nagaland		—	—	—	—	—
18. Orissa		3.65	3.00	2.00	2.00	5.00
19. Punjab		9.375	12.00	13.40	33.50	20.45
20. Rajasthan		14.00	49.03	51.00	39.88	57.50
21. Sikkim		—	—	—	—	—
22. Tamil Nadu		43.69	90.605	69.365	70.34	82.54
23. Tripura		—	—	—	—	—
24. Uttar Pradesh		128.08	66.00	49.598	178.513	399.431
25. West Bengal		15.455	4.41	4.40	5.15	—
<b>Union Territories</b>						
1. Andaman & Nicobar Islands		—	—	—	—	—
2. Chandigarh		—	—	—	—	—
3. Dadra & Nagar Haveli		—	—	5.00	8.22	14.92
4. Delhi		—	—	—	—	—
5. Daman & Diu		—	—	—	—	0.10
6. Lakshadweep		—	—	—	—	—
7. Pondicherry		9.41	11.746	13.14	13.93	14.35
<b>Total</b>		<b>609.41</b>	<b>550.00</b>	<b>706.19</b>	<b>974.71</b>	<b>1536.84</b>

*Details of quantum of grant released to State Governments/UT Admns. during the last five years  
(1991-92 to 1995-96) under the scheme SCA to SCP for SCs*

(Rs. in lakh)

S.No.	State/UT	SCA to SCP released				
		1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2117.72425	1937.61	2416.06	3255.36	3245.41
2.	Assam	190.83483	189.44	220.51	273.34	22.65
3.	Bihar	2197.37940	2096.54	2327.11	—	—
4.	Gujarat	666.64363	908.53	796.82	956.68	278.90
5.	Goa	2.60924	2.64	2.86	3.95	2.09
6.	Haryana	537.60287	398.20	424.53	538.05	623.00
7.	Himachal Pradesh	203.07126	502.69	699.54	195.72	193.63
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	79.82053	66.79	76.33	100.00	83.77
9.	Kerala	381.89985	502.74	402.84	508.81	492.73
10.	Karnataka	1485.71552	1310.06	1282.71	1873.76	2350.09
11.	Madhya Pradesh	1705.34466	1839.09	2803.81	2097.57	2425.33
12.	Maharashtra	1316.13422	1698.92	1562.79	1575.89	1745.47
13.	Manipur	5.46924	7.42	5.56	6.09	5.90
14.	Orissa	1021.78487	1323.38	1075.66	1332.84	1311.82
15.	Punjab	625.94256	625.32	875.92	1626.72	571.68
16.	Rajasthan	1150.43683	1162.90	1829.89	886.37	1828.26
17.	Sikkim	2.85924	3.21	3.06	4.22	3.57
18.	Tripura	42.81696	57.38	58.85	100.97	72.26
19.	Tamil Nadu	1778.85250	1911.34	1879.11	2655.66	2803.55
20.	Uttar Pradesh	4844.77202	5495.07	5933.29	6297.51	5839.03
21.	West Bengal	2382.01552	2669.54	2322.75	2813.37	2955.22
22.	Chandigarh	9.23000	9.44	12.39	17.40	14.86
23.	Delhi	134.36000	148.60	184.76	244.42	231.16
24.	Pondicherry	12.90000	13.15	14.81	19.31	19.62
<b>Total</b>		<b>22896.22000</b>	<b>24880.00</b>	<b>27211.96</b>	<b>27385.00</b>	<b>27500.00</b>

*Statement of Funds Released to States/UTs during 1991-92 for Tribal Development  
Under Various Schemes of T.D. Division*

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl No	State/UT	SCA*	Article 275(1)	Girls Hostel	Boys Hostel	Ashram School	R&T	Oil & Seeds	NGOs
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1529.34	117.99	31.305	49.00	—	5.00	50.00	3.01
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	28.175	—	—	—	33.41
3.	Assam	1077.61	81.21	16.00	16.00	—	16.05	—	27.06
4.	Bihar	3211.19	215.85	68.82	—	—	9.25	—	10.80
5.	Gujarat	1870.90	180.12	30.13	17.16	—	2.25	—	0.48
6.	Himachal Pradesh	421.71	7.32	—	—	—	0.22	—	—
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	245.90	6.84	—	—	—	—	—	—
8.	Karnataka	253.24	67.80	6.125	—	—	—	—	0.15
9.	Kerala	133.27	9.69	1.00	23.58	38.38	12.00	—	15.12
10.	Madhya Pradesh	6835.01	445.24	—	35.00	—	13.20	26.20	0.98
11.	Maharashtra	1825.21	214.38	32.50	39.75	190.00	5.80	—	17.74
12.	Manipur	388.40	14.40	7.82	1.37	—	10.00	—	21.57
13.	Meghalaya	—	39.96	—	—	—	—	—	31.27
14.	Mizoram	—	17.16	6.125	6.125	—	—	—	—
15.	Nagaland	—	24.18	—	—	—	—	—	1.31
16.	New Delhi	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	47.60
17.	Orissa	3298.65	219.70	37.427	10.98	20.00	3.61	40.80	4.29
18.	Rajasthan	1679.23	155.37	36.75	—	—	5.24	—	9.45
19.	Sikkim	50.93	2.70	—	—	—	—	—	—
20.	Tamil Nadu	281.77	19.32	12.25	7.58	—	11.54	—	3.63
21.	Trpura	430.35	21.69	4.96	15.00	8.00	0.14	—	—
22.	Uttar Pradesh	58.40	8.64	—	—	—	5.22	—	1.22
23.	West Bengal	1271.66	114.06	14.03	14.94	—	5.48	33.00	20.48

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>Union Territories</b>									
1.	A & N Islands	99.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—	—	0.48	11.41	—	—	—	—
3.	Lakshadweep	—	—	—	22.05	—	—	—	—
4.	Daman & Diu	11.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total		24982.85	2000.00	305.722	298.12	256.38	105.00	150.00	250.00

\*The above release include Additional Special Central Assistance given to State Governments against their proposals.

*Statement of Funds Released to States/UTs During 1992-93 under Various Schemes of T.D. Divisions*

(Rs. in lakh)

S.No	State/UT	SCA	Article 275(1)	Girls Hostel	Boys Hostel	Ashram School	Oil Seeds & Oils	Vocational Training	R&T	NGO	STDCC	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1529.34	233.22	—	—	35.00	33.48	14.78	4.81	2.96	10.00	1863.59
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	32.40	—	—	—	—	—	—	57.89	—	90.29
3.	Assam	1077.61	160.80	16.38	16.00	—	—	—	10.70	20.75	—	1302.24
4.	Bihar	3175.25	427.20	—	—	—	17.39	—	9.82	23.30	50.00	3702.96
5.	Gujarat	1855.84	356.40	18.21	23.00	25.00	—	26.10	2.19	2.77	—	2309.51
6.	Himachal Pradesh	403.39	14.40	—	—	—	—	—	0.31	—	—	418.10
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	296.14	56.40	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	352.54
8.	Karnataka	327.42	133.98	—	—	—	—	—	—	10.39	—	471.79
9.	Kerala	207.23	19.20	21.42	15.87	39.73	—	—	8.00	18.57	—	330.02
10.	Madhya Pradesh	6785.01	880.80	83.07	63.74	—	26.52	—	28.28	7.89	51.00	7926.31
11.	Maharashtra	1815.21	423.96	—	—	—	—	—	11.87	35.48	24.00	2310.52
12.	Manipur	383.41	28.38	—	—	—	—	—	6.60	18.65	—	437.04
13.	Meghalaya	—	79.20	—	—	—	—	—	—	34.52	—	113.72
14.	Mizoram	—	34.02	—	—	—	—	14.78	—	—	—	48.80
15.	Nagaland	—	48.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.09	—	50.09
16.	New Delhi	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	44.39	—	44.39

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
17.	Orissa	3378.03	434.78	35.58	30.00	42.00	33.04	—	3.22	22.82	—	3979.47
18.	Rajasthan	1679.46	307.64	24.50	10.11	—	—	—	4.58	10.91	30.00	2067.20
19.	Sikkim	60.93	6.22	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	66.15
20.	Tamil Nadu	270.72	38.40	6.12	6.74	24.69	—	14.78	9.44	9.11	—	380.00
21.	Tripura	414.94	42.78	8.00	18.38	10.00	—	—	0.69	7.19	—	501.98
22.	Uttar Pradesh	58.40	17.22	6.12	15.16	23.58	—	—	3.46	1.94	—	125.88
23.	West Bengal	1171.67	225.60	30.60	24.26	—	39.57	29.56	1.03	23.38	35.00	1580.67
<b>Union Territories</b>												
1.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—	—	—	43.74	—	—	—	—	—	—	43.74
2.	A&N Islands	86.13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	86.13
3.	Daman & Diu	23.87	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	23.87
Total		25000.00	4000.00	250.00	267.00	200.00	150.00	100.00	105.00	355.00	200.00	30627.00

*Statement of Funds Released to States/UTs During 1993-94 under Various Schemes of T.D. Divisions*

(Rs. in Lakh)

S.No	State/UT	SCA	Article 275(1)	Girls Hostel	Boys Hostel	Ashram School	Educational Complex	Vocational Training	R&T	NGO	STDC	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1593.22	437.25	53.11	30.74	34.50	5.28	—	5.66	10.74	25.00	2195.50
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	60.75	—	—	—	—	—	0.57	71.89	—	133.21
3.	Assam	1087.57	301.50	—	—	—	—	—	12.10	20.65	—	1421.82
4.	Bihar	3497.39	801.00	—	—	—	—	—	12.71	31.64	—	4342.74
5.	Gujarat	2234.77	668.25	19.51	39.23	—	25.32	3.46	0.55	4.33	—	2995.42
6.	Himachal Pradesh	755.03	27.00	—	—	—	—	—	0.27	—	—	782.30
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	518.60	105.75	—	5.97	—	—	—	—	—	—	630.32
8.	Karnataka	439.76	251.25	—	—	—	—	—	0.27	19.44	—	710.72
9.	Kerala	167.25	36.00	20.00	20.00	47.10	4.93	14.53	7.85	19.70	41.00	378.36
10.	Madhya Pradesh	8117.65	1651.50	27.03	39.28	—	35.20	44.34	23.35	15.86	60.00	10014.21

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
11.	Maharashtra	2234.35	795.00	—	—	69.42	6.33	—	23.75	42.63	53.00	3224.48
12.	Manipur	417.12	53.25	10.11	10.11	—	—	—	3.50	1.05	10.00	505.14
13.	Meghalaya	—	148.50	9.80	9.80	—	—	—	—	52.34	15.00	235.44
14.	Mizoram	—	63.75	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	63.75
16.	Nagaland	—	90.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.08	—	91.08
16.	New Delhi	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	29.80	—	29.80
17.	Orissa	3603.23	815.25	77.24	29.40	16.20	31.75	70.03	3.73	43.38	50.00	4740.21
18.	Rajasthan	2664.68	576.75	12.25	36.75	—	16.19	44.34	5.57	10.49	61.40	3428.42
19.	Sikkim	73.67	9.75	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	83.42
20.	Tamil Nadu	214.05	72.00	—	—	34.65	—	4.73	7.39	12.20	—	345.02
21.	Trnpura	372.37	80.25	7.31	18.38	10.00	—	—	6.80	—	35.00	530.11
22.	Uttar Pradesh	69.22	32.25	3.65	3.65	40.68	—	—	4.98	1.28	—	155.71
23.	West Bengal	1319.06	423.00	23.74	26.40	—	—	8.57	0.93	14.74	—	1816.44
<b>Union Territories</b>												
1.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2.	A & N Islands	77.22	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	77.22
3.	Daman & Diu	28.29	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	28.29
Total		29484.60	7600.00	263.75	269.71	252.55	125.00	190.00	119.98	403.24	350.40	38959.13

*Statement of Funds Released to States/U.T.s During 1994-95 under various Schemes of T.D. Divisions*

(Rs. in lakh)

S.No.	State/UT	SCA	Article 275(1)	Girls Hostel	Boys Hostel	Ashram School	Educational Complex	Vocational Training	R&T	NGO	STDCC	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1947.10	460.50	50.00	58.47	66.80	2.01	—	16.98	9.18	—	2611.04
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	60.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	83.40	—	143.40
3.	Assam	1112.67	315.00	—	16.00	—	—	—	12.55	25.94	—	1482.16
4.	Bihar	1748.70	725.25	—	—	—	4.85	44.34	10.63	34.99	—	2568.76

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
5.	Gujarat	2491.56	675.00	4.73	6.44	—	24.25	21.60	6.16	2.36	30.00	3262.10
6.	Himachal Pradesh	450.57	24.00	—	—	—	—	—	0.21	—	—	474.78
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	550.63	95.25	—	86.02	—	—	—	—	—	—	731.90
8.	Karnataka	409.03	210.00	—	—	67.50	—	—	0.63	22.16	—	709.32
9.	Kerala	126.30	35.25	20.00	20.00	—	—	—	10.00	28.11	36.00	275.66
10.	Madhya Pradesh	7535.72	1687.50	115.83	16.90	—	52.30	—	13.09	3.91	124.00	9549.25
11.	Maharashtra	2196.34	801.75	—	—	1.76	—	54.12	24.30	56.97	30.00	3165.24
12.	Manipur	432.81	69.00	—	—	—	—	—	2.00	3.98	10.00	517.79
13.	Meghalaya	—	166.50	11.00	11.00	—	—	—	—	48.63	15.00	252.13
14.	Mizoram	—	72.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	72.00
15.	Nagaland	—	116.25	—	—	—	—	—	—	64.36	—	180.61
16.	New Delhi	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.00
17.	Orissa	3956.55	771.00	44.00	36.00	60.00	64.99	88.68	8.59	52.87	75.00	5157.68
18.	Rajasthan	2202.79	600.00	—	—	24.50	48.19	—	6.14	11.37	30.00	2922.99
19.	Sikkim	75.10	9.75	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	84.85
20.	Tamil Nadu	256.88	63.00	—	—	—	—	10.05	7.12	12.89	—	349.94
21.	Tripura	480.01	93.75	19.44	29.17	19.44	—	—	10.41	4.22	—	656.44
22.	Uttar Pradesh	70.41	31.50	—	—	—	—	—	—	3.25	—	105.16
23.	West Bengal	1335.83	417.75	—	—	—	—	6.22	1.19	27.62	—	1788.61
<b>Union Territories</b>												
1.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—	—	37.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	37.00
2.	A & N Islands	85.50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	85.50
3.	Daman & Diu	35.50	—	3.00	26.82	10.00	—	13.18	—	—	—	88.50
<b>Total</b>		<b>27500.00</b>	<b>7500.00</b>	<b>305.00</b>	<b>306.82</b>	<b>250.00</b>	<b>196.59</b>	<b>238.19</b>	<b>130.00</b>	<b>496.21</b>	<b>350.00</b>	<b>37272.81</b>

*Statement of Funds Released to States/U.T.s During 1995-96 under  
Various Schemes of T.D. Divisions*

As on 31/3/1996  
(Rs. in lakh)

S.No.	State/UT	SCA	Article 275(1)	Girls Hostel	Boys Hostel	Ashram School	Educational Complex	Vocational Training	R&T	NGO	STDCC	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2140.32	460.50	91.00	92.63	72.17	2.49	64.34	25.54	27.01	90.00	3066.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	60.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	84.50	—	144.50
3.	Assam	1545.19	315.00	3.03	—	—	—	64.90	17.77	15.10	—	1960.99
4.	Bihar	274.22	725.25	—	—	—	1.82	—	14.73	35.30	50.00	1101.32
5.	Gujarat	3060.26	675.00	—	—	—	22.51	52.31	0.14	1.08	—	3811.30
6.	Himachal Pradesh	541.62	24.00	6.50	—	—	—	—	0.28	—	—	572.40
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	756.64	95.25	24.05	12.70	—	—	—	—	10.82	—	899.46
8.	Karnataka	659.99	210.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	15.80	—	885.79
9.	Kerala	181.20	35.25	—	—	—	2.75	—	11.25	29.42	57.00	316.87
10.	Madhya Pradesh	9579.66	1687.50	—	—	99.45	30.44	44.34	22.21	12.54	57.00	11533.14
11.	Maharashtra	2930.82	801.75	—	—	—	0.68	—	—	40.73	75.00	3848.98
12.	Manipur	574.53	69.00	—	—	—	—	—	0.49	3.06	8.00	655.08
13.	Meghalaya	—	166.50	13.75	13.75	—	—	—	—	68.91	—	262.91
14.	Mizoram	—	72.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	72.00
15.	Nagaland	—	116.25	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.96	—	118.21
16.	New Delhi	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	36.76	—	36.76
17.	Orissa	4958.10	771.00	65.93	46.62	70.00	68.67	—	12.90	70.64	—	6063.86
18.	Rajasthan	2819.04	600.00	66.74	—	—	20.64	—	7.93	10.79	—	3525.14
19.	Sikkim	100.19	9.75	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	109.94
20.	Tamil Nadu	274.44	63.00	—	—	—	—	—	16.54	17.81	—	371.79
21.	Tripura	564.97	93.75	19.44	38.38	38.38	—	59.12	8.27	1.46	63.00	886.77
22.	Uttar Pradesh	104.08	31.50	—	—	—	—	—	1.12	6.19	—	142.89
23.	West Bengal	1763.21	417.75	19.57	115.92	—	—	—	10.83	40.12	—	2367.40

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<b>Union Territories</b>												
1.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—	—	40.00	45.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	85.00
2.	A & N Islands	112.21	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	112.21
3.	Daman & Diu	59.31	—	20.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	79.31
Total		33000.00	7500.00	370.01	365.00	280.00	150.00	285.00	150.00	530.00	400.00	43030.01

*The Amount Spent under the Scheme for Prohibition and Drug Abuse Prevention During 1991-92 to 1995-96 through Grant-in-Aid to Voluntary Organisations — State-wise*

(Rs. in lakh)

S.No.	Name of State	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Assam	1.87	1.13	1.14	7.34	10.5
2.	Andhra Pradesh	2.70	6.58	6.60	15.07	14.8
3.	Bihar	32.31	42.20	81.50	122.60	103.56
4.	Goa	6.57	1.37	4.91	10.51	6.41
5.	Gujarat	29.30	23.09	45.95	43.75	33.55
6.	Haryana	45.70	30.44	48.98	92.87	46.69
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	5.40	2.72	3.39	9.38	6.13
8.	Karnataka	4.80	7.12	18.40	19.33	19.66
9.	Kerala	22.30	23.93	63.83	82.88	83.56
10.	Madhya Pradesh	30.72	15.62	14.39	31.63	21.67
11.	Maharashtra	26.86	30.61	47.85	63.88	55.69
12.	Manipur	38.69	49.63	94.14	127.36	86.72
13.	Meghalaya	2.49	1.13	Nil	2.00	3.37
14.	Mizoram	18.04	15.84	29.60	43.83	29.64
15.	Nagaland	15.53	16.99	8.20	26.62	13.38
16.	Orissa	16.67	24.77	50.46	52.36	60.20
17.	Punjab	4.49	30.48	39.37	43.17	37.98

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
18.	Rajasthan	46.98	52.96	72.30	70.95	45.26
19.	Sikkim	0.47	0.71	1.53	4.52	0.56
20.	Tamil Nadu	27.53	24.17	35.90	69.37	90.70
21.	Tripura	4.24	8.18	1.27	7.10	1.90
22.	Uttar Pradesh	43.09	101.78	122.13	153.73	133.76
23.	West Bengal	44.38	30.03	69.99	116.68	80.90
<b>Union Territories</b>						
24.	Chandigarh	0.58	3.11	5.20	9.31	8.37
25.	Delhi	61.51	80.43	65.15	108.81	105.89
26.	Pondicherry	2.21	1.23	1.19	2.43	2.52

*The Amount Spent under the Scheme of Organisational Assistance to Voluntary Social Welfare Organisations During 1991-92 to 1995-96 through Grant-in-Aid to Voluntary Organisations—State-wise*

(Rs. in lakh)

S.No.	Name of State	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.96	0.50	2.50	3.00	1.00
2.	Assam	1.44	—	—	1.50	—
3.	Bihar	0.50	—	—	—	—
4.	Gujarat	5.39	1.70	5.00	3.89	3.93
5.	Haryana	0.50	—	—	0.96	1.00
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—	—	0.02
7.	Karnataka	0.59	0.50	0.75	1.41	0.50
8.	Kerala	2.85	0.65	3.60	3.75	3.00
9.	Madhya Pradesh	1.50	—	0.78	1.28	1.14
10.	Maharashtra	4.61	1.00	3.70	4.25	2.00
11.	Manipur	0.48	—	—	—	0.50
12.	Orissa	1.38	—	1.43	2.64	2.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3.	Punjab	0.50	—	—	—	—
14.	Rajasthan	3.72	1.31	2.59	2.37	1.40
15.	Tamilnadu	0.79	—	1.50	0.25	0.25
16.	Uttar Pradesh	0.50	—	—	0.39	—
17.	West Bengal	4.41	2.45	7.26	5.08	5.24
<b>Union Territory</b>						
1.	Delhi	4.05	1.67	3.52	3.07	4.50

*Grants released (State-wise) for the scheme for the welfare of  
Street children from 1991-92 to 1995-96*

(Rs. in lakh)

S.No.	State/UT	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1.	Andhra Pradesh	***	***	0.62	22.17	21.08
2.	Assam	***	***	—	3.08	3.46
3.	Gujarat	***	***	8.05	22.92	25.04
4.	Karnataka	***	***	6.44	22.09	17.06
5.	Kerala	***	***	—	1.85	3.37
6.	Madhya Pradesh	***	***	—	9.23	16.38
7.	Maharashtra	**	***	17.11	44.42	20.09
8.	Manipur	***	***	—	5.54	3.70
9.	Mizoram	***	***	—	1.23	—
10.	Orissa	***	***	—	1.23	6.76
11.	Rajasthan	***	***	—	2.47	6.78
12.	Tamil Nadu	***	***	20.65	42.37	19.04
13.	Uttar Pradesh	***	***	12.33	22.65	14.80
14.	West Bengal	***	***	27.72	76.96	91.96
15.	Delhi	***	***	18.22	21.53	34.96
<b>Total</b>		***	***	111.14	301.74	284.48

\*\*\*Scheme came into operation during 1993-94.

*Grants released (State-wise) for the Scheme of Welfare for the Aged from 1991-92 to 1995-96*

(Rs. in lakh)

S.No.	State/UT	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5.73	26.50	60.84	145.52	180.26
2.	Assam	—	0.75	2.10	2.35	2.79
3.	Bihar	0.20	0.36	4.50	3.35	4.47
4.	Gujarat	—	—	0.97	3.35	1.74
5.	Haryana	2.03	3.60	5.37	10.76	13.25
6.	Himachal Pradesh	—	0.15	0.37	1.25	1.67
7.	Karnataka	—	2.53	3.08	11.00	20.08
8.	Kerala	0.47	0.23	—	4.77	4.63
9.	Maharashtra	4.40	2.69	4.17	7.17	7.21
10.	Madhya Pradesh	0.84	4.34	1.44	9.71	10.71
11.	Manipur	2.04	5.85	22.73	17.45	26.72
12.	Orissa	8.38	21.25	41.10	63.84	69.94
13.	Punjab	—	0.13	0.73	0.60	1.51
14.	Rajasthan	2.61	2.45	2.17	4.56	—
15.	Tamil Nadu	6.93	13.45	43.04	57.34	84.09
16.	Tripura	2.29	5.86	7.27	16.31	22.39
17.	Uttar Pradesh	0.59	5.94	49.61	79.82	90.72
18.	West Bengal	14.61	32.52	51.95	82.91	93.29
19.	Delhi	12.74	13.32	4.37	5.75	5.72
20.	Pondicherry	—	1.95	—	0.62	6.86
<b>Total</b>		<b>63.86</b>	<b>148.87</b>	<b>305.62</b>	<b>528.50</b>	<b>637.05</b>

*Grants released (State-wise) for the Scheme of prevention and control of  
Juvenile social maladjustment from 1991-92 to 1995-96*

(Rs. in lakh)

S.No.	State/UT	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8.36	12.59	—	—	—
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	7.90	—	—	—
3.	Assam	0.31	0.47	10.47	10.00	1.63
4.	Bihar	6.75	10.16	—	—	—
5.	Goa	0.54	23.81	27.99	—	0.81
6.	Gujarat	39.87	40.63	—	7.93	—
7.	Haryana	0.54	1.32	1.32	4.83	—
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.49	0.07	—	—	—
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—	—	—
10.	Karnataka	80.29	52.35	—	—	—
11.	Kerala	28.39	5.48	—	28.18	8.49
12.	Madhya Pradesh	32.99	86.98	—	100.71	—
13.	Maharashtra	69.51	104.75	—	—	—
14.	Manipur	—	—	—	—	—
15.	Meghalaya	0.98	1.96	1.02	2.78	2.81
16.	Mizoram	0.25	1.99	0.48	26.68	2.87
17.	Nagaland	—	3.39	1.41	3.89	2.59
18.	Orissa	17.58	1.80	0.55	1.61	—
19.	Punjab	30.38	9.31	23.58	15.65	3.20
20.	Rajasthan	4.65	4.65	1.97	2.23	—
21.	Sikkim	—	1.71	0.21	—	—
22.	Tamil Nadu	55.05	52.70	—	—	0.77
23.	Tripura	—	—	—	—	—
24.	Uttar Pradesh	10.60	60.02	—	45.15	—
25.	West Bengal	47.55	54.23	41.61	50.38	46.76
26.	Pondicherry	0.50	0.76	—	—	—
	<b>Total</b>	<b>446.67</b>	<b>539.00</b>	<b>110.61</b>	<b>300.02</b>	<b>69.93</b>

*Grants released (State-wise) for the scheme of Beggary Prevention from 1991-92 to 1995-96*

(Rs. in lakh)

S.No.	State/UT	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1.	Andhra Pradesh	***	—	—	3.00	9.00
2.	Delhi	***	4.46	0.53	10.26	0.13
3.	Gujarat	***	8.68	—	—	—
4.	Karnataka	***	3.52	—	35.20	—
5.	Madhya Pradesh	***	—	3.52	—	—
6.	Maharashtra	***	—	—	4.55	13.05
7.	West Bengal	***	3.34	3.14	1.97	—
8.	Tamil Nadu	***	—	16.05	—	—
Total		***	20.00	23.24	54.98	22.18

\*\*\*Scheme came into operation during 1993-94.

*Grants released (State-wise) for the Scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Organisations providing Social Defence Services from 1991-92 to 1995-96*

(Rs. in lakh)

S.No.	State/UT	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1.	Uttar Pradesh	***	1.08	2.53	11.77	23.11
2.	West Bengal	***	0.33	0.72	3.20	7.42
3.	Delhi	***	6.72	6.33	6.33	6.33
Total		***	8.13	9.58	21.30	36.86

\*\*\*Complete records are not available.

*Amount of Grant Spent Under Shishu Greh Scheme and VCA Grant (General Grant in Aid) Scheme during the Last Five Years i.e. 1991-92, 92-93, 93-94, 94-95 and 95-96*

Years	Shishu Greh Schemes for promotion of in-country Adoption	V.C.A. (Genl. grant-in-aid) for promoting adoptions
1991-92	—	Rs. 3.42 lakhs
1992-93	Rs. 6.52 lakhs	Rs. 3.40 lakhs
1993-94	Rs. 39.80 lakhs	Rs. 6.86 lakhs
1994-95	Rs. 51.34 lakhs	Rs. 5.93 lakhs
1995-96	Rs. 63.51 lakhs	Rs. 4.39 lakhs

*Amount spent under various schemes for welfare of Minorities and Backward Classes during the last five years*

(Rs. in lakh)

State/UT	Scheme-wise Grant since their inception						
	Pre-examination coaching scheme (Since inception)				NMFC		Multi-sectoral Plan Development 1995-96
	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1994-95	1995-96	
Andhra Pradesh	Nil	7.06	14.00	20.20	Nil	98.00	2.00
Assam	Nil	Nil	3.34	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Bihar	Nil	Nil	15.01	15.09	Nil	Nil	Nil
Gujarat	Nil	3.02	5.46	Nil	Nil	Nil	1.00
Haryana	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	93.44	1.00
J&K	Nil	2.23	2.34	Nil	Nil	77.13	Nil
Karnataka	Nil	Nil	2.34	2.10	253.43	23.65	3.00
Kerala	Nil	8.18	5.99	Nil	327.14	Nil	5.00
Madhya Pradesh	Nil	4.32	7.85	5.01	Nil	136.29	1.00
Maharashtra	Nil	1.35	9.52	9.30	582.95	Nil	2.00
Manipur	Nil	Nil	1.50	1.41	Nil	Nil	Nil
Orissa	Nil	Nil	Nil	5.55	Nil	Nil	Nil
Punjab	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	91.69	Nil
Rajasthan	Nil	4.25	3.33	2.70	Nil	Nil	1.00
Tamil Nadu	1.10	3.20	3.41	6.57	464.00	Nil	Nil
Uttar Pradesh	0.75	6.52	34.84	35.60	1376.40	93.18	13.00
West Bengal	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	9.00
Delhi	2.82	9.82	41.22	34.35	Nil	Nil	Nil

*Grants in Aid Sanctioned to Implementing Agencies Under the Scheme of Assistance to Disabled for Purchase/Fittings of Aids and Appliances*

(Rs. in Lakh)

S.No.	State/UT	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8.50	8.04	8.43	66.91	13.82
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	2.00	—	1.00
3.	Bihar	13.51	14.36	44.00	19.00	29.45

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4.	Gujarat	17.00	21.80	26.00	56.94	44.85
5.	Haryana	5.75	6.50	8.00	8.00	10.00
6.	Karnataka	6.00	3.75	21.00	63.25	—
7.	Kerala	1.00	—	0.37	4.73	3.00
8.	Manipur	1.00	1.25	—	—	—
9.	Madhya Pradesh	10.20	10.25	5.25	19.25	23.63
10.	Maharashtra	23.00	23.75	29.46	56.60	14.78
11.	Orissa	12.00	15.36	78.00	50.75	13.38
12.	Punjab	1.00	1.25	0.62	—	41.34
13.	Rajasthan	51.50	61.70	127.12	222.00	136.00
14.	Tamil Nadu	18.50	23.72	31.12	93.52	40.40
15.	Uttar Pradesh	437.50	442.50	451.75	693.67	537.00
16.	West Bengal	36.30	12.70	47.50	65.97	96.21
17.	Chandigarh	15.25	25.35	32.85	40.40	—
18.	Goa	0.30	0.50	0.36	0.70	0.35
19.	Delhi	41.25	25.80	87.91	55.81	61.72
				1001.74	1517.50	1066.93
No. of beneficiaries		40000	45000	57000	85000	70000
No. of Organisations assisted		59	61	65	77	78

*Schemes for Handicapped*

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	State/UT	AMT RELE. 1991-92	AMT RELE. 1992-93	AMT RELE. 1993-94	AMT RELE. 1994-95	AMT RELE. 1995-96
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	71.27	133.12	99.40	279.08	432.27
2.	Assam	1.72	1.11	0.51	5.81	3.76
3.	Bihar	24.89	45.65	27.50	49.79	60.72

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4.	Goa	5.24	5.08	4.84	6.65	7.47
5.	Gujarat	34.00	19.20	22.42	32.74	28.49
6.	Haryana	7.47	10.19	Nil	15.87	14.98
7.	Himachal Pradesh	2.90	11.75	Nil	26.28	15.36
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	3.17	5.00	3.48	4.45	3.08
9.	Karnataka	57.80	124.09	114.25	207.43	216.68
10.	Kerala	47.25	69.21	59.71	138.95	158.33
11.	Madhya Pradesh	9.01	5.95	15.54	8.71	1.87
12.	Maharashtra	—	8.37	79.66	106.40	80.61
13.	Meghalaya	60.90	112.12	2.98	4.98	4.25
14.	Mizoram	5.22	3.24	Nil	2.16	3.04
15.	Punjab	—	0.49	Nil	13.89	13.91
16.	Orissa	13.17	13.05	10.64	32.71	37.97
17.	Rajasthan	2.06	12.29	22.74	36.47	38.05
18.	Tamilnadu	17.59	18.16	70.73	146.20	99.59
19.	U.P.	30.87	53.28	152.87	237.17	639.17
20.	West Bengal	82.98	122.00	273.24	166.34	174.54
21.	Tripura	80.72	95.34	3.11	7.75	1.79
22.	Chandigarh	1.57	0.79	1.16	0.90	2.33
23.	Delhi	1.84	1.12	107.29	159.45	149.74
24.	Pondicherry	71.70	88.96	Nil	2.50	Nil
25.	Manipur	0.78	—	8.30	17.61	17.98

[Translation]

**Rajiv Environment Project**

3703. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :  
SHRI SHIV RAJ SINGH :

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

(a) the salient features of the Rajiv Environment Project;

(b) the names of the districts selected under the said project from each State and funds allocated for the purpose; and

(c) the time by which the project is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) to (c) The thrust of Rajiv Environment Project is to ensure that all the ongoing schemes of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, environment related schemes and programmes of other Central Ministries and State Governments are implemented in a coordinated and intensive manner so as to create a visible impact within a time span of five years. The list of the districts selected under the Project is given in enclosed statement. Separate funds have not been allocated so far under the project.

**Statement**

*Statewise List of 50 Districts Selected for Environment & Eco-Development Programme*

Sl.No.	State	No. of Districts	Districts
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3	East Godawari, Chittoor and Vishakhapatnam
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	Dibang Valley
3.	Assam	1	North Cachar
4.	Bihar	3	Singbhum, Dhanbad and Hazaribagh
5.	Gujarat	3	Junagarh, Panchmahal and Valsad
6.	Goa	1	North Goa
7.	Haryana	1	Ambala
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3	Kangra, Chamba and Kullu
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1	Udhampur
10.	Karnataka	3	Bellary, Kolar and Hassan
11.	Kerala	2	Palaghat, Mallapuram
12.	Madhya Pradesh	4	Jabalpur, Shahdol, Chindwara, Jhabua
13.	Maharashtra	2	Jalgaon and Yeotmal
14.	Meghalaya	1	West Khasi Hills
15.	Mizoram	1	Aizwal
16.	Manipur	1	Imphal
17.	Nagaland	1	Kohima
18.	Orissa	2	Ganjam and Kalahandi
19.	Punjab	1	Gurdaspur

	2	3	4
20	Rajasthan	4	Dungarpur, Jodhpur, Udaipur and Jhalawar
21	Sikkim	1	North Sikkim
22	Tamil Nadu	3	Madurai, North Arcot and Nilgiri
23	Tripura	1	North District
24	Uttar Pradesh	4	Almora, Jhansi, Mirzapur and Raibareilly
25	West Bengal	2	Purulia and Bankura
50			

### Welfare Scheme for Minorities

3704. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether any scheme is being implemented in Uttar Pradesh for the welfare of minorities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government have monitored these programmes;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the amount spent on these programmes in the year 1996-97; and
- (f) the amount likely to be sanctioned for the year 1997-98?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Following schemes are being implemented all over the country including State of U.P.

- (i) Pre-examination coaching scheme for weaker sections based on economic criteria is being implemented all over the country since 1992-93 for the target group consisting of minorities and OBCs with an income ceiling of Rs. 24,000/- per annum.
- (ii) The National Minorities Development & Finance Corporation was established in Sept., 94 with an authorised share capital of Rs. 500 crores out of which Union Govt.'s share comes to Rs. 125 crores. The Corporation provides financial assistance to the backward sections among minorities whose annual family income is below double the poverty line, which at present rate works out to Rs. 22,000/- p.a. for setting up of

self-employment ventures at concessional rates of interest. The NMDFC implements its schemes through the State Channelising Agencies all over the country.

- (iii) The scheme of multi-sectoral development plan was launched during 1995-96 in the 41 minority concentration districts located throughout the country for the purpose of identification of the economic activities conspicuously pursued by the minorities including women with a view to assess the requirements of credit, technological training and marketing support required for carrying out such activities and the means through which they can be arranged. This scheme is implemented through the concerned State Govts.
- (iv) Area intensive programme for educationally backward minorities: The scheme was introduced in 1993-94 with the objective to provide basic educational and infrastructural facilities in area of concentration of educationally backward minorities who do not have adequate provision for elementary education. Out of the VIII Plan Allocation of Rs. 16.27 crore, an amount of Rs. 8.97 crore has been spent under the Scheme.
- (v) Modernization of Madrasas and Maktab : The scheme is meant to provide opportunities to the students of the Madrasas and Maktab to acquire education comparable to that of the National Education System by providing financial assistance with the objective of introducing additional subjects like Science, Mathematics, English etc. An amount of Rs. 1.72 crore was incurred on the schemes against the VIIIth Plan allocation of Rs. 1.00 crore.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir. These schemes are being monitored by the State Govt. and Central Govt. agencies.

(e) and (f)

(Rs. in lakh)

Name of the Scheme	Amt. spent during 1996-97	Amt. sanctioned during 1997-98
1. Pre-examination Coaching Scheme for Weaker Sections based on economic criteria	1.62	There is no State-wise sanction. However an amount of Rs. 250.00 lakhs has been sanctioned for 1997-98.
2. National Minorities Finance Development Corporation	2297.10	There is no State-wise sanction. However, Rs. 1800 lakhs has been sanctioned for 1997-98.
3. Multi-sectoral Development Plan	15.60	There is no state-wise sanction. However, Rs. 628.00 lakhs has been sanctioned for the scheme during the year.
4. Area intensive programme for educationally backward minorities	38.66	There is no state-wise sanction. However, Rs. 1000.00 lakhs has been proposed for the year 1997-98.
5. Modernization of Madrasas and Makhtabs.	9.42	There is no State-wise sanction. However, Rs. 700.00 lakhs has been proposed for the year 1997-98.

[English]

**Centrally Sponsored Schemes for Cooperative Movement**

3705. SHRI BHIM PRASAD DAHAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Centrally sponsored schemes to help the cooperative movement in the States;

(b) the number of such schemes under implementation in the State of Sikkim; and

(c) the details of funds provided to the State for the implementation of these schemes during each of the last five years, scheme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) A statement showing the schemes of the Central Government to help the Cooperative Movement is attached.

(b) All the schemes of the Central Government can be implemented in Sikkim provided State Government seeks financial assistance according to the guidelines.

(c) Rs. 3.30 lakhs during 1991-92 and Rs. 82.36 lakhs during 1993-94 have been provided under ICDP Scheme.

**Statement**

*The schemes of the Central Government to help the Cooperative Movement*

1. Non overdue cover scheme.
2. Special Scheme for SCs/STs.
3. Investment in debenture of Land Development Banks.
4. Agriculture Credit Stabilisation Fund.
5. Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme.
6. Assistance to Women Cooperatives.
7. Assistance to Cooperative for Weaker Sections.
8. Integrated Cooperative Development in selected districts (ICDP).
9. Cooperatives for marketing, processing, storage and supplies in under-developed States.
10. Share Capital participation in Cooperative growers' spinning mills.
11. Share Capital participation in Cooperative Sugar Mills.

[English]

**Noise Pollution**

3706. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have identified the cities and towns where the noise pollution is increasing;
- (b) if so, the details and the extent of noise pollution there;
- (c) whether any formal study has been conducted in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken to curb the noise pollution in these cities and towns?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. (SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) to (d) An increasing trend of noise has been noticed in the major metropolitan cities of India. Central Pollution Control Board had conducted noise pollution surveys in eighteen major cities of the country, namely, Ahmedabad, Aurangabad, Bangalore, Bhopal, Calcutta, Chennai, Cochin, Coimbatore, Delhi, Hyderabad, Indore, Jaipur, Kanpur, Lucknow, Mangalore, Mumbai, Vadodara and Visakhapatnam. Studies have indicated that the noise levels were generally found within the limits in industrial areas but often exceeded the prescribed standards in certain areas in commercial, residential and silence zones. The rising trend of noise in these cities is mainly due to increase in human activities and vehicular traffic.

(e) The steps taken by the Government to reduce noise pollution include the following :

- Noise pollution has been included in the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, as amended in 1987. Ambient standards in respect of noise for different categories of areas (residential, commercial, industrial and silence zones) have been notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- Noise limits have also been prescribed for automobiles, domestic appliances and construction equipments at the manufacturing stage.
- The Central Pollution Control Board has evolved codes of practice for controlling noise from sources other than industries and automobiles. These

include public address system, aircraft operations, railway operations, construction activities and bursting of crackers. State Governments have been asked to implement these codes of practice under the relevant local laws.

- Environmental awareness campaigns on the effects of noise pollution have been launched through governmental and non-governmental organisations.

[Translation]

**Drought Affected Areas of Maharashtra**

3707. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) the drought affected places in Maharashtra due to non-occurrence of rains;
- (b) the average rainfall recorded in these areas and the quantum of rainfall recorded there this year;
- (c) the extent of damage caused to crops as a result of low rainfall; and
- (d) the amount allocated for such drought affected areas?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) According to information received from the Government of Maharashtra, 1906 villages in six districts are affected by drought conditions in varying degrees due to deficient rainfall during South-West Monsoon, 1996. The details of the districts and the affected villages are given below:—

Sl.No.	District	No. of affected villages
1.	Raigarh	2
2.	Dhule	89
3.	Ahmednagar	150
4.	Bhandara	1097
5.	Chandrapur	355
6.	Gadchiroli	213
Total		1906

(b) The India Meteorological Department has reported the following data about the normal and actual rainfall in the affected districts:—

Sl.No.	District	Normal rainfall (in mm)	Actual rainfall (in mm)
1.	Raigarh	3293.1	2590.4
2.	Dhule	666.9	646.6
3.	Ahmednagar	438.1	529.7
4.	Bhandara	1280.4	790.4
5.	Chandrapur	1179.5	767.2
6.	Gadchiroli	1345.3	989.9

(c) The inadequate rainfall has resulted in crop losses of over 50% in 1906 villages.

(d) Government of Maharashtra have allocated Rs. 30.00 crores for emergency water supply and Rs. 65.00 lakh for fodder supply in the areas affected by drought.

[English]

#### **Indisciplined Driving by Drivers of Blue Lines**

3708. SHRI RAMSAGAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have seen reports appearing in "The Pioneer" dated December 7, 8 and 9, 1996 regarding the indisciplined driving of private buses with the alleged connivance of Delhi Police;

(b) if so, whether connivance of Delhi Police has come to the notice of the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken to enforce traffic discipline amongst the blue line drivers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) The Government have seen the news reports which appeared in "The Pioneer" in its issues dated December 7 and 8, 1996.

(b) and (c) There have been instances where individual Traffic Police personnel were found involved in the malpractices. As the result of a major anti-corruption drive carried out by the Delhi Police amongst its own men, 161 Traffic Policemen face departmental inquiries while 202 other officials stand transferred to non-sensitive units.

(d) As a result of the concerted action taken by the Delhi Police to enforce traffic discipline amongst red/blue

line buses during 1996, 6053 buses were impounded, 2804 drivers were arrested and 343 permits were suspended. The number of cases challenged for traffic violations was 1,37,404. These efforts had a major impact on the number of accidents caused by the red/blue line buses. The accident rate registered a 38.88% decline in 1996 when compared with 1995.

#### **Reimbursement of Full Freight Charges**

3709. SHRI CHANDUBHAI DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the FCI is required to declare designated/base depots for the delivery of foodgrains to the State agency under PDS and Reimbursement of Full Freight Charges claims are to be settled based on the declaration of such designated/base depots;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the FCI has not yet declared designated/base depots for the State of Gujarat on account of which the claims of the Gujarat State Civil Supplies Corporation since 1986-87 have not been settled by FCI;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) The Food Corporation of India has to supply foodgrains to the State Governments from designated depots. In case FCI is unable to supply foodgrains from designated depots, the State Government is entitled to claim reimbursement of Rail Freight and Forwarding charges (RFFC) if the distance involved is more than 14 kms.

(c) to (e) The Food Corporation of India has given the list of declared designated depots to the Government of Gujarat in Feb., 1996. Since 90% claims of Gujarat State Civil Supplies Corporation did not fulfill the conditions of reimbursement of RFFC, these were rejected by the Food Corporation of India. The GSCSC has been requested to submit RFFC claims in respect of stocks lifted from depots other than designated depots.

#### **Losses Incurred by Hindustan Vegetable Oils Corporation Limited**

3710. SHRI V. PRADEEP DEV : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) Whether certain units of Hindustan Vegetable Oils Corporation Limited have been continuously incurring losses?

since 1991-92 despite the constant efforts to improve their performance and spending lot of amount for the purpose;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the names of the units and losses suffered by each of them during 1996-97;

(d) steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to contain the losses;

(e) whether there is any proposal for the closure of units running constantly in losses; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Some units of Hindustan Vegetable Oils Corporation Limited (HVOC) have continuously incurred losses since 1991-92. The main reasons for such losses are obsolete machinery, non-availability of sales tax exemption and surplus manpower.

(c) The units which suffered losses during 1996-97 (upto Jan. 97) and the details of their losses are indicated below :—

Unit	Losses (Rs. in lakhs) (Provisional)
Delhi	148.56
Kanpur	241.13
Amritsar	183.49

(d) Attempts were made for merger of HVOC with NDDB/MMTC/STC but none of these organisations agreed with the proposal for merger. A proposal to modernise HVOC involving investment of Rs. 24.20 crores did not materialise as the required funds could not be mobilised. At present, a modernisation plan in respect of Kanpur and Amritsar Vanaspati Manufacturing Units envisaging an investment of Rs. 9 crores has been referred to the Industrial Credit & Investment Corporation of India Limited (ICICI) for their appraisal.

(e) and (f) Delhi Vanaspati manufacturing unit has been closed w.e.f. 30.11.1996 in pursuance of an Order of the Supreme Court in which it was declared to be a polluting industry. At present there is no proposal to close any other unit.

[*Translation*]

#### Milk Production

3711. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :  
JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA :

Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned 'India set for top spot in milk production' appearing in 'Tribune', dated 12th January, 1997;

(b) if so, whether there is a potentiality to produce more milk in India as compared to the other countries;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have assessed the per animal milk production; and

(e) if so, average milk production in India and in other countries, animal-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The average productivity of Indian milch animals is low as compared to some selected milk producing countries of the World. As per FAO estimates of production for 1994, the average productivity per cow per day in India works out to 2.70 kg. as against the world average of 5.60 kg. However, the productivity is increasing due to implementation of various genetic improvement programmes by Govt. of India/State Govts.

(e) The details in regard to the average milk production in India and some important milk producing countries are attached as Statement.

#### Statement

##### Average Milk Production in India and Other Selected Countries — 1994

Sl.No.	Country	Cow milk production (000 MT)	Average yield (kg./Annum)	Buffalo milk production (000 MT)
1.	Canada	7700	6077	—
2.	USA	69682	7277	—
3.	U.K.	15005	5506	—
4.	France	24935	5314	—
5.	India	30000	984	31211
6.	Pakistan	4100	891	12021
7.	China	5600	1545	2100
8.	Egypt	995	675	1580
9.	World	458645	2034	48190

Source :— FAO Production Year Book — 1994.

**Agriculture Infrastructure Development Programme**

3712. DR. A.K. PATEL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the date on which the Agriculture Infrastructure Development Programme came into force;
- (b) the objectives of the programme;
- (c) the number of farmers benefitted till December, 1996 under the programme, State-wise;
- (d) the nature of benefits reaped by the farmers under the Agriculture Infrastructure Development Programme; and
- (e) the programme formulated for 1997-98?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Rural infrastructure development fund was constituted in April, 1995.

(b) The objective of the programme is to provide loans to State Governments and State-owned Corporations for completion of on-going projects relating to major, medium and minor irrigation, soil conservation, watershed management, flood protection schemes and other forms of rural infrastructure like rural roads and bridges.

(c) and (d) On completion of the on-going projects financed through Rural Infrastructure Development Fund, it is expected to create irrigation potential in about 22.89 lakh ha. generating rural employment of 1755 lakh Mandays and it would help in realising additional production valued at Rs. 2712 crores.

(e) In view of the success and popularisation gained in the implementation of Rural Infrastructure I & II, it is proposed to launch Rural Infrastructure Development Fund-III during the year 1997-98 with a corpus of Rs. 2,500 crores.

[English]

**Forest Land to Private Individuals**

3713. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are allotting or propose to allot the forest land for the development purposes to private bodies and individuals;
- (b) if so, the grounds on which the land is to be allotted and rules in this regard; and
- (c) the names of private bodies and individuals to whom forest land has been allotted in Gujarat, Maharashtra and other States during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN

SOZ): (a) to (c) Allotment of forest land is not made by the Central Government. However, State Governments are required to obtain prior approval of Central Government for diversion of forest land for non-forestry purpose under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and rules and guidelines framed thereunder.

**Problems Faced by Delhi Police**

3714. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE :  
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the problems faced by the Delhi Police;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken to resolve their problems particularly that of the accommodation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBQOL DAR): (a) to (c) There is no major problem being faced by the Delhi Police personnel as such except that there is shortage of housing. Plan assistance is being provided for Police housing. There is also a proposal to set up a Police Housing Corporation.

**Hike in Wheat Price**

3715. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the consumer States of wheat have raised strong objection to the open market sale price of wheat;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government propose to review the price hike of wheat;
- (d) if so, whether any weightage is likely to be given to the consumer States in the matter;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (f) In view of the representations received from some of the consumer States, the prices effective from 4.2.1997 were reviewed and it was decided to revise them. A statement indicating the prices for open sale of wheat revised on 4.2.1997 and 10.3.1997 is attached as statement.

**Statement***Prices Fixed for Open Sale of Wheat*

Sl.No.	Name of Centre	Rate (Rs. per MT)	
		4.2.1997	10.3.1997
1	2	3	4
1.	Guwahati	7500	6500
2.	Bombay	7400	6450
3.	Nagpur	7400	6400
4.	Indore	7200	6250
5.	Gwalior	6000	5550
6.	Raipur	7400	6400
7.	Ahmedabad	7300	6350
8.	Surat	7300	6350
9.	Cuttack	7400	6450
10.	Bhubneshwar	7400	6450
11.	Patna	6500	5900
12.	Calcutta	7400	6450
13.	Siliguri	7400	6450
14.	Delhi	5000	5000
15.	Chandigarh	4900	4900
16.	Lucknow	5400	5300
17.	Kanpur	5400	5300
18.	Ranchi	7000	6200
19.	Madras	7800	6700
20.	Coimbatore	7800	6750
21.	Madurai	7800	6750
22.	Cochin	7900	6800
23.	Trivandrum	7900	6800
24.	Hyderabad	7500	6500
25.	Vishakhapatnam	7500	6550
26.	Bengaluru	7700	6700
27.	Mysore	7700	6700
28.	Belgaum	7700	6650

1	2	3	4
29.	Jaipur	5200	5150
30.	Shimla	5031	5050
31.	Jammu	5200	5100
32.	Srinagar	5300	5150
33.	Varanasi	6000	5650
34.	Bareilly	5000	5000

[Translation]

**Implementation of TPDS**

3716. SHRI SURENDRA YADAV :  
SHRI NITISH KUMAR :  
SHRI K. KANDASAMY :

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Targeted Public Distribution System has not yet been introduced in various States;

(b) if so, the names of the States where difficulties are being faced in introducing this scheme; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken by the Government to remove these difficulties?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) Hon'ble Prime Minister has made a statement in the Lok Sabha on 24.2.1997 on introduction of the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and detailed guidelines, issued in this regard, have also been laid on the Table of the House. The State Governments/UT Administrations have accordingly been asked to identify the beneficiaries below poverty line, issue special ration cards to them and make all arrangements for delivery of foodgrains to the beneficiaries in a satisfactory and transparent manner. As soon as a State Government/UT Administration completes this exercise, it can start deriving benefits under the Targeted PDS. So far no State Government has reported completion of this exercise. The scheme of Targeted PDS will, however, become effective throughout the country from 1st June, 1997.

[English]

**Social Forestry Projects**

3717. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Social Forestry Programmes launched in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) whether foreign assistance has also been received for any of these projects; and

(c) if so, the date from which and the details thereof, project-wise and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) and (b) No social forestry programme with external assistance has been launched in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Conference of Agriculture Ministers**

3718. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Conference of State Agriculture Ministers was held in New Delhi on the 19 February, 1997;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) main recommendations and suggestions made by the State Agriculture Ministers in the Conference; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. A Conference of State Agriculture Ministers was held in New Delhi on 19th February, 1997 to consider draft Agriculture Policy Resolution and related matters. The draft Agriculture Policy Resolution was broadly endorsed in the Conference. The draft Resolution is under finalisation keeping in view the suggestions made in the Conference.

#### **Agricultural Import under Uruguay Round Agreement**

3719. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as a preparatory to opening up agricultural imports, India has started a renegotiating bilateral tariffs on agricultural products imports with several countries;

(b) if so, whether India indicated in the Uruguay Round agreement on agriculture that from the date it opened up its agricultural imports under the agreement, it would levy tariffs as high as 100 per cent on primary agricultural products imports, 150 per cent on processed products and 300 per cent on edible oil imports;

(c) if so, the extent to which India has been able to implement this agreement;

(d) whether the talks on higher agro import tariffs with the foreign countries have been successful; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) India has bound its agricultural tariffs in general at 100% for Primary Products, 150% for processed products and 300% for edible oils. However, there are some agricultural items which were bound during previous round of GATT at zero/low tariffs.

(c) to (e) The consultations with W.T.O. regarding opening up agricultural imports are yet to be finalised.

#### **Distribution of Sprinkler Sets**

3720. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had implemented any Scheme for the distribution of sprinkler sets, under Oilseeds Production Programme and National Pulses Development Project for the year 1996-97;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of beneficiaries, State-wise; and

(d) the pattern of providing the assistance?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. One of the component under the Centrally Sponsored Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) and National Pulses Development Project (NPDP) is distribution of sprinkler sets to the farmers for economic use of water and least soil erosion method of irrigation during the year 1996-97.

(c) The State-wise total number of beneficiaries have not yet become available. However, the physical targets of distribution of sprinkler sets fixed for each State under Oilseeds Production Programme & National Pulses Development Project (NPDP) during 1996-97 are given in the attached statement.

(d) Under both the schemes, a subsidy of Rs. 25,000/- per hectare or 90% of the cost per hectare whichever is less is provided to Small and Marginal farmers, Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and women farmers. In the case of women farmers, financial assistance is admissible only to those whose name occur on the land revenue record of the State as land holder and in case she is a joint holder as per such records, the subsidy is restricted to her share of the land.

For other categories of farmers, the financial assistance of Rs. 25,000/- per hectare or 70% of the cost of the sprinkler system per hectare whichever is less, is provided.

### **Statement**

*The Physical Targets for the Distribution of Sprinkler Sets Under Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) and National Pulses Development Project (NPDP) during 1996-97 (State-wise)*

Sr.No.	State	Physical Targets Under OPP (Nos.)	Physical Targets Under NPDP (Nos.)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4880	240
2.	Bihar	400	240
3.	Gujarat	1600	240
4.	Haryana	640	80
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	16
6.	Karnataka	800	400
7.	Madhya Pradesh	4960	1360
8.	Maharashtra	3200	800
9.	Manipur	160	—
10.	Orissa	400	400
11.	Rajasthan	4960	1280
12.	Sikkim	—	144
13.	Tamil Nadu	800	—
14.	Tripura	—	1200
15.	Uttar Pradesh	2400	—
Total		25200	6400

[*Translation*]

### **Loss of Livestock**

3721. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

(a) the loss of livestock in Gujarat particularly in the tribal and rural areas during the last three years till date;

(b) the nature of assistance sought by the Government of Gujarat during the said period; and

(c) the nature of assistance proposed to be given by the Central Government and the amount of assistance already provided to the State for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVAN PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (e) The information is being gathered and will be placed on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

### **Clinical Drug Trials**

3722. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Government considers proposal to allow concurrent clinical drug trials" appearing in the 'Business Standard' dated February 24, 1997.

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

(c) the details of measures taken/under consideration to boost up investment in the drug industry;

(d) the details of strategies worked out for the promotion and development R&D in the drug sector; and

(e) the result of the action plan under implementation and funds likely to be invested in R&D in the drug sector for 1997-98?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There are no plans under consideration of the Government to allow clinical trials of the new drugs concurrently. However, clinical trials for new drugs discovered abroad for diseases prevalent in India may be examined for approval of clinical trials simultaneously in India in the interest of consumers benefit.

As regards anti cancer and other life saving drugs, drug rules under Drugs & Cosmetics Act 1940 prescribe that the requirement for submitting the results of local clinical trials may not be necessary if the drug is of such a nature that the licensing authority may, in public interest, decide to grant such permission based on data available from other countries. The anti cancer drug Gemcite for treatment of lung cancer was approved based on recommendation of Cancer Experts in the Country.

(c) to (e) Measures to boost up investment in the drug industry and strategies for the promotion of R&D in drug sector are given in "Modifications in Drug Policy, 1986"

announced in September, 1994—copy of which is available in the Library of Parliament.

These measures have resulted in removal of artificial impediments in the growth of the pharmaceutical industry and have created awareness with regard to the importance of R&D in this sector.

#### **Safi River**

3723. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Pollution Board has not been able to check the alarming rise in the percentage level of arsenic and mercury in the Safi River in Bihar;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to check the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZI). (a) As per information made available from Bihar State Pollution Control Board, arsenic and mercury pollution in Safi River were within permissible limits.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Legislation on Bio Diversity**

3724. SHRI ANANT GUDHE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news report captioned "No consensus on tackling genetic smuggling" appearing in the 'Indian Express', dated February 28, 1997;

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

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken on the issues raised therein; and

(d) the steps taken during the last four years to bring out comprehensive legislation on safeguarding the bio diversity of the country and present status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The said news report deals with the subject of regulating access to biological resources of the country. Soon after India ratified the Convention on Biological Diversity in February 1994 and became a Party to the Convention, the Ministry of Environment and Forests initiated steps to design a comprehensive legislation on biodiversity. One of the main objectives of this legislation would be to

regulate access to biological resources of the country. Biodiversity being a wide subject, consultations with various stake holders, related departments and Ministries, State Governments, experts, etc., were required, and initiated. Analysis and examination of all existing regulations having any linkage with biodiversity was also required and has now been done. Taking note of the time required to complete this exercise, the Ministry of Environment and Forests simultaneously worked on developing an interim measure to regulate export of biological resources of India under the Foreign Trade (Development & Regulation) Act 1992. This exercise was done through an inter-ministerial Group which also had NGOs and experts as its members. The draft Public Notice made by this Group has finally not been found suitable because of its implications for trade and difficulties in its implementation. Following inter-ministerial consultations on the subject in January 1997, the work on a comprehensive legislation has been speeded up.

#### **Crimes on National Highway**

3725. SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI :  
SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether robberies and kidnappings on the Delhi-Rishikesh national highway has increased during the last one year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of persons arrested in this connection; and

(d) the measures taken or proposed to be taken to check robberies and kidnappings on the highway ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Hunger Free Nation**

3726. SHRI K. PRADHANI :  
SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to make the nation hunger free;

(b) if so, the strategy adopted and the target date fixed for the purpose;

(c) the fund provision made in this connection for 1997-98;

(d) whether some drought affected areas still exist in the country from where starvation deaths are still reported due to inadequate corrective measures taken by the Government; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to rectify the deficiencies and make the entire nation hunger free?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) The basic strategy to provide food security and to free the population from hunger consists of :—

- (i) better availability of foodgrains through increased production,
- (ii) maintenance of buffer stocks of foodgrains and distribution through Public Distribution System all over the country,
- (iii) to improve the purchasing power of the vulnerable sections of the society through poverty alleviation programmes.

(c) The following outlays have been proposed in the BE 1997-98:

(i) for the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment :	Rs. 9096 crores
(ii) For subsidy on food and sugar :	Rs. 7500 crores
Total	Rs. 16596 crores

(d) and (e) According to the information received from the State Governments, drought conditions in varying degrees prevail in parts of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Orissa. No confirmed reports of any starvation deaths have yet been received from these State Governments. The Ministry of Agriculture has however requested the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) to investigate the *reported starvation deaths* in some parts of Orissa. No report has been received from the NHRC in the matter.

[*Translation*]

#### Medicinal Plants

3727. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the scheme of the Government to promote cultivation of the medicinal plants in the country;

(b) the types of medicinal plants and the locations thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to make up the shortage of medicinal plants such as Anmul, Satavari, Musali, Chiraita and Gugul. etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) Cultivation of medicinal plants is promoted by the Central Government and the State Governments. The two major schemes of the Central Government for cultivation of medicinal plants are as follows :

Name of the Ministry	Name of the Scheme	Objectives of the Scheme
Health & Family Welfare (Department of Indian System of Medicine and Homeopathy)	Central Assistance for Development of Agro-Techniques and cultivation of Medicinal Plants earlier known as Central Scheme for Development and Cultivation of medicinal plants.	The Scheme encourages development of agro-technologies for cultivation of medicinal plants and provides assistance for cultivation of medicinal plants to Government and Semi-Government organisations and institutions.
Environment & Forests (National Afforestation & Eco-Development Board)	Conservation and Development of Non-timber Forest Produce including Medicinal Plants.	The scheme provides funds to the State Governments for raising plantations including medicinal plants on degraded forest areas and adjoining areas.

(b) According to the studies conducted under an All India Coordinated Project of Ethnobiology funded by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, about 7500 species of plants are used for medicinal purposes in India. These are distributed in various parts of the country.

(c) The medicinal plants such as Anmul, Satavari, Musali, Chiraita and Gugul etc., have been included in the list of plants identified by the Ministry of Health for cultivation and development on priority.

[English]

#### **UHF Digital Trunking System**

3728. SHRI SURESH KALMADI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to purchase UHF Digital Trunking System for high-security Delhi Police net;

(b) whether the purchase sub-committee appointed in this connection has recommended not to go for this system; and

(c) if so, the reasons for overruling the recommendations of the purchase sub-committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Rehabilitation of Displaced Persons**

3729. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people displaced in Nagarhole National Park in Karnataka due to implementation of the World Bank aided new eco development project;

(b) whether most of these displaced persons belong to SC/ST and other weaker sections of the society; and

(c) if so, the steps taken for the proper rehabilitation of those displaced forest dwellers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) In Nagarhole National Park in Karnataka, no displacement of local people has taken place due to the implementation of the World Bank project.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Central State Farm, Aralam**

3730. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central State Farm, Aralam has availed any loan/advance from any Bank; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present outstanding dues against the farm?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) Central State Farm, Aralam has not availed itself of any loan/advance from any Bank.

[Translation]

#### **Aquaculture Development Agency Scheme in M.P.**

3731. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government bear half of the expenditure incurred on Aquaculture Development Agency Scheme sponsored by the Central Government;

(b) if so, the amount provided to Madhya Pradesh for this purpose during 1996-97; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme on development of freshwater aquaculture through Fish Farmers Development Agencies (FFDAs) is being implemented by the States. Under the scheme, expenditure on all developmental activities such as, construction of new ponds, renovation of ponds and tanks, first year inputs (fish seed, feed, fertilisers, manures, etc.) running water fish culture, aerators, integrated fish farming, fish seed hatcheries, fish feed mills, salary of incremental staff, cost of vehicle, training of fish farmers, etc. is shared on 50:50 basis by the Government of India and the State Governments. It is the decision of the Government of India that it should share only the developmental costs. Therefore, it does not meet fifty percent of expenditure on base staff salary, maintenance of vehicle and office contingencies.

(b) and (c) The Central assistance given to FFDAs in Madhya Pradesh during 1996-97 is Rs. 100 lakhs.

[*English*]

### **Afforestation**

3732. DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a sizeable portion of the forest reserve land in the country has been illegally encroached upon;

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

(c) the steps taken/being taken to vacate these encroachments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS ( PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) to (c) Some portion of the forest reserve land has been encroached upon by people. The details regarding encroachments on forest land are maintained in the States/ Union territories concerned, at divisional level. Government of India has taken following measures to prevent encroachment of forest land :

(i) National Forest Policy, 1988 states that encroachment of forest land has been on the increase and this trend has to be arrested and effective action taken to prevent its continuance.

(ii) The Forest Policy also stipulates that people's participation in management of the forests should be encouraged.

(iii) Under the Indian Forest Act, 1927 and Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, encroachment of forest land has been declared an offence.

(iv) State Governments carry out eviction of encroachments alongwith Revenue authorities.

[*Translation*]

### **Terror by Wild Cats**

3733. SHRI JAGATVIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the terror created by the wild cats in Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh recently;

(b) if so, the number of persons who became victims thereof; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government to deal with the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) and (b) According to the State Govt. of Uttar Pradesh, no such incident has been reported.

(c) Does not arise.

### **Workshop on Forests**

3734. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :  
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI :

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

(a) whether a National workshop was held recently which was attended by the forest officers and some leading NGOs;

(b) if so, whether the participants have requested/ suggested to strike balance between the conservation of forest and traditional rights of communities in the draft forest bill;

(c) if so, the details of suggestions made in the workshop; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Suggestions to strike a balance between conservation of forests and traditional rights of the communities were made by some of the participants.

(c) Main recommendations are as under:

- There should be a legal definition of "forests".
- The amended Act should consolidate all Central and State forest laws.
- Joint Forest Management rules should be incorporated in the new Act.
- Problems of local people living in and around forests should be considered as an important factor in reserving/notifying or dereserving/denotifying a forest area.
- There should be a time limit for settlement of rights and it should be on the basis of carrying capacity of the forest area.
- Proposals for dereservation/denotification to be cleared by a statutory committee comprising of government and non-government members.

- Commercial and Agro-forestry should be covered by the new law.
- Working Plans should be given legal status.
- Forest officers should be given more/direct policing powers.
- The new forest law must take into account India's International obligations as ratified under International Conventions.
- Training of frontline staff such as forest guards, who are the key personnel for enforcement of law.

(d) The recommendations have been sent to the Committee constituted by the Ministry for finalisation of the Draft Forest Bill.

#### **Wheat Buyers**

**3735. SHRI P.C. THOMAS :** Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

- (a) whether free sale of wheat by the Food Corporation of India is made in bulk to the private large scale buyers;
- (b) if so, the details of main ten buyers;
- (c) whether the sale in small packets of 5 kg and 10 Kg to the consumers has been suggested; and
- (d) if so, the response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Under Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic), quantitative restrictions for issue of wheat have been prescribed per buyer per month, from time to time. However, these restrictions were not applicable for issue of wheat from CAP storage under this scheme upto September, 1996 and part of November, 1996.

Since the period for which this information is sought has not been indicated, it is not possible to give the same.

(c) and (d) While reviewing supply position of wheat and wheat products in Delhi, a scheme was made effective from 9.12.96 for distribution of wholemeal Agmark wheat atta in 10 Kg. packs in Delhi through the outlets of Super Bazar and Kendriya Bhandar at a fixed price of Rs. 64/- per pack. Food Secretaries of all States/Union Territories were also requested on 9.12.96 to introduce similar scheme(s) to make wholemeal atta readily available to the consumers at large. Kendriya Bhandar, Super Bazar and National

Consumers Cooperative Federation retail outlets were authorised to sell wheat purchased from F.C.I. in ten Kg. bags.

[Translation]

#### **Incident of Smuggling and Intrusion**

**3736. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of incidents of smuggling and intrusion reported during the last three years, State-wise;
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to check such incidents; and
- (c) the progress made with regard to the construction of security belt on the border?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) As per information of the Border Security Force deployed on the borders the Statewise details of smuggling and infiltration during the last three years are given in the Statement-I attached.

- (b) Following steps have been/are being taken :
  - (i) Additional Bns. have been sanctioned and deployed under expansion plan to reduce the gaps between the BOPs.
  - (ii) Patrolling/Nakas have been increased/intensified.
  - (iii) Border patrolling have been intensified by providing jeeps and motor cycles.
  - (iv) Mounted patrolling on horses, camels and tractors is being done.
  - (v) Observation Post Towers have been erected.
  - (vi) Binoculars, Goggles, Twin Telescopes, PNV binoculars and hand held search lights have been provided for enhanced vigilance on the border.
  - (vii) Border fence and flood lights has been/being done.
  - (viii) Intelligence machinery has been alerted to keep closer vigilance.
  - (ix) Coast Guard/Indian Navy is patrolling the coastal areas.
  - (x) The matter has also been taken up with the Governments of Bangladesh and Pakistan on various occasions.

(c) A Statement-II is enclosed.

**Statement-I***Details of Smuggling and Infiltration*

	1994		1995		1996	
	Smuggling of Contraband (Rs. in crs.)	Infiltration	Smuggling of Contraband (Rs. in crs.)	Infiltration	Smuggling of Contraband (Rs. in crs.)	Infiltration
<b>Indo-Pak Border</b>						
Jammu (IB)	11.17	515	27.70	985	1.95	815
Punjab	20.08	1938	34.27	728	1.20	166
Rajasthan	100.55	3255	6.69	1662	2.65	1053
Gujarat	1.35	63	0.29	72	0.22	232
Total	133.15	5771	68.95	3447	6.02	2266
<b>Indo-Bangladesh Border</b>						
West Bengal	31.42	17665	66.96	13215	32.07	10323
Assam	2.33	396	2.32	391	3.80	391
Meghalaya	1.41	364	2.51	440	1.59	529
Mizoram	0.07	14	0.02	17	0.01	14
Tripura	5.76	1649	5.07	951	6.39	896
Total	40.99	20088	76.88	15014	43.86	12153
<b>Indo-Burma Border</b>						
Manipur	3.19	365	1.80	105	1.09	36
Nagaland	0.05	1	—	5	0.02	7
Total	3.24	366	1.80	110	1.11	43

**Statement-II***Progress with Regard to Erection of Fencing/Flood Lighting on Western and Eastern Border***Indo-Pak Border**

The present situation regarding fencing/flood lighting on Indo-Pak border is as under:—

**Punjab**

In Punjab, fencing/flood lighting work of 451 kms/465 Kms was started in May, 1988 and completed in November,

1993. The entire border, except certain gaps which could not be taken up due to being riverine/low lying area, was fenced/flood lit.

**Rajasthan**

Out of total border of 1035 Kms fencing/flood lighting has been completed in 720 Kms/739 kms. Further, fencing/flood lighting along 312.60 Kms in Jaisalmer sector has also been sanctioned. 145 kms of this will be completed in phase IV by 31.12.1997, 131 Kms in Phase V by 31.12.1998 and remaining in Phase VI by 31.12.1999.

**Jammu**

The Scheme for fencing/flood lighting of 180 Kms/195.80 Kms International Border in Jammu Sector was approved in March, 1995 and the work was taken up but the same had to be stopped in July, 1995 due to heavy firing from the Pakistan side. The matter regarding restarting of the fencing work is under active consideration of the Government but no time schedule has been finalised.

**Fencing on Eastern Border**

*Progress of Border Fencing upto  
28th February, 1997*

	Sanctioned	Completed	Yet to be Completed (distance in Kms)
West Bengal	507.000	356.180	150.82
Assam	158.000	125.540	32.460
Meghalaya	231.000	170.710	60.290

**Committee on Agriculture**

3737. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :  
SHRI SURENDRA YADAV :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which the Government had set up a Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. M.S. Swaminathan to give suggestions for increasing the agricultural production in the country;

(b) whether the Committee has presented its report to the Government;

(c) if so, the date on which and the main recommendations made by the Committee; and

(d) the action plan of the Government to implement these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) A Committee of Experts had been constituted on 21st August, 1996 which was re-constituted on the 15th October, 1996, under the Chairmanship of Dr. M.S. Swaminathan to suggest ways and means for increasing the productivity in less productive areas.

(b) to (d) The Committee has not yet submitted its final report. However, Part Report No. 1 in respect of North Eastern Region has been submitted on 15th February, 1997.

**Irregularities in NAFED**

3738. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :  
SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a departmental inquiry conducted by his ministry has held NAFED management guilty of irregularities in setting up a Rs. one crore waxing grading plant for kinoo and malta at Maulgarh in Punjab;

(b) if so, the nature of these irregularities;

(c) whether the departmental inquiry has also found NAFED guilty of committing irregularities in the supply of 6,000 tonne of pulses to Army Purchase Organisation (APO) in 1995 by passing the norms for inviting bids;

(d) whether the inquiry panel also found irregularities involving lakhs of rupees in payment of hotel bills of VIPs and wage bills of attendants attached to these VIPs;

(e) whether NAFED was also guilty of giving liberal donations, expensive gifts to certain persons, irregularity in the release of advertisements and inflated travelling allowances of directors; and

(f) if so, the action taken against the NAFED management and remedial measures taken to prevent such irregularities?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (e) On receipt of some complaints, an enquiry was instituted into the alleged irregularities in the matters of, *inter alia*, supplying pulses to Army Purchase Organisation, expenses on payment of hotels bills, wage bills, donation and gifts to certain persons, irregularities in the release of advertisements and expenses on members of the Board of Directors by way of travelling allowances etc.

The Inquiry report is still awaited.

(f) A suitable course of action will be decided upon receipt of the inquiry report.

**Infiltration in Uttar Pradesh**

3739. SHRI SOHAN BEER : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an increase in the number of infiltration in the Meerut and Muzaffar Nagar districts of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government to deport them; and

(c) the measures taken to check the infiltration in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Allegations against Delhi Traffic Police**

3740. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Cops make hay while killers stalk roads" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times', dated December 12, 1996; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) The Government have seen the news-item in question which appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' dated December 22, 1996.

(b) There have been instances where individual Traffic Police personnel were found involved in malpractices but there is no indication that there exists any organised connivance. During 1996 alone, over 6 lakhs trucks were challened by Delhi Traffic Police which was almost twice the number challened during 1995. Besides, the Delhi Traffic Police carried out a major anti-corruption drive amongst its own men as a result of which 161 Traffic Policemen face departmental inquiries and other 202 officials were transferred to non-sensitive units.

[*Translation*]

#### **Development of Fishery in Ninth Five Year Plan**

3741. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any special provision for the development of fishery in the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total amount allocated to each State for the

purpose during the past three years and in the current year so far;

(d) the target fixed for the same alongwith the achievements made by each State during the said period; and

(e) the special steps taken for the development of fishery in the Bihar State?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) Fisheries is a State subject and matters relating to preparation of plans for the development of fisheries are within the purview of the State Governments. However, the Government of India provides assistance to the States/Union Territories under various central sector and centrally sponsored schemes for the development of fisheries. The Ninth Five Year Plan and Schemes for development of fisheries. The Ninth Five Year Plan and Schemes for development of fisheries have not yet been finalised.

(c) Prior allocation of funds to different States is not made in respect of various central and centrally sponsored schemes for the development of fisheries. Central assistance is released on the basis of proposals received from the States and progress of implementation of the respective schemes. A statement showing the funds released to the States/Union Territories during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1996-97 so far in respect of schemes on fisheries is given in the statement attached.

(d) The target fixed for production of fish in each State/Union Territory and the achievement made by them during the last 3 years is shown in statement-II.

(e) The following central sector/centrally sponsored schemes are implemented for the development of fisheries in Bihar :

- (i) Development of Freshwater Aquaculture;
- (ii) Assistance for strengthening Inland Fish Marketing;
- (iii) Welfare of Fishermen;
- (iv) World Bank assisted Shrimp and Fish Culture Project;
- (v) Development of Inland Fisheries Statistics.

**Statement-I**  
**Statewise Funds Released for Fishery Schemes**

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	Funds Released			
		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97 (Upto 10.3.97)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	76.81	382.00	359.78	242.78
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	13.00	22.00	—	26.00
3.	Assam	84.45	45.95	26.20	55.98
4.	Bihar	72.75	51.00	54.10	19.25
5.	Gujarat	397.98	509.15	692.94	656.04
6.	Goa	7.45	4.00	5.19	16.95
7.	Haryana	104.00	28.20	66.25	15.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	7.11	5.10	32.21	2.13
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	27.00	32.02	44.40	42.61
10.	Karnataka	188.51	394.75	268.24	81.59
11.	Kerala	1000.13	1388.56	963.34	857.64
12.	Madhya Pradesh	122.50	125.34	201.04	170.13
13.	Maharashtra	184.91	334.15	316.47	336.79
14.	Manipur	7.00	13.11	44.87	28.02
15.	Meghalaya	1.00	23.96	56.00	2.00
16.	Mizoram	8.00	36.00	5.93	14.50
17.	Nagaland	2.00	18.00	33.00	60.00
18.	Orissa	614.51	299.84	183.81	308.71
19.	Punjab	27.00	77.15	51.50	42.00
20.	Rajasthan	38.09	52.50	34.00	21.09
21.	Sikkim	1.00	3.00	5.00	2.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
22.	Tamil Nadu	877.33	1067.21	1055.13	202.48
23.	Tripura	24.71	62.48	23.52	25.35
24.	Uttar Pradesh	235.37	260.38	213.00	249.78
25.	West Bengal	271.21	414.06	589.74	480.80
26.	A & N Islands	6.08	2.75	5.34	0.02
27.	Daman & Diu	8.38	13.72	13.42	41.74
28.	Lakshadweep	0.80	0.43	0.83	0.88
29.	Pondicherry	54.65	207.00	127.96	105.75

**Statement-II**

*Targets of Production of Fish and Achievement during 1993-94 to 1995-96 and 1996-97 so far*

(‘000 tonnes)

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	1993-94		1994-95		1995-96		1996-97*
		Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	290.00	321.37	315.00	345.39	350.00	355.96	381.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2.00	1.70	1.70	1.80	2.00	1.85	2.00
3.	Assam	143.00	151.65	145.00	153.00	152.00	155.06	171.00
4.	Bihar	175.00	200.71	202.00	195.37	202.00	239.58	244.00
5.	Goa	108.00	105.44	116.00	101.90	116.00	87.82	93.00
6.	Gujarat	652.00	684.86	639.00	715.36	705.00	660.00	696.00
7.	Haryana	23.00	22.58	25.00	24.13	27.00	28.01	30.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	6.50	6.63	6.50	5.29	6.70	5.94	7.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	17.00	14.50	17.00	16.10	16.50	16.52	20.00
10.	Karnataka	250.00	249.15	270.00	244.04	260.00	304.87	300.00
11.	Kerala	574.00	604.69	628.00	586.56	675.00	582.14	635.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	57.00	54.53	57.00	80.18	55.00	91.28	90.00
13.	Maharashtra	484.00	433.82	490.00	446.88	465.00	464.00	488.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
14.	Manipur	11.50	11.51	12.00	12.01	12.00	12.50	12.86
15.	Meghalaya	3.79	3.98	4.00	3.96	4.20	3.58	5.00
16.	Mizoram	3.80	2.50	2.50	2.00	3.00	2.50	3.00
17.	Nagaland	2.00	1.82	2.00	2.50	2.30	3.00	5.15
18.	Orissa	231.00	232.28	220.00	257.66	248.00	258.04	258.56
19.	Punjab	17.00	19.00	22.00	24.00	25.00	26.00	30.00
20.	Rajasthan	12.00	12.22	13.00	13.97	15.00	12.40	15.10
21.	Sikkim	0.01	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.15	0.14
22.	Tamil Nadu	422.00	424.92	460.00	438.50	472.00	448.00	480.00
23.	Trnpura	27.00	24.50	30.00	25.10	27.00	25.71	27.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	125.00	132.37	120.00	139.90	140.00	145.70	148.00
25.	West Bengal	780.50	806.00	795.00	820.42	841.00	893.00	869.00
26.	UTs/Others	154.90	121.73	157.20	122.43	128.20	125.78	129.19
Total		4572.00	4644.36	4750.00	4788.55	4950.00	4949.39	5140.00

\*The achievement in 1996-97 will be known after the year is over.

### Trade Policy

3742. CHAUDHARY RAMCHANDRA BENDA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have rationalised their trade policy in order to boost the agriculture exports, giving remunerative prices to farmers, increasing foreign exchange earning and to provide essential commodities to the consumers at the reasonable prices;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide the facilities for the import of agriculture products?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (c) In the regime of liberalisation, the trade policy review is a continuous process with the prime objective of safeguarding the interests of the country as also the farmers and consumers. The Trade Policy aims at maximising the foreign exchange earnings as well as to ensure remunerative prices to the farmers keeping, however, in view the sufficient availability

of essential commodities of mass consumption at reasonable prices.

The steps taken to enhance exports of agricultural and allied products, include simplification of inspection procedures, removal of minimum export price and quantity restrictions on selected items, provision of concessional credit, product development to meet international needs, extension of benefits available under the scheme of Export Oriented Units/Export Processing Zones to agriculture sector and permitting 50% sale in the domestic tariff area assistance to exporters for improved packaging, strengthening of quality control, campaigns, arranging buyer-seller meets, participation in international Fairs/Exhibitions etc.

[English]

### Visa to Kashmiri Born Pakistanis

3743. SHRI GULAM RASOOL KAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Kashmiri born Pakistani citizens granted visa for India;

(b) whether they have been denied entry into Kashmir; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Use of National and State Emblems**

3744. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Emblems and Names (Prevention of Improper Use) Act, 1950 prohibits the use of the National Emblem by former Members of Parliament and State Emblem by former Members of the State legislatures;

(b) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the violation of the Act by a large number of former Members of Parliament and former Members of the State Legislatures;

(c) if so, whether any action has been initiated against such violators; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

*Translation]*

#### **Women Voluntary Organisations**

3745. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number and details of the women voluntary organisations in Uttar Pradesh receiving aid from the Central Funds;

(b) the schemes formulated by these women voluntary organisations for the social upliftment of Scheduled Caste Women; and

(c) the financial assistance provided during the last year for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

*[English]*

#### **Minimum Statutory Price of Sugarcane**

3746. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has turned down the proposal of the Prime Minister to raise the Minimum Statutory Price of sugarcane all over the country from Rs. 45.90 per quintal to Rs. 100 per quintal;

(b) if so, the main reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have also taken a decision not to raise the levy price of sugar at present; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) There is no such proposal under consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Government of India have decided to fix the retail issue price of sugar to be distributed through Public Distribution System at Rs. 10.50 per kg. w.e.f. 10.2.1997 for reducing the element of subsidy in the distribution of sugar through Public Distribution System.

#### **Import of Edible Oils under Open General Licence**

3747. SHRI V. PRADEEP DEV : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of edible oils allowed to be imported under the Open General Licence during 1996-97; and

(b) the concessions given for the import of edible oils during this period?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) At present import of all edible oils except Coconut Oil, Palm Kernel Oil, RBD Palm Oil and RBD Palm Stearin is allowed under Open General Licence (OGL). No quantitative ceiling has been prescribed for import of edible oils under OGL.

(b) The duty on import of edible oil under OGL was reduced from 30% to 22% in July, 1996 under the General Budget for 1996-97.

#### **Foreign Investment**

3748. DR. A.K. PATEL :  
SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the projects involving direct foreign investment approved and set up by the Government in the agriculture sector since 1991;

(b) the details of the marine fisheries projects among those projects: and

(c) the names of States where these projects have been set up/proposed to be set up in the next two years?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The total number of projects involving direct foreign investment in agriculture, (including Horticulture, Floriculture, Fisheries and Agricultural Machinery) approved by Govt. since 1991, is as under:—

1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996
11	24	42	66	135	67

(b) and (c) No project involving direct foreign investment have been approved by the Govt. so far for development of coastal marine fisheries sector (within territorial waters).

#### Production of Fish

3749. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for the production of fish and other marine products for the 8th plan period;

(b) the actual production during the plan period;

(c) whether Government have achieved the export target of fish and other marine products in the 8th plan period;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the steps taken to increase the production and export of fish and other marine products; and

(f) the details of the projection made for the Ninth Five Year Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) The target fixed for production of inland and marine shell and fin fish for the Eighth Five Year Plan period and the actual production thereof are as under :

(lakh tonnes)

Year	Target fixed	Production
1992-93	42.30	43.65
1993-94	45.72	46.44
1994-95	47.50	47.89
1995-96	49.50	49.49
1996-97	51.40	.

\*Year not yet over.

(c) and (d) The target fixed for export of fish and other marine products during the Eighth Five Year Plan period has been substantially achieved in the first four years of the Plan as will be seen from the table below :

(Quantity in lakh tonnes;  
(Value in Rs. crores)

Year	Target		Achievement	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
1992-93	1.95	1675	2.09	1769
1993-94	2.08	1825	2.44	2504
1994-95	2.17	2008	3.07	3575
1995-96	3.50	4262	2.96	3501
1996-97	3.26	3850		

\*Year not yet over.

(e) Steps have been taken by the Government of India to increase production of fish and other marine products as also the productivity of fishermen and fishing industry through expansion of aquaculture in fresh and brackishwater, development of coastal marine fisheries, construction of requisite infrastructure such as fishery harbours and fish landing centres, provision of adequate credit and development of human resources. A number of central sector and centrally sponsored schemes are being implemented for the development of fisheries & aquaculture in the States/ Union Territories. With a view to increase the export of marine products and to meet the standards imposed by the importing countries, steps have been taken by the Marine Products Export Development Authority to upgrade the processing facilities and also implement necessary programmes in the processing factories so as to conform to the quality standards by providing assistance, etc.

(f) The details of the Ninth Five Year Plan have not yet been finalised.

#### Project Tiger

3750. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the steering committee met in the month of February, 1997;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some State Governments have held up central fund meant for this Project; and

(d) if so, the names thereof and the action proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN

SOZ): (a) and (b) The Steering Committee of Project Tiger met on 31st January, 1997 to discuss management, administrative and financial problems being faced by the Project Tiger areas. The main recommendations made by the Committee are:—

- (i) Re-structuring of financial procedure to facilitate smooth and quick fund flow to the field level.
- (ii) Exclusion of Tiger habitats from commercial developmental activities.
- (iii) Enhancement in the financial support to the State Governments for different tiger conservation activities.
- (iv) Approach the concerned authorities of State Governments to extend full support to protection efforts of tiger and tiger habitat.
- (v) Placement of adequate staff in Tiger Reserves and filling up of the existing vacancies.

(c) and (d) The flow of central funds to the field level is delayed due to different procedures adopted by the States. According to the records available in the Ministry, the defaulting states are Assam, Bihar and Orissa who have been requested to expedite release of funds immediately. The States of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra have not sent utilisation certificates for Pench and Tadoba Tiger Reserves against the release of first instalment of central assistance inspite of reminders.

#### Hostels for SC/ST Students

3751. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the financial assistance provided to the Government of Uttar Pradesh by the Central Government during 1995-96 for the construction of hostels for SC/ST students; and

(b) the number of new hostels constructed during the period in the State along with the assistance provided for each project?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b) Under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Construction of Hostels for Scheduled Caste Boys and Girls, financial assistance is provided on 50:50 basis to the State Governments. Accordingly, this Ministry has released central share of financial assistance of Rs. 66,93,099/- for 11 SC Boys Hostel and Rs. 31,81,817/- for 5 SC Girls Hostel to the State of Uttar Pradesh during 1995-96. For ST Boys and ST Girls Hostel, no proposal was received from the State Government of Uttar

Pradesh for 1995-96 and hence no central assistance was released.

#### Palamau Tiger Reserve

3752. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Palamu tiger reserve a den of criminals' appearing in the "Indian Express", dated 11 February, 1997;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to control the deteriorating situation there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The presence of extremists in Palamau Tiger Project area has been reported, for which the State Government has been requested to take immediate appropriate steps to provide necessary assistance to the Field Director of the Reserve. A team comprising of members of Tiger Crisis Cell is also visiting the Reserve and the administrative authorities in Patna this month to resolve the issues.

#### Prices of Urea

3753. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to increase the prices of urea,

(b) if so, whether the prices of all the foodgrains are likely to be increased as a result thereof;

(c) whether the issue was discussed in the State Agriculture Ministers' Conference held in New Delhi on February 19, 1997; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (d) Yes Sir. Urea prices have been increasing by 10% w.e.f. 21.2.97. The concession on decontrolled phosphatic & potassic fertilisers is proposed to be increased w.e.f. 1.4.97 which will offset the impact of increase in prices of urea. Therefore, the cost of production of foodgrains is not expected to be increased due to nominal price increase in urea.

The State Agriculture Ministers' Conference was held on 19.2.97 to discuss Draft Agriculture Policy Resolution. In the Conference, it was re-emphasised that adequate and

timely supply of quality inputs such as seeds, fertilisers and agricultural implements and machinery at reasonable prices and proximity to the farmers will be the endeavour of the Government.

[*Translation*]

**Illiteracy of Women/Girls belonging to SC/ST Communities**

3754. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that there are certain States in the country where literacy percentage among the women belonging to scheduled castes/scheduled tribes is nominal;

(b) if so, the details of districts in those State where literacy percentage is nominal;

(c) whether the Government have implemented or propose to implement any special educational development programme for the girls/Women belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in these districts;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the total amount earmarked for the purpose and the amount spent under this programme since its introduction, year-wise;

(f) the details of achievements made in this regard; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b) Details of districts having nominal literacy among female belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are given as statements-I and II respectively, attached.

(c) to (f) A Central Sector Scheme of Special Educational Development Programme for Scheduled Caste girls belonging to very low literacy levels has been introduced from the year 1996-97 on pilot basis. The Scheme is applicable to 48 districts where SC female literacy as per 1981 census is less than 2 per cent. 100% grant-in-aid is provided to concerned Zila Parishads for establishment of residential schools for SC girls in these districts. Under this Scheme there is a budget provision of Rs. 60.00 lakh during 1996-97 and grant-in-aid of Rs. 22.68 lakh has been provided so far to concerned Zila Parishads for setting up of 16 Residential Schools.

A Central Sector Scheme of establishment of Educational complex in low literacy pockets for development of literacy among ST girls has been implemented from 1993-94. The Scheme is implemented through Voluntary Organisations. The Scheme is applicable to 48 districts

where ST female literacy is below 2% as per 1981 census. The Scheme also covers certain Primitive Tribal Groups which are generally characterised by very low female literacy. Under the Scheme a total of 52 educational complexes have been sanctioned for the benefit of about 2600 ST girls. The budget allocation and expenditure under the Scheme since 1993-94 are given below:—

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Budget allocation	Expenditure
1993-94	1.25	1.25
1994-95	1.85	1.9659
1995-96	1.50	1.50
1996-97	2.00	0.5956

(g) Does not arise.

**Statement-I**

*List of 48 Districts having Scheduled Caste Female Literacy below 2 Percent (1981 Census)*

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Rate of Literacy
1	2	3
<b>Bihar</b>		
1.	Giridhi	1.18
2.	Darbhanga	1.79
3.	Muzaffarpur	1.74
4.	Hazaribagh	1.73
5.	Gopalganj	1.64
6.	Gaya	1.61
7.	Purnia	1.52
8.	Palamu	1.29
9.	Paschim Champaran	1.24
10.	Purba Champaran	1.24
11.	Nawada	1.18
12.	Madhubani	1.09
13.	Saharsa	1.07
14.	Sitamarhi	0.89

1	2	3
	<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>	
15.	Guna	1.91
16.	Satna	1.90
17.	Chhatarpur	1.83
18.	Panna	1.46
19.	Rajgarh	1.29
20.	Shajapur	1.28
21.	Rewa	1.14
22.	Sidhi	0.58
	<b>Rajasthan</b>	
23.	Sikar	1.95
24.	Ganganagar	1.92
25.	Bharatpur	1.85
26.	Tonk	1.82
27.	Pali	1.82
28.	Sawai Madhopur	1.68
29.	Bhilwara	1.31
30.	Churu	0.91
31.	Nagaur	0.75
32.	Jaisalmer	0.62
33.	Jalor	0.51
34.	Barmer	0.51
	<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>	
35.	Deoria	1.93
36.	Fai Bareli	1.92
37.	Lalitpur	1.77
38.	Sitapur	1.64
39.	Badaun	1.62
40.	Pratapgerh	1.61

1	2	3
41.	Banda	1.50
42.	Barabanki	1.48
43.	Kheri	1.43
44.	Mirzapur	1.41
45.	Basti	1.39
46.	Sultanpur	1.14
47.	Gonda	0.85
48.	Behraich	0.78

**Statement-II**

*Districts having Less than 2 percent Tribal Female Literacy Rate (1981 Census)*

S.No.	State	District	Literacy Rate
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Nizamabad	0.73
		Mahbubnagar	1.19
		Medak	1.31
		Adilabad	1.62
		Karimnagar	1.61
		Warangal	1.39
		Nalgonda	1.02
2.	Bihar	Paschim Champaran	1.21
		Purnia	2.00
3.	Gujarat	Kachch	1.44
		Banaskantha	1.84
4.	Madhya Pradesh	Morena	0.46
		Shivpuri	0.20
		Guna	0.25
		Chhatarpur	0.39
		Panna	0.77
		Satna	0.62
		Rewa	0.43
		Sidhi	0.54
		Ratlam	0.99
		Dewas	0.87

1	2	3	4
		Rajgarh	0.94
		Shahdol	1.34
		Jhabua	1.65
		Dhar	1.19
		West Nimar	1.82
		East Nimar	1.93
		Sehore	1.05
		Raisen	1.32
5.	Orissa	Koraput	1.65
6.	Rajasthan	Tonk	0.67
		Pali	0.45
		Jalor	0.09
		Sirohi	0.58
		Bhilwara	0.45
		Udaipur	0.69
		Chittaurgarh	0.46
		Bundi	0.91
		Alwar	1.54
		Sawai Madhopur	1.35
		Jaipur	1.67
		Dungarpur	1.31
		Banswara	1.07
		Jhalawar	1.57
7.	Uttar Pradesh	Khen	0.70
		Behraich	0.61
		Gorida	0.62
8.	Arunachal Pradesh	East Kemeng	1.01

[English]

#### Centrally Sponsored Schemes

3755. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :  
SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Centrally sponsored schemes for the agricultural development under implementation in the States of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the names of the districts covered under these schemes; and

(c) the estimated expenditure and the outcome of the said schemes in those States during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The details of Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes for the agricultural development under implementation in the States of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh are given at Statements-I, II and III respectively, attached.

(b) Under the various schemes, funds are released to the States who in turn, pass them on to the Implementing Agencies. It is, therefore, not possible to indicate a list of Districts covered under the schemes.

(c) During 1993-94 to 1995-96, a Central assistance of Rs. 259, 165 and 300 crores was provided to the State of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh respectively to help the States in sustaining and increasing the production and productivity of crops. A Statement-IV indicating the production and yield per ha. of major crops during 1992-93 and 1995-96 is attached.

#### Statement-I

#### List of Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes under Implementation in Maharashtra

S.No.	Name of Schemes
1.	Integrated Cereal Development Programme — Coarse Cereals.
2.	Sustainable Development of Sugarcane based Cropping System.
3.	Intensive Cotton Development Programme.
4.	National Pulses Development Project.
5.	Oilseeds Production Programme.
6.	Accelerated Maize Development Programme.
7.	National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas.
8.	Balanced and Integrated use of Fertiliser.
9.	Development of Fertiliser use in low Consumption & Rainfed Areas.
10.	National Project on Development and use of Bio-fertilisers.
11.	Integrated Seed Development Scheme.
12.	Streamlining of certified Seeds production of important Identified Vegetable Crops.
13.	Grants in Aid to States/UTs for Setting Strengthening of State Bio-control laboratories under Integrated Pest Management Centres.

S.No.	Name of Schemes
14.	Grants in Aid to States/UTs for Setting/ Strengthening of State Bio-Control laboratories under Implementation of Insecticides Act.
15.	Promotion of Agricultural Mechanisation among Small Farmers.
16.	Exchange of Farmers within the Country.
17.	Farmers Scientists Interaction.
18.	Training of Women in Agriculture.
19.	State Land Use Board.
20.	Soil Conservation in the Catchment of River Valley Projects.
21.	Development of Beekeeping.
22.	Development of Medicinal & Aromatic Plants.
23.	Use of Plastics in Agriculture.
24.	Development of Commercial Floriculture.
25.	Development of Mushroom.
26.	Integrated development of Tropical, Arid Temperate Zone Fruits.
27.	Integrated Development programme of Cashewnut.
28.	Development of Root & Tuber Crops.
29.	Development of Betelvine.
30.	Development of Vegetables.
31.	Integrated Development of Spices.
32.	Brackish Water Fish Farm Development Agencies.
33.	Development of Coastal Marine Fisheries.
34.	Marine Fishing Regulation Act.
35.	Fish Farm Development Agencies.
36.	National Welfare of Fishermen.
37.	Investment in Debentures of LDBs.
38.	Timely Reporting Scheme.
39.	Improvement of Crop Statistics.
40.	Crop Estimation Survey on Fruits, Vegetables & Minor Crops/Diagnostic Study.
41.	Livestock Census.
42.	Agricultural Census.

**Statement-II***List of Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes under Implementation in Madhya Pradesh*

S.No.	Name of Schemes
1.	Integrated Cereal Development Programme — Rice.
2.	Integrated Cereal Development Programme — Coarse Cereals.
3.	Sustainable Development of Sugarcane based Cropping System.
4.	Intensive Cotton Development Programme.
5.	National Pulses Development Project.
6.	Oilseeds Production Programme.
7.	Accelerated Maize Development Programme.
8.	National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas.
9.	Balanced and Integrated use of Fertiliser.
10.	Development of Fertiliser use in low Consumption & Rainfed Areas.
11.	National Project on Development and use of Bio-fertilisers.
12.	Integrated Seed Development Scheme.
13.	Streamlining of certified Seeds production of important Identified Vegetable Crops.
14.	Grants in Aid to States/UTs for Setting/ Strengthening of State Bio-Control laboratories under Integrated Pest Management Centres.
15.	Grants in Aid to States/UTs for Setting/ Strengthening of State Bio-Control laboratories under Implementation of Insecticides Act.
16.	Promotion of Agricultural Mechanisation among Small Farmers.
17.	Exchange of Farmers within the Country.
18.	Farmer Scientists Interaction.
19.	State Land Use Board.
20.	Soil Conservation in the Catchment of River Valley Projects.
21.	Soil Conservation in the Catchments of Flood Prone Rivers.
22.	Reclamation of Alkali Soils.
23.	Development of Beekeeping.

S.No.	Name of Schemes	S.No.	Name of Schemes
24.	Development of Medicinal & Aromatic Plants.	8.	Accelerated Maize Development Prog.
25.	Use of Plastics in Agriculture.	9.	National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas.
26.	Development of Commercial Floriculture.	10.	Balanced and Integrated use of Fertiliser.
27.	Development of Mushroom.	11.	Development of Fertiliser use in low Consumption & Rainfed Areas.
28.	Integrated Development of Tropical, Arid Temperate Zone Fruits.	12.	National Project on Development and use of Bio-fertilizers.
29.	Integrated Development programme of Cashewnut.	13.	Integrated Seed Development Scheme.
30.	Development of Root & Tuber Crops.	14.	Streamlining of certified Seeds production of important Identified Vegetable Crops.
31.	Development of Betelvine.	15.	Grants in Aid to States/UTs for Setting/ Strengthening of State Bio-Control laboratories under Integrated Pest Management Centres.
32.	Development of Vegetables.	16.	Grants in Aid to States/UTs for Setting/ Strengthening of State Bio-Control laboratories under Implementation of Insecticides Act.
33.	Integrated Development of Spices.	17.	Promotion of Agricultural Mechanisation among Small Farmers.
34.	Training and Extension (Fisheries).	18.	Exchange of Farmers within the Country.
35.	Inland Fisheries Statistics.	19.	Farmers Scientists Interaction.
36.	Fish Farm Development Agencies.	20.	Training of Women in Agriculture.
37.	Inland Fish Marketing.	21.	State Land Use Board.
38.	National Welfare of Fishermen.	22.	Soil Conservation in the Catchment of River Valley Projects.
39.	Investment in Debentures of LDBs.	23.	Soil Conservation in the Catchments of Flood Prone Rivers.
40.	Non Overdue Cover Scheme.	24.	Reclamation of Alkali Soils.
41.	Agriculture Credit Stabilization Fund.	25.	Development of Beekeeping.
42.	Assistance to Women's Cooperatives.	26.	Development of Medicinal & Aromatic Plants.
43.	Timely Reporting Scheme.	27.	Use of Plastics in Agriculture.
44.	Improvement of Crop Statistics.	28.	Development of Commercial Floriculture.
45.	Livestock Census.	29.	Development of Mushroom.
46.	Agricultural Census.	30.	Integrated Development of Tropical, Arid Temperate Zone Fruits.

**Statement-III**

*List of Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes under Implementation in Uttar Pradesh*

S.No.	Name of Schemes	S.No.	Name of Schemes
1.	Integrated Cereal Development Programme — Rice	27.	Use of Plastics in Agriculture.
2.	Integrated Cereal Development Programme — Wheat.	28.	Development of Commercial Floriculture.
3.	Sustainable Development of Sugarcane based Cropping System.	29.	Development of Mushroom.
4.	Intensive Cotton Development Programme.	30.	Integrated Development of Tropical, Arid Temperate Zone Fruits.
5.	Special Jute Development Programme.	31.	Development of Root & Tuber Crops.
6.	National Pulses Development Project.	32.	Development of Betelvine
7.	Oilseeds Production Programme.	33.	Development of Vegetables.
		34.	Integrated Development of Spices.
		35.	Training and Extension (Fisheries).

S.No.	Name of Schemes	S.No.	Name of Schemes
36.	Inland Fisheries Statistics.	43.	Assistance to Women's Cooperatives.
37.	Fish Farm Development Agencies.	44.	Assistance to Weaker Section Cooperatives.
38.	Inland Fish Marketing.	45.	Timely Reporting Scheme.
39.	National Welfare of Fishermen.	46.	Improvement of Crop Statistics.
40.	Investment in Debentures of LDBs.	47.	Crop Estimation Survey on Fruit, Vegetables and Minor Crops/Diagnostic Study.
41.	Non Overdue Cover Scheme.	48.	Livestock Census.
42.	Agriculture Credit Stabilisation Fund.	49.	Agricultural Census.

**Statement-IV***Estimates of Production & Yield of Principal Crops*

Particular	Madhya Pradesh		Maharashtra		Uttar Pradesh	
	1992-93	1995-96	1992-93	1995-96	1992-93	1995-96
	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Prod. : 000 Tonnes Yield : Kgs/Ha					
<b>Rice</b>						
Production	5283	5705	2364	2563	9709	10408
Yield	1024	1104	1532	1689	1773	1867
<b>Wheat</b>						
Production	5243	6468	798	898	19834	22203
Yield	1428	1614	1174	1275	2226	2453
<b>Coarse Cereals</b>						
Production	3466	2502	9054	6546	4167	4081
Yield	945	801	1088	845	1353	1317
<b>Pulses</b>						
Production	2898	3102	1829	1661	2527	2252
Yield	611	604	546	503	865	770
<b>Total Foodgrains</b>						
Production	16890	17777	14045	11668	36238	38943
Yield	979	1020	1011	879	1777	1886
<b>Cotton</b>						
Production	353	422	1808	2799	14	15
Yield	128	134	124	155	184	177
<b>Sugarcane</b>						
Production	1324	2023	30854	46656	102929	119830
Yield	33964	39980	76408	80442	55413	60692
<b>Oilseeds</b>						
Production	3583	4901	1772	1981	1202	1469
Yield	745	870	685	775	705	855

**Fruit and Vegetable Outlets of Mother Dairy**

3756. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number and locations of fruit and vegetable outlets/extension counters opened by the Mother Dairy (National Dairy Development Board) in Delhi during January and February, 1997;

(b) the location of such outlets/extension counters where weighing machines have been sent without printers; and

(c) the time by which the printers are likely to be provided at such outlets/extension counters by the Mother Dairy?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Seven fruit and vegetable outlets were opened in Delhi during January '97 which are as under :—

Outlet No.	Location
630	Block-G, Vikaspuri.
633	Block A-1, Pankha Road, Janakpuri.
699	Sector 18, Rohini.
073	Block JKL, Sarita Vihar.
079	M.B. Road, Tigri.
632	Block C2-C, Janakpuri.
629	Jupiter Apartments, Vikaspuri.

(b) All the above 7 outlets have been provided weighing machines with printers.

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

**Slashing of Assistance for North-Eastern States**

3757. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decision has been taken to slash the assistance to the North-Eastern States including Assam;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any proposal to deduct amount from the Plan outlay pertaining to the North-Eastern States with arrears of Rs. 220.45 crore;

(d) if so, the total amount owed by the North-Eastern States; and

(e) whether any further time is likely to be given to clear their arrears?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) The Central assistance for State Plans is given as 90% grant and 10% loan to NE States. In addition, these States also get small savings loans. The loans have to be repaid to the Government of India. The total loans outstanding as on 1.4.1996 are Rs. 4760.87 crores of which Rs. 892.62 crores is due during 1996-97. These loans are repaid by the States in the normal course. In some cases the loans are adjusted against release of Central assistance. The Government of India have also recently approved a proposal for recovery of all outstanding dues of Central Public Sector Undertakings from State Electricity Boards by appropriation from the Plan assistance due to the respective States in suitable instalments to be decided in consultation with the State Governments.

The outstanding dues on this account to be recovered from the North-Eastern States are Rs. 356.66 crore (as on 31.12.1996) in respect of the Ministry of Power and Rs. 0.27 crore (as on 30.11.1996) in respect of the Ministry of Railways and Ministry of Coal.

**Bhutanese Refugees**

3758. SHRI R.B. RAI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the arrest of hundreds of Bhutanese refugees seeking to return to their respective homes by the West Bengal Police, in the border area of Jalpaiguri District and their forcible deportation to Nepal;

(b) whether the Central Government had asked a report from the Government of West Bengal in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to stop such practice in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Production of Urea**

3759. SHRI K. PRADHANI :  
SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR :

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

(a) the target fixed for the production of urea during Eighth Five Year Plan and actual production achieved;

(b) whether Government have made any assessment on the demand and availability of urea in the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(c) if so, the facts revealed from the assessment;

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to meet out the demand of urea in the Ninth Plan; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) :  
(a) The annual production of urea during the Eighth Five Year Plan with reference to the targets has been as follows :

Year	Production of Urea ('000 MT)	
	Target	Actual
1992-93	13486.3	13122.9
1993-94	14065.0	13148.3
1994-95	14707.1	14202.0
1995-96	15378.9	15819.7
1996-97	16273.2	15544.3 (Anticipated)

(b) and (c) The following assessment of the demand and availability of urea in two alternative scenarios has been made in the context of the preparatory exercise for the formulation of the Ninth Five Year Plan.

*Estimates of Demand-Supply Gap in Urea in Terms of Product*

SCENARIO I : Assuming no price Correction in Urea  
(in lakh Tonnes)

Year	Demand	Supply	Gap
1996-97	219.00	163.60	55.40
1997-98	230.00	174.93	55.07
1998-99	249.00	187.76	61.24
1999-00	273.00	206.57	66.43
2000-01	299.00	253.63	45.37
2001-02	326.00	260.89	65.11

SCENARIO II : Assuming price correction in Urea  
(in lakh Tonnes)

Year	Demand	Supply	Gap
1996-97	209.00	163.60	45.40
1997-98	211.00	174.93	36.07
1998-99	218.00	187.76	30.24
1999-00	225.00	206.57	18.43
2000-01	235.00	253.63	—18.63
2001-02	245.00	260.89	—15.89

(d) and (e) As per the Industrial Policy Statement issued on 24th July, 1991, no industrial licence is now required for setting up a fertilizer plant.

The Public/Cooperative units under the administrative control of the Department of Fertilizers have adopted the following strategy to increase urea production:

- (i) Expansion/retrofitting/revamping of existing fertilizer plants;
- (ii) Overcoming the constraints in the availability of natural gas by setting up naphtha-based fertilizer plants and installing dual fuel/feedstock facilities in the existing plants and projects under implementation; and
- (iii) Setting up joint venture projects in countries having abundant and cheap raw material resources.

Entrepreneurs in the Private Sector have also formulated their investment proposals for augmenting the indigenous urea production.

**Diversion of Forest Land**

3760. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :  
SHRI HANSRAJ AHIR :  
SHRI ANANDRAO V. ADSUL :

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

(a) whether the Government have received a request from the Government of Maharashtra to delegate powers to the State Government under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the diversion of Forest area not exceeding 05 hectares for the Non-forestry purpose;

(b) whether a request has also been received from the State to delegate powers to the Chief Conservator of forests,

Regional Office, Bhopal to approve the diversion of forest land between 05 to 20 hectares; and

(c) if so, the decision taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) Government of India has been receiving requests from various State Governments to delegate power to State Governments under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest areas. But, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 does not permit delegation of power to the State Governments.

(b) and (c) Revision of delegation of power to Chief Conservator of Forests, Regional Offices, is under consideration of this Ministry.

### **Fake Degrees**

3761. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a racket of fake degrees has come to light in Chandra Sekhar Agricultural University in Kanpur in January, 1997;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(c) if so, the findings thereof; and

(d) the action proposed to curb this menace?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and the same will be placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha in due course.

### **Computers to Stop Dissection of Animals**

3762. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Animal Welfare Board of India propose to introduce sophisticated software models of computers to stop dissection of animals in schools;

(b) if so, the time by which these computers are likely to be introduced;

(c) whether the matter has also been discussed with the State Governments;

(d) if so, the response of the State Governments thereto;

(e) whether any State Welfare Board is likely to be set up; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the main functions of the Board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) Introduction of the software model of computers in schools to stop dissection has been recommended by the Animal Welfare Board of India to the State Governments.

(b) No decision to switch on to the computers has yet been taken by the Ministry of Human Resource Development which is the implementing Ministry for this purpose.

(c) The Chairman of Animal Welfare Board of India has addressed letters to the Chief Ministers of the State Governments.

(d) Most of the State and Central Education Boards have indicated that due to resource crunch and non-availability of computer equipments readily they will not be in a position to switch on to the computer immediately. They have also expressed that valuable experience gained through dissection can not be fully substituted by computer models.

(e) and (f) State Advisory Boards for animal welfare have been established in 24 States/Union Territories. The main functions of these Boards are : advise the State Governments in all matters concerning animal welfare, guide the activities of Animal Welfare Organisations in the respective States and to provide financial assistance if possible, liaise with the Animal Welfare Board of India in the enforcement of the legislations concerning animal welfare, and to encourage the formation of public opinion against the infliction of unnecessary pain or sufferings to animals.

*[Translation]*

### **Sugar Mills in Madhya Pradesh**

3763. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether notice has been issued by the Central Pollution Control Board to sugar mills in Ratlam district in Madhya Pradesh to close the mills for defying the rules;

(b) whether any action has been taken by the Government after getting their response;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) Yes, Sir. The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has served closure notice to a Sugar Mill located in Hatlam district under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for not providing adequate pollution control measures to comply with the prescribed effluent and emission standards. The industry has informed that they are in the process of installing and commissioning of Effluent Treatment Plant by the end of May/June, 1997.

(b) to (d) As CPCB has already taken action, no further action by the Government is envisaged at this stage.

[English]

#### Use of Names/Pictorial Representations

3764. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the names or pictorial representations thereof whose use is prohibited under the Emblems and Names (Prevention of Improper Use) Act, 1950;

(b) the date from which this prohibition is in force;

(c) whether the Government's attention has been drawn to any violations of this provision;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken against the violators?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) and (b) Names/pictorial representations, whose use is prohibited, are stipulated in the Schedule to the Emblems and Names (Prevention of Improper Use) Act, 1950. Details regarding the dates from which such prohibition is in force are given in the attached statement.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Do not arise.

#### Statement

S.No.	Item	Date from which prohibition is in force
1	2	3

1.	The name, emblem or official seal of the United Nations Organisation.	1.9.1950
2.	The name, emblem or official seal of the World Health Organisation.	

1	2	3
3.	The Indian National Flag.	1.9.1950
4.	The name, emblem or official seal of the Government of India or of any state, or any other insignia or coat-of-arms used by any such Government or by a Department of any such Government.	
5.	The emblems of the St. John Ambulance Association (India), and the St. John Ambulance Brigade (India), consisting of the device of a white eight pointed cross embellished in the four principal angles alternatively with a lion passant quadrant and a unicorn passant, whether or not the device is surrounded or accompanied by concentric circles or other decoration or by lettering.	
6.	The name, emblem or official seal of the President, Governor (Sadari-Riyasat) or Public or Union of India.	
7.	Any name which may suggest or be calculated to suggest:—	
(i)	The patronage of the Government of India or the Government of a state; or	
(ii)	Connection with any local authority or any corporation or body constituted by the Government under any law for the time being in force.	
8.	The name, emblem or official seal of the United Nations, Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation.	
9.	The name or pictorial representation of Rashtrapati, Rashtrapati Bhavan, Raj Bhavan.	
9A.	The name or pictorial representation of Mahatma Gandhi, Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, Chhatrapati Shivaji or the Prime Minister of India or the words Gandhi, Nehru or Shivaji except the pictorial use thereof on	

1	2	3	1	2	3
	calenders where only the name of the manufacturers and printers of the calendars are given and the calenders are not used for advertising goods.				
	(Ins. by Notification No. S.O. 1503 dated 8th April, 1970).				
10.	The medals, badges or decorations instituted by the Government from time to time or the miniatures or replicas of such medals, badges or decorations (or the name of such models, badges or decorations or of the miniatures or replicas thereof).		18.	The name and emblem of the Ramakrishna Math and Mission consisting of a Swan floating on waters, with a lotus in the foreground and the rising sun in the background, the whole being encircled by a wild corpant, with the words superimposed on the bottom portion.	4.8.1973
				(Ins. by Notification No. S.O. 2356 dated the 4th August, 1973).	
11.	The name, emblem or official seal of the International Civil Aviation Organisation.		19.	The name and emblem of the Sri Sarada Math and Ramakrishna Sarada Mission consisting of a Swan (facing right) floating on water, with a lotus in the foreground and the rising sun in the background, the whole being encircled by a wild sarpant (facing right with the words.	11.9.1973
12.	The word "Interpo:" which is an integral part of the International Criminal Police Organisation.			(Ins. by Notification dated the 11th Sept., 1973).	
13.	The name, emblem or official seal of the World Meteorological Organisation.		20.	The name of 'The Bharat Scouts and Guides' with the Emblem.	10.7.1974
14.	The name and emblem of the Tuberculosis Association of India.			(Ins. by Notification dated the 10th July, 1974).	
15.	The name, emblem and official seal of the International Atomic Energy Agency.	1.9.1950	21.	The name and emblem of the International Olympic Committees consisting of five interlaced rings.	18.8.1978
				(Ins. by Notification No. S.O. 2457 dated 18th August, 1978).	
16.	The names "Ashoka Chakra" or "Dharma Chakra" or the pictorial representation of Ashoka Chakra as used in the Indian National Flag or in the official seal or emblem of the Government of India or of any State Government, or of a Department of any such Government.		22.	The name and emblem of the National Youth Emblem which is in black and white and carries the profiles of the faces of two onward looking young persons — male and female—inscribed with a circle. Both faced are turning towards the right and the profile of the male face is in black and is situated behind that of the female face. The back of profile of the female face forms the tail and wing of a dove flying in the opposite direction with its back extending outside the circle and carrying a twig with loaf. The profile of the dove is in white and the balance space of the profile of the	23.6.1986
17.	The name of the Parliament or the legislature of any State, or the Supreme Court, or the High Court of any State, or the Central Secretariat, or the secretariat of any State Government or any other Government Office or the pictorial representation of any building occupied by any of the aforesaid institutions.				

1	2	3
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female face is covered with horizontal lines in black. The space between the black profile of the male face and the circle is also covered by horizontal lines in black. The space in between the profile of the dove and the circle to the left of the dove is also in black. The leaf and twig is in black. One eye of the dove is shown in the form of a dot.

(Ins. by Notification No. S.O. 373(E) dated 23rd June, 1986).

#### **Impact of Price Hike Under P.D.S.**

3765. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether rise in prices of rice, sugar and wheat under the PDS have also affected the prices and supply of these commodities in the open market;

(b) whether the Government have also taken serious view of the shortage and the rise in prices of these commodities;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check the same?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) The Central Issue Prices of wheat and rice raised w.e.f. 1.2.1994 are still in force. The revised issue prices under Targetted PDS announced by the Government on 24.2.1997 have not yet been given effect to, in any of the States/UTs.

The retail issue price of levy sugar supplied through PDS has been raised from Rs. 9.05 per kg. to Rs. 10.50 per kg. w.e.f. 10.2.1997.

Adequate stock of sugar is available with the Government. With judicious releases of sugar in the open market, prices have been kept under control.

As regards rice, the availability and price situation continues to be normal. Artificial scarcity of wheat was witnessed in recent months of 1996-97 season.

The Government have taken number of steps including import of wheat upto 2 million tonnes, increased allocation for PDS and open Market Sales Scheme, imposition of licensing and stock holding limits and action against hoarders and black marketeers under the provisions of Essential Commodities Act and Prevention of Black Marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act.

[Translation]

#### **Mining of Precious Stones**

3766. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the complaints have been received regarding the illegal mining of precious stones found in the reserved forests of Gujarat particularly in the tribal dominated areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof for last three years till date;

(c) whether the Government have got conducted any inquiry in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to prevent illegal mining of such precious stones?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) According to report submitted by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Gujarat, a complaint regarding illegal mining of wallastonite, a precious mineral from Dhanpura forest survey No. 339 and 257 has been received.

(c) and (d) The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests has reported that revenue as well as forest officials have inquired into the matter. They have found that two leaseholders, who were granted lease for lime stone mining in revenue survey No. 255/2 of village Dhanpura, had illegally mined in 0.03 ha. of forest area of survey No. 339 during January, 1993.

(e) Forest Department of Gujarat has taken following action in this regard:—

1. 12 truckloads of mined mineral and 20 tons of mineral powder had been seized.
2. A criminal complaint has been lodged against the accused and Forester in charge of the forest area has been warned.

It has also been reported that no illegal mining has been noticed after the action has been taken by the Department. The matter is pending in the court of law.

[English]

### Arms Dropping

3767. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Army Intelligence Wing has warned regarding an encore of Purulia type arms dropping from some militant outfits;

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to dislodge such attempts in future;

(c) whether the proposed steps are likely to affect the tourist flow to India, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Ministry of Defence has taken the following steps:—

(i) Headquarters, Eastern Air Command (HQ, EAC) has been directed to implement a high state of vigilance over the air space over the area with all available resources.

(ii) Army Border Out Posts along the border have been tasked to report any aircraft movement on the HF net to HQ, EAC. HQ, EAC is the coordinating agency.

(iii) DGCA has been informed that all non-scheduled aircraft movements in the area are to be treated with utmost caution. Any suspicious indications from such movements are to be immediately informed to all concerned security agencies.

(iv) Helicopters have been tasked to carry out reconnaissance and patrol of the area twice a day for a period of at least one hour at random intervals.

(v) Army has been alerted to exercise vigilance in the entire area along the border.

(vi) Assam Rifles out posts on the Myanmar/Nagaland border have been alerted to exercise vigilance.

(c) No Sir.

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

[Translation]

### National Crime Records Bureau

3768. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH :  
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Crime Records Bureau has conducted any survey to identify such States/Union Territories where crimes are being committed on large scale;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the States/Union Territories where the crime rate is maximum and minimum alongwith the details of such crimes separately;

(d) whether any assistance has been provided by the Union Government to these States/Union Territories during the last three years; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (e) The National Crime Records Bureau has not conducted any such survey. However, the Bureau collects, compiles and analyses crime figures of various States and Union Territories in its annual publication "Crime in India". The latest published report is for the year 1994. Details in regard to the crime rate and the incidence of crime are available in the enclosed statement.

Among the States, the crime rate is the highest in the case of Rajasthan while it is the lowest in the case of Punjab. Among the Union territories, the crime rate is the highest in the case of Delhi and the lowest in the case of Lakshadweep.

'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects. However, the Central Government has been assisting the State Governments under its scheme — Modernisation of State Police Forces, in order to strengthening their policing infrastructure. The following assistance was provided to Rajasthan and Punjab under the scheme during the last three years:—

State	Year (Rs. in lakhs)		
	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Rajasthan	105.02	224.92	77.46
Punjab	38.09	84.65	84.65

Financial assistance under the said scheme is not provided to the Union territories which are otherwise Centrally assisted.

**Statement***Details of Crimes in the States & UTs Representing Crime Rates Maximum and Minimum*

Crime	Maximum crime rate		Minimum crime rate		Maximum crime rate		Minimum crime rate	
	Rajasthan		Punjab		Delhi		Lakshadweep	
	I	R	I	R	I	R	I	R
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
(i) Murder	1499	3.2	662	3.1	492	4.6	0	.0
(ii) Attempt to commit Murder	1761	3.7	399	1.8	479	4.5	0	.0
j) C.H. Not amounting to murder	124	.3	99	.5	84	.8	0	.0
f) Rape	1042	2.1	118	.5	309	2.9	0	.0
) Kidnapping & abduction								
Total	2531	5.4	220	1.0	1055	10.0	0	.0
(a) of Women & Girl	2110	4.5	133	.6	713	6.7	0	.0
(b) of others	421	.9	85	.4	342	3.2	0	.0
(c) Dacoity	88	.2	10	.0	19	.2	0	.0
ii) Preparation and Assembly for dacoity	8	.0	15	.1	14	.1	0	.0
iii) Robbery	1137	2.4	46	.2	377	3.6	0	.0
viii) Burglery	8327	17.6	989	4.6	1660	15.7	3	5.0
ix) Theft	15517	32.8	1275	6.0	13490	127.4	20	33.3
x) Riots	18741	39.7	7	.0	172	1.6	8	13.3
xi) Criminal-breach of Trust	846	1.8	147	.7	578	5.5	1	1.7
(xii) Cheating	5549	11.7	532	2.5	1383	13.1	0	.0
(xiii) Counterfeiting	287	.6	11	.1	99	.9	0	.0

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
(xiv) Other IPC crimes		75602	160.0	6120	28.7	18012	170.1	20	33.3
(xv) Total cognizable crimes under IPC		133019	281.5	10631	49.9	38223	360.9	52	86.7

Note : Rate = Incidence per lakh (1,00,000) of population.  
(Incidence), R (Rate)

[English]

#### **Purulia Arm Dropping Case**

3769. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :  
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :  
SHRI ANIL BASU :  
SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI :  
SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) further progress made in the Purulia arms dropping case;

(b) whether an American passport holder, Martin Conrad Schneider, suspected to be a close associate of Kim Davy and involved in the Purulia arms case was arrested at Mumbai Sahar International Airport during the last month;

(c) if so, the revelations made by him in the matter; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Central Bureau of Investigation have intimated that execution reports of Letter Rogatory sent to Latvia and Bulgaria have been received. Letter Rogatory to Denmark and U.K. have been executed and Letter Rogatory to a number of other countries have been sent to the competent authorities of those countries for execution.

(b) and (c) CBI have intimated that Mr. Marten Konrad Schneider, holding United States Passport, was detained by the Sahar Immigration Police, Mumbai Airport on 17.1.1997. As per CBI, no direct or indirect evidence are available to connect him to Purulia Arms Dropping case so far

(d) The CBI are taking all appropriate action in the matter.

#### **Modernisation of Border Security Force**

3770. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to modernise the Border Security Force; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the funds earmarked for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) Modernisation is a continuous process. Updating of technology, weaponry, vehicles, Air Wing and training for border/coastal patrolling are some of the matters on which constant attention is being given. For this purpose, trials are held and funds are allocated to keep the BSF modern and fit for its task.

#### **Black Weeds**

3771. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that large areas of forests, agricultural and waste lands in the hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh, Sikkim and West Bengal have been infested by the black weeds, thereby resulting into a bane to farmers, tea-gardens and foresters;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to clear the said hilly areas from the black weeds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) to (c) The Information is being collected from the States and will be laid on the Table of the House.

*[Translation]***Panaki Power House at Kanpur**

3772. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the smoke and ash emitting from the chimneys of Panaki Power House at Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh, has been posing a threat to the lives of the people living in ten kilometer radius of this power house; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZI): (a) and (b) No conclusive report of adverse impact on health of the population living near the Panaki Power House at Kanpur, is available. However, the Government are aware of the pollution problems created by the Power House. The Central Pollution Control Board has issued the following directions to the Power House for taking necessary steps to check the pollution problems:—

- (i) to ensure proper commissioning and functioning of electrostatic precipitators in order to check emissions of suspended particulate matter.
- (ii) to submit a time bound action plan for switching over to the use of beneficiated/blended coal with lower ash content.
- (iii) to make use of fly ash.
- (iv) to install and ensure proper functioning of opacity meters.

The pollution control programme is being monitored by the Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board and the Central Pollution Control Board.

*[English]***Impact of Global Merger**

3773. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have studied impact of the global merger and acquisition fever on the Indian pharmaceutical industry in the absence of product patents;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof and the estimated number of products being patented by 2000; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure the low-cost manufacturing of pharmaceutical products and research and development?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) No such study has been conducted by the Government so far.

(b) Number of Products patented by the year 2000 A.D. would depend on outcome of R/D efforts.

(c) Various incentives have been provided to give impetus to research and development which has assumed greater importance in view of world trade scenario. Challenges faced, therefore, include sustaining indigenous industry through vigorous R&D efforts and making it internationally cost effective in bulk production.

Financial support for R&D activities under schemes of Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, collaborative research taken up by various laboratories of the CSIR and setting up of National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research to produce R&D oriented scientists are some of the steps which have been taken to encourage R&D.

**Implementation of Targeted Public Distribution System**

3774. SHRI VIJAY PATEL:  
DR. A.K. PATEL :

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the State Governments have already announced reduction in the rates of rice and wheat to be supplied in their respective States; and

(b) if so, the manner in which now the Targeted Public Distribution System scheme will be implemented in such States?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) No State Government has so far fixed the end consumer price of rice and wheat for the Targeted PDS, which will be done by them after issue of formal notification fixing the Central Issue Prices by the Government of India.

(b) Hon'ble Prime Minister has made a statement on the introduction of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) in the Lok Sabha on 24.2.1997 and detailed guidelines indicating the manner in which the Targeted PDS will be implemented, issued in this regard, have also been laid on the table of the House. As per the guidelines, the State Governments/UT Administrations are required to identify the beneficiaries living Below Poverty Line, based on the estimates arrived at by the Planning Commission for the Year 1993-94 adopting the methodology of "Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor" constituted by the Planning Commission under the Chairmanship of late Prof. Lakdawala.

The State Governments/UT Administrations have accordingly been asked to identify the beneficiaries below the poverty line, issue special ration cards to them and make all arrangements for delivery of foodgrains to the beneficiaries in a satisfactory and transparent manner. As soon as a State/UT completes this exercise it can start deriving the benefits under the Targeted Public Distribution System. The Scheme of Targeted PDS will, however, become effective throughout the country from 1st June, 1997.

### **Livestock Feed Industry**

3775. SHRI ANANT GUDHE : Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Stringent controls hinder growth of livestock feed industry" appearing in the 'Economic Times', dated February 24, 1997;

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

(c) the details of fresh policy measures taken/under consideration for the speedy growth of livestock feed industry in terms of growth perceptions for the 9th Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) Yes. Sir

(b) and (c) Some important steps initiated by the Government for promoting the growth of livestock feed industry include:

- (i) Poultry feed manufacture (except in pellet form), which has so far been reserved for the small sector, is being dereserved.
- (ii) Preparations of a kind used in animal feeding, falling under Chapter No. 23 of Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985 continue to be fully exempted from excise duty.
- (iii) Import of feed ingredients like amino acids attract concessional customs duty.

[Translation]

### **Triple Super Phosphate**

3776. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States being supplied triple super phosphate fertilizer;

(b) the total quantity supplied to each of these States;

(c) the total amount given as subsidy to each of the States on the same; and

(d) the names of the institutions or the organisations through which it has been supplied to the States?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Triple Super Phosphate is not produced in the country and not supplied to any State.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

### **Setting up of Finance Development Corporations**

3777. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :  
SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have constituted the National Handicapped Finance Development Corporation and National Safai Karamchari Finance Development Corporation;

(b) if so, the guidelines along with powers jurisdiction and life etc. of these corporations; and

(c) the time by which both the corporations will start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) Yes sir.

- (i) The National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation has been set up as Company not for profit under Section 25 of Companies Act, 1956, w.e.f. 24th January, 1997, with its Headquarters at Faridabad (Haryana).
- (ii) The National Safai Karamchari Finance Development Corporation has been incorporated on 24th January, 1997, as a Company not for profit under Section 25 of Companies Act, 1956, with its Registered office at Delhi.

(b) A copy of the guidelines/objectives etc. of these Corporations is attached as statements-I and II, respectively.

2. The jurisdiction of National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation extends to handicapped individuals or groups of handicapped individuals by Way of loans and advances for economically and financially viable schemes and projects. It shall assist in upgradation of technical and entrepreneurial skills of handicapped persons for efficient management of production units and set up infrastructural activities for rehabilitation/upliftment of handicapped persons.

3. Regarding jurisdiction of National Safai Karamchari Finance Development Corporation, the Memorandum of Association of the Corporation provides that the Company, shall, during the initial years restrict its operation to assisting only such Safai Karamcharis who are scavengers or their dependents and shall extend its coverage to all other Safai Karamcharis after scavengers or their dependents have been largely covered, provided further that, other things being equal, the Company shall accord priority to economic development, rehabilitation of women Safai Karamcharis.
4. There is no fixed duration for the operation of both these Corporations.

(c) The National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation and the National Safai Karmachari Finance Development Corporation will become functional during financial year 1997-98.

#### **Statement-I**

##### *National Safai Karamchari Finance Development Corporation*

1. To promote economic development activities for the benefit of Safai karamcharis.
2. To promote self-employment ventures for the benefit/economic rehabilitation of safai karamcharis.
3. To assist, subject to such income and/or economic criteria as may be prescribed by the Government from time to time, the safai karamcharis or groups of safai karamcharis by way of loans and advances for economically viable income generating schemes and projects.
4. To grant concessional finance to safai karamcharis in collaboration with Government Ministries/Departments at the national and State levels under relevant programmes.
5. To extend loans to the students from safai karamchari community for pursuing professional/technical education at graduate and higher levels.
6. To assist in the upgradation of technical and entrepreneurial skills of persons belonging to safai karamchari community for proper and efficient management of production and service units set up by them.
7. To promote training, quality control, technology upgradation and other common facility centres for carrying out sanitation work.

8. To work as an apex institution on the lines of National Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation for channelising the funds through States' channelising agencies authorised by State Govts./ Union Territory Administrations. The NSKFDC will receive proposals for financial assistance through above mentioned organisations and sanction loans and margin money to the beneficiaries for disbursement through these organisations. The NSKFDC will also coordinate and monitor the schemes/programmes implemented through authorised State Finance and Development corporations/Boards/UT Administrations financed by the Government.
9. To assist self-employed individuals/groups of individuals or registered factories/companies/cooperatives of safai karamcharis in marketing of their finished goods and assist in procurement of raw materials.
10. To help in furthering the Government policies and programmes for socio-economic development and rehabilitation of safai karamcharis.

#### **Statement-II**

##### *National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation*

The objectives of the Corporation are :

1. To promote economic developmental activities for the benefit of the handicapped persons.
2. To promote self-employment and other ventures for the benefit/economic rehabilitation of the handicapped persons.
3. To assist, subject to such income and/or economic criteria as may be prescribed by the Government from time to time, the handicapped individuals or groups of handicapped individuals by way of loans and advances for economically and financially viable schemes and projects.
4. To grant concessional finance in selected cases for the handicapped persons in the country in collaboration with Government Ministries/Depts. State level to the extent of the budgetary assistance granted by the Government of India to the Company.
5. To extend loans to the handicapped for pursuing general/professional/technical education for training at graduate and higher levels.

6. To assist in the upgradation of technical and entrepreneurial skills of handicapped persons for proper and efficient management of production units.
7. To set up training, quality control, process development, technology, common facility centres and other infrastructural activities for the proper rehabilitation/upliftment of the handicapped persons in support of their economic pursuits.
8. To assist the State level organisations to deal with the development of the handicapped persons by way of providing financial assistance and in obtaining commercial funding or by way of refinancing.
9. To work as an apex institution on the lines of National Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation for channelising the funds through State Finance Corporations for the Handicapped or through corresponding Corporations authorised by State Govts./Boards set up by Union Government/State Governments/Union Territory Administrations and Voluntary Organisations. The NHFDC will receive proposals for financial assistance through above mentioned organisations and sanction loans and margin money to the beneficiaries for disbursement through these organisations. The NHFDC will also coordinate and monitor the schemes/programmes implemented through authorised State Finance & Development Corporations/Boards/UT Administration and NGOs, financed by the Corporation.
10. To assist self-employed individuals/group of individuals or registered factories/companies/cooperatives of disabled persons in marketing their finished goods and assist in procurement of raw materials.

**ANNOUNCEMENT RE : BUSINESS  
OF THE HOUSE**

12.02 hrs.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have to inform the House that the Business Advisory Committee at their sitting held today recommended as under :—

- (i) that there would be no lunch break on the 18th, 19th and 20th March, 1997 in order to make available more time for disposal of urgent Government business;

- (ii) On 18th March, 1997, the following three bills be disposed of by 1800 hours :—

- (a) The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Bill, 1997.
- (b) The National Highways Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1997, as passed by Rajya Sabha.
- (c) The Lalit Kala Akadami (Taking over of Management) Bill, 1997, as pass by Rajya Sabha.

These three Bills have to be concluded by 6.00 p.m. today.

Further discussion on the following items of business listed for today may be taken up at 1800 hours and should continue up to 2200 hours :—

- (a) General Discussion on General Budget for 1997–98.
  - (b) Discussion and voting on Demands for Grands on Account (General) for 1997–98
  - (c) Discussion and voting on Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 1996–97.
  - (d) Discussion and voting on Demands for Excess Grants (General) for 1994–95.
- (iii) On 19th March, 1997, General discussion on General Budget and related matters to continue and the Finance Minister to reply at 1700 hours.

From 1800 hours onwards, the following Bills may be considered for disposal :

- (a) The Electricity Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1997.
  - (b) The Reserve Bank of India (Amendment) Bill, 1997.
  - (c) The National Commission for Safar Karamcharis (Amendment) Bill, 1997, as passed by Rajya Sabha.
  - (d) The Port Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1997, as passed by Rajya Sabha.
- (iv) On 20th March, 1997, Motion under Rule 184 regarding recall of Governor of Uttar Pradesh to be taken up and disposed of on that day itself by sitting late, as may be necessary.
  - (v) On 21st March, 1997, any other business not disposed of in the earlier days and then, I think, we adjourn.

I hope the House agrees.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh) : Sir, you said, "may be considered". Why is this option?

MR. SPEAKER : It is because there are certain issues which the Government may have to sort out with the Parties. That is why, I deliberately put it like that.

12.05 hrs.

### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[*English*]

#### **Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Welfare for the year 1997-98, Annual Report and Review of the working of the Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for the Hearing Handicapped, Mumbai for the year 1995-96**

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Welfare for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 1675/97]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for the Hearing Handicapped, Mumbai, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for the Hearing Handicapped, Mumbai, for the year 1995-96.

- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 1675/A/97]

[*Translation*]

#### **Detailed Demands for Grants of the Department of Post of the year 1997-98**

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Department of Post for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 1676/97]

#### **Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Steel for the year 1997-98**

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Birendra Prasad Baishya, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Steel for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 1677/97]

#### **Annual Report, Annual Accounts and Review of the working of the National Federation of urban Co-operative Banks and Credit Societies Ltd., New Delhi for the year 1995-96**

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Federation of Urban Co-operative Banks & Credit Societies Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Federation of Urban Co-operative Banks & Credit Societies Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Federation of Urban Co-operative Banks & Credit Societies Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 1678/97]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Co-operative Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Co-operative Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Co-operative Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 1679/97]

- (5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Gujarat State Seeds Corporation, Gandhinagar, for the year 1995-96 within the stipulated period of Nine months after the close of the Accounting Year.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 1680/97]

- (6) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :—

- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Gujarat State Seeds Corporation Limited, Gandhinagar, for the year 1995-96.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Gujarat State Seeds Corporation Limited, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the State Farms Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 1681/97]

- (ii) Annual Report of the State Farms Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (7) Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (6) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 1682/97]

- (8) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Federation of Labour Co-operatives Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Federation of Labour Co-operatives Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96.

- (9) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (8) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 1683/97]

- (10) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Agriculture for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 1684/97]

**Bureau of Indian Standards (Appointment, Terms and Conditions of Director-General) Amendment Rules, 1996, Annual Report and Audited Accounts of FCI for the year 1995-96 and Review of the Working of the Hindustan Vegetable Oils Corporation Ltd., New Delhi for the year 1994-95**

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav, I beg to lay on the Table :—

- (1) A copy of the Bureau of Indian Standards (Appointment, Terms and Conditions of Service of Director-General) Amendment Rules, 1996 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 45 in Gazette of India dated the 18th January, 1997, under section 39 of the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 1685/97]

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Food Corporation of India for the year 1995-96 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the Accounting year.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 1686/97]

- (3) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :—

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Hindustan Vegetable Oils Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Vegetable Oils Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 1687/97]

**Detailed Demands for Grant (Vols. I and II) of the Ministry of Home Affairs for the year 1997-98**

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Detailed Demands of Grants (Vol. I) (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Home Affairs for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 1688/97]

- (2) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Vol. II) (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Home Affairs (Union Territories without Legislature) for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 1689/97]

**Annual Report and Review of the working of the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun for the year 1995-96 and Statement for delay in laying the papers**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, for the year 1995-96.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 1690/97]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Pollution Control Board, Delhi, for the year 1995-96, under sub-section (1) of section 39 of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Pollution Control Board, Delhi, for the year 1995-96.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 1691/97]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, Darjeeling, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, Darjeeling, for the year 1995-96.

- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 1692/97]

[*Translation*]

**Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for the year 1997-98, Annual Report and Review of the working of the Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy, New Delhi for the year 1994-95 and Statement for delay in laying the papers**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Saleem Iqbal Shervani I beg to lay the following on the Table :—

- (1) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 1693/97]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95.

- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 1694/97]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Aids Prevention and Control Project—Voluntary Health Services, Madras, for the year 1995-96.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Aids Prevention and Control Project—Voluntary Health Services, Madras, for the year 1995-96, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Aids Prevention and Control Project—Voluntary Health Services, Madras, for the year 1995–96.
- (5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 1695/97]

**Annual Report and Review of the working of the Hindustans Antibiotics Ltd., Pimpri for the year 1995–96 and statement for delay in laying the papers**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) :  
Sir, I beg to lay the following on the Table :—

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the companies Act, 1956 :—
- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Hindustan Antibiotics Limited, Pimpri, for the year 1995–96.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Antibiotics Limited, Pimpri, for the year 1995–96, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 1696/97]

[English]

12.06 hrs.

**MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA**

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha :—

- (i) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation (Railways) Vote on Account Bill, 1997 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 13th March, 1997 and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

- (ii) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation (Railways) Bill, 1997 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 13th March, 1997 and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

- (iii) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation (Railways) No. 2 Bill, 1997 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 13th March, 1997 and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

[Translation]

12.07<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hrs.

**PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE**

**Fifth and Sixth Reports**

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI (Allahabad) :  
Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Public Accounts Committee :—

- (1) Fifth Report on Action Taken on 111th Report of Public Accounts Committee (10th Lok Sabha) relating to Building for Permanent Mission at New York.
- (2) Sixth Report on Action Taken on 107th Report of Public Accounts Committee (10th Lok Sabha) relating to Salar Jung Museum, Hyderabad.

[English]

12.08 hrs.

**STATEMENT BY MINISTER**

**New Exploration Licensing Policy**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) :  
Hon. Speaker, Sir, I have great pleasure in informing the hon. Members of this august House that the Government has recently approved a New Exploration Licensing Policy for petroleum operations.

As the hon. Members are aware, we are heavily dependent on imports to meet the rapidly growing demand for petroleum products—the current level of self-sufficiency being less than 50 per cent. At the current levels of projection of demand and supply, the level of self-sufficiency is likely to decline even further to about 35 per cent over the next five years. It will be readily appreciated that substantial efforts are necessary to boost the level of exploration activity in the country so that new finds can be made and the production of crude oil and gas significantly increased in the years to come.

India today remains one of the least explored regions with well density per thousand sq. kms. being among the lowest in the world. Of the 26 sedimentary basins, only six have been explored. It is thus evident that vast amounts of capital investments are necessary if exploration efforts are to be substantially augmented and, therefore, apart from boosting the efforts of the National Oil Companies, greater incentive will have to be given to the private sector to invest in this critical area.

With these broad objectives in mind, the Government has approved a New Exploration Licensing Policy which has the following salient features :—

- (1) The upstream Public Sector companies namely ONGC and OIL are to be provided a level playing field by giving them the same fiscal and contract terms as are available to private companies. This will, *inter-alia*, imply that oil companies including ONGC and OIL will be paid international prices of oil for discoveries made in the blocks offered under the new policy. They will, however, also have to compete with the private sector for obtaining petroleum exploration licenses instead of getting them on a nomination basis at present.
- (2) Exploration blocks under the new policy will be allotted on the basis of an open acreage system which means that companies can apply for exploration blocks at any time and not necessarily be restricted to bidding rounds.
- (3) A new comprehensive fiscal package has been proposed to provide adequate incentive for attracting investment capital in this critical area. Some elements of this package have already been announced by the Finance Minister in his Budget speech. This package includes :—
  - (a) Royalty payments at the rate of 12.5 per cent for the inland areas and 10 per cent for offshore areas.
  - (b) Half of the royalty from the offshore area will be credited to a Hydrocarbon Development Fund to promote and fund exploration related

activities such as acquisition of geological data on poorly unexplored basins, promotion of investment opportunities in the upstream sector, institution building etc.

- (c) To encourage exploration in deep water and frontier areas, royalty will be charged at half the rate for offshore for deep water areas beyond 400 metre bathymetry for the first seven years after commencement of commercial production.
- (d) It is proposed to completely abolish cess payments for blocks offered under the new policy.
- (e) ONGC and OIL will also be exempted from payment of customs duty on import of goods required for petroleum operations on exploration and exploitation under new policy to bring them on par with private companies who presently enjoy this facility.
- (f) A special thrust is to be given to boost exploration and production of petroleum in the North Eastern region and for this purpose, the hon. Finance Minister has already announced a tax holiday for seven years after commencement of commercial production from fields situated in this region.
- (g) A separate petroleum tax code is to be put in place to facilitate investments in this sector.

Some of the other features of the new policy are :—

- (i) There will be no compulsory state participation through ONGC and OIL and it will be up to the private companies to form strategic alliances with these companies if they so wish to do.
- (ii) There will be freedom to the contractors to market the crude oil and gas discovered in the blocks under the new policy in the domestic market.
- (iii) There will be no payments of signature, discovery or production bonuses under the new policy.
- (iv) Exemption from payment of petroleum exploration licence fee/area rentals.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh) : Sir, I do not wish to comment on what has just been announced because a part of it was contained in the hon. Finance Minister's Budget Speech as well. But my great regret is on two counts. One, this is coming at a stage when we will be denied a due and proper discussion on this. This is a very highly important area of national interest. This is, in fact, a part of the total national energy security that we are dealing with.

The second aspect is that while that has been taken into account—I do not wish to comment at all on the content of that—the one great lacuna in the entire pronouncement of the petroleum policy is that not even a word has been said about savings. All the changes that have been made here relate to what fiscal changes will be made, what exploration changes etc. will be made, which is an area of discussion by itself. But inculcating a sense of savings on energy which, I think, is a part of the total energy concept, too is absent. They remain the main areas of our concern.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly) : Sir, the announcement of such a policy declaration has serious implications on the economy of the nation. We do hardly have any time before the recess of the Budget Session which starts from the 21st of this month. So, my plea is that this House should be allowed a full-fledged discussion on the oil exploration policy.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA (Pudrauna) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have been trying to raise the problems of sugarcane growers for the last one week... [Interruptions]

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You will get a chance. We have suspended the Lunch Hour. We have not suspended the Zero Hour. Do not worry. You will get your turn.

[Translation]

SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI (Siddipet) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to speak on electricity crisis in Andhra Pradesh ... [Interruptions]

MR. SPEAKER : All of you will get a chance to speak please sit down.

[English]

We will give you a chance. Let him speak first.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha) : I have been called to speak. Please permit me ... (Interruptions)

Sir, a very serious incident had taken place in NOIDA in Uttar Pradesh where, in a factory called 'Motherson Systems Limited,' the police have entered the factory. There are about thousand workers working in the factory including 700 women labourers. They have beaten these labourers with the connivance of the management ... (Interruptions) I may be allowed to submit.

12.13 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are leaving the House, sugarcane growers are in great difficulty. They are not getting supporting prices for sugarcane.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : All of you will get a chance to speak.

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Sir, I have not completed my submission. This is a very serious issue. Please allow me to speak ... (Interruptions)

On 13th of this month, a very serious incident took place. About several hundred women workers and other workers work in a factory called 'Motherson Systems Limited' which is situated in NOIDA in Uttar Pradesh. These workers were trying to form a union. They wanted to register it. But the influential management succeeded in not even giving a registration for the last one year. Now, there were some issues. The labourers were asking for some benefits.

Now, to see that the Union is cut to size, the management suspended about 40 leaders. They were suspended and they were not allowed to do the work. Then all the other workers, who are united, stood with them and sat on *dharna* on 14th of this month.

The work at the factory starts from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. So, they sat on *dharna* from 9 a.m. onwards. By at about 9. p.m., i.e., in the night, some policemen—only male policemen and not even a female policeman—rushed into the factory and with the help of some goonda elements started beating those people, poor labourers who were sitting in the premises of the factory peacefully. Many of the women had been looted, their hand bags were taken away. They had misbehaved with the women labourers. The lights were put off by the policemen saying that 'let us see, who is going to identify us'. But even then, those workers were able to identify the SHO, some policemen and others. They have given the correct names of some of the policemen and others who have assaulted them.

Sir, these working women are helpless. Many of them are from our State, Kerala; some of them are from Tamil Nadu and Andhra also. There are women coming from all over India. Yesterday, I came to know about it when one of their parents called on me and said that a very brutal incident had occurred. Three teeth of a child of a woman worker had been broken and she has also been injured very seriously but no action is being taken.

Sir, in this regard, on complaint had been lodged because the policemen were involved in the incident. Even the local police refused to lodge the complaint. Not even taking the cognizance of the complaint, even to receive the

complaint, they refused. Then those workers went to the SP in Noida. Even that SP also had not lodged their complaint.

Sir, yesterday when I found that the situation was very miserable, I rushed to the Home Minister. Since, Shri Indrajit Gupta was not available, I met with Shri Dar, the Minister of State of Home Affairs.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please conclude now.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Yes, Sir.

Today, I am giving this complaint, signed by almost all the workers, to Shri Indrajit Gupta.

Sir, this can be treated as an FIR because no FIR has been registered by the policemen there. It is a cruel act; it is an act against women; it is a dastardly act. I am very sorry to submit that even those workers had specifically stated in their complaint that the Chairman of the Company posed that he was the relative of a very high stature official. They say, it is the Governor; he is related to the Governor. That is what they say.

Sir, it is true that there is a complete anarchy and chaos. So, something has to be done immediately because about 700 women are sitting there and their lives are not safe. So, once again, I request that their complaint should be registered and some immediate and stern action should be taken ... (Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : Sir, on 8th of March we have observed the Women' Day and on 14th of March this assault on women has taken place. It is the working class women against whom this attack has taken place.

If such an incident happens elsewhere in some country, the people will be dismissed. Here the Managing Director of the company and the police with connivance of some goondas have done this.

Sir, the Home Minister is also a trade union leader. He also supports the cause of women. He is present here. I request that he should respond to it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Okay. Now, please sit down.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani); Sir, the Home Minister must make a statement on this ... (Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Yes, the Home Minister must make a statement because it is a very serious matter.

[English]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : The Home Minister should tell the House, what are the actions he proposes to take ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, such incidents are taking place repeatedly in Delhi and Noida. The workers are beaten but FIRs are not registered. The local Administration provides security to the management. It is a serious matter. The hon. Home Minister is present here, so he should say something about it ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : All sections of the House are very much concerned over this issue. So, I would like that the Government should make its position clear.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : Yes, Sir, we will do it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He has agreed to give a statement. He will have his own time.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : The Chairman fired a round from his gun in the air and said that he can do like this, nobody is going to ask him because he has every support with him. That is what he was saying.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : The statement must come in due course of time. Today the statement must come.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : If it is possible we can say, today.

... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please listen to him. Please listen to the Home Minister, he is on his legs. At least listen to him.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : The incident to which the hon. Member has drawn the attention of the House is naturally very very shocking. Am I expected to make a statement just now, immediately?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Not necessarily.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Without any enquiry, without finding out anything?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I said you will have your own time.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : My own time means, I will certainly immediately try to find out the position and whatever steps are to be taken against that management.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You can ascertain the facts.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Today or at least tomorrow.

[Translation]

SHRI YELLAIHA NANDI : Sir, I have not been given a chance to speak. ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Your name is there in the list.

SHRI YELLAIHA NANDI : There is electricity crisis in Andhra Pradesh. We resorted to gherao there for three hours ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will give you a chance to speak.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY (Nizamabad) : This is the first time that the farmers of a negligent State Government have committed suicide and this trend will continue.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will allow you, please take your seat.

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH (Bulandshahar) : Sir, Gur factories are not purchasing sugarcane because of the restriction imposed on them for not storing more than 250 quintal of gur. The Government is conniving with the sugar mill owners to purchase sugarcane at cheap rates from the farmers. Sugarcane growers are being exploited. I would request the Government, through you, that the ban on storing not more than 250 quintals of gur should be lifted and there should be no ban on the export of gur. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Hon. Member, please take your seat.

... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : No side talks, please. Please maintain decorum in the House.

[Translation]

SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH : Sir, the entire sugarcane should either be purchased by the mills or these mills should be allowed to prepare gur and the Government should ensure remunerative prices of gur in the market. It is necessary for the welfare of farmers. The restriction imposed on storing gur should be removed. The outstanding payments of farmers have not been paid by the sugar mills. Besides this year's payment, last year's payment is also outstanding. Therefore, the Government should make necessary arrangement to make payment to the farmers. The sugarcane growers in all over Uttar Pradesh are being exploited. Since there is President's rule in Uttar Pradesh,

the Central Government is directly responsible for the State Administration. Therefore, the Central Government should take immediate steps to check the exploitation of farmers in Uttar Pradesh.

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR (Faizabad) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, in this regard I also would like to say that the sugarcane growers in Uttar Pradesh are in great trouble. There is no one to listen to their problems.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : This matter has already been raised.

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : There is ban on gur. After some time agricultural labourers would not be available and under that circumstances, the sugarcane growers would be left with no other alternative except to burn their sugarcane in their fields. There is President's rule in the state, therefore, the Central Government should make proper arrangement so that arrears of farmers could be paid ... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SHIVANAND H. KOUJALGI (Belgaum) : I want to draw the attention of the House to the situation arising at Belgaum in Karnataka. The Army commandoes belonging to the Maratha Light Infantry Regimental Centre have beaten the Police and the Railway Staff. The situation is still tense. The time has now come for giving protection to the police from the goonda activities of the Army commandoes.

Though the army commandoes have beaten up the police and the Railway staff, it is unfortunate that no action has been taken against the army commandoes and nobody had been arrested.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : In Zero hour, you cannot read a written statement.

[English]

SHRI SHIVANAND H. KOUJALGI : Hence, I request, through you, that action shall be taken against the culprit Army commandoes and protection shall be given to the police as well as the Railway staff and a Senior Officer may be sent there immediately to inquire into the matter. I also request that a statement be made regarding this by the hon. Minister of Home Affairs.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will call from that side later on.

[English]

You will get your chance just now. Please sit down.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it is for the first time in the history of 50 years of independence that the sugar mills of Private sector have

refused to pay the support price of Rs. 72 per quintal fixed by the government. Secondly in reply to a question raised by Shri Vajpayee ji, the hon. Prime Minister said that all the dues of sugarcane growers would be paid within one month. Sir, in my area, here are nine sugar mills out of which two mills are under Textile Ministry, two are in private sector and rest of the mills belong to sugar corporation. Surprisingly, some mills are paying the rate of Rs. 72 per quintal but the private mills have not yet started payment of sugarcane. Thousands of farmers have courted arrest there. Many farmers were arrested day before yesterday. I have also written a letter to the Hon. Prime Minister regarding Government sugar mills. The Hon. Prime Minister has asked his Food Minister to reply. In the end it has been mentioned in the reply that due to shortage of time I am not reading full context of the letter. So far as the question of Kanpur Sugar Worker's Limited and sugar mills under BIC group are concerned, the attention of Textile Ministry is being drawn towards it. This is the reply of the Hon. Prime Minister. It has never happened in the history of Uttar Pradesh that Rs. 20 crore of the current season is outstanding against sugar mills and Rs. 8 crore of last season is outstanding against them. It means Rs. 28 or Rs. 29 crore is outstanding against sugar mills. The farmers are in great trouble. They are launching agitations and courting arrests. In spite of that in reply to my question the hon. Minister is saying that the price of sugar has increased. I am not giving example from other parts of the country but quoting examples of Uttar Pradesh from the report submitted by the hon. Minister.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please conclude.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA : In Central Uttar Pradesh, the price of sugar was Rs. 881 per quintal last year but now the price has been increased by Rs. 113 and now it is being sold at Rs. 994 per quintal. In Eastern U.P. it was Rs. 938 per quintal last year and is being sold at Rs. 1038 per quintal. In Western U.P. it was Rs. 892.62 last year and now it is Rs. 981.81 with an increase of Rs. 89.19 per quintal. In this way every mill owner is getting crores of rupees more than the last year but the farmers are not even getting the price of last year. Sir, the Government or the Prime Minister should reply about the outstanding dues against textile mills...

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down.

[Translation]

Please listen to me. In zero hour, it is not necessary to the Government to reply to each point. The reply to the matters raised under rule 377 are given later on.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, you ask the Government to respond...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mishra ji, please sit down.

[English]

Yes, I have called Shri Yellaiah Nandi. Hon. Members, Please take your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA : Sir, You ask the Government to respond...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You have had your say, and now, allow the other Members also to speak.

[English]

Please sit down. You have had you say. I cannot force the hon. Minister to reply.

[Translation]

Allow other Members to speak.

SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, there is power crisis in Andhra Pradesh...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down. Let other hon. Members also speak.

SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY : You should allow other hon. Members also. This is a very serious problem. You will also sympathise with us ... (Interruptions)

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR (Dibrugarh) : Sir, we have also given notice. We should also be allowed...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down. If such a situation continues, we will have to think seriously whether to have a zero hour or not.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : Whenever we go to our constituencies we feel dismayed at the condition of the farmers... (Interruptions)

SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY : Please allow us to speak. We also want to raise matters relating to farmers...(Interruptions)

SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : We are not here to talk about any money lender...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY : This is the most important issue. The farmers are committing suicide...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down. Shri Nandi Yellaiah may please speak now.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention as well as the attention of the House towards a very serious matter. Andhra Pradesh State is facing a serious crisis of electricity as a result of which all the farmers of the state are in pitiable condition and they are on the verge of hunger. They have no other alternative except to commit suicide...(Interruptions)

What do you know about it? Come with me to Medak ... (Interruptions) What are you talking? You do not know anything ... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY : The hon. Minister of Power is present here. Let him reply.

[Translation]

SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, you ask him to sit. This is not the way. We also have right to speak ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You are wasting the time of the House. During this time two hon. Members could have made submissions. Please sit down.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Except Shri Nandi Yellaiah's speech, nothing will go on record.

... (Interruptions)\*

[Translation]

SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, please ask the Hon. Minister to speak. (Interruptions) It is a wrong practice (Interruptions) Please ask him to sit down. If you do not say we will come to the well of the House. (Interruptions)

12.33 hrs.

*At this time Shri Yellaiah Nandi and some other hon. Members came near the Table and stood on the floor.*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please go back to your seats.

[Translation]

12.33<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hrs.

*At this time Shri Yellaiah Nandi and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.*

SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, you have allowed me to speak. Please ask him to sit down. (Interruptions) Durgeya did not die. The hon. Minister was gheraoed there. (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please, let him conclude.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (Dausa) : Sir, the hon. Minister can give an assurance that he would talk to the State Government and sort out the problem. What is happening in Andhra Pradesh is known. The farmers there are getting harassed by the Electricity Department. So, he can say that he would talk to the State Government and sort it out. It is the farmers problem. Their party is in power there and not any other party. ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Haradhan Roy.

... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please take your seat. Please let him speak.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : People get electricity for two hours only instead of nine hours in the State ... (Interruptions) Please ask him.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down.

[Translation]

SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : MR. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, if you do not call the House to order, it will be difficult for me to speak. Please ask him to sit down. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, do you want to say something?

... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down. The hon. Minister wants to say something.

... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let him complete. Please sit down. Please listen to him.

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALA CHARI) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the application that was received from the hon. Members of Andhra Pradesh in regard to shortage of power was addressed to hon. Minister of Power.

[English]

We only have the allocated power from NTPC. Definitely after consultation with the Andhra Pradesh authorities, we will examine the case. ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have not allowed you. Nothing will go on record.

... (*Interruptions*)\*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The matter is closed now. Please sit down first. I have allowed only Shri Haradhan Roy.

[Translation]

SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have given notice. You have allowed me to speak. Please let me conclude my speech.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : All right, you speak after Mr. Haradhan Roy.

[English]

SHRI HARADHAN ROY (Asansol) : Sir, two hundred Railway Commission Vendors of the Eastern Railway are waiting for a long time to get themselves absorbed in permanent posts. In 1990, medical tests were done for these vendors. But the reason for the delay to make them permanent is not known. I would request the Government to take immediate steps to make them permanent without any further delay so that these poor vendors are not put into trouble.

[Translation]

SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, now I am speaking on power crisis in Andhra Pradesh. The situation is not good there. I have already given you some instance of power crisis in Andhra Pradesh particularly in the Telengana Region which includes nine districts, viz. Medak, Kanim Nagar, Adilabad, Nizamabad and a number of other areas. The farmers resorted to agitation there. The farmers did not take the help of any party. They have no links with the Janata Dal also. They created such a party in Mahbub Nagar. The T.D.P. and thereafter the Congress Party staged a dhama. The Medak district, which I represent now was being represented by Indira Ji. A farmer Durgaya by name Committed suicide due to non-supply of electricity and supply at a low voltage ... (*Interruptions*). It is a matter of great shame ... (*Interruptions*). It was done like this. People who were passing by the site were lathi-charged ... (*Interruptions*). Section 307 was imposed on the farmers ... (*Interruptions*). The farmers were carrying on a peaceful agitation due to non-supply of electricity to them, but the State Government imposed section 307 on them ... (*Interruptions*)

Not a single Kilowatt of Power has been generated in the State after the present Government resumed office ... (*Interruptions*) It is a matter of great shame ... (*Interruptions*) Today demonstrations are being held everywhere ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please conclude.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : In Karim Nagar district ... (*Interruptions*). He consumed insecticide ... (*Interruptions*). This sort of attitude on his part is wrong. The hon. Prime Minister should sanction him a grant of Rs. 5 lakh. ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Yellaiah, I asked you to conclude within a minute. You have already spoken for ten minutes. Please sit down.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : Section 307 was imposed on them. It should be withdrawn ... (*Interruptions*). If the present Government of the State continues with such a policy ... (*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Jenaji, please control your Members.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Yellaiah, you have had your say. Please take your seat now.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down now. Members on this side also may take their seats.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER; Nothing will go on record. Please sit down.

... (*Interruptions*)\*

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (Indore) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise a very important matter. Women have always been at the receiving end in this country. Whenever any matter relating to Women was raised in the House, it concluded with just a discussion only. Female Children are not allowed to take birth. In 1994 a Joint Committee was constituted about pre-natal diagnostic. The committee toured the entire country and talked to all and sundry in this regard. An act was enacted to check the practice of pre-natal diagnosis. There was a provision to stop the practice of murdering of female foetus. A Central

Supervisory Board had also been constituted for this purpose. It had been decided to take three M.Ps of the Lok Sabha in the Board according to relevant provisions. Members of the previous Lok Sabha including were nominated to the said Board. But no Government took interest to constitute the Central Supervisory Board in 1994. Once again when the present Lok Sabha was constituted two M.Ps of Lok Sabha were nominated to the Board. I was again nominated to the Board, but the Board has not yet been constituted. When I raised the matter 2-3 times, I got the intimation about the constitution of the Board. Not a single sitting of the Board has been held since 1994. It was a very important issue for which a Joint Committee had been constituted. It seems that nobody is prepared to consider the cause of woman whether it relates to reservation for women, atrocities on them or birth of female Child. I would like you to intervene in the matter and see that the meeting of the Central Advisory Board is held immediately. Everybody expressed sympathy to check female foeticide. Action should be taken in this regard in the real sense.

PROF. RITA VERMA (Dhanbad) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, we are also on a point of order. Please give your ruling on it.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, there is complete unanimity in the House in regard to according recognition to Railway Protection Force Association.

The recognition to the Association was withdrawn in 1986. Its Joint Secretary, Shri U.S. Jha, is on an indefinite fast. This House and the Leader of the Opposition, who spoke about three years back, demanded that the recognition to the RPF Association, which was there prior to amendment of the RPF Act, should be restored.

In piloted a Private Member's Bill. On a firm assurance by the former Minister of Railways, Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief, I withdrew that Bill. He assured the House that he would bring forward a Bill to amend Section 15 of the RPF Act. The RPF was converted into an armed force in 1986. We opposed it tooth and nail. But that Act was amended and recognition to the Association was withdrawn. They are fighting for its restoration. We are also asking for it.

When two Members from the former ruling party, Congress (I), Namely Sarvashri P.R. Kumaramangalam and Harish Rawat, staged a *dharna* inside the House, the whole House supported their demand. Then, the former Railway Minister, Shri Janeshwar Mishra, during the Prime Ministership of Shri Chandra Shekhar, announced that the Government had decided to grant recognition to the RPF Association.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please conclude.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, it is a very important issue. The Leader of the Opposition, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and everybody else will also agree with me.

In spite of all this, the matter is still pending. The Minister of Home Affairs also convened a meeting. I was there. The Minister of Railways and the Minister of Water Resources were also there.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : All of us supported it.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : When the House is unanimous, I think, there should not be any objection to grant recognition to the RPF Association. I request the Minister of Railways, the Minister of Home Affairs and the Minister of Law to take an initiative and grant recognition to the RPF Association. I request the Leader of the Opposition, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee also to support my demand.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (Chhapra) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, Shrimati Rita Verma and myself have given a notice on privileges. The hon. Speaker, had said that he would give his ruling today.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The hon. Speaker will give his ruling now. It is not in my knowledge. The matter is with him.

... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He will give his ruling today.

... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have allowed him to speak. Please let him speak.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please let him speak first. I have allowed him

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue of giving right to the Railway Protection Force Personnel to form an association has come up several times in the House. Members belonging to different Parties have lent their support to this demand. The Railway Protection Force personnel are railway servants.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You say that you also support it.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Yes, Sir. As per Section 10 of the RPF Act, and Section 3(7) of the Indian Railways Act, they are railway servants for all purposes. They are also civil servants for all purposes, within the meaning of the Article 301 of the Constitution, as per Section 9 of the RPF Act, Railway Servants Conduct Rules, 1966, and the Railway Servants Disciplinary and Appeal Rules, 1968. Besides, several other rules are made applicable to the RPF personnel. Thus, they are governed by the same rules as other railway servants. There is no valid reason to

deny them the right to form an Association. This demand has been made several times earlier also. Prior to 1985, for more than a decade, they had their Association. Therefore, it is high time to reconsider the matter. They do not have anything to do with law and order. They are not a police force or a force deployed on the borders of the country. They are meant exclusively to protect the properties of Railways. They are the railway employees and they should have a right to form an association. I request the Government, the hon. Home Minister is here, and also the Railway Minister through the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, to grant them the fundamental right to form an association without any further delay.

... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : For a minute, please let him speak. You speak thereafter.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Your name is not there. Now it is over. The entire House is supporting this cause.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Not on this issue. Yes, name is there.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the august House was unanimous on the issue raised by Shri Basudeb Acharia, but no favourable action has been taken in this regard. The hon. Home Minister is present here. The Act relating to conferring the status of Para-Military Force on the R.P.F. should be repealed. The R.P.F. personnel should be allowed to form a Union and they should be placed at the disposal of the Railways.

Their Jurisdiction should also be expanded. They only protect the property. They should also be deployed to check train dacoities and protect the life of passengers. The hon. Home Minister is sitting here. He should also take the initiative. The R.P.F. have become a para-Military Force. They will have to take an initiative in this regard. When all of them were on the other side they supported this demand. Now when they are sitting on this side they can take a decision. Merely leaving it to the Railway Minister will not do, therefore, immediate action should be taken on whatever Shri Basu Deb Acharia has said.

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY (Giridih) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to speak on a matter of utmost public importance. The Central Coalfields Limited has a selected Dhori colliery where there is a coal handling plant in which 162 workers are working ever since the setting up of the plant till date, have not been made permanent even after lapse of two and a half years, while

their counterparts numbering more than 200 and working in like manner in the Sallery pond of Kathara colliery have been made permanent, likewise in Jarandi siding, more than 150 workers working merely as loaders have also been made permanent. Therefore, through you I would like to make a request that the workers working in the selected Dhori coal handling plant may also be made permanent and they should be made to perform only such work as are officially prescribed for them instead of any type of cleansing or other works ... (*Interruptions*).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have 43 names, let Mr. Sharma speak first.

SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA (JAMMU) : Hon'ble Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, you yourself are well aware of the conditions prevailing in Jammu-Kashmir. There are at least two lakh educated unemployed youths there. Their names are registered with the Employment Exchanges there. Out of them, many persons are doctors, engineers, graduates, PhDs and a number of matriculates. There is no large factory in Jammu-Kashmir, nor any Government undertaking, nor our youths have been able to get their due in the Government of India services. I would like to urge upon the Union Govt. to take special measures to provide employment to them in the Indian Forces, para-military forces and in its other departments and undertakings in view of the present chaos in Jammu-Kashmir and the anti-social elements out to mislead our youths.

The Jammu-Kashmir branch of the Akhil Bhartiya Dalit Sahitya Akadami had submitted a proposal to the Ministry of Social Welfare a year ago to provide coaching to the children belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the I.A.S and I.P.S. Exams. The proposal is lying here. I wish that the proposal be accepted to enable those children in the I.A.S. and I.P.S. exams and serve the nation. Therefore I would request you to inspire the Government of India to give clearance to the proposal submitted by Akhil Bhartiya Dalit Sahitya Akadami.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Sir, four days ago, four foreign citizens came to the State Bank of India branch in Bhagalpur district to encash their travellers' cheques. The employees there noticed some lacunae therein. When they started scrutinising them, the foreigners escaped through the bank's bathroom windows. Two persons were arrested. It was found out that they were the secret agents of the I.S.I. Incidence of counterfeit currency notes, forged travellers' cheques and I.S.I. activities have increased to such an extent in Bihar that its entire area bordering Nepal has become terrorist infested. We had requested the Home Minister also, the Bihar Government has also made a representation which says that the I.S.I. activities have increased so much that the entire area has become sensitive. We all are concerned about it. The way I.S.I. activities are growing in Bihar makes us fear that the situation

there may become even worse than that prevailing in Jammu-Kashmir and Punjab. I would urge upon the Hon'ble Minister that a long term plan may be chalked out to check the growing activities of ISI in Bihar.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly) : A very serious development is taking place in the United States of America. Several thousands of Indians living in that country are currently facing the threat of a new immigration law which is violative of the spirit of multilateralism and also violative of human rights. It is taking place in a country which, day in and day out, sermonises on human rights. The situation is something like this that by the new immigration law, Indians who are living there will be debarred from taking their wives and parents to the United States, if their earnings are below a certain level. While the WTO is insisting on opening up markets, liberalising import tariffs and while there is a demand from developed countries like the USA for free movement of goods, they are not allowing free movement of personnel.

13.00 hrs.

They are not allowing free movement of personnel. Our own professionals, workers and employees are working throughout the world. Many of them are working in the United States. They are working hard there. They are earning their bread. But they cannot take their wives or parents to that land according to the new immigration law. The position of the United States Government is rather paradoxical. While they are insisting on us to open up trade and to lower their tariff in imports, they are not allowing our own people to go freely and work there, take their wives and parents to their land. I would urge upon the Ministry of External Affairs to take up the matter with the United States Government so that thousands of Indians who are living there are not made to suffer under the new Immigration law.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN (Chandigarh) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the House to a news item telecast/broadcast last night on TV and All India Radio and published in almost all the newspapers today.

Shailendra Mahato, an ex-Member of this House has in his statement said that after his incarceration religion has had so profound an influence on him that he wants to speak the truth. He has stated that Rs. 50 lakhs each was given to cast vote in favour of Narsimha Raoji on the No Confidence Motion on 23 July, 1993. He has narrated the whole episode. Court proceedings is a different matter, I don't want to interfere in that. I have given a notice for Privilege Motion in this regard. The matter is very serious.

[English]

The whole conduct of Shri Shailendra Mahato, Shri Buta Singh and Shri P.V. Narsimha Rao is unbecoming of a member of this House.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Having given for the Privilege Motion you have to wait.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : The matter relates to the giving of bribes by Narsimha Raoji and Buta Singhji.

[English]

That is a different thing. I am raising this in the zero Hour also ... (Interruptions) The whole conduct is unbecoming the conduct of the Member of the House. I has lowered the dignity of the Parliament as a whole and as an institution.

[Translation]

I have given in writing in this regard. I would like to demand to refer the matter to the Privilege Committee which should go into the conduct of them all to be followed by exemplary punishment in deserving cases. This House has been put to insult in the eyes of the public. They have committed sin, they deserve punishment. I have given for a Privilege Motion on that whereupon I am looking forward to your ruling.

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : The hon. Member has raised something. He has got the right and you have allowed him.

But it is not proper to raise this issue when the matter is before the court and the case is going on. What he has said is a fact, there is no doubt about it. But do not make an issue here. Somebody has given a statement. You will now be examining and after the examination, if it is found to be correct, then only Parliament comes into the picture. That allegation has come on the basis of his alleged statement. ... (Interruptions) I have not interrupted you. Have I interrupted you? I have allowed you to speak, whatever you want.

My only submission is that it is a statement by a person who became an approver in a case. Now his statement will be verified by the appropriate authority and if ultimately the judgement is given on the basis of what he has said, that situation will arise then, not now. So, please do not keep it on the record of the House. ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Paban Singh Ghatowar.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : I said, Parliament is competent to take action. ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Yes, please.

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR : Through you, I would like to draw the attention of the august House to a very serious matter of North-Eastern Region.

Last year, there was an ethnic clash in the North-Eastern region where hundreds of villages were burnt down; thousands of people lost their lives and more than one lakh people were in the refugee camps. They are still in the refugee camps. I have raised this matter in the House.

Now, five hundred people are on hunger strike. What is their demand? Their demand is to get protection to save their lives; to get protection to save their properties; and to get proper food in the refugee camps. There are reports of death in the refugee camps. There are reports of death of their children in the refugee camps. I do not know why, till today, the Government have not made any statement in this House on the issue where thousands of people lost their lives and hundreds of villages were burnt down. I am very sorry that this is happening in the North-Eastern region. The matter of the North-Eastern region should be taken seriously. It is a very human problem. I think the State Government have expressed their helplessness. They said there is a difficulty in regard to finance. We have requested the Government of India to provide at least some help. It has become a concentrated camp. They are keeping the people in the camps. They cannot go out. If they go out, they were shot down. There are many cases of shooting down the people when they went out to cultivate the land.

I would like to know what the Government is doing in this regard. It is a very serious matter. I would request the Government of India to give a statement on this. The Government should see that the people, at least, can survive in the camps and that those camps should not become concentrated camps. They should see to it that people can go out freely.

Sir, there is no provision of drinking water, food and medicine in these camps. There are several reported deaths in these camps. The hon. Home Minister is here. I would request him to look into this problem and take appropriate steps so that the people who have lost their relatives and so many things may get some relief. It is also a fit case to send a parliamentary delegation to see that this type of ethnic clashes do not occur in the future.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : This is a serious matter, the Government should take a note of it.

Now we shall take up matters under Rule 377.

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We will take it up tomorrow. It will be done tomorrow.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The hon. Home Minister wants to say something.

... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down.

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down. You will not get time if you will do like this. All cannot get time today itself.

... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You may please decide amongst yourselves. Only one Hon'ble Member will get chance at a time.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You are wasting the time of the House. Please sit down.

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Four more Hon'ble Members can speak in the time lost in making noise.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let the hon. Home Minister speak, first.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Sir, I only wanted to say that I welcome the proposal to send a delegation to visit these refugee camps and see for themselves the conditions as described by the hon. Member which, according to him, are very shocking.

The delegation should go, visit the refugee camps, come back and give us a proper and detailed report. So we will arrange that, there is no difficulty in their going. The Members who want to go should also express their desire and their willingness. We will compose the delegation and send it. There is no difficulty about it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, we take up matters under Rule 377.

... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Zero Hour is over.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Sir, what about item No. 14?... (interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Which item No. 14?

... (Interruptions)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Item No. 14 of today's Agenda paper.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We will take it up after matters under Rule 377.

... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have moved to Rule 377 now.

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : It can be taken up after Rule 377.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Will be taken up after this ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please stop for a while, I may check out. Hon'ble Speaker has directed to take it up later, first we may take up matters under Rule 377.

[English]

I am acting according to his direction.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY (Basirhat) : Sir, I have given a notice for Zero Hour. ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Zero Hour is over now.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY : Sir, I want to know whether my notice stands or not and whether it will be taken up tomorrow or not.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The remaining notices will be taken up tomorrow.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali) : Sir, I have to say something about the constitutional validity and Item No. 14. If it is before matters under Rule 377 ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : It is not before matters under Rule 377.

[English]

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : It is before 377 ... (Interruptions) Item No. 14 is before 377 in today's Agenda paper ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Right now, we will take up Rule 377.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Hon. Speaker has directed that it will be taken up after matters under Rule 377.

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : Will it be taken up immediately after matters under Rule 377? ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will consult the hon. Speaker regarding this.

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : Sir, some direction must be given when it is going to be taken up.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will look into it.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now matters under Rule 377.

13.09 hrs.

### MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[Translation]

#### (i) Need to take steps to Rejuvenate Cement Corporation of India Limited

SHRI RAMESH BAIS (Raipur) : Mr. Dy. Speaker, Sir, the Cement Corporation of India has been declared a sick industry by B.I.F.R. because of mismanagement and its faulty policies. It has made the future of 30,000 people including nearly 8,000 employees of C.C.I. uncertain and dark.

For the last three years an expenditure of Rs. 5 crore per mensem is being incurred @ Rs. 50 lakhs per unit on the maintenance of the plants, electricity bills and towards salaries of employees.

This public sector undertaking should be revived by the Government by bringing about radical changes in the management, waiving off nearly Rs. 200 crores by way of interest on Government loans and by converting the interest on Government loans to the tune of nearly Rs. 200 crores into equity.

*[English]***(ii) Need to give Financial Aid to Government of Jammu and Kashmir for Rehabilitation of Refugees of Pak Occupied Kashmir**

SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA (Jammu) : In 1947, just after the partition of the country, Pakistani guerillas and forces attacked Jammu and Kashmir territory and forcibly occupied the large areas of Jammu and Kashmir. During that war, about 34,000 families were forced to leave Pak Occupied Kashmir. Till then, these refugees have not been fully rehabilitated. Their following demands are yet to be met by the Central Government.

I pray to both the Central and State Governments to take immediate steps for fulfillment of their demands, as mentioned below:

1. Rs. 25,000 may kindly be paid to each family as a lump sum grant as agreed by late Prime Ministers, Shrimati Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi with the representatives of these refugees,
2. To pay compensation in lieu of the deficiency in the scale of land allotted to them at the market rate, as fixed by the Government of India about Rs. 5,000 per kanal,
3. To take immediate steps to register their claims of property left by them in Pak Occupied Kashmir, and
4. To take steps for the development of their colonies/basties as model towns/villages providing all basic amenities. Funds may be provided to the State Government for this purpose.

**(iii) Need to Release Funds for Drinking Water Schemes in Coal-Belt of West Bengal**

SHRI HARADHAN ROY (Asansol) : I would like to draw the attention of the House to the acute shortage of drinking water in coal-belt areas of West Bengal. Several representations were made about this problem to the Central Government but nothing has been done so far. It is to be mentioned here that the Public Health Department have submitted a rough estimate for this purpose to the tune of Rs. 4,66,00,000/- (Rupees four crore and sixty six lakh). Since the Government is earning a lot from the coal mines and the Prime Minister has assured the nation that priority would be given on drinking water, I would, therefore, request the Union Government kindly to arrange to release the above mentioned amount so that the scheme for providing drinking water to the coal-belt areas of West Bengal could be undertaken at an early date.

**(iv) Need for Early implementation of Pandiar-Punnampuzha Rivers Project for Sharing of Water Between Kerala and Tamil Nadu**

\*SHRI M. RAMANATHAN (Coimbatore) : Pandiar and Punnampuzha are two rivers that originate in Nilgiri hills of Tamil Nadu. But the water flows into Arabian Sea via Kerala and thus it is not utilised. If the water of these two rivers harnessed through link canals and stored in a reservoir, it would benefit in generating Hydel Power and irrigating several acres of land. This project is pending for a very long time.

During monsoon season plenty of water flowing in these rivers to the tune of about 500 TMC, flow away into the sea unused and untapped.

If this water could be channelised, thousands of acres of dry land in Coimbatore, Avinasi and Palladam could be irrigated. The people of these areas are left high and dry even without drinking water. This would greatly benefit the people of the region. So the Pandiar-Punnampuzha Project, the viable and useful project should be taken up immediately.

Several rounds of talks between Tamil Nadu and Kerala about the sharing of water through this project has not yet yielded any result.

I request the Central Government to take it up and initiate early action to implement this Pandiar-Punnampuzha Project that would benefit both Tamil Nadu and Kerala.

*[Translation]***(v) Need to implement the scheme to allot surplus land to the landless unemployed people in the Country**

SHRI RAMSAGAR (Barabanki) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, there are vast tracts of infertile, barren, uneven and plateau lands in various parts of the country. Our country being agrarian, the masses in the countryside do have good knowledge of agriculture but they do not have agricultural land and all such people are facing unemployment. It is true that a number of people have been granted lands on lease due to their being landless. If all the surplus agricultural land, no longer in use for agriculture, in the country is converted into even land and distributed among the agricultural unemployed labourers after organising them into agricultural land armies, on the one hand it will enhance the agricultural productivity in the country, on the other hand all the agricultural labourers will be fully benefited by the scheme. The work of distributing the entire surplus lands among the farmers after making these lands arable and by organising land armies has precedence in Uttar Pradesh earlier. Today this needs to be followed in the entire country.

Therefore, I would urge upon the Central Government to implement this scheme in the entire country.

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\*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

13.18 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE : DISAPPROVAL  
OF TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF  
INDIA ORDINANCE 1997  
AND  
TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY  
OF INDIA BILL, 1997

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We will now take up Item Nos. 18 and 19 together regarding the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Ordinance and the connected Bill.

Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) : Hon. Deputy-Speaker, I beg to move :

"That this House disapproves of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Ordinance, 1997 (No. 11 of 1997) promulgated by the President on January 25, 1997."

Sir I want to draw the attention of the Govt. to the shortcomings in the Bill though I do not want to oppose the intention with which the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Bill has been brought forward. The tendency of bringing the Ordinance repeatedly is not good. Shri Jena is sitting here. I had requested yesterday also that this tendency should stop.

SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH (Meerut) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, what happened to item No. 16. My name was listed at the top.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : That will be taken later on.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : I oppose this Ordinance but welcome the spirit behind this Bill. The National Telecom Authority was set up in 1994 and it was decided to install at least one crore telephones by March 1997. But till today not even half the telephones have been installed so far. Rs. 60,000 crores are required for it. How will these resource be mobilised. Before this Authority was set up, foreign companies were invited and under privatisation and liberalisation these companies installed telephones easily. These companies should have been allowed after the setting up of Authority. If this had been done Shri Sukh Ramji would not have been in trouble. This is what his friends say.

The Government should think over it afresh. There are a number of shortcomings. It would have been better if the Authority would have been set up earlier and the companies invited thereafter. Similarly, tall claims were made that since 1995 one lakh eighty five thousand telephones would be installed in the villages but unfortunately not even 1/3rd of these telephones have been installed in the villages, particularly in the States of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan. The day these telephones were installed there they have

been out of order, even though the then Minister, Shri Rajesh Pilot had gone there. There may be hardly any village where these telephones are in order. The telephones are in a bad shape in villages. The instruments are useless. The poles are there and the transformers are also there, but the telephones have been out of order since installation. When will these telephones be put in order? This Govt. wants to link the country with America and England but what about linking the cities with villages? In case of Emergency it is very essential to have a telephone connection. If the STD facility is proper the villages would be directly linked to the cities and this would immensely benefit the people. The G.M. of our area Shri Arora told me that all the telephones in the villages have been set right.

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : We have issued instructions to all G.Ms that they should verbally communicate to the area MP the number of telephones which are faulty and which are in order in case he requires such information. We fully agree with your sentiments.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Lot of thanks for this. If you agree then kindly get them set right, I once again reiterate that it would have been right if this Authority would have been set up and the liberalisation would have been done later. I also oppose the tendency of bringing Ordinances for such purpose. The Govt. must pay special attention to the telephones in villages. The number 197 which has been given for fault repair is generally found engaged.

One gets irritated when the phone remains engaged for a long time. This happened with Shri Rasa Singh ji recently. When I went to his house I found his telephone broken. On enquiring I came to know that it happened because he was not getting the 197 number for a long time. It may be a different story with the hon. Minister. Therefore it is requested that the telephone system should be improved. In Jaipur city all the roads were dug up and an assurance was given that all the OBs would be cleared by 31st March 1997. Now the position is different. The hon. Minister has said that this work would be completed by 1999. The roads are still dug up. The telephone department should get them repaired as soon as possible, because the monsoons are about to set in. I would urge that telephone connections should be provided to all at the earliest and 197 service should also be set right. Now a small request. This is about the constitution of the Telephone Advisory Committee. At least the name of the area MP should be included in this committee. I represent Jaipur and my name should also have been included. This should be done at your discretion. Do you think that elections should be held for this. It is surprising to find the names of non-entities in the committee. Four-five names have been sent but my name has been ignored. I would suggest that wherever the Telephone Advisory Committee is set up, the area MP should invariably

be included in it. It is unfortunate that instead of the MPs name being included therein non-entities like "Dhobi" and "Mochi" are finding a place in such committees. The Government must think over it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please do not degrade yourself by saying "Dhobi" or "Mochi."

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : I am not criticising. I was merely saying that the name of MP should be included in the telephone advisory committee. I once again oppose the Ordinance and welcome the spirit of the Bill. When you reply to the debate on this subject please clarify why the National Telecom Authority which was to be set up in 1994 was not constituted. Why there has been delay in this matter. Privatisation has been done and less than half the number of telephones which were to be installed by the end of 1995 have not been installed so far. Why are the things so bad? The hon. Minister must state by when the telephones in the villages would be set right. With these words I conclude.

SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that :

"That the Bill to provide for the establishment of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India to regulate the Telecommunication services, and for matter connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Motion Moved:

"That this House disapproves of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Ordinance, 1997 (No. 11 of 1997) promulgated by the President on January 25, 1997."

"That the Bill to provide for the establishment of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India to regulate the Telecommunication services, and for matter connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken consideration."

Do you want to say something at this moment or would like to reply at the end. Please note the points in that case.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister should say something at this stage.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I asked him in case he wanted to say something else.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : I have opposed the Ordinance.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Yes, I know you have opposed the Ordinance.

[English]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO (Dhenkanal) : Sir, may I interrupt? Are you taking up the Government business or

are you still on the Statutory Resolution? I want to move amendments to the Government business. When do I get a chance to move my amendments?

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Item Nos. 18 and 19 are being taken up together. This is Government business.

[English]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will you give me permission to move them now or at a later stage?

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : If you want to speak please give a notice.

[English]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Sir, if the Government business starts, then only I can move my amendments. I cannot move amendments to Shri Bhargava's Resolution.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : If you want to move the amendment, you can move them when the bill is taken up for clause by clause consideration.

[English]

COL. RAO RAM SINGH (Mahendergarh) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, communications is the basic infrastructure for the rapid development of any backward country, whether it be road communication, telecommunication, rail communication, air communication or waterways. President Kennedy once said that America has very good roads, not because America was rich, but on the contrary, America was rich because of the good roads that America had.

Therefore, what I mean to say is, basic infrastructure comes first and the prosperity will follow if the basic infrastructure is provided. In modern days, I think, telecommunication has become much more important than even road and rail communications, because information is the basis of all progress and development. In this respect, India is one of the most poorly serviced countries, perhaps, in the whole world. I will give only one statistics which will go to prove this fact. Upto 1992, in Thailand 2.4 people had telephones out of 100 persons, in Malaysia nine people had telephones out of 100 persons, in Japan, 44 people had telephones out of 100 persons, in United States, 54 people had telephones out of 100 persons and in India, only 0.6 people had telephone facilities out of 100 persons. This goes to show how much backwardness we have to make up, in order to catch up even with some of the developing and backward countries of the world today. As on 31st March, 1996, the waiting list for getting telephone connection was of the order of over 14 million persons. We

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are not only lagging behind in the number of telephones being installed, but the quality of service provided by the Department of Telecommunications is worse.

Sir, there is an organization known as the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy. They have carried out a survey and reported that there was a very sharp deterioration in the quality of telecommunication services during the year 1994-95, in terms of the call success rate. It means that the number of calls that were originated and the number of calls which succeeded in achieving the object, that ratio was very poor indeed and the quality was deteriorating day by day.

Sir, there has been a transformation in the telecommunication services provided in the last two decades. There has been virtually a revolution in the quality and range of the services of telecommunication provided in the last two decades. Lately, we had a visitor, Mr. Bill Gate from America and I am sure all our Members know it. Sir, we know the Internet and E-mail services that are being provided. I was travelling the other day by air and an American sitting next to me—you will be surprised—told me that for all transactions, there is no cheque system in America any more. If a payment has to be made for a telephone bill or an electricity bill or any financial transaction has to be made, then cheques are not issued. A message on E-mail or Internet is sent to the bank, they confirm it back and transaction is completed. You can imagine the amount of saving this will generate. Of course, it is a long way off. The introduction of Internet and E-mail will perhaps take a considerably long time. But it is a concept on which we have to start thinking now.

Sir, the last Government woke up very belatedly in 1994 and the National Telecom Policy was formulated and announced. One of the aims of this policy was providing ten million new connections by March, 1997. The other developmental reform announced under the National Telecom Policy of 1994 was the total financial involvement to the tune of Rs. 60,000 crore. Now it is very easy to put it down on paper and say we will do this and we will do that. But it is not possible without providing the financial outlay for that. I think the Government should be honest enough—of course, it is not this Government it was the last Government I am referring to—that whatever they have in the kitty, they should announce developmental plans only up to that level. Out of the ten million connections to be installed by 1997, I do not think even 50 per cent have been installed so far. As my previous colleague has said that out of those provided at the village level, the services are very poor. I think it was the last Government again which introduced the MARR equipment. I am not sure what it all stands for. This MARR equipment which I think provides wireless telephonic communication with the villages is not working even in a single village and the amount of money the Government has spent on that is something colossal.

Perhaps not even 10 per cent of those phones are in working order today. The aerials are standing, the poles are standing in the villages and of them not even one is working. I would request the hon. Minister who is, I think, doing a wonderful job, to go into this question and see what he could salvage from that. Whatever money has gone down the drain has gone down. But can you try to salvage something out of that? Those things are still standing. They are of no use to anybody. I do not know whether still we are on the MARR system or some new type of equipment has come. But certainly that equipment which was installed in the villages by the predecessor Government is certainly not of satisfactory nature. I can say that with experience and authority.

Then the National Telecom Policy of 1994 also envisaged the setting up of the Telecom Regulatory Authority for which the hon. Minister is piloting the Bill today.

The gates of liberalisation were also opened up by the announcement of the National Telecom Policy of 1994. But as was usual with the predecessor Government, it was quite a usual practice with them, they always place the cart before the horse ...

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : You should not forget that you were a distinguished Member of that Government.

COL. RAO RAM SINGH : I was a Member, but I cannot claim to have been a distinguished Member. I was certainly a Member. But I think I was treated more as an outcast in the Government than as a member of that Government. Of course, my distinguished colleague and myself, I think, we were of the same type together. He was treated as much of an outcast as I was treated.

What I meant by placing the cart before the horse is this. I will give you an example. After the robbers have entered the house, looted and taken away everything, then the house owner gets the watch-dog and says that next time he would not allow the robbers to enter because he has got two Alsatian dogs now lined up to catch the robbers.

The Telecom Regulatory Authority should have been set up first as a watch-dog and then the liberalisation should have taken place so that a check and balance could have been kept on the transactions, licences and the things that were going on. As my esteemed colleague said, if that had happened, then my esteemed ex-colleague, Shri Sukh Ram, would not have been a *dukhi* person today. If that Regulatory Authority had been set up earlier, the country would have saved crores and crores of rupees.

Anyway, it is better late than never. I must congratulate the present hon. Minister for having brought in this Bill now. It is late, but he has brought it now. Of course, I am not in favour of the 'Ordinance *raj*' though every Government is in the habit of following it. Not only this Government, but every Government is in the habit of following the 'Ordinance *raj*'

I do not know, why. It was introduced in January, whereas the budget Session was starting in February. The heavens would not have fallen down—this Bill was not introduced for the last three years—if this ordinance had not been passed one month earlier. An Ordinance was issued just about 15–20 days or a month before the Budget Session of Parliament. The Government could have waited for this and then properly introduced the Bill.

I think the Bill had already been sent to the Standing Committee. I must again give full marks to the hon. Minister that almost all the recommendations of the Standing Committee have been accepted by him in toto, which is a very good thing. Of course, one or two have not been accepted, and I understand why they have not been agreed to. One of them was that *carte-blanche* was to be given to the judiciary to be the Chairman and be the controlling authority in the Regulatory Authority. Judicial activism is a very good thing. I think it is a very good thing to keep a check on the Government, whether it was the previous Government or this Government. They require a check on them definitely. But to give them unfettered powers would, perhaps, not have been right. I think the Minister was quite right in selecting the present system. The Chairman will be the *ex-Justice* or the *ex-Chief Justice*, which I think is sufficient authority.

The other thing that I want to say is that the bureaucrats make these Bills. They put it up to the Ministers and the bureaucrats make sure that they hold the whip everywhere. I do not see any reason why a Secretary or an Additional Secretary should be specifically mentioned to be a member of this Regulatory Authority.

The consumers, the industry, the technicians and the technocrats are the people who should be the members of this Authority. In my way of thinking, I feel that the bureaucrat will only introduce red-tapism, he will be a hurdle and making him a member of this Authority will be of no help whatsoever. The bureaucrat, being a member of the Authority, will only help perpetuate the *babu raj* which has been carrying on ever since the Britishers left. This *babu raj* is going on at a more and more vigorous pace. It is spreading its net around.

In the olden days, it was said that the IAS Officer was the cutting edge of the Government. But I am sorry to say that that cutting edge has been totally blunted now. There is no cutting edge left now. The sooner we overhaul the system and the sooner we stop giving importance to these bureaucrats that we are giving today, the country will be a much better place to live in. I can say that. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister to reconsider the composition of the Regulatory Authority.

I do not see any reason why a specific mention has been made in this Bill saying that a Secretary or an Additional

Secretary to the Government of India who has got three years' of service will become a member of the Authority. Why? Why not a General of the Army be made a member of the Authority? Why not a Marshal of the Indian Air Force be made a member of the Authority? In the Army and Air Force, communication is the key thing now. Why should a Secretary or an Additional Secretary be made a member? A Secretary or an Additional Secretary can probably be made to sit there to take down the notes. I am surprised that we give so much of importance to a Secretary and an Additional Secretary. I would say that you can have a General as a member of the Authority when he retires or have the Chief of the Air Staff as a member of the Authority when he retires rather than having the Secretary or an Additional Secretary.

As I was saying, it is very important that the consumer should be given a due place in this. I do not think it is included specifically as such. But I think a leeway has been given to have a minimum of two and a maximum of six members. I think it should be narrowed down. The Government should either say that there will be four members or six members. But it is giving too much of a leeway that the Authority may have a minimum of two and a maximum of six members. I think a minimum of two will be too little.

Then I come to the members of the industry. The industrialisation of the country is picking up. Therefore, it is most important that the representatives of the industry should be included in the Authority. I am sure that provision will be made for inclusion of technical experts in that Authority.

After reading the Bill, I am not quite clear about the other thing. I would like to know whether the DoT will be under this Authority or the Authority will be an independent Authority. Will the DoT be subject to the control of this Authority? That is a thing that must be very clearly specified. Otherwise, dual control will lead to chaos. Dual control always leads to chaos and it must be clearly clarified what will be the relationship between the Telecom Regulatory Authority and the Department of Telecommunications.

I do not know whether any provision has been made for offences committed by the Government Departments. Are they under the purview of this Authority? If any offences are committed by the Department of Telecommunications or any other connected Department of the Government, will it be under the purview of this Authority or not? That should be clarified.

I think, the power to fix tariff—internal and external—has been given to the Authority, if I am not wrong. That is a very good step.

Another point that I want to say is about the transparency. It has been included somewhere that 'we should ensure that transparency is exercised in the

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functioning'. I think, it should have gone slightly more into details. It is very easy to say that transparency should be exercised. But what are the measures that are going to be taken to ensure transparency of the working of this Regulatory Authority? Will the meetings of the Regulatory Authority be in open house? Will the members of the Press and public be able to attend these meetings or will they be held in camera? What other measures will be taken to ensure that transparency is achieved in the functioning of this Authority? I think, it is of utmost importance that the functioning of the Authority should be a very transparent business.

Of course, I would also like to stress the point—it is not concerned with this—about the Members of Parliament being nominated on the Telephone Advisory Committees of their constituency. Whatever Telephone Advisory Committees are there in those constituencies, I think, the Member of Parliament of that constituency—I request the hon. Minister to consider this—should automatically be nominated on the Telephone Advisory Committee of that area.

With these words, I would like to congratulate the Minister for bringing about this very comprehensive Bill. While at the same time, I oppose the Ordinance that was promulgated. But I think, for the Bill that has been introduced by the Minister, he deserves a pat on the back from the House. I hope that the intentions with which this has been introduced, will be achieved *in toto*. Thank you very much.

SHRI ANADI CHARAN SAHU (Cuttack) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, from 1885 to 1997, we have travelled 112 years in the field of communication. We started with the Telegraph Act and now, we are going to the Regulatory Act. We started with the Congress in 1885 and now, it is 1997.

Sir, in 1994, the Congress Government had thought of providing policy called the National Telecom Policy. The objectives of the policy were that the telephones and the telecom instruments should be within the reach of all; there should be universal service covering all the villages of India; the qualities should be of world standard; there should not be any consumer complaints, whatever may be the complaint; the disputes should be settled properly, effectively and quickly and there should be proper standardization in manufacture of equipments relating to telecommunication. And, the last but not least, was the matter relating to separating the regulating functions from the provisions of consumer facilities and interests. In this context, I would like to submit that the DoT will be one of the principal providers of consumer facilities and there will be many other consumer facilities providers including private parties. So, that was the policy which was taken up in 1994.

Now, we have come to this Act called the TRAI—Telecom Regulatory Authority of India. Let it not be TROY, let it not kill many valiant persons in the process of executing its dictates in the later stages. So, I must caution everybody that it should be enacted properly and it should be executed properly.

We have many types of communication facilities; pagers, cellular phones, E-Mail, data communications and many other things which would require lots of regulation, lots of licencing, lots of coordination. That is why this enactment has come. I am happy that this enactment is not like yesterday's enactment on environment. Yesterday we had seen an enactment which did not go to the Standing Committee and there were lots of lacunae.

Today, we are having an enactment which has gone through certain processes. The Standing Committee on Communications had gone into the details of the provisions which have been provided in this Bill. But, I am sorry to say that the Government did not think it proper to incorporate all the provisions, all the recommendations of the Standing Committee in this enactment. I will be coming to it one by one when I deal with different clauses of the enactment. But the recommendations of the Standing Committee should have been given due honour, due regard before this Bill came to the Parliament.

As you are aware, telephones have been creating lots of problems for us. Many people are there who are not getting telephone connections for years together. When they get a telephone connection, they have to pay exorbitant charges. Inflated rates have to be paid though the telephone might not have been used for some time or for some days. This is the difficulty we have been facing. Inflated bills come, telephones get disconnected for no reason and shifting of telephones takes lots of time. Poor service, inflated bills and faulty accounting procedures have been creating difficulties for users. Those difficulties have to be surmounted. This can be done by this Regulatory Authority which is coming into being soon.

So far as the composition of the Regulatory Authority is concerned, I have my own doubts. It is not known why we have a mania to appoint judge, to appoint government servants to that Authority. Take the case of Mr. Bill Gates. We may have a person like Mr. Bill Gates in India who may be a wizard in telecommunications, a wizard in electronic equipment manufacturing. We do not have any provision in this Bill to appoint such type of people as members of the Authority. As Col. Ram Singh has asked, why we should have people who should be government servants, who should be judges. Of course, there is a provision in Section 6 about Secretaries or Additional Secretaries and persons of equivalent rank. I am sure, no equivalent rank people will be taken as members of this Authority. I will read it out for the information of my hon. friends : "... the post of Additional Secretary and Secretary to the Government or any equivalent post in the Central Government or the State Government for a period of three years." I am sure, all the members of this Authority will be Secretaries or Additional Secretaries of the Government of India. No State Government officer will be taken because he will not have a clout in the Central Government to get into this Authority.

I would suggest that we must change these provisions. We must take persons with lots of knowledge, intelligence in that particular field. Otherwise this will be another government service or another government department. That has to be kept in mind while enacting this provision.

There is another difficult situation. The Chairperson should hold office for a term of five years from the date on which he enters upon his office. No age limit has been prescribed for the Chairperson. But age limit has been prescribed for the members. That means, anybody who has been the Chief Justice of a High Court or a Judge of the Supreme Court, even after five years of retirement, can be appointed as the Chairperson. No age limit has been provided. I do not know what is the reason why no age limit has been prescribed in this Bill.

I would like to submit that serving members should not be appointed as members of the Authority. It has been indicated that if there is a serving officer, then he has to resign and join the Authority. Why take a serving member? Why give him all the benefits?

14.00 hrs.

He would be a Secretary in the Department of Telecommunications one day and the other day he would become a Member of the Authority. He will try to ratify whatever he has done as a Secretary. He might have given an order as DoT is one of the providers. He might provide something today and tomorrow, as a Member of the Authority, he might ratify that order. That is not proper. In my humble opinion, no serving officer should be appointed to this Authority. Again, I have to repeat that we have a mania for appointing judges or civil servants. I do not like to say much about these matters. But no serving officer should be appointed to the Authority. Under no circumstances should a serving officer be appointed.

There are certain difficulties, which I would like to present before you. The Standing Committee had made some recommendations. It had indicated: 'to seek information on all aspects of service providers' activities, to seek information, advice and input from any source it feels necessary to investigate *sou motu* on any other matter, which in this case constitutes public interest. That is very important. It also provides: 'to inspect facilities, books and records of the operators/service providers'. If we have to implement these recommendations of the Standing Committee, there should be teeth to bite. The Authority does not have any teeth to bite. The Authority would only be issuing an order or an instruction to the providers to produce books and records, to produce documents, to produce relevant papers. If that is not produced, if the firm does not produce, the Authority can at best put a fine of Rs. 2 lakh as per Clause 20 or Rs. 1 lakh as per Clause 29. As per Clause 20 and Clause 29, if the Authority's orders are

violated, then, there is provision only for a fine. The Authority cannot send anyone to search, inspect and impound documents. If it is not done, the persons or the firms or the corporate bodies sending different types of gadgets to the market would be very powerful persons and would not part with the documents that they have in their possession. I would suggest that either in Clause 20, which will become Section 20 or in Clause 29, which will become Section 29, there must be some provision for imprisonment of the persons concerned. For subsequent offences, there should be a provision for imprisonment. They have not provided for imprisonment here. The Standing Committee had recommended that there should be a provision for imprisonment. I do not know why it has been deleted. The Standing Committee's recommendations have not been carried out. My humble submission now is, since it has not been provided in the enactment, something could be done in the rules and the rules could be placed before Parliament as a result of which we can salvage some of the matters which have been omitted by the framers of this Bill.

It is very good that the exclusive privileges which have been provided in the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 are going away slowly. We are going in for privatisation. That is very good. Once we are going in for privatisation, we must think about the manner in which this Authority would be facing difficulties in the 21st Century. That should have been kept in mind. While keeping it in mind, they should have thought of Part 3 of the Indian Telegraph Act, Section 18 and Section 19, the way they have been enacted and the purposes for which they have been enacted. That should have been kept in mind. Since that has not been kept in mind, there will be a lot of disputes between the DoT, the users and the providers. You have provided for subsequent regulations also. The regulations should be exhaustive and keep in mind all the types of users and providers and, most importantly, the disputes between the non-users and the users.

14.05 hrs.

[SHRI NITISH KUMAR *in the Chair*]

Sections 18 and 19 indicate about non-users also. ... (*Interruptions*) All these things should be kept in mind. All the three aspects, that is, users, non-users and providers, should be clubbed together while framing the rules. Another important aspect is the rates to be fixed by the TRAI. That has been provided in Sub-Section 2 of Section 11. The rates are to be placed before Parliament. That is the recommendation of the Standing Committee. I do not know why it has not been indicated in this enactment. It may so happen that all of a sudden the TRAI may think it proper to enhance the rates. If you are charging Rs. 100 per telephone today, tomorrow the TRAI may say, 'You increase the rate to Rs. 1,000'. How would the user or consumer pay it? So,

[Shri Anadi Charan Sahu]

that has to be kept in mind while the rates are increased by the TRAI.

Sir, it has been indicated that there should be two members to decide the disputes. If the two members do not agree, then the third member will decide the dispute. That means you are making it very cumbersome. I would suggest that you have three members initially. Let the Chairperson find out three members and the majority should decide the dispute, instead of saying you have two members and if there is any dispute, another member will decide it. It should not be done like that. It would linger on the process. My submission is that there should be three members. If you are thinking of any sort of complaints, then you have three members. The Chairman should constitute a three-member committee and the majority should decide as to what action would be taken, instead of saying you have two members now and if they do not agree, then send it to the third member. That would create lots of problems to the user and the provider. Provider may be put to a lot of financial difficulties and the time consumed may not be repairable immediately. So, I suggest, through you, that the Committee should consist of three members. That is why the Standing Committee had recommended that there should be a minimum of five members and a maximum of seven members in the Authority. I do not know why the Government thought it proper to have members between two and six, that is minimum two and maximum six. The Standing Committee must have thought that having members between five and seven would be easier to form the sub-committee for deciding complaints. So, this can be through of, while framing the rules. The regulations would be framed under Rule 36. So, these things should be kept in mind. Before this enactment comes into force, the rules have to be framed. Otherwise, it would be very difficult to enforce the different aspects of this regulatory authority. Since there is no time, I will not go further.

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN (Trichur) : Sir, I support the Bill. I am glad that the Bill has been scrutinised by the Standing Committee. Almost all the suggestions put forward by the hon. Members have been incorporated in the amended Bill. I congratulate the hon. Minister for having included the suggestions in the amended Bill.

Telecommunication is the nerve centre of our economy. This sector is vulnerable as far as the country's security is concerned. I, therefore, caution the Government that we must be very careful when we go in for privatisation. Modernisation of the entire system is also essential. We must make available all the facilities of the information technology which are now available to our toiling millions.

But here I must caution the Government that when we go for modernisation and globalisation, we must be careful and we should not leave the Department at the mercy of the neocolonial multinational forces.

I have some suggestions to streamline the Department. In my opinion, it is high time that more powers and fund should be given to the Telecom Chief General Managers of the States and the General Managers of the Districts. It is our experience that unnecessary concentration of power in Delhi is the main obstacle in the smooth functioning of the Department. Developmental activities are held up for each and every small thing.

The Chief General Managers and the other General Managers have to depend upon the centralised system for getting materials and getting the administrative sanctions even for the most urgently needed developmental activities. Due to this centralisation, there are long pending waiting lists for telephone connections. In my constituency alone, two lakhs of telephone applications are pending. The hon. Minister knows that we, in Kerala, are very badly in need of telephone connections. Many of our people are working abroad and earning very valuable foreign exchange for the country. Those who are abroad want to keep in touch with their kith and kin. Even OYT applications are pending sanction for four or five years. So, I request the hon. Minister to give some special consideration for Kerala as we are earning so much of foreign exchange from those who are working in the Gulf and other countries. So, if you give some more powers, fund and materials to the Chief General Managers and the General Managers, I think, this huge pending list will not be there.

As has been pointed out by other hon. Members, for the last nine months, the Advisory Committee is not functioning. It is not reconstituted. The Authorities have asked for some names to be sent and we also sent some names, some months ago. But yet, the Committee is not reconstituted. Since the Committee is not functioning, all the applications for getting 'public booths' are also pending. I do not know why it is so. We have represented time and again to the hon. Minister, since the MPs are not made members of the Advisory Committee. They think that MPs have nothing to do with the functioning of the Department there. They are not in the Advisory Committee. They are not at all consulted. I do not know why the Telecom Department is treating MPs in such a manner. They treat us as outcast, to be frank. So, the reconstitution of the Advisory Committee both at the district level and at the State level is a very urgent need. If we have that, we can represent the issues that the customers are faced with.

When this TRAI is in operation, I do not know what would be the relationship between this TRAI and the DoT.

Things will get complicated when there are dual powers. That should be made clear as it is not clear in the Bill. So, devolving powers, decentralisation of powers, giving funds and administrative sanction for State level and District level works are the urgent needs which should be done for giving justice to the customers. The long pending waiting list is a question mark on the hon. Minister and the Department.

Over two lakh applications are pending in one constituency. The Exchequer is losing money. It is a commercial field. If you give connections more regularly and speedily, then you will get money.

As regards pending waiting list, there must be a target that within a particular time the pending waiting list for telephone connections will be cleared. Such a target should be fixed which will help the Department and the customers.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY (Mandsaur) : Chairman, Sir, at the outset I support the motion moved by Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava regarding disapproval of ordinance. As you know that our Government has been in the habit of issuing ordinances to run its business when it is not in a position to face the Parliament. This is not the first instance such ordinances have been issued a number of times earlier also. But this time there is a chain of Ordinances whether it is in the matter of power, National Highways or Reserve Bank. Regarding everything the Government wants to run its business by issuing Ordinances. Same is the position of this ordinance. As has been stated in the statement of objects and reasons of the Bill a similar bill was brought the purpose of which was to globalise the Telecommunication services and which was passed by the Lok Sabha but was not passed by the Rajya Sabha which returned it with certain observations. The Bill should have been brought again in this House but it could not be brought in time because of the indifference of the Government and ultimately the bill could never be brought in the Lok Sabha. Again an ordinance was brought on 27 January 1996. But that too was not approved by the House in time and it was also lapsed. Again an ordinance was brought on 27 March 1996 and it was also lapsed. Chairman, Sir, this is the third ordinance which was promulgated on 25 January 1997 and brought in this form. Chairman, Sir, this trend should be stopped. If this was needed and as has also been cautioned by the Standing Committee on Communications that if such a Bill is desired, Government should bring it immediately and this Bill should be cohesive and comprehensive which can provide for everything. I would like to quote extracts from the report of that Standing Committee. I am mentioning para nos. 13-14-15 of the report of the Standing Committee which was presented on 20.11.96.

[English]

"In view of the fact that constitution of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India has already been delayed for more than a year, the Committee recommend that it should be constituted at an early date and in no case, it should take more than six months."

[Translation]

They have already stated that it should not be more than 6 months. It has already been delayed too much. I understand if such remarks have not been made by the Standing Committee neither these Ordinances have been

issued nor the bills have been brought. Now, I am reading volume 14 of this report.

[English]

Further, the Committee desire that appropriate regulations may be made regarding maintenance of a register by TRAI similar to the registers maintained by the Registrar of Companies so that all particulars may be entered therein in respect of interconnect agreements, recognition to type approval, etc.

The Indian Telegraph Act, 1985 has undergone amendments numerous times as also the Indian Wireless Telegraph Act, 1933. Both these Acts provide for the issue of licences by the Government which may consider the desirability of undertaking review of the provision of these two Acts.

[Translation]

I would like to submit before the hon. Minister that some provisions of this comprehensive Bill still require to be amended in view of the recommendations of the Standing Committee. Some protection is required in the interest of the consumers. Hope you would consider all these aspects and try to bring a comprehensive bill. I would like to quote some of the general provisions of this Bill. It has been stated in section 25 of this Bill that Rules and Regulations would be laid on the Table of the Parliament. Generally this provision is provided in almost all the Bills but this provision is never complied with. I would like to submit before the hon. Minister that whatever duration stipulated and whatever amendments are required to be made should be done within the stipulated period of two years and it should be laid on the Table of the Parliament so that it may be considered by the Parliament otherwise even you may lose your right over the Bill. Further drawing your attention towards this, I would like to submit that some provisions have been made in this Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Ordinance, whether these are relating to the power of the Chairman or the Members or their nomination or the nomination of the Chairman. The duration or the age fixed for these is too much. It needs further consideration. This age limit should be curtailed. 65 years of age has been fixed. I think that should be curtailed so that more active, competent, expert and experienced persons can be employed. Competent officers who are still in the Government service cannot join this body. They have to resign their job first. This provision should have not been made mandatory when you are employing officers on deputation basis.

Sir, this Authority is an independent body. So, I would request you that such arrangements should be made so that these services may be utilised in time. It has an independent status. Whatever steps are taken in the field of telecommunication, are welcome. Lot of changes have taken place in the field of telecommunication and some changes are in the offing. We have made agreement with all the

[Dr. Laxminarayan Pandey]

countries. We have global arrangements with about 67–68 countries. I would like to draw your attention towards the changes going to be there and facilities available in this field. As has been said:

[English]

"It is a good news for the international economy. It is a good news for the business. It is a good news for the ordinary people around the world who use telephones or who want to use them. Director-General, WTO, told the Radio."

[Translation]

They have also stated this. The same position was there when global telecom treaty was made and discussion took place. We are going to take a good step ahead. Further steps towards advancement in this field should be taken so that people may get more and more facilities and make good use of them. Global changes are being made in this field today. You should try to make it more and more effective so that everybody may get its benefits keeping in view the fast changes taking place in this field. This time is sufficient to say all these things. Stating all these things in brief I would repeat that certain provisions need minor changes. I hope you would consider all these aspects. I thank you for taking certain good steps. Please stop the tendency of bringing ordinances. Such situation should not arise in future that an ordinance has to be brought. I hope that the entire House agrees to this. We have taken certain steps in the field of telecommunication and we are trying to have a quantum jump. I conclude my speech wishing all the success in this field.

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Government should desist from issuing Ordinances, remembering the earlier observations made by the former Speakers and others. The practice should rather be to come directly to the House with the Bill. Under very special circumstances when the Telecom Policy was announced, there was a demand from this House to have a full-fledged discussion covering all aspects of the policy. Since 1994 till today, a lot of developments have taken place. There are some mega scandals, some advancement in telecom technology and so on. In the perception of the nation also, a sea change has taken place. In view of very poor penetration of telephone in the country and also in view of the need to fill the gap as best and as fast as possible and taking into consideration the resource constraint, a proper Telecom Policy is the urgent necessity of the nation.

We are happy that the Government has taken into consideration the importance of Telecom, as of late, they

have declared Telecom as a part of the infrastructure. It has been included as an infrastructure. Now, Telecom will have certain more facilities which were not there earlier. I am not going into the details of the policy. We had very serious reservations about certain provisions made in the policy itself. But ultimately when the question of regulation came, there was a suggestion from all important quarters that the regulatory authority should be made statutory instead of the non-statutory one. That was ultimately agreed to by the Government.

I am happy that the Bill had gone to the Standing Committee and most of the recommendations, major recommendations, of the Committee have been accepted by the Government. I fail to understand three or four things. For example, with regard to the composition and qualifications for appointment of chairpersons and other Members, the Standing Committee had suggested that the Chairperson shall be appointed by the Central Government after obtaining the recommendations of the Committee, may be a Select Committee or whatever you may call it. The Committee consisted of the Chief Justice of India, hon. Speaker of the Lok Sabha, the Minister in charge of the Ministry of Communication, Leader of the Opposition and also the Deputy chairperson of the Council of States. I find in the Bill, that this has not been accepted. In the matter of selection, such a recommendation, as made by the Standing Committee, could have been accepted. To some extent it would have given more credibility, more transparency and also more accountability to this authority. I would urge upon the Government to reconsider this major recommendation of the Committee because such an authority will be formed by many others in the days to come. I am just giving one example.

I am told that in the proposed Broadcasting Bill, there is also a suggestion to set up an independent body. The Select Committee will make a recommendation to the Government and on the basis of such a recommendation, that independent authority will be set up.

There also it is being proposed that the Minister and the Secretaries of the Government dominate this independent Authority. The role of the Government is being diluted in many spheres in the name of liberalisation. But here is an area where we find that such a major suggestion made by Standing Committee for making a recommendation for the Chairperson as also other Members has not been accepted. This may be followed by others also; there lies the danger. In the case of TRAI, the nation has been expecting that independence should be given in the matter of selection and appointment of key persons on such a body.

Regarding salary, allowances and other conditions, the recommendation made by the Standing Committee was that in the case of Chairperson, it should be at par with a Supreme Court Judge; and in the case of a Member, it will be at par with a High Court Judge. That recommendation too has not been accepted. A third major suggestion which has not been accepted by the Government—I do not know why it has not been accepted, the hon. Minister may kindly explain that in his reply—was the recommendation regarding the powers and functions of the Authority.

Approval of equipment used in the network is a very important thing because substandard, low-quality equipment is one of the major reasons for the mega-scandal, as has been well-mentioned by hon. Col. Rao Ram Singh about the MARR and all those things. Here the important thing is that some of our public sector undertakings are quite capable to provide good quality equipment.

I give you one example, I shall be brief. For example, C-DoT is one such organisation which had been providing switching technology on which rural telephones are largely dependent today. They were sidetracked, they were ignored, there was poaching, the private operators had lured away our competent people. Even after that, they are capable of setting up the 40,000 line system that was inaugurated in Bangalore the other day. Our own public sector undertaking, the ITI, are capable of providing very good quality equipment. They are not being given adequate orders on which they can survive and flourish. They had been making profit even two years back also. But they have been deprived of the orders. About approval of equipment, it may be that private operators will not comply with the necessary specifications, they may take the opportunity to push through bad quality equipment. So, my suggestion is that this recommendation of the Standing Committee should be accepted by the Government.

Regarding monitoring of the quality of service provided by service providers, I wonder why this has not been accepted. I hope that the hon. Minister will explain it. Thirdly the commissioning of periodical service and quality service achieved by different service providers is also a very important recommendation made by the Standing Committee. I would just request the hon. Minister to explain all these things. Present day is the age of information revolution, telecommunication, broadcasting, computers. All these things are converging. In developed countries, such technologies are being used. Take for example cable modem. Cable is being used in UK in a big way for telecommunication purposes.

Internet is creating problems. Several Governments have to think over how to bring about their own regulations to meet the emerging situation. In the coming day, we will have to meet such a situation. Necessary amendments may be necessary in this regard.

But I would suggest that the Government should come out with a comprehensive Bill covering all aspects of communication. Only a single authority will not be enough to regulate an emerging situation in the telecom sector.

I support the Bill. At the same time, my plea with the Government is that it should reconsider several suggestions, particularly, the major suggestions made by the Standing Committee.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMSAGAR (Barabanki) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Bill, 1997 and thank the hon. Minister for moving this Bill in the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : There are several bills before the House which are to be passed. There is no need to say anything more as you have already welcomed and thanked the hon. Minister for it. You can give suggestion to the hon. Minister if it is in your mind.

SHRI RAMSAGAR: In present situation telecommunication has become an important tool for development of a country. The Standing Committee constituted under this Bill consists of the hon. Members of all the political parties so that their suggestions could be considered. Apart from it, there is also a consultative committee, consisting of MPs of all the political parties, thus the hon. Minister has tried to improve the telecommunication service and facilitate more and more people.

The progress of telecommunication service today reminds me of my olden days when I was a Member of Legislative Assembly of Uttar Pradesh. At that time MLAs were provided with the facility of telephone at their office and residence both. But, I could not avail this facility because my residence was in interior rural area which had no telephone line. That situation was prevailing almost in all the rural areas. Telephone service has made remarkable progress in the last 2-3 years and at present telephones have been installed in every tehsil and block of rural areas. I was very happy when a BJP Member hon. Girdhari Lal Bhargava had made a mention that almost all the roads have been dug in Jaipur for spreading telephone lines. I feel that hon. Minister of Communication should be congratulated for the extension of telephone service so rapidly under his leadership.

SHRI MAHABIR LAL BISHVAKARMA (Hazaribagh) : Hon. Member is saying that these telephones are working well in all the areas whereas I would like to mention that these are not working at all. ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : He is not saying this. He is saying that telephone cables are being laid every where.

SHRI RAMSAGAR : I have already said that some suggestions have been given on the Bill which is being discussed here and I remember that the hon. Minister has himself said in the House that though he is trying to improve telephone services but he is not satisfied with it. In our country, some telephones are operated through Antenna system but other type of telephones which are operated through battery system remains generally out of order.

Sir, the services of linemen and workmen in rural areas are not satisfactory because in case of any fault in the system or in telephone, they are not able to detect them for a number of days. Therefore, I request the hon. Minister that there is need to pay attention towards this problem.

Sir, as I have already said that many suggestions have been given on this Bill by the Standing Committee and the Advisory Committee of that Ministry. I hope that the hon. Minister would also incorporate the suggestions given by the hon. Members during the discussion and he would make every effort to improve the telecom system in such a way, so that it may prove to be helpful for the development of our country.

In the end, I would like to thank the hon. Minister for bringing this revolutionary Bill in the House, removing its bottlenecks and making continuous efforts to make the telephone system useful and providing facilities to the consumers.

SHRI PRAKASH VISHWANATH PARANJPE (Thane) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to bring one thing to the notice of the hon. Minister that the Members of Parliament are not required to pay the telephone bills but in spite of that bills are regularly sent to me and I am informed on the telephone that I should make payments of telephone bills otherwise my telephone would be disconnected. There is no coordination among the different departments and that is why they sent bills to the Members of Parliament. From this fact you can imagine how much communication gap is there among these departments. When there is lack of communication among the administrative departments then you can well imagine what would be the condition of this country. ... (*Interruptions*).

[English]

SHRI SURESH PRABHU (Rajapur) : Thank you, Sir. Let me congratulate the Government for introducing a piece of legislation which needs commendation on all counts. This is the first time that we are creating an authority of this type to regulate an important sector like telecommunication and I congratulate the hon. Minister for initiating a very good move.

At the same time, I am feeling very sad that all the time we have to say that the way in which such good legislations

are introduced, the right way to do them is to bring them before the Parliament directly instead of resorting to ordinances. I really do not understand why such issues could not have waited for some more time and could have not been introduced in the Parliament in this Session.

The argument would be, 'it was very urgent'. If it was so urgent then it could have been introduced in the last Session. Why only the period between the two Sessions that the Government comes out with imaginative ideas and trouble the President when the President is preoccupied with some more important business of State. I feel that now before the 21st of April or rather before 9th of May, the Government should really wear the thinking cap and should bring about whatever legislation that is necessary in this session and should not use the time between 9th of May and the next Session to bring legislations through ordinances.

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh) : Good things are done in a hurry.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Yes, but they should also do that hurry in the Session, otherwise we have no role to play. We can just read the legislations at home.

Sir, while welcoming this measure, I understand that basically this ordinance or this legislation is a product of the Telecom Policy which was introduced in 1994. However, there was a need for it even earlier when the Telecom Policy was the corner stone of our thinking on Telecom Sector. In 1994 Policy, as it should be or for that matter any policy on any sector pertaining to communications, our focus should be the customer who is the person who is going to receive the services from the Department of Telecommunications or other service providers.

Sir, while protecting the interests of the consumers, we are also allowing the technology to come into play and that will again improve the services provided to the customers. But when we are talking about technology which is going to come into play, some other sector or other interest also should be really considered at that time. That is our national interest.

There I feel, that how the recent multi-lateral agreement that we have signed, helps the country when it is yet to be discussed by the Parliament. While our hon. Minister for Telecommunications was away on a foreign tour, his other colleague while replying on the floor of the House said that the pact that we have signed is in the national interest. I would like to know, can a Minister or a Council of Ministers alone decide what is in the interest of the country when it is not debated and not placed before the Parliament. I think it is high time that we discuss such issues on the floor of the House.

So I feel that we are also accountable to Parliament again. I think, as per the 1994 policy, we should again come before the Parliament and we should place before it all the contents of the multilateral pacts and you should enlighten us about how it is going to improve the country. It is because in the Uruguay Round Conference, we have already said that we did not want to sign the General Agreement on Trade and Services.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We have not yielded.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : The services account for one-third of the world trade. We are saying that whatever we are signing today is not in the interest of the country and we are opposing it all throughout. So how have we suddenly realised that we are doing this keeping the interest of the country? Is it because we are forced or coerced by somebody to sign such a pact? It needs to be known to the Parliament and I request the hon. Minister, while replying, again to place before the Parliament the entire contents of this Declaration and how it is going to benefit us in the interest of the country.

Sir, the content of the regulatory body is also after a lot of deliberations. Various interests are going to be represented on this body. It is going to be headed by a person of calibre of a retired judge. It is all right. But what about the interests of the consumers? Is the body going to be represented by the consumer interests or not? There is no provision for it. In fact, people of eminence from different walks of life are going to be represented but there is no provision for a specific representation for a body of consumers, the telephone users on this body. I request the hon. Minister to please take that into account because the cornerstone of any policy has to be the customer. The focus has to be on the customer. How are his interests going to be protected? This is something that we need to know. This is also important because under Clause 14(1) you are already stipulating that a dispute between service providers and a group of consumers should only be referred. So the individual consumer as per the provisions of the Bill or the legislation, cannot probably appear before the authority. He has to necessarily go through a group of consumers. So we are already contemplating a group of consumers as a State who can prefer as an aggrieved party, his complaint before the body and I think, if that is the case, then we should have some representation on this body of this group of consumers.

Secondly, when we are trying to contemplate this group of consumers as a body who could prefer such an appeal as an aggrieved party, is the Government encouraging formation of such group of consumers? There is nothing like a group of consumers in the country. I am a telephone subscriber. We, all the Members of Parliament, are telephone subscribers. But there is no body of MPs telephone subscribers in the country; there is no body of Orissa

telephone users; and there is no body of Maharashtra telephone users. Is the Government contemplating to encourage formation of such bodies? Are you going to finance such bodies? Are you going to give them a grant? I think that is what is really necessary because under the SEBI Act, there is a provision for formation of investors body and SEBI is thinking of giving some encouragement in terms of grants.

I would urge upon the Minister to please encourage formation of such bodies nationwide and probably even subsidize their activities to grant through the regulation of this type. Unless we do that, how are the group of consumers going to come and prefer an appeal about their problems that they are going to face?

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (Chhapra) : It has to be a non-paying consumer forum.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : There are various provisions against which I think we should really have no complaints except one thing that I would like to know. We are already contemplating this body and saying that various actions could be initiated under public interest. Public interest is of paramount importance for any Government's functioning. One should welcome it.

There has to be a trade off between a public interest on one side and the civil liberties of common citizens on the other side. Can a citizen, whose rights of privacy, whose rights to have a telephone not being tapped by any body, prefer an appeal to the body if his privacy is being subjected to such type of intrusion? Is a public interest going to be considered paramount? It is because it may be said by the Department of Telecommunications that we are tapping a line of an individual on account of public interest. How are the civil liberties of a citizen going to be protected? So far there was no forum for anybody to do it except to raise such issues in the Parliament and to ask the Minister to resign. It is because that if they had tapped a line, then, it could not also have been ordered by the Minister. But when we are creating a body like this, how could one have a trade off between civil liberties and a public interest which is sought to be protected under this body? This is something which, I am sure, the Minister would like to enlighten us.

Sir, among the various disputes that are raised, that could be raised under Section 14 of this Bill, one is between the various revenue sharing service providers.

One service provider, of course, would be DOT. I am sure that there is no specific provision that the DOT would be definitely brought under the purview of the operation of this. There is need to clarify it really in a proper manner because there is no such clear mention. But, who will

[Shri Suresh Prabhu]

decide the operations? Because, what we are really deciding is the sharing of a cake. But what should be the size of the cake? Who is going to decide what should be the ultimate portion to be charged? Because now they are administered rates today. The telephone rates are raised by just administrative action. They are not even debated before Parliament. Now we are going to create a separate body. So, that aspect of the revenue could be decided by the body. But who decides the revenue to be charged by various service operators is something which needs to be properly explained and I think the hon. Minister would also let us know about the various providers.

Coming back to very mundane issues, this is a very laudable legislation. You are bringing about new technology. So, there is need to regulate the various authorities. But what happens to those millions of people who live in villages and who are really crying to say that they want telephone services? We have been hearing about various new innovations which confine themselves to cities and not only cities, even to big metropolitan cities. Rural areas are not getting any service except reading about it in the newspapers. How can a body which is created to regulate, ensure in the public interest the spread of the network of telecommunications to rural areas? Has the body which is the statutory body the mandate to order? The DOT has to separate the programme in such a manner that there is a proper weightage between the rural areas and the urban areas. Can somebody take care of the social version while considering the private methods that would be really a driving force for the private operators to come in? How are we going to have a trade off between the private body, and the social obligation as also something which I am sure the Minister would let us know.

The Monopolies Restrictive Trade Practices Act is going to be also probably a regulatory body to control as also going to say whether the MRTP provisions are adhered to or not. Is the DOT considering itself or subjecting itself to scrutiny of the MRTP? Is that what really means? Is some member of the public saying that the charges which are levied by the authority are operative by MRTP provisions and can we also prefer an appeal? Is the DOT subjecting itself to scrutiny of such a judicial scrutiny on account of the MRTP provisions or not? That is something which the Minister would certainly care us to know.

The transparency aspect of it is something which, I am sure, is one of the principles of the Common Minimum Programme and everywhere we will find it from transparency operation that the Government is trying to promote. The annual report of this body is going to be placed before Parliament. Will Parliament have right to scrutinise them taking note of these reports. Also I am sure that we would like to know if there is a provision—it is not a provision but

that is the practice—that the Telephone Adalats are operative in various parts, in the districts, and the disputes between the individual consumers and the provider can be heard, settled and disposed of. Such Telephone Adalats shall not take a statutory form in the present legislation and we can make telephone Adalats also as a part of the consumer redressal grievances forums so that individual consumers wanting to air their grievances can go before the Telephone Adalats which may would have also statutory powers and they can really be considered by such an authority.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO (Dhenkanal) : I would like to congratulate the Minister for bringing this piece of legislation. It is rather welcome. But a lot remains to be done.

When the Telecom Appellate Authority was declared in 1994, there was a wide apprehension that the Department of Telecommunications would be embracing under its ambit many of the other user Ministries which had not been consulted at all when the proposal was made. That was in 1994 and those Ministries had even not officially—I would not say complained—but addressed to the then Minister as well as the Government of India.

As a result of this, studies were conducted by various Ministries, particularly on the impact of the National Telecommunication Policy, 1994 on the electronic media and the information super highway which was the need of the hour and which today is going to see the light of the day in India through an American businessman, which our own departments of the Government of India could have done, that is, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, the Department of Electronics, the Department of Telecommunications, the Department of Space and the Ministry of Home Affairs.

An expert group was formed by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in September, 1994. The Director-General of AIR was the Chairman, the Engineer-in-Chief of Doordarshan, the Engineer-in-Chief of AIR, the R&D experts of AIR and Lt. General K. Balram, Retd. Vice-Chief of the Armed Forces—he was the Signal Officer himself; he was from the Corps of Signals—Chairman of the Syllabus Committee of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting at that time. So, what was the National Telecom Policy aiming at? The basic objectives of these have already been spelt out in the Statement of Objects and Reasons of this Telecom Regulatory Bill, which is coming after more than one year. I should have hoped that the pitfalls which the previous Government in which I and Col. Ram Singh were very much part and parcel, which he was critical of, could have been avoided and evaded, had the present Government taken some of the comments seriously and had better consultation which they did not do also. So, there is not much difference between the previous Government and this Government.

The basic objectives of the Telecom Policy announced on 13th May, 1994 were telecommunication for all, and

telecommunication within the reach of all. Government aims to provide telephone on demand by 1997—we are in 1997; provide telephone to every village by this target year; open up basic services for private entrepreneurs to supplement the Department of Telecommunications and add value-added services like radio paging, electronic mail, voice mail, audio text services, video text services, tele-conference, cellular mobile telephones of international standards to be made available in the country by 1996 by involving private sector. I am glad that he has incorporated this. I would like to concede that it is definitely an improvement on the 1994 Telecom Regulation Authority. It was then estimated that additional 2.5 million lines would be made available during the Eighth plan period; service would be universal, affordable and reasonably priced; and also enhanced investment in R&D to strengthen Indian technology. To meet the expected demand of telephones of 15.8 million by 1998; additional resources would be required to the tune of Rs. 23,000 crore and to raise additional resources, the New Telecommunication Policy envisages private sector involvement. The new Telecommunications Policy will be expanding these value-added services through total involvement. So, to implement the policy, suitable arrangements were proposed to protect and promote the interests of the consumer and ensure unfair competition, which has been so adequately and eloquently stated by my colleagues who have spoken before me.

15.00 hrs.

Then they come to the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India. They are supposed to have taken the worldwide trend to separate regulatory function from service-providing functions. Models of the Regulatory Authority existing in U.S.A., U.K., Germany, Japan and Australia were also studied by the Department. Then the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India is proposed to be under the overall supervision and guidance of the Ministry of Communications, which, this Regulatory Authority seeks to give, unlimited powers. So, the accused, the jury and the judge will be the same—the Ministry of Communications. Therefore, the Regulatory Authority proposed in 1994 was vested with regulatory powers of Director-General Telegraph Authority under the Indian Telegraph Act.

15.01 hrs.

[SHRI P.M. SAYEED *in the Chair*]

Now, instead of a single authority, we are talking about two authorities which is also incorporated in the present Bill of 15th March, 1997. So, there has been no improvement in this. Let us take the structure, composition and powers of the proposed Regulatory Authority. It has only two members, Member (Finance) and Member (Telecom) and a Chairman and would have a Secretariat drawn from the relevant disciplines of the Ministry of Telecommunications

or the Central Government or the public sector to perform the functions and 52 staff with three officers equivalent in the rank of Secretary to the Government of India, one in the rank of Additional Secretary to the Government of India, three in the rank of Joint Secretary, and one each at the level of Deputy Secretary and Under Secretary. I do not know whether this is a rehabilitation centre for bureaucrats and—as my friends have said also—for the members of the judiciary, who have already given their best of life and are retired. If it is a rehabilitation centre, then this is a very good authority we are promoting and passing in Parliament because rehabilitation and resettlement of ex-servicemen is nobody's baby today. The case of fifty lakh ex-servicemen is neither any State's nor Centre's nor anybody's baby today. Even the Fifth Pay Commission also has driven a nail in their coffin and made them worse than all Class-IV employees.

Then comes the impact on the electronic media. Why are we talking of the electronic media? Today the electronic media seems to have taken a very important role in our daily lives and today the information highway is also a reality. What is an information highway? It is the collection of thousands of networks of different media such as coaxial cables, optical fibres, microwave links, radio and T.V. broadcasting, satellites and it provides the kind of infrastructure of connecting people, computers and information resources at academic, industrial and governmental institutions countrywide and worldwide.

My good friend, Shri Rupchand Pal, who was associated with me in the Information and Broadcasting Ministry, knows this sinister design of the imperialists in trying to dominate through information superhighway the economic and commercial activities of developing nations. What did we want? We wanted to use this information superhighway for socially empowering our rural backward impoverished masses and give access to information to our less fortunate people who live in the rural areas so that they can compete in a level-playing field.

Information highway can transform social and cultural lives of the nation and particularly revitalise non-metropolitan rural life. Since all the above-mentioned media have already a huge built-in infrastructure in the country forming an information highway, it requires linking them all together to form an integrated information network that supports bi-directional force, interactive information.

I would like to mention an interesting point. The hon. Minister was not the Minister of the Department then. For one year, the Ministry of Communications sat over it, not permitting the Information and Broadcasting Ministry which had invested national resources and which had spare spectrum band to introduce F.M. radio-paging.

[Shri K.P. Singh Deo]

The officers of the Ministry of Communications thought that this great monopoly must remain with the great monopolist, the Ministry of Communications. But the fact is that, today there is so much of convergence between telecommunications and television.

Sir, you have been a Minister in that Ministry. There is a thin imaginary dividing line, probably among the politicians and the bureaucrats who have divided the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and the Ministry of Communications. Otherwise, they should have been under one Ministry and the Minister of Communications should have been dealing with information and broadcasting. In fact, Sardar Patel was the first Information Minister who had with him the information and home portfolios; broadcasting had not come into being in those days. So, broadcasting, today, ought to be with the Ministry of Communications and therefore, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting had suggested to the then Government—the predecessor's predecessor Government—that this Telecom Regulatory Authority should also include the Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Ministry of Home Affairs, Department of Space and Department of Electronics. Then, the Supreme Court would not have castigated the Government of India by saying that airwaves are not governmental property, but public property. The same Regulatory Authority with such representation would have served the interests of the users and it would have been a broad-based Regulatory Authority which is objective, free and fair.

Today the Department of Communications is the licensing authority through the Wireless Advisor as per the Wireless Act and the Telegraph Act. Now, the Government is creating an Authority called the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India without any representation. We know that the American War of Independence took place because there was no taxation without representation—Boston Tea party. We are forgetting history also. But we are learning a lot of things from the Americans, particularly about information super highway, internet etc. Now, people like Bill Gates and Rupert Murdoch are dropping in here, Nobels and Barons are coming and red carpet treatment is being given to them. But we do not want to learn lessons from history.

Then, to ensure technical compatibility between many different service providers, to ensure effective interaction between operators, protect consumer interests, to facilitate and promote efficiency, protect national security interests, work out methodology of revenue sharing, recommend fixing of price of different telecommunication services and setting up of the standards, all these are laudable objectives. But do we find them in the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India? Therefore, this Expert Body commented on the impact of the electronic media. They said that the technical needs and system of telecommunication services are distinctly

different from other communication services like broadcasting, civil aviation, overseas communication and police and defence communications. All these services are managed and developed separately with distinct jurisdiction.

Sir, you are very well aware that after the horrible mid-air collision over Charkhi Dadri in Haryana in which more than 396 lives were lost, there was a debate in this very House about the jurisdictional ambiguity. The Defence authorities were blaming the Civil Aviation authorities and the Civil Aviation authorities were blaming the Defence authorities. This House debated it only in the last Session. So, there has to be distinct jurisdiction for different organisations. Otherwise, such disasters will befall us. Therefore, there is an imperative need for different communication services not to hamper the growth of other communication services and also allow freedom to expand the services of benefit to other sectors without interfering in the radio frequency spectrum and other services.

Sir, I now come back to that point where the hon. Minister's Ministry was sitting over the file for one year when the All India Radio wanted to go in for F.M. Radio Paging Service without spending a single paise, because spare spectrum was already available with All India Radio and also Doordarshan for teletext.

The AIR would have been denied this but for the ministerial intervention. Here I would like to compliment my former colleague, Mr. Sukh Ram. He may be charged with anything but it was Mr. Sukh Ram who chaired the meeting and resolved it and within a month AIR was the first organisation in Asia to introduce FM radio paging. I do not know successful radio-paging of DOT is because I am yet to know about it. Therefore, one must allow freedom to expand. Same is the case with Space, Electronics, Defence and Home Ministry. Sir, you have been the Home Minister also. You know that for every little thing you have to go to the Wireless Adviser. Even for introducing DD-3 you have to go to the Wireless Adviser. So, everything is centralised. We are talking about the Sarkaria Commission, decentralisation, Panchayati Raj, Ram Rajya, Mahatma Gandhi's dream and Mr. Rajiv Gandhi's dream but we want to centralise everything, i.e. democratic centralism. Sir, the broadcasting is the most efficient means of delivering the mass communication. Pt. Nehru in 1954 while addressing the Allahabad University said, 'the only reason we missed the bus of industrial revolution is not because we did not have natural resources nor that we did not have human resources not that our intelligent quotient was inferior to American or Chinese or Japanese or the Germany but lack of communication and lack of infrastructure in media'. Germany and Japan have no internal resources. We were not devastated by the carpet bombings like in Ruhr of Germany, of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. We had a lot of sterling balance when the Britishers left. But today Germany and Japan by sheer

communication and application of technology have soared above all of us and we are behind even China now. May be, Pakistan and Bangladesh will over take us.

The broadcasting provides free messages to customers and has a simultaneous capacity to address the consumer selectively. It has abundant data capacity of both satellite and terrestrial mode of electronic media which can effectively be utilised to disseminate information, provide services like data broadcasting, teletext, tele-software, radio text and radio paging. Considering the advancements in broadcasting technology and capability of the broadcasting sector to provide additional services through its infrastructure, the electronic media should be allowed to utilise its infrastructure to provide value added service without seeking permission.

Sir, you would be very much aware that the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting had a plan to inter-link, interconnect and network all the libraries for the common man through Doordarshan which has the vast network of 17 regional channels. With the digital compression video technique it could have had 85 channels, but because they did not have budgetary support like Mr. Ram Vilas Paswan, they could not satisfy the whole country. You are also aware that all the agricultural universities and all the big hospitals were to be inter-linked and it would have gone to the common people. You could have used the NICNET terminal provided at every Collector's office in every district in this country. But all this will have to stop because the Department of Communication holds all the authority and the power. Along with power and authority, a greater degree of accountability and responsibility is also called for. Do we find it in this Regulatory Authority? What is the power of Parliament? What is the Parliamentary scrutiny? Judge, jury and the accused are one and one, *i.e.*, the Department of Communications.

They have a few Secretaries, Additional Secretaries, Joint Secretaries, Directors, Deputy Directors, and there are 52 officials in this pyramidal structure.

Sir, I recall, in 1984, the high-level Committee on Ex-Servicemen made some recommendations. In fact, one of the recommendations was to have an Ex-Servicemen Commission, like the National Commission on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, which should report to Parliament. But what happened was that an Additional Secretary, two Joint Secretaries and a pyramid came up in the Defence Ministry. Ex-Servicemen, have been forgotten even by Defence Ministry.

I will skip over this and come to the recommendations. What were the recommendations of this Expert Group? Many of the experts are still serving in Government and many of them are still Advisers to the Government.

SHRI ANIL BASU : But you are not suggesting how to get rid of these Secretaries and Additional Secretaries.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Who wants to get rid of them? Please do not do that. Russia, your mentor, is in trouble because they got rid of them.

The Expert Group is of the opinion that though the National Telecom Policy, 1994 announced by the Government of India aims at improving the telecommunication services in the country and make basic services available on demand by 1997 and expand value added services at a much faster rate, the implications of this on other users and service providers like the electronic media have not been given due consideration. Mr. Minister, Sir, I do hope that what I am reading is incorrect because it was observed in 1994. I hope, in the last three years, your Ministry, whether you were a Minister or not, have had the time and the occasion to consult them. The advancement in broadcast technology to provide information, data broadcasting, value added services have also not been taken into consideration.

Sir, kindly do not press the bell. I have five or six amendments. I am coming to the amendments now because I want to clarify my position. It is a very important Bill and it is going to touch everybody's life. It is not just an ordinary piece of legislation, it is a very important piece of legislation. That is why, no matter whether it was Shri Narasimha Rao's Government or Shri Deve Gowda's Government, both thought it fit to bring in ordinances. So, they are common in their appreciation for this.

The technologies are fast developing and the convergence of telecom broadcasting is becoming a reality with digital techniques aided with computers. Mr. Minister, you will be happy to know that my distinguished predecessor, Shri Upendra, had also written to Shri V.P. Singh saying that Information and Broadcasting Ministry should be wound up—Information should be with Home and Broadcasting should be with Communications. As his poorest successor, I also had an occasion to write to my Prime Minister. It may be worth seeing whether the Department of Communications or the Ministry of Telecommunications could do a better job of broadcasting.

The radio frequencies spectrum can be moved efficiently and can be used to provide value added services through broadcasting media. Therefore, the Telecommunication Policy should also mention that the value added services in any other sector could also be provided by effectively utilising the allocated broadcast spectrum, which I have been elaborating earlier.

The Telecom Regulatory Authority should be a statutory body and formed by an act of legislation so that the decision of the TRAI may not be challenged in courts. I welcome this suggestion, which the hon. Minister has taken care of in this legislation. Further, this should be the one and only regulatory body, and not with DG (Telegraphs) as a parallel

[Shri K.P. Singh Deo]

body. In the present Regulatory Authority, you have kept the 1885 Wireless Act and the DG (Telegraphs), which again is a parallel body. Notwithstanding anything in this, it will not affect his functioning. Mr. Minister, you will have two authorities doing the same thing. There will be duplication, may be, sometimes, at cross purposes. Ultimately,

[Translation]

you are the regulatory authority.

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : It is one only.

[English]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : There should be one Regulatory Authority and that is what we want. It should be either the TRAI or it should be the DG (Telegraphs).

[Translation]

At the time of reply. You please clarify it.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He will reply but first you should conclude.

[English]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Do you want me to sit down?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please carry on.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : You have been our senior under officer in the Navy. If you ask me, I will sit down immediately.

Sir, the TRAI should also be vested with licensing powers besides the regulatory functions. It has been stated further :

"The structure and composition of the TRAI should include members from other sectors like one full-time member in the Broadcasting, six ex-officio members from Information and Broadcasting, Defence, Railways, Civil Aviation, Home, DoT and Electronics. The Heads of Telecommunications in organisations like the Electronic media, Defence, Railways and Civil Aviation should also be considered to get appointed as Chairman and members. The restriction in appointment of Chairman and members saying that the Chairperson should have served as the Secretary to the Government of India is self-denial and nothing else. It is to leave out of consideration some of the best talents available in the country in this field."

We are only confining ourselves to a segment which may be brilliant. The Secretaries and the Additional Secretaries are brilliant people. But that does not mean that

they are the only brilliant people. Today, there are equally brilliant people outside the Government and the Public Sector undertakings. Some of them are enriching the other countries like America, Germany, the United Kingdom, Australia and Canada. Some of them are Senators. They are also Indians. Some people, who were not even considered fit to be Laboratory Assistants, got the Nobel Prize going there. For instance, I can cite the names of Dr. Har Gobind Khurana, Dr. Jayant Narlekar and Dr. Chandrashekhar.

It further says :—

"The Secretariat should be of small size with maximum usage of the modern infrastructure like computers and telecommunication services. And, in order to attract best talents, the personnel to be appointed with the Secretariat should preferably be either on deputation or on contract agreement from Government Organisation, Public Sector through open advertisement.

A Legal Cell should also be a part of the Telecom Authority directly reporting to the Chairman. The Wireless Planning and Coordination Cell which has responsibility of spectrum allocation for the various users of communication should be directly under the control of the TRAI. But the Telecom Regulatory Authority should report to the Prime Minister and Parliament preferably through the Ministry of Communications."

These are the suggestions from the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. In the absence of a proper forum for public grievances and consumer grievances, an Ombudsman or a Lokpal like authority was suggested. If the hon. Minister satisfies us that he has taken care of all these things, we will be extremely happy in supporting this measure in the full sense of the term.

I will come to my amendments later. That is why I have brought forward some amendments. I will move them at the appropriate time. But that was the reason for my bringing forward four or five amendments. I went at depth because I had a feeling that this Expert Committee Report probably was not brought to the attention of the hon. Minister. He has shown himself to be a dynamic Minister from the first day he has taken over the charge of this Ministry. I wish him well and I wish him all the best. I hope he takes into consideration all these points.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members, for this Bill, we have allotted one hour. But we have already taken almost two-and-a-half hours. There are three speakers.

... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Kindly bear with me for some time. Mr. Minister, how much time will you need?

[Translation]

SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA : Sir, I will complete my reply within the time given by you.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, I call Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (Chhapra) : Sir, I rise to speak an Telecom Regulatory Authority Bill. Sir, I generally prepare myself to speak on different matters discussed in the House but due to shortage of time I am deprived of the opportunity to speak. I would be very brief on this subject. Ours is a country of 90 crore people. We have been witnessing for the last five years that there are many areas in our country where even roads links are not available. In such areas telephone is a useful and simple means to connect the people. There is an English saying:—

[English]

"Information is power." Today, in our country, telecommunication and access to information is again a power and an awareness to the nation.

[Translation]

Sir, the main objective of this Telecom Regulatory Authority Bill, which is being discussed here today, is to make the Telecom Regulatory Authority as a watch dog. There are shortage of resources in the country and through this Bill efforts are being made to attract investment from private sector and with the help of that investment the Government would provide telecom facility in far flung rural areas of the country. We have such a vast country but even then we lack resources. I think the main objective of this Bill is that this department intends to come out of services sector and that is why so many hurdles are being shown in the activities of telecommunication department. Under this Telecom Authority private companies are coming to the country and this Authority would be there to have control or to maintain coordination or to provide customer services.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, yesterday, we were discussing National Environment Appellate Authority Bill under which the Chairperson would be a judge of Supreme Court and an IAS Officer would be the Vice-Chairman. Similar provision has been made in this Bill also that a judge of Supreme Court or High Court would be the Chairman of this Authority. The development works in all spheres are going on all over the world but we are adopting different attitude because in our Country only 2-3 categories of people are competent to do work. Here also you have given the highest post of the Authority to the sitting or retired judges of Supreme Court or High Court. If any commission is to be constituted a retired Judge is made the Chairman of that commission. We have a country of 90 crore people. At international level

different categories of people are there in different fields such as technocrats, Scientists, Doctors etc. but there seems to be no importance of them in this country. In our country either leaders are important or judges affiliated to politicians are important and in between executive class is also there. Besides these three categories no other people have any role to play in our country.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it seems to me that we need judges only to save and protect our constitution and after that if they get time we have created such posts for them so that this country may run smoothly. Therefore, Sir, we have to think about it. There are many other eminent persons having specialisation in different fields who are also competent to do the job. Many such Bills have been enacted here and many more will be enacted but in spite of change in the Governments such provision will remain there. Shri K.P. Singh Deo has been Information and Broadcasting Minister and he has analysed this Bill in relation to other Departments also. I would like to raise a very minor issue. I know that the hon. Minister is new one in this department. I can comment on his working because I know his working style. Even then I would say that when he took over the charge of this department it was full of controversies. Under that circumstances it was difficult for him to work there. But now I feel that in such a short time he would have established his full control over it and now he would be in a position to deliver goods. One target was fixed after he took over the charge. At that time there was a talk about Telecom Regulatory Authority. Foreign investment has started increasing and cellular Services in telecom has also been introduced. It is but natural that revenue receipt has also increased. We have fixed a target. It was 7.5 million in 8th Plan and now it has been decided to increase it to 10 million. I think our capacity has reached around 15.8 million lines. In 8th Five year plan telephone service has been provided in 3,60,000 villages. After that it was decided that every village would be linked with telephone service all over the country by the end of 1997. Probably it would not be achieved because of the shortage of funds. You have been a political worker so you might be knowing that 3 or 4 telephone connections are taken in one house in different names. In connivance with the department when they have a telephone bill of more than Rs. 1.5 lakh or 2 lakh they get the telephones disconnected. In this way lakhs of rupees are outstanding against high officials and big companies. There was a statement of the hon. Minister that the recovery of Rs. 2000 crore is outstanding. The Government should take some stringent action to check such things. Besides that the Government's intention should not be to do business. The Government should look after the management, generate resources and take decisions about policy formulations as to how much investment would be made in rural sector to provide telephone facility. Your want to develop the rural areas. I have drawn the attention of the hon. Minister towards the rate applicable in rural areas.

{Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy}

There are HDCC and HRCC concepts in subdivisions. For example Sonpur is 20 Km away Patna. They treat it under local exchange but two sub divisions between two blocks come under STD system which is hardly 10 km from there. That should also be treated as local calls. Such rationalisation should be done all over the country. I think this Telecom Regulatory Authority Bill is a commendable step. There may be certain drawbacks in it but the hon. Minister has to pay special attention to ensure that there is least political interference in its working. It has also not been defined as to what would be its relations with the Department of Telecommunications and what would be the functions of the department and who would have upper hand between the two. There is possibility of having conflicts between the two. So there is need to pay attention to this problem also. I would like to say about rural telephones that the telephone connections which I have given from MP quota in July last have not yet been installed because materials are not available. I am surprised to know that money is paid to the Store Incharge of the Office of Chief General Manager Patna for getting telephone sets issued. If you want to get 3000 telephone sets, then you have to pay Rs. 10 per set to the Incharge of the store.

If the employee of the department comes to the Office of the General Manager for telephone sets or wires he has to pay to the department for the same. The money is collected from the consumers. They would make the consumer run for 10 days for his work and also apprise him of the difficulty coming in the way of installing the telephone instrument. Attention should be paid to all these things. In a vast country like that of ours we want to strengthen the communication system in the country. Particularly for a person like that of the hon. Minister this is no doubt an arduous job. Through this Telephone Regulatory Authority we want to mobilise more resources and utilise them by inviting the foreign companies. At the same time it should be our effort to provide better facilities through telephones in the rural areas at a reasonably cheaper rate. With this request I conclude.

SHRI P. NAMGYAL (Ladakh) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would not speak much. The spirit of this Telecom Regulatory Authority Bill is good. But after going through the list of Members who are likely to be appointed for this purpose, I do not think that the Bill can be implemented effectively by the Government. The rules governing the appointment of the Chairman and Members of the authority state that the Chairman should be a retired judge of the Supreme Court or a High Court. In the same way qualifications for the members have also been prescribed. Another Bill called the Environmental Authority Bill was also introduced yesterday. It also contained the provisions to appoint retired Judges to the authority. I share the views of Shri K.P. Singh Deo in this regard that it is a play to

rehabilitate retired persons. It is a type of human 'goshala' whether the persons belong to the judiciary service or any other service, the Government have evolved a method to rehabilitate them.

[English]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (Dausa) : There is no retirement age in politics. So, we can talk about it.

[Translation]

SHRI P. NAMGYAL : There should be no scope for politicians in such bodies, because in several such bodies M.Ps are also associated. But this authority is an office of profit. As such no M.P. or Member of any state legislature could become the Member of this authority. It is a technical department. Science has advanced a lot in this age. As such persons with such a background should be taken in such an authority who can make some contribution to it. The qualifications prescribed for various posts in the authority do not provide any scope to persons from science side or telecommunication engineering for appointment to the posts. It should not be fixed that this person to hold the post should have the status of an Additional Secretary. If this is done, the body to be constituted by the Government cannot be run smoothly.

With the constitution of such a body, there is no doubt that major cities and metropolitan cities will be benefited. But attention should be paid to rural areas, tribal areas and hilly areas where communication is an important aspect of life. During the Summer days when floods occur in tribal areas, road communication comes to a close. Similarly during winter days road communication is blocked due to snowfall. There are many such rural areas also. How the Government are going to cater to their requirements. I want that one such provision should be made in this Bill. The authority should be given directives to specially provide telephone facilities in this rural areas. There should be plans to install small exchanges in hilly and rural areas. But the department confines its operation to areas adjacent to cities only for conducting surveys and the villages remain neglected. When Shri Sukh Ram, who is a Member of this House even now, was the communication Minister, he did a good job for Himachal Pradesh, but work in other areas was not done on the expected lines.

Mr. Minister, I would request you not do such a thing. Many remote areas in the country viz. the Andamans and Nicobar Islands, Daman and Diu, Nagaland, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh and Ladakh areas are cut off from the main land for want of communication facilities. Preference should be given to such areas. Here there is no such problem. Here we have road transport, rail, air. But such facilities are not available in those areas.

I would, therefore, request the hon. Minister to give us an assurance to the above effect. The authority would definitely be constituted. The spirit of the Bill is good, but one assurance I would seek from the hon. Minister that he

would consider the case of areas I mentioned now. With these few words, I support the Bill with the condition that due consideration would be given to remote areas.

[English]

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL (Beed) : Sir, telecommunication is one of the important media while we are entering the 21st Century. In my opinion, this medium should be very strong and faultless. At present, we should think for ourselves whether this medium is up to the mark. At least the people from the rural and backward areas will have to answer in the negative.

I belong to an area called 'Marathwada' in Maharashtra. My district is known as a district of migrants. Every year three to four lakhs of people migrate from my district to Karnataka, Goa and other parts of Maharashtra. They are all labourers engaged in sugarcane cutting. When these labourers are away, the only way for them to have contact with their people in their villages is telecommunication. But unfortunately, the telecommunication system in our rural areas is so bad that it is easier for them to contact their people in person rather than through the telephone.

Previously, every *gram panchayat* was given one tower telephone, which still stand dead in most of the villages. Nearly ninety per cent of the *gram panchayat* telephones are dead. Secondly, many villages have asked for new telephone exchanges. They have already paid their contributions to the Department of Telecommunications. But the Department gives the usual answer: 'The C-DoT machinery has not come from the Central Government. So, we cannot provide new telephone exchanges.' The existing telephone exchanges are not in working condition. The new telephone exchanges, in telephonic language, are 'in a queue'. This is the ground reality in the field of telecommunications in our rural areas.

In the world of telecommunication, video conferencing is the latest one. Through telecommunication, one can not only hear but can also see while speaking. In the megacity, Mumbai, this video conferencing is coming up very fast. This video conferencing is very much important for the medical treatment also. Today, even by sitting in Delhi, our Prime Minister, Shri Deve Gowda, could have addressed the *Raila* in Bihar, via video conferencing.

The point which I like to make is, the Government should provide ISDN lines for video conferencing so that this technique comes up broadly.

I appreciate the Department of Telecommunication for the other reason. As the hon. Member rightly said, we are demanding 33 per cent reservation for women in Parliament and State Assemblies. But without a Resolution or a Bill, in this Department, already more than 33 per cent of women are employed

I support this Bill of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India. But the suggestions of all the hon. Members should be considered.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Sir, my name was also there in the list.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Your name is there.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : If my name is there. Please allow me to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Your name alone is not there. There are other names also.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Sir, my name was there in the official list.

MR. CHAIRMAN : There are 4 names in the official list.

...(Interruptions)

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Sir, I should be allowed to speak. I would like to make a submission in regard to my state. There was a proposal to give depots to private parties. It has not yet been implemented. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Nalanda) : I would not make a speech. I only want to make a few queries.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I should also be allowed to speak. I want to say about my area.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right. You will also be given time. Why are you so disturbed?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards sub-clause 3 of section 11 of the Bill. It states that :

[English]

"While discharging its functions under sub-section (1), the Authority shall not act against the interest of the sovereignty and integrity of India, the security of the State, friendly relations with foreign States, public order, decency or morality."

[Translations]

Further in section 25, he has mentioned the same thing. But something also has been written here. I am happy that this thing has been written here. Who will take a decision about the definition as to which is a thing of decency and

[Shri George Fernandes]

which is a matter of public morality? Particularly then when it comes to national security. I had raised this both in the House and outside when the question of handing over telecom work to foreigners was raised. The hon. Minister should explain his views in the House as to how he is going to take a decision in this regard.

Secondly, I would like to draw his attention to clause 30(3) at page No. 5 of the Bill.

[English]

"The Central Government may, from time to time, issue to the Authority such directions as it may think necessary in the interest of the sovereignty and integrity of India, the security of the State, friendly relations with foreign States, public order, decency or morality."

[Translation]

We take it granted that till date there has been no transparency in India. We proceed with the perception that there is no transparency worth the name in any department concerning public life. There was the Secrets Act. The laws were there. There obstructions were caused by the bureaucracy. They do every thing to hide a thing. When the Government clearly states that there would be transparency, what suggestions to they have to translate it into action. If this is not clear, it will lead to skirmishes. The bureaucracy will tell the Government.

[English]

Sir, this does not come under it.

[Translation]

We will force the Government to explain to us as to how they come to such a conclusion. As such I want to know as to what prompted the Government to make such a provision in the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is the last point.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : No, there are two more points, which are most relevant. The third one relates to accounts.

[English]

"That Central Government, may after due appropriation made by Parliament by law in this behalf, make to the Authority grants of such sums of money as are required to pay salaries and allowances payable to the Chairperson and the members and the administrative expenses."

[Translation]

Are you to draw upon the Consolidated Fund or something else. If it is to be from the Consolidated Fund, then why did not you clearly stated so? It would be better to say so clearly.

[English]

"After due appropriation made by Parliament by law in this behalf." But all appropriations are made by law.

[Translation]

But it is better to make it clear that the funds would flow from the Consolidated Fund. In Section 21 it has been stated:

[English]

You will constitute a Fund to be called as the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India General Fund.

[Translation]

After drawing from the Consolidated Fund they are putting the money into this. True, that is controversial also. It has been stated further that apart from grants in this Fund, as the preceding clause 21 talks of grants, the following clause 22 speaks of grants, fees and charges, now the point is where they have put in the power relating to fees and charges. I cannot see it anywhere. I have gone through the entire Bill, not deeply though. But I cannot see where they are going to raise the fees and charges from. It needs to be explained. They are going to draw money but it is not at all clear wherefrom? The last two points do not exceed one sentence each. I draw attention to clause 31 which says:

[English]

"Where an offence under this Act has been committed by any Department of Government, the Head of the Department shall be deemed to be guilty of the offence and shall be liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly unless he proves that the offence was committed without his knowledge or that he exercised all due diligence to prevent the commission of such offence."

[Translation]

Further it has been provided therein to punish the person who actually committed the offence without the knowledge of the Head of the Department. My question is that they have provided that if any offence has been committed by a person subordinate to him, such person will be open to the charge. They have provided nothing regarding punishment to be given. Nonetheless, punishment will certainly be given. But suppose, the officer superior to the departmental head

gives unwritten order to the latter, as is the usual practice in the Government, offences are usually got done through others. Ministers as well as the higher officers indulge in this practice, although I am sure the present Minister will not give such unwritten orders. But there may be someone either junior to him or someone else sitting by his side. What remedy is contemplated to any such orders in future.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, under this law, in the case of a departmental head who may have to undergo imprisonment or pay penalty for a wrong he might have committed at the behest of his superior, no protection has been provided. In the last sentence it says :

[English]

"That Authority shall not be liable to pay Wealth Tax, Income-Tax or any other tax in respect of their wealth, income, profits or gains derived."

[Translation]

When they are going to create a fund, realise levy and charges, how come they have exempted themselves (i.e. the Authority) from paying wealth tax, income tax, income profit and gains. If they make profits, earn money, amass property, they should be liable to pay as other companies pay to the Government. Theretore, a wrong provision has been made because being a mere Authority, what will it do with the money in its hands. Related to it is 33. This is my last sentence.

[English]

"The Authority may, by general or special order in writing . . ."

[Translation]

And there is a most dangerous provision here. Mr. Chairman, you may also please listen to it

[English]

"The Authority may, by general or special order in writing, delegate to any member, officer of the Authority or any person subject to such conditions, if any, as may be specified in the order, such of its powers and functions under this Act (except the power to settle dispute under Chapter IV and to make regulation under section 36) as it may deem necessary."

[Translations]

So, they are contemplating to give what type of rights and to whom, whether to any department of the government, any private contractors, any new corporation, that is to say they have prepared the ground for breeding their own

children in it. They may be contractors, insiders or outsiders. We would also like to hear something clear on it from the Minister.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to make only two-three points to you. While I heartily welcome the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Bill, 1997, I would like to point out in this context that the private companies likely to step in in the wake of liberalisation and get contract or licences etc., will be much interested in urban services which will fetch them huge earnings, but in the rural areas they have been given only 10 per cent of work and in case they fail to complete even that much of work, then I would like to request the hon. Minister through you to mention in his reply that all the private companies to be regulated by the Authority will be kept under control, so far the whole responsibility in this regard both for cities as well as villages lay with the D.T.O to whom we could also say something. How much control will be exercised by the Authority on these private companies so that they may be able to cater to the needs of the rural areas alongwith those of the urban areas and provide telephone connections to the consumers within the scheduled time limit as per the promises of the Government. This may please be clarified.

Firstly, I would like to caution the Govt. that as it is unlikely to exercise control over the private companies, they may not honour their commitments later. Then the countryside will be neglected and the present pitiable condition of the villages is hardly unknown to the Government. When the National Telecom Policy was formulated, if the consumers were required to deposit Rs. 1000 each, the people, the farmers and well-to-do persons in the rural areas deposited the requisite amount. People deposited the amount in groups of 10, 12, 15, 16, 25, or 30 from every place more than three or even four years ago. The Telecom Department requires at least 15 requisitions for telephone connections to provide a Telephone Exchange. But even after fulfilling that requirement, no Exchange has been set up so far. The Govt. may please clarify the position at least to some extent in this regard.

Secondly, the telephones have increased quantity-wise, but quality-wise the trend is downward. While we have had enough of extension of services, the number of employees, engineers, officers and linemen has not at all increased in the same proportion resulting in continuous deterioration in the services. Formerly the posts and telegraph services were regarded as most efficient, one used to get response instantly on phone, but now-a-days what happens many-a-time is that the bell keeps ringing at the other end or there is engage- tone or you are told that you are in the queue and the net result is when you make a complaint in disappointment, all you are told after two or three days is that your complaint was not received. One is unable to get even the complaint number. An authority is in the making for that purpose but as it relates to his (the Minister's) department, he owes to clarify the position somewhat.

[Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat]

There is a most significant issue. The company to which the Rajasthan circle was to be entrusted under the liberalisation and with which the Government was in conversation and holding meetings etc., has gone to the court and the circle has not been entrusted to it so far, with the result that Rajasthan which already lags far behind other states in telecommunication, is likely to become even more backward in this field. By which time this situation is likely to improve, by when finalisation is likely to be done and how do the government contemplate to take assurances etc. from the companies to work within set limits?

ITI's was the first telephone industry, public sector undertaking of the country set up in Bangalore, Kamataka, but instead of taking from that we are taking from other companies on the pretext of getting at cheaper rates, and such companies are being encouraged without any regard to our own national security and considering any other aspects.

16.00 hrs.

We should pay our attention to the deteriorating financial condition of that national undertaking. Thousands of workers are working there, machinery worth crores of rupees is lying there, what will happen to that. Therefore, the Minister should attend to that also. Regarding putting up poles in the countryside, they are not put up at all for as much time as five years even when 15-16 persons apply together and the department has charged at the rate of Rs. 1000 from each of them. They are then told that the job would involve vast expenditure which the department cannot bear. If the department is unable to bear the expenses, then on what basis the money is accepted from them. Our colleague Col. Rao Ram Singh spoke of the MARR system. MARR system was introduced earlier. It was put up on the notice board of the Panchayat headquarters that in case the Sarpanch may be unwilling to take the system, any shopkeeper or moneyed person can take the same. Batteries and machineries are lying out of order. A project on solar energy is also being commissioned. How the system will work in cloudy weather and under other such conditions.

16.01 hrs.

[Col. RAO RAM SINGH *in the Chair*]

When we, the M.Ps visit rural areas, maximum complaint we receive from people is about telephones. Special attention should be paid to this. The machinery should be changed in order to make improvements in the system that has been installed in the Panchayat headquarters. The persons who are guilty should be punished after conducting an inquiry into it. At the same time it should be modernised so that the villagers could avail of its benefits.

As per the orders of C.G.M., Jaipur 12 officers working in my Parliamentary constituency, Ajmer were transferred to other T.D.M in the name of promotion. Their replacements have not yet joined duty. Digging is on for laying new lines. Cables have been laid. A new exchange with a capacity of 5000 lines is being set up. Cross-bar is a separate issue. In such a situation if there will be no officers how the officials will work in the T.D.M. and other areas. How connections will be given to persons within the stipulated time whose number has come.

There is constant deterioration in the telephone services. Special measure should be taken to improve its standard. You yourself come from the rural areas. You are a son of the soil. You can very well understand the situation prevailing there. Full attention should be paid to this. Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Bill has been brought in the House after having been duly considered in the Parliamentary Standing Committee. In order to see that the body to be constituted functions as an independent body, a Judge of the Supreme Court or High Court should be taken as its Chairman. This will help the body function effectively and do something. The other 5-6 members could be from the telecom sector, financial sector or persons from management. This should be the constitution of the Body. A Supreme court Judge must be appointed as its Chairman. The provision of restriction on officers that they would not be considered for entry in this service unless they complete 2-3 years after retirement is good.

We will, no doubt, pass this Bill together, but special attention should be paid to services which are deteriorating.

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah) : Sir, our distinguished colleague, Shri Kalpnath Rai, has been convicted yesterday. I am not questioning the judgment of the Court. I only appeal that he is an independent Member. He does not belong to any party. The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs must contact his family and enquire whether he needs any support or any legal help to appeal to the Supreme Court. It is a duty of the House to defend a colleague till the order of the highest Court is received.

I request the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to contact his family and to render all assistance to him. That is my plea.

[Translation]

SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to all those Hon. Members who participated in the discussion on much awaited TRAI Bill and made valuable suggestions in this regard. It is our solemn duty to make suggestions and the Hon. Members fulfilled this duty. They have also welcomed the spirit of the Bill.

First of all objections were raised against issuance of an ordinance. I am also one of them who is not in favour of issuing ordinances, because a good part of my life has been spent in opposition benches. I am new to this place. Though I am a Minister, I am the juniormost Minister. Several hon. Members expressed their views on this Bill.

SHRI G.L. KANAUIA (Kheri) : It is necessary that attention should be paid to rural areas.

SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA : Let me speak. Thereafter, you can raise your objections and ask for clarifications.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not interrupt the Minister.

*[Translation]*

SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA : I had the opportunity to serve the State Legislative Assembly for some decades both as a member of opposition and also as a member of the Council of Ministers. I was never in favour of Ayodhya. Running the Government by Ordinances can never be a healthy tradition. There have been lengthy discussions in the House since the present Lok Sabha was constituted. I have also gone through the entire text of 'Kaul and Shakdhar'.

Sir, it has been said that the new telecom policy was adopted in 1994 and the Regulatory Board was also constituted alongwith the same. I agree to the objection raised by hon. Member. Shri Bhargava in the beginning. There was a proposal to constitute a non-statutory body and it was adopted by the Lok Sabha. The Rajya Sabha offered its own suggestion with regard to the Statutory Body. The first ordinance was issued in 1996. The second one was issued in March and our Government came to power in June. We allowed the earlier ordinance to lapse and introduced the constitution of the Body as a Bill in July. The recommendations of the Standing Committee were issued in November. The Government considered the recommendations. There were some difficulties for us in this regard. We also said publically that we will not issue any ordinance and introduce the Bill in the House direct. But certain difficulties that crept in compelled us to issue the ordinance without which the department would have suffered losses. The recommendations were received in November and we issued the ordinance in January under compelling circumstances. Had the ordinance not been issued stay would have been granted by the court in respect of basic cellular tariff fixed by us and the matter would not have been referred to TRAI. We issued the ordinance under very compelling circumstances. I am personally opposed to issuing ordinances. The Government should very sparingly use its ordinance issuing power. As has been objected to by Shri Bhargava regarding issuing ordinance, my explanation will be that. I myself am not in favour of Ordinance. No Government should issue more number of ordinances for the conduct of its business.

All the hon. Members have almost supported this Bill. Of course, the hon. Members complained as to why the recommendations of the Standing Committee were not accepted. Out of the 30 recommendations of the Standing Committee, we have almost accepted 25 recommendations. We have not been able to accept the remaining 5 recommendations due to some legal and practical difficulties. One of these major recommendations which related to Chairman of the Selection Board has not been accepted by us. It had been recommended that the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court should be made its Chairman. The other members would comprise the Speaker of Lok Sabha, the Union Communication Minister and the Leader of Opposition. Today also I heard such a discussion. There can be no consultation of the Selection Board which has the Chief Justice of India as its Chairman. The opinion of the Board will be short of concurrence and we have provided a very limited scope for it. We have made a limited scope for a sitting and serving Chief Justice of a High Court, sitting and serving Justice of the Supreme Court to become its Chairperson. We did not consider it necessary to have a major selection board for this purpose and the Government which represents the majority of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha should not be looked with suspicion. There is no need to look the Parliamentary democracy with suspicion. We are the elected representatives and the Government represents the majority of such representatives. If it is given any authority, it is quite democratic under the present circumstances, we consider it more healthy and it will prove to be better than the selection Board if our Government or any other Government uses the limited scope to appoint a sitting or serving Judge as the Chairperson. ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Sir, there cannot be any transparency in it. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA : There will be justice in it. Suppose that we take a serving judge, we have to take the opinion of the Chief Justice if a retired Judge is taken, our views will do. If a serving Judge is taken, opinion of the Chief Justice will have to be taken. There was very limited scope in it. As such with due regard to the Standing Committee we could not include this recommendation. About the appointment of the member of the Authority, the recommendation was that members should be appointed with the recommendation of the Chairperson. We did not accept this recommendation also. We reserved the right of appointing the Members with the Government itself. We understand that the hon. Members would agree to it.

The Committee had also recommended that an appeal to the decision of the Regulatory Body should only be made in the Supreme Court. We are of the view that any appeal in this regard should first be made in a High Court and thereafter in the Supreme Court which is the proper legal avenue. If one goes to Supreme Court direct and the verdict

[Shri Beni Prasad Varma]

is not in his favour, then there is no value. Therefore, we gave the option that first it will be decided in the High court and then in the Supreme Court. We have not at all accepted the 5th recommendation which related to fully empowering the Authority to fix the telecom rates. It was there, but we have amended that Parliament would have the right to amend the rates that have been fixed by the Authority. Parliament is supreme and it should be vested with all rights. It has been provided that whatever 'enable report' will be there, it will be tabled in the Parliament. Once tabled in the Parliament, it cannot override its decision. As such we considered it necessary that it should be defined separately whether the tariff fixed by the Authority can be amended by Parliament or not. It is not required to be defined here. Parliament being supreme in our Parliamentary democracy, it can discuss their Annual Report when it is laid. It can also make any amendments thereto. Nothing is above Parliament in our Constitution.

Therefore, we have not accepted these five recommendations, we have almost accepted 25 recommendations. Therefore I think this Bill is delayed, no doubt, but it is a very comprehensive Bill. Whatever suggestions about the Bill have been given by all our colleagues, are almost in the nature of support-cum-suggestions. But certainly complaints have been received by us regarding the present services from the people as well as Members of Parliament. We too hail from areas, condition-wise akin to the ones where others hail from. We too are agreed that the rural services are not satisfactory. But under the proposed regulatory body, there is provision for punishment to those who will be found responsible for deterioration in governmental services. Some of our Hon'ble Members expressed their apprehension that there will now be two bodies, one will be DOT and the other a regulatory body. DOT will come under the purview of this regulatory body. They will also be liable to punishment. DOT will have the status of a private operator. It will be subject to the same set of rules as will apply to the private operators. Therefore we do hope that the fear of law may perhaps increase and it is the intention of us all that services must improve, they will certainly improve which will be only proper.

People coming from abroad to see us ask whether or not we have a regulatory body in our country because there are only few countries in the world which do not have such a body. Everywhere a regulatory body precedes liberalisation, while in our country the process having already begun, regulatory body is yet to come into being. This is a much delayed Bill, its introduction will have global repercussions on the present policy of liberalisation in telecommunications. The ordinance that has already been issued also has had its effect. At last one private operator has already signed the agreement as also deposited the

licence fee. Thus we can say that though it is a delayed Bill, it is a most essential body about which we all have been putting our heads together. Some Hon'ble Members have said that the term of five years provided for the Chairperson will be rather too long. But whatever we have done is on the basis of the recommendations of the standing committee. Some Hon'ble Members have also said that the age limit of 65 years is too much and it should be lowered. In the previous Bill we had kept it at 62 years but now we have made it 65 years on the recommendation of the standing committee. It is proper for the reason that the retirement age of a Supreme-Court judge is 65 years. Therefore, we may have difficulty in lowering it down to 62 years.

As far as the questions raised by one of our Hon'ble leaders Shri George Fernandes regarding transparency, it is submitted that the Government is yet to frame rules and the proposed body will make its own regulations. Appreciating your sentiments we will be asking them to try to incorporate the spirit of your sentiments while making their regulations. Whatever Shri George has said regarding clause 11 (i) relating to power of imposing fees and other charges, has in fact been taken care of. This sum will go to the TRAI fund, the sums taken from the Consolidated Fund will go to this fund to meet the authorised expenses of the Authority. The amounts of money paid into the Consolidated Fund are raised through taxes. Funds will be provided to TRAI by Parliament out of that Fund.

Wealth tax cannot be imposed on such type of properties. Therefore, it contains no provision to levy taxes.

In the same vein Mr. George spoke of the sovereignty and integrity of India also, saying that it has not been defined. There is no need to define it separately. Its definition can be traced in Article 19 of the Constitution of India where it has been defined in the same spirit with which we have put it here.

Sir, some Hon'ble Members have expressed their apprehension that the retired. ...*(Interruptions)* let me speak out first. You are very senior, have been our leader. I have not yielded yet.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : I am not interrupting you.

SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA : Some of our Hon'ble Members have said that it should not be necessary to employ retired officers for the job. ...*(Interruptions)* We consider him a senior leader. He has been our leader. We learnt politics from him. We have always raised slogans of 'long live George' all through our life. It pains us to see him sitting by their side today.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I would request the hon. Minister to carry on with his reply. Do not interact to every comment made by the hon. members. Carry on with your reply.

[Translation]

SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA : Some of our hon. Members had expressed apprehensions that through it retired officers will be sort of re-employed. This point was raised particularly by our hon. Member Shri P. Namgyal who articulated his apprehension to this. There was certainly lacunae when the ordinance was issued. Now the Bill has been corrected. Qualifications have been prescribed for the officers and three years' experience is also essential for Secretary and Additional Secretary. Apart from officers, outsiders like people from consumer affairs and others have also been associated with it. Other people can also be put on it. There is no provision to keep only officers. Apart from officers, specialists from elsewhere can also be made its Members.

SHRI P. NAMGYAL : The qualifications prescribed for becoming a Member, are prohibitive to the entry of people on this body other than retired officers.

SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA : I have made this point clear. People other than retired officers can also come on the body. It has a provision that consent will be taken. True that all of you were not agreed on the ordinance which was issued. It provides for having a retired Chief justice of a High Court, Chairman and two other personnel. They will not be officers. The ordinance which was issued earlier did contain a provision to this effect.

[English]

In the Ordinance, it is not less than two and not more than four.

[Translation]

The number was increased subsequently.

[English]

Not less than two and not more than six.

[Translation]

By doing so, we enlarged its scope.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA (Alwar) : They might have enlarged the scope but whether they have changed the qualification also?

SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA : We have changed not just the qualification but enlarged its scope also. We tried

to see that no lacunae is left. Improvement and progress is a continuing process. We all are here. We can make any amendment at any time. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, please do not interrupt. Please sit down?

... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do not interrupt. Will you please sit down and not interrupt.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : Yes, I am sitting. But I am only asking a question.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not enter into an argument with the Chair. Please do not interrupt.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : I am not entering into an argument with the Chair. It is only a submission. ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Will you please stop interrupting?

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : Mr. Chairman, it is only a submission. ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do not force me to take an unpleasant action. Do not interrupt.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : I have already stopped.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I must say that I expect a senior Member like Shri Nawal Kishore Sharma to show a greater sense of discipline.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : Agreed. No dispute.

[Translation]

SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, hon. Members have spoken of giving priority to the backward regions. That is our priority also and I will try to see that these priorities may further increase. Unless honest efforts are made to develop backward areas in this country, we will not be able to raise our country to the world levels despite our countless pretensions here to that effect. It is now 50 years since the country attained freedom. If the country was to make progress, it would have made it soon after that. I hail from an undeveloped region where miserable

[Shri Beni Prasad Varma]

conditions prevail. Apart from it, there are provinces like Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Bengal and Orissa whose population constitutes half of that of the whole of India, but they are lagging far behind in the pace of development. A telecom authority is needed for that. Everything is being done to that end. This is related to providing the facility which was intended to be provided by New Telecom Policy framed by the previous government. It will be impossible to move the whole country toward progress by merely expanding the telecom facility. What is needed is our economic development and improvement in social conditions. The level of our thinking should improve. Cultural changes should also be brought about. Only then the Telecom will come to play the role of a companion. The responsibility for it lies on our shoulders and we will try to shoulder it as honestly as we can. We are sorry that even while being in power, we have not been able to improve the telephone system in rural areas as much as was needed.

The objections raised by hon. Members during Question hour in this House in recent days were correct and I agree with them. That is why this system has been introduced and the entire financial and technical lacunae noticed since then have been entrusted to C.B.I. for investigation. The officers of our department had intimated us that 70 per cent telephones were working while 30 per cent were out of order. Soon after that there was furore in the House. We will reply accordingly as our officers report us. In our democracy the Minister has to reply and there is no better way than this. We cannot ignore this. That created suspicion in your minds and we ourselves were suspicious. Therefore we ordered for an independent investigation. Our department has nothing to do in it. What we have ordered is regarding whether the information given by our officers that seventy per cent telephones are working well, is correct or not? After all the House has its dignity. Our Parliamentary system is going down, we have to take it upwards so that the country may become strong and we may prove to be a healthy democracy in the world. It is necessary. We wish that our country may also move ahead of all others in the matter of development. It is possible only when we adopt a system of a healthy democracy.

[English]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Which independent agency is going into this inquiry?

[Translation]

SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA : We have placed an order with a Hyderabad company, but there has been no selection in it.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : How much time would the Hon. Minister take to reply?

[Translation]

SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA : I have tried my level best to resolve the queries of the hon. Members. The entire House has supported the Telecom Regulatory Authority. I am thankful to all the Members who have supported it and with these words I would like to appeal to them that they should pass this much awaited Bill unanimously.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : The hon. Minister has given a very categorical reply. I welcome it. He has admitted that the telephones in villages are not working properly. What has been done to rectify the position? By when will these telephones be set right. I am your ardent follower. Once again I request you to clarify by when the telephones in villages will be set right.

Secondly, it was stated that 1,85,137 telephones would be installed soon. By when will these phones be installed? The hon. Minister may take a pretext that the equipments are not good and therefore he is not in a position to install them. Sukh Ramji has done lot of irregularities. But you should not fear anyone because you used to sit on this side of the House. It will not make much of a difference. Therefore please say ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Girdhari Lal ji please speak on the subject only.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : All the roads in Jaipur have been dug up. I would like to ask whether the OBs issued till 31st March 1997 will be cleared or will they remain dead after some period?

The hon. Minister has admitted that the Telephone Advisory Committee has not been set up so far. It has neither been set up at the State level nor at the Centre. Shri Rajesh Pilot knew me well and therefore had recommended my name for this committee and I was a Member. I would like to know the time by which the names of the MPs would be sent for the State Committee and for District Committees? You had asked for the details of the people who are traders or businessmen and have been recommended on these Committees. I would have to go into the details. If I give the name of one Advocate or Doctor others would get angry. This is not the right time for that as the elections would be held shortly. You should believe me.

SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA : Which Elections are you talking about?

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : I am talking about the Lok Sabha Elections. It will not be in your interest if things are complicated. This Government will not last long as it is constituted of 15 parties ... (Interruptions) Please sit down. Whenever Shri Ram Sagar speaks I mistake him for Shri Mulayam Singh ji. He resembles him so much.

The hon. Minister must state the time by which these Committees will be set up. Which private company has been awarded the contract in Rajasthan. You should clarify the position. Please give me the facts. If you say this I would withdraw my resolution.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Minister, would you like to say anything?

... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NAIK (Mumbai North) : He did not request him to withdraw the Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we did not think it proper to dissolve the TAC committee which already existed. Their tenure is for two years and when that tenure will be over we will gradually constitute the Committee. It is for the first time that we have asked for suggestions to nominate Members from each Party ... (Interruptions) If we have not said this earlier, I give this assurance here in the House. There is a PCO committee. Earlier there were nominated members from the Government. We have decided that there will be no Government nominee and instead hon. Members will be its Members. This body will decide the criteria of STD booth allotment. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Mr. Chairman Sir, when this scheme of allotting PCO was launched, we had decided that PCO would be allotted on first-come-first-serve basis depending on the capacity of the exchange and it would be near about 10-15 per cent of the capacity of that particular exchange. We believe that formation of such Committees have generally led to more corruption. This Committee should be disbanded. The PCOs should be allotted on first-come-first-serve basis only. We had also given priority to unemployed handicapped graduates also.

SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA : That is still there.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : But the PCO committee that was constituted during the time of Sukh Ramji should be dismantled.

SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA : That was there during that time. But now only the MPs will be there. This would help in controlling the Officers. ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Girdhari Lalji have you got satisfactory reply?

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Hon. Minister, Sir, you have asked for names but you have not kept the MPs in it.

MR. CHAIRMAN : That was the case earlier. Now the hon. Minister has said that the MPs would be its member.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : In the PCO committee the MPs would not be a member. Shri Rajesh Pilot ji has rightly said that this committee should be dissolved. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether Telephone Advisory Committee would be set up soon and in which cities would it be set up first.

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is not related to the Telephone Regulatory Authority subject.

SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA : We will consider his suggestions.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : If the hon. Minister says then I will withdraw my resolution.

SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA : Bhargava ji I have said so much and it all means that you should withdraw your resolution.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I withdraw my Bill in view of the request of the hon. Minister and the House.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Has the hon. Member leave of the House to withdraw his Resolution?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

*The Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the establishment of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India to regulate the telecommunication services, and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill"

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 2 was added to the Bill.*

**Clause 3—Establishment and Incorporation of Authority**

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Sir, I beg to move:

"Page 2, line 40,—

*for "six members," substitute—*

*"ten members out of which five shall be women members." (1)*

Sir, in spite of the hon. Minister's reply, I am not satisfied because performers cannot be evaluators themselves. As I said in my original statement here, the accused is the jury as well as the judge. The user—Ministries like Defence, Home and Space who give the transponders have not been consulted till today. The previous Government in 1994 had not consulted them and this Government has repeated it.

Now it is the same Ministry of Communications who will be sitting on judgment on their own lapses. Here, the question of national security and integrity comes. I say this on personal knowledge because there was no representation from either the Ministry of Defence or the Ministry of Home Affairs. The court at that time forced the Ministries of Defence and Home as well as the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting to cooperate with a foreign television company to give uplink facility from here and the Ministry of Communications had recommended it and it is the judiciary which forced us. After one and a half years, the Supreme Court turned it down, but also put a stipulation that airwaves are public property. Therefore, I am neither convinced that only a bunch of officers from the Ministry of Communications can safeguard the integrity and sovereignty of the country and nor can they look at the interests of the Ministries of Defence, Electronics, Space, Home and Information and Broadcasting, etc.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Minister, would you like to say something or shall I put it to the vote?

*[Translation]*

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : So far the apprehensions expressed by the hon. Member I would like to say that all the concerned departments are consulted for preparing such a Bill. As per the procedure, the cabinet passes a Bill only when it is drafted comprehensively after consulting all the concerned departments.

*[English]*

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : The Ministry of Communications will be on the dock. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : At this stage, there is no discussion allowed on the amendment. It has to be put to vote.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Sir, I would like to press for a vote.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, I shall put Amendment No. 1 to clause 3 moved by Shri K.P. Singh Deo to vote.

*The amendment No. 1 was put and negatived.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is:

"That clause 3 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 3 was added to the Bill.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is:

"That clause 4 stand part of the Bill"

*The Motion was adopted.*

*Clause 4 was added to the Bill.*

**Clause 5**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri K.P. Singh Deo, are you moving your amendment?

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Sir, after the reply of the hon. Minister I am not moving my amendment.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is:

"That clause 5 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 5 was added to the Bill.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clauses 6 to 17 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 6 to 17 were added to the Bill.*

**Clause 18—Appeal to High Court**

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : I beg to move:

Page 7, line 34,—

*for "thirty days," substitute "forty-five days" (3)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I shall now put amendment No. 3 to clause 18 moved by Shri K.P. Singh Deo to vote.

*The amendment No. 3 was put and negatived.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is:

"That clause 18 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 18 was added to the Bill.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is:

"That clause 19 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 19 was added to the Bill.*

**Clause 20—Penalty for wilful failure to comply with orders of Authority or High Court**

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Sir, I beg to move:

Page 7, line 46,—

for "one lakh" substitute "fifty thousand" (4)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I think it is in order to keep the Treasury Benches a bit alert!

... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NAIK : No Sir. He is getting acclimatised to work really as an Opposition M.P. ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I shall now put amendment No. 4 to Clause 20 moved by Shri K.P. Singh Deo to vote.

*The amendment No. 4 was put and negatived.*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh) : Sir, the 'Ayes' have it. I demand a division.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : Sir, the 'Noes' have it. ... (Interruptions).

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Sir, the 'Ayes' have it.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Sir, please do not keep mum. I am not going to be persuaded by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Sir, only the amendment will be passed. The Government will not fall. ... (Interruptions).

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Sir, the Minister all the time remains absent from the House. I am not going to be persuaded by him. ... (Interruptions) How can I be persuaded by him?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Nitish Kumar, you have all rights to demand a division. But you should have demanded it before I negatived the amendment.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : No Sir. The demand has been made as per the rules.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : I asked for division in time.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You were just late by ten seconds.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : No sir. How can one demand a division before you have declared? Only when you have stated that the 'Noes have it' then we can demand a division.... (Interruptions) I cannot possibly ask for a division before you have said 'Noes have it'.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Sir, How can I know your mind? How can I demand a division before you have stated anything? ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are as well aware of the general feeling of the House as I am. You saw the general feeling. At that time the Treasury Benches have said it loudly. They were shouting the loudest at that time.

... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is.

"That clause 20 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 20 was added to the Bill.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is:

"That clauses 21 to 40 stand part of the Bill."

*The Motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 21 to 40 were added to the Bill.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is:

"That clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title stand part of the Bill".

*The Motion was adopted.*

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.*

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : Chairman, Sir, I move "that the Bill be passed."

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

[English]

16.50 hrs.

**STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE : DISAPPROVAL OF NATIONAL HIGHWAYS LAWS (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE— 1997**

AND

**NATIONAL HIGHWAYS LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL—1997**

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Speaker had given a ruling that item number 32 would be taken up after item number 19. So, we are now taking up National Highways Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1997.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Hon'ble Chairman Sir, I move:—

"That this House disapproves the National Highways Laws (Amendment) Ordinance 1997 (No. 9 of 1997) promulgated by the President on 24 January 1997."

Chairman Sir, I am making my submissions before you regarding National Highways Laws (Amendment) Ordinance. I oppose this Ordinance in the same manner as I have opposed earlier ordinances. Chairman Sir, who is the Minister Incharge so far as this ordinance is concerned. ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Bhargava ji, even after one year you are not able to recognise the Minister. He is sitting in the corner.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : My submission is that the Government should stop this practice of issuing ordinances. I oppose this ordinance but I support the spirit of the Bill. I do not oppose the spirit of the Bill in any manner. Such things can be taken care of at the time of taking up the Bill for clause by clause consideration. You should not issue the ordinances. In this regard, I would only submit that this Session commenced on 20 December and it came to an end on 24 January. Issuing 13 ordinances in this small period in not something good on the part of the Government keeping in view the old age of His Excellency the President of India. Jena ji it is not good on your part. God will never pardon you. Of course we can pardon you but it is not good to trouble the President of India again and again

You issued only one Ordinance during the last session but you have issued 13 ordinances between 20 December and 24 January

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam) : You are opposing every statutory resolution. What is its solution?

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : It is because of my fate. Please sit down. I would add your name also.

SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH (Meerut) : Chairman Sir, My name is mentioned against item no. 15 of the List of Business. Hon'ble Deputy-Speaker has announced in the morning that item Nos. 16 and 17 would be taken later and item No 18 and 19 would be taken first. Since item Nos. 18 and 19 have been disposed of, what is the position of item Nos. 16 and 17.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon'ble Speaker had announced after the question hour while sitting in the morning that the Reserve Bank of India Bill would be taken up tomorrow. Perhaps you were not present in the House at that time. He had made an announcement to this effect.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : My submission is that Ordinances should not be issued like this. You will appreciate that road transport is the major mode of transport. It has been stated in statement of objects and reasons that the present length of the National Highway is 34,298 kms which is 2 per cent of the total road network. 40 per cent traffic passes through the National Highway. Similarly, the number of vehicles have also increased to 80 times in comparison to the year 1991 that means this has increased 5 times. So more National Highways should be constructed. It has been mentioned that contract would be given to the private companies and even foreign contractors who would construct the National Highways and royalty would be charged from them after constructing the Highway. Hon'ble Minister has not mentioned anywhere in the ordinance as to what amount of this royalty would be charged from these companies. They will charge Rs. 2 or 4 or 5 per truck. Nowhere it has been mentioned as to what amount would be charged in the form of royalty.

Similarly you have yourself admitted that capacity is inadequate, payment is weak, quality of driving is poor, bridges are old and outdated and there are no overbridges on the railway crossings. Saying all this you have demanded only Rs. 75000 crores but no budgetary provisions have been made. He has talked of Rs. 75000 crores and he has not said anything about the amount of compensation to be paid to those whose land will be required for this purpose. Nothing has been said about all these things. Land would be made available to him and he would start the work.

Now I come to the original question. I said in the very beginning that I oppose this ordinance. You must have framed the rules because it has been mentioned in the ordinance that rules will be laid on the table of the House immediately after these are framed. Hon'ble Minister, Sir what are those rules? When you could not frame the rules then what was the need to issue the ordinance and if at all ordinance is issued you must have taken some action, some land must have been acquired and some private companies might have approached to you for constructing the road because lot of time from January to March has elapsed since the issue of this ordinance on 20 December. Neither any company approached you nor any land has been acquired nor any rules have been framed then what was the need to issue the ordinance. You should have directly brought the bill before the Parliament. This is my submission. If you have framed any rules please show me a copy of those rules. Hon'ble Minister is sitting here. He has no copy of the rules with him. From where this amount of Rs. 75000 will be provided tell me. A provision of Rs. 52080 crores only have been made in the budget for the year 1997-98

You please tell us as to from where this amount of Rs 75000 crore would come and from where the remaining

amount would be provided. Please tell us about all these things?

What are your proposals regarding private companies? What would be charged from the public? You have not said any thing about all these things. I mean how much land would be acquired? Notices to how many parties have been sent? After saying all these things my submission is that the condition of the roads is pitiable. At present four lane road is being constructed between Jaipur and Delhi, between Jaipur and Ahmedabad, between Jaipur, Kota and Mumbai and between Bharatpur, Agra and Lucknow. I do not know about others but I know about Rajasthan that it has maximum number of National Highways. Other states have less number of Highways in comparison to Rajasthan but Rajasthan is provided less funds for repair of National Highways. More funds are provided to the states of Haryana, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and other states where you have Chief Ministers of your choice. You provide them maximum funds but not to Rajasthan for repairing its Highways. ... (Interruptions) I have already said. Might be Madhya Pradesh also getting less funds.

Soon after crossing Dharuhera from here and on entering Rajasthan border you will find Rajasthan written there and your vehicle would start giving hissing sound. That means Rajasthan has come. We feel as if we are travelling on camel's back. Same is the condition near the midway also. You must consider the condition of your Highway. Lot of pits are there. No body knows in which pit the bus would fall, whether it would reach at the destination or not, it would reach Jaipur or not, this all depends on the mercy of God and not yours. You must consider this aspect and provide more funds to Rajasthan in comparison to other states because Rajasthan has maximum highways as per your figures. Hence Rajasthan should be given more and more funds this is what I want to submit.

17.00 hrs.

In the context of express highway I would say that Hon'ble Minister might have conducted foreign travels. He might have visited England and America. These people say that vehicles run at a speed of 130 kilometres per hour but here vehicles cannot be run at a speed of 50 kilometers per hour. I think the vehicles run there with fast speed because of better condition of roads. It is not possible here. This is the plight of India. I am not talking about any state highway or District highway. I am talking about National highways. Recently there was a decision of the High Court that the width of the road would be 80 feet. There will be divider in the middle. The moment the High Court delivered its judgment you started demolishing the houses. You please accompany me. I will take you by the roadways. While going you will see that there are Dhabas, restaurants and Pacca Cement Houses constructed on both the sides of the national highways. You did not demolish them earlier but now you are demolishing these. It is also a national loss. Therefore you must also consider about these Dhabas,

restaurants and Pacca Cement houses constructed on the National Highways.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have submitted very important points. Now please conclude.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Sir I am just concluding. Under this Bill people have no right to go to any court. Atleast a provision of right to appeal should be made in the Bill. A Central Road fund was there. The hon. Minister should inform as to how much amount is there in the fund and how much has been spent. In case any truck overturns on a National Highway, it remains there for even more than two days, as a result of which the entire traffic of the highway remain disrupted. Earlier this matter was discussed here and it was told that police posts would be constructed on national highways at a distance of every 20 or 30 km. Where crane and Ambulance would be made available. In case of any accident the vehicle would be removed immediately but till now no such steps have been taken by the Government.

17.02 hrs.

[SHRI NITISH KUMAR *in the Chair*]

The hon. Minister should think about it and bring a Bill to this effect before the House. I am not opposing this Bill but I am opposing the Government's attitude to issue ordinances time and again. The Government has issued this ordinance so it should inform the House as to how many roads have been acquired, how much payment has been made and how much toll tax has been collected during these last six months. I am opposing this ordinance because the Government has become habitual of issuing ordinances every now and then. I hope the hon. Minister would reply my points. Sir, I thank you for giving me time to speak.

17.04 hrs.

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the National Highways Act, 1956 and the National Highways Authority of India Act, 1988, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration".

Sir, I am thankful to the senior Member who has made all the points and also stated his strong and violent objection—if I can put it without any violence to the language—for bringing this ordinance. But in sum and substance, he is not against the Bill. I am thankful to him for that averment.

As regards the points which he has stated, I would like to submit that to alleviate all those difficulties, I am coming before this House to have this Bill passed.

The senior Member wanted to know whether I have visited any foreign country. So far, I have not had any opportunity to visit any foreign country, but if the Government gives me an opportunity, I will go and come back. Fortunately

[Shri T.G. Venkatraman]

or unfortunately, so far, I have not made any foreign trip. I am able to get the hon. Member's viewpoint and I have also got some knowledge about how the roads are being kept. The Member also enlightened me on this aspect. Keeping that in view, I am now bringing this Bill and this will ensure that India also will have such roads of international standard.

It is the wish of those hon. Members, who came to me, that a single lane should be made into a double lane, and a double lane into a four-lane road. Everybody is aware, and I am telling for the past nine months that there is a financial crunch and all that. After the announcement in the Budget, there is some relief. I bring in this Bill now because you want a single lane to be made into a double lane, a double lane to be made into a four-lane, and a four-lane to be made into a six-lane road. For this expansion, what I am going to take, after all, is not 10 acres or 40 acres or 50 acres, but a mere three metres or either side of the road. So, I am going to take only about six metres and it is not going to affect anybody. As per the provisions in the Bill you might have seen it, I am going to compensate in the form of a reasonable price, that is, at the market value. Therefore, there is nothing strange in this.

It was relevantly pointed out that the Bill is a taboo for those people who are not going to the courts. I must say here that it is the main bottleneck. The judicial officers just say one word 'stay' and the entire project is delayed for years together. I have got the list with me and if the Members want it, I can give that list. For example, five or ten or fifteen years ago, a scheme would have been approved and the allocation would also have been made, but because of a small hitch—for a small piece of land, the concerned person would have gone to the local *Munsif* Court or he would have approached the higher Court and got a 'stay order' or 'injunction'—the stay order would be in operation for ever and, therefore, we could not proceed ahead.

So, in order to relieve that bottleneck, I am bringing in this Bill. As rightly pointed out by the senior Member, so far, we have covered only 34,290 kilometres. The national highways network constitutes about 2 per cent of the total road length in our country and it is carrying over 40 per cent of the total traffic.

It is not as though I am giving you any new information, and I would only request your indulgence. After receiving all your suggestions, I will be able to substantiate and satisfy you all. At this point of time, the need of the hour is to make single lanes into double lanes, double lanes into four-lanes and four-lanes into six-lanes. As I had already submitted, what I am going to take is only three metres on either side of the road. It is not going to affect any major property holder or any individual.

By way of introduction, I only wish to say that it is on the lines of the Metro Railway Construction Act, 1978. There is nothing strange in this or anything that you do not know. Therefore, I request that the Bill be taken into consideration.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motions Moved:

"That this House disapproves of the National Highways Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 1997 (No. 9 of 1997) promulgated by the President on January 24, 1997."

"That the Bill further to amend the National Highways Act, 1956 and the National Highways Authority of India Act, 1988, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR (Mangalore) : Respected Chairman, Sir, the National Highways Laws (Amendment) Bill will have to be welcomed with some reservations. In the past 50 years, if you see the behaviour and conduct of the various Governments, there has been a total neglect of this basic infrastructure.

Sir, even the Statement of Objects and Reasons in the present Bill says:

"In order to create an environment to promote private investments in national highways, to speed up construction of highways and to remove bottlenecks in their proper management, it is considered necessary to amend the National Highways Act and also the National Highways Authority of India Act."

So, the main intention behind this is to create an environment for promoting private investment. As I have said, the roads are one of the basic infrastructures for the development of the nation. How the successive Governments have totally neglected this sector could be seen with the data which I am presently going to submit before you.

The total public sector plan investment regarding roads has gradually declined from the First Five Year plan up to the Eighth Five Year plan. During the First Five Year Plan period, the investment for this road sector was 6.9 per cent and it has gradually declined to three per cent during the Eighth Five Year Plan. In our country, we have a total road network covering about 2.7 million Kms. which consist of not only national highways but also State highways, the major district roads, the *kutchra* roads, the Panchayat roads etc. Out of this, as was pointed out by the hon. Minister, the total length of the national highway network currently is only 34,298 Kms. It does not even form two per cent of the total road network in our country. On the other hand, as was rightly pointed out, the national highways carry about 40 per cent of the goods and passenger traffic. With the present conditions of the roads, how is it possible to maintain this at least? So, there is a very strong case for improving

the quality as also the capacity of the national highways. The quality and the capacity of the national highways will have to be enhanced consistent with the traffic expansion and also the overall economic growth of the country.

Sir, I have some statistics. But I do not want to dwell at length. I would just like to bring to the notice of the House only a few points for the benefit of the hon. Members so that all of us can come together collectively and have a positive thinking as to how more and more investment could be attracted to this sector and how the quantity as well as the capacity of the total road network, specifically the national highways could be improved.

The traffic movement on the highways is suffering from frequent stop-overs as almost 20 per cent of even the national highways is still single-lane roads. We have very little national highways out of which 20 per cent is just single-lane roads. Then, 75 per cent of the State highways is also single-lane roads. The problem even in respect of the national highways is further complicated by the inadequate road facility, pavements, thickness, poor riding quality, existence of a number of railway level crossings, weak and distressed bridges and culverts, congested city sections, lack of wayside amenities and also inadequate road safety measures. All this has contributed to safety hazards and also raising the cost of transportation.

It is estimated that augmentation of the capacity of the existing national highways is required by upgrading the existing structures. Twenty per cent of the national highways need widening of roads from single to double lanes; fifty per cent of the two-lane roads need to be strengthened and 36 per cent of the existing two-lane roads are to be converted into four-lane roads. I fully agree with you and at the same time, I sympathise with the Government that they require a lot of money.

We must not forget at the same time that the Government has, all along, been giving a step-motherly treatment to the expansion of the road network, for the up-keeping of the existing national highways as also other roads. An estimate was made as to how much of investment is required in the ten years from 1996 to 2006. A study was made about it and a great anxiety was expressed saying that the investment for this sector had gradually declined. Some measures have been recommended which are worth consideration by the Government.

Firstly, super national highways are to be constructed, by-passes and spot improvements are to be taken up through the help of private sector. The Parliament would authorise the Government to attract more and more private investments by making this amendment so that they can instill confidence in the minds of the investors. They can participate in the nation-building activity by creating or strengthening the basic infrastructure.

A Highway Infrastructure Savings Scheme be set up on the pattern of the National Savings Scheme. This is one of the very valuable suggestions that has been made. Does the Government have the will, courage and determination to do that? Can they think of setting up an Infrastructure Savings Scheme?

Then a substantial portion of the revenue from the taxes, specially, on motor vehicles and fuel for the transport be earmarked for road development. Now it is a sorry state of affairs. Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava was mentioning about the Central Road Fund. As we know, the main contribution to the Central Road Fund comes from the levy that was charged on the sale of petrol and diesel. And the money so collected would be distributed among the States and the Union Territories as per the consumption estimated by different States and the Union Territories. But, all along, the Government have closed their eyes. They have never spent the money which is collected out of the levy that was charged on the petroleum products. A very meagre portion of the revenue collected by levying of excise duty and the sales tax on the spare parts like tyres etc., motor vehicles, is invested in the road sector.

Another valuable suggestion has been made about setting up of a Road Board to ensure coordinated development of trunk road system. I do not know whether the present National Highways Authority is having the same powers which are demanded of it.

It is recommended that a Highway Policy be prepared and adopted by the Government. I do not know, whether the Government has the policy at all in this regard. Otherwise, this could not have been the sorry state of affairs of our total road network.

Then, four laning of some of the existing highways be done through the toll road method.

Now, nobody prevents them. In fact, this House has authorized the Government long before to levy toll for the usage of the roads. But I am at a loss to understand, why the Government is not serious in implementing the provisions of that Act. I have, in the past also, raised this issue. I understand, the Government is not able to finalize the rules which would enable them to collect the toll. There has been a dispute between the Surface Transport Ministry and the Finance Ministry, whether a separate fund will have to be created and this money be credited to that fund or it should be credited to the general budgetary allocation that would be made for the Surface Transport Ministry. So far, with this dispute prevailing, the Minister is not in a position to implement the provisions. He is not able to exercise the rights which are vested in his hands. We would like to strengthen your hands, Mr. Minister, but I do not know whether you will be able to implement it.

[Shri V. Dhananjaya Kumar]

SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN : The Bill should have the will.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : There is no use of amending the Acts unless you have the will and courage to execute the powers which are given.

First of all, you must have a political will also. Now, doubts have been expressed how long will the Government survive. But the Government as such, is a continuing entity. This party or that party may be in power, that is a different aspect.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR (Bangalore South) : The Bill should have the will. That is all.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Sir, one more recommendation has been made that comprehensive guidelines and procedures will have to be laid down for approval of private sector projects. During the earlier regime, we saw a very big advertisement given in the newspapers that we were going to construct super national highways connecting all the important cities in the country, namely, from Delhi even upto Bangalore or Trivandrum, Delhi to Chennai, Delhi to Calcutta, Delhi to Mumbai; and some very attractive names were given to those super national highways, viz., 'Mahavira' etc., etc. So many other names were given, I do not recall them. What I mean to say is that full page advertisements were given in all the national dailies in this regard. But I do not know, what has happened to that. Could it not instill confidence in the minds of the private parties who are supposed to come forward to make the investments or whether still the bureaucracy is coming in the way of attracting that kind of investments.

Sir, this being the situation, I would only try to pin-point the plight of my State of Karnataka and with that I am going to conclude my speech. In Karnataka, during the past 25 years—I am really pained to say—whatever proposals had been sent by the State Governments, were kept in cold storage. During 1970–71, the total length of the national highways, that was existing in Karnataka, was 1269 kilometres. In 1994–95, it was increased to 1996 kilometres. That is all! My learned senior colleague and the Minister, Shri Bommai, is just nodding his head. While he was the Chief Minister, I know that whenever an occasion arose, he used to come to Delhi. He would hold meetings with the Surface Transport Minister and he would also hold meetings with the Prime Minister.

We have been, all along, pleading that we have enough capacity to contribute to our share. You please prepare a plan.

You please permit us so that this State Highway will be converted into a National Highway. Of course, we know it will be done in stages. It will be done only gradually. The moment you declare one State Highway as a National Highway, the total upgradation of the State Highway will not

take place. It will take some time. But at least you must have the will and the guts to take a decision that this much length of the road will be converted into National Highway and this will be improved and upgraded over a period of time. Even that decision is not being taken.

One survey says that by the turn of this century, that is, by 2000 AD, Karnataka must have a total length of 3000 kms. of National Highway. Otherwise Karnataka will be reckoned with either Uttar Pradesh or Bihar as one of the most backward States. Shri Rajesh pilot knows that when he was the Surface Transport Minister, all along we had been making this demand. We were saying that Karnataka has the potential, Karnataka is on the path of growth and we want to grow further. That is why I would make an earnest request to the hon. Minister not to wait only for this amendment. Through this amendment you want to acquire some more land. You want that the moment you issue a notice, whichever land is required for either widening the existing roads or for laying a new National Highway, that land is deemed to have been vested with the Authority. I do not know why this kind of an amendment is required at all. As it is made out, it is only to circumvent the provisions of the Land Acquisition Act. Even as per the existing provisions of the Land Acquisition Act, nobody can challenge the motive behind the acquisition, the only condition being that the land which is sought to be acquired will have to be used for the specific purpose for which it is being acquired. That is all. The owner of the land has the right only to challenge the compensation part of it. If the compensation award is not sufficient, then he can challenge that and ask for more compensation through the courts of law. Otherwise he does not have the right to question the motive behind the acquisition.

Anyway the Ministry thought it fit that they must have more powers. The moment they issue the notice, automatically the land should vest with the Ministry, so that immediately they can start constructing or widening the roads. We welcome this.

I would like to make only one request to the hon. Minister. They have a plan to widen the existing National Highways, to convert some of them from two-lane to four-lane roads. They have made a mention about the main National Highways between Delhi and Mumbai and between Delhi and Chennai. Please take into consideration the National Highway No. 17 running from Kanyakumari to Mumbai. This is one of the very very important roads. There have been a number of road accidents specially in my District, the Dakshina Kannada District, between Mangalore and Baidur. National Highway No. 17 requires immediate widening and sufficient land is already available there. You do not require issuing even further acquisition notice also. You have plenty of land there. Please take this request into consideration. The other National Highway which is the shortest one running between Mangalore and Bangalore is

connecting the State capital. Mangalore is the only major port city in the whole of Karnataka and Bangalore is the State Capital. National Highway No. 17 is connecting these two important cities. This requires to be widened.

**MR. CHAIRMAN :** We are not discussing the Surface Transport Ministry's Budget.

**SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR :** But this is the only occasion we get to discuss this. As you know, we will not get an opportunity to discuss the Demands of that Ministry at all. That is why I thought it fit that I would make my request to the hon. Minister whenever I get the opportunity to do so.

With these suggestions, I would once again request the hon. Minister to kindly take a decision today with a strong determination and a strong will to proceed with the proposals which we have made and try to attract more and more investments in the road sector so that we can really go on the path of development by improving the basic infrastructure.

**SHRI RAJESH PILOT :** Mr. Chairman, Sir, I stand to support this amendment and I bring back the attention of the House to 1988 when I move this National Highways Authority Bill.

Before the National Highways Authority came into existence, the procedure was that whatever money we gave from the Central Budget used to go to the States and the State PWDs used to look after the maintenance and construction of national highways. Whenever we asked them why some money has been spent or has not been spent or why the roads were bad, as the hon. Member has said, the answer used to be, 'we will look into it'. There was no accountability to the Central Government on the money sent to the State Governments. But when I thought of this idea of constituting a National Highways Authority, there were a lot of objections from the State Governments. Nobody was caring for NHA. Every State Government was opposing it. At that time, in Karnataka, Shri H.D. Deve Gowda was the Minister-in charge of PWD and Shri S.R. Bommai was the Chief Minister. At that time, everybody wanted PWD to be the wholesale authority.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have been to your State. I have gone to Bihar to attend some function at Patna. After the function, I told them, 'I am in a hurry; I have to go to the airport soon'. They said, 'We will take you through a bypass, which is a national highway'. I told them that that would be better and they took me through a bypass. Believe me, it was worse than a rural road. I said, 'Am I on a national highway or on a rural road?' They told me that it was the bypass of national highway so and so. I reached the airport. When I came back, I rang up the Secretary of my Department and called him over. I said, 'If this is the way we are keeping our national highways, I think, we are

dumping our money in this way.' Then, we wrote to all the Chief Ministers. We held a meeting of all the Chief Ministers and pleaded for a National Highway Authority. We thought of this problem at that time itself.

Whenever we acquire land, we have to acquire it from the State Government. The hon. Minister is very correct in saying that these problems do come. But Shri V. Dhananjaya Kumar may not agree with me when I say that sometimes the problems are so much that some portions of a national highway are not built and the rest of the portions are built up by the Department. This is a very important necessity. We could not bring this up at that time as there were many objections from every State Government. So, I support this Bill.

Any Minister who heads this Department has to speak this language as my colleague has spoken today. This is because of shortage of funds. In 1985, when I became the Minister-in charge of this Department, the total length was 32,000-odd kilometres. Whatever has been added has been added during this period. After that, not a single kilometre has been added because of paucity of funds. So, I would like to request the hon. Minister to do that. We had passed a legislation in Parliament that five per cent of the cess of fuel must go to the road. I think, he would be able to get it done. Otherwise, roads will never be improved and funds will not be available. This was a Resolution passed by both Houses of Parliament. We got it passed by both the Houses. Now, he must insist on that. Till now, we have not been able to do it. It is mentioned in the Motor Vehicles Act; it is not something new that is being asked for.

The road sector has been neglected. As my colleague, Shri Kumar, has said, the rate of investment has come down from 6.9 per cent to 3 per cent during the Eighth Five Year Plan.

**SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR :** We should make the State Governments also to invest more from the motor vehicles tax that they collect.

**SHRI RAJESH PILOT :** As far as the national highways are concerned, the total responsibility is that of the Central Government. You have said that we can do it if we have the will power to do it. We must have the money. If we do not have the money, we cannot produce results.

The second point on which I would make a request to the hon. Minister is in respect of construction of roads. We can bring in a lot of mechanisation in construction of roads. It is very necessary. Otherwise, whatever amount is spent, would not be spent properly. This was initially to be done by the State Governments and now by the National Highways Authority. Somehow, I really cannot blame the present Government much because it was during our period from 1991-96 that this was to be done. This Bill was passed

[Shri Rajesh Pilot]

in 1988. We could not make it operational, I think, till 1993. We really took five years to make the National Highways Authority operational by appointing a Chairman and other officers. I have no heart to blame the hon. Minister, but now whatever has been done, if some steps could be taken on the mechanisation part of construction of roads, it would be good.

My next point is about transparency in the functioning of the National Highways Authority.

We had decided that even for pre-qualification tenders, there has to be a small committee because there is going to be a very large scale investment. Till such time the transparency is not there, the difficulties will come up. It was also said that many parties are not interested in coming to this national highways sector. So, some kind of attraction was thought over, like toll tax etc. We have decided that whenever such contracts are given, a small pre-qualification committee would look into and it would be so transparent that the whole nation could know that this Rs. 200 crore project or Rs. 300 crore project has been given to so and so with such and such yardstick.

The next point is about the patrolling of national highways. We know that many accidents take place on the national highways. Everyday we read in the newspaper about the accidents and non-availability of proper medical assistance. At that time we thought over two things. One was that for patrolling the national highways, we would take people on deputation. Second, talks could be held with the State Governments so that patrolling of national highways could be more effective. We had also given petrol pumps on priority basis on the yardstick of wayside amenities. Medical aid could also be made available. Since the communication sector has improved so much now that could also be made available. So, it was a total package. National Highways Authority was a package so that when a person is travelling on the national highways, he is safe, smooth and is in contact with others.

I would like to appeal again to the hon. Minister that he must insist on this five per cent cess. Otherwise, the road sector will lag behind other sectors and we will not be able to improve the roads.

Normally, it is said that national highways are gateways of the country. You look at other countries, like Malaysia, you go to South-East countries, like Indonesia or you go even to a small country, like Philippines. Even in these countries, the national highways have improved very much. That is why the economy has also improved. It has got a direct link. Of course, I do not want to give a lecture on how good quality roads help in improving the economy.

A survey was done to find out how much we are losing due to bad quality of roads. When the roads are of bad

quality, fuel consumption is more and damages to tyre are also more. According to that survey, we are losing thousands of crores of rupees per year. Apart from this, safety of the people who are travelling is also in danger.

As our hon. colleague, Shri Dhananjaya Kumar has said, this must become totally operational and result oriented. A national highway should look like a national highway like in other countries.

With these words, I whole heartedly support this Bill.

SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY (Basirhat) : Sir, I would like to support the Bill which has been introduced by the hon. Minister. The hon. Minister has introduced this Bill with some objects. The main objects are to create an environment for promoting private investment in the national highway sector and to expedite the process of acquisition of land.

Sir, before entering into various provisions of the Bill, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the bad condition of the national highways. Throughout the country, the condition of the highways is very pathetic. People are avoiding travelling by buses because of the fact that buses ply through the national highways. So, I humbly submit before this House and request the hon. Minister to come forward and improve the condition of highways. At present the condition of the national highways throughout the country is very bad. At the time of the introduction of the Bill, the hon. Minister has told this House that there is no provision of courts because courts take long time to dispose of the cases and due to that people wait for years together for the disposal of cases. But in place of courts, there is a provision for a competent authority.

Who will be the competent authority, what will be the functions of the competent authority and the area or the jurisdiction—these things would be determined by the notification. I do not know what will be the position of the notification. There should be a fixed time limit to dispose of the matters which would be pending before the competent authority. There should be a provision in the Bill or in the Act so that the matter may be adjudicated or disposed of as quickly as possible.

There has to be a time limit for this because otherwise— if it is to function like a court—if an aggrieved person files a petition before the competent authority for redressal and relief, that may be pending for years and years. So, there should be a time limit and it should be specifically stated that within a stipulated period, the matter may be adjudicated.

I would also like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister and the august House towards the other provision of 'arbitrator.' A person aggrieved by the order of the competent authority would rush to the arbitrator. The arbitrator may be functioning like an appellate authority. I do not know who

will be the arbitrator. That will be decided by the Central Government by means of a notification. Why should there be only an arbitrator? Why can there not a Board of Arbitrators? At least a three member Board should be constituted. There is no such provision in the Bill and there is no fixed time limit.

There is another provision in the Bill which says that if anybody has not complied with the order of the competent authority or if anybody is reluctant to surrender the possession in favour of the competent authority or in favour of the Central Government, the Police Commissioner in the case of the Metropolitan Cities and the District Collector in the case of other places, will take the possession of the land. But there is no provision in this Bill which explains about the mode of recovery. There is no single word about this and there should be a definite assertion about this. There is no prescribed definition in this Bill as to who will be treated as 'possessor.' Will the person who is having the title be made as the possessor or will a person who is enjoying the adverse possession be made as the possessor? There is no specific mention about this in the Bill.

As the hon. Member Shri Rajesh Pilot has mentioned correctly, the fund should be increased for highway sector; and the Parliament should look into the matter. The condition of the highway sector is very pathetic. I urge upon the hon. Minister to come forward and take initiatives so that the fund to this sector may be increased.

Lastly, I would like to submit before the august House and to the attention of the hon. Minister, the condition of the highways which has been mentioned by the hon. Member who spoke earlier.

I hope the hon. Minister will come forward to look into the matter, take positive and suitable measures to improve the pathetic conditions of the highways. So, I again support this Bill which is introduced by the hon. Minister.

SHRI SUBRATA MUKHERJEE (Raiganj) : Respected Chairman, as I have nothing to say against this Bill, it may be treated that I support the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : If you have nothing to say against the Bill, you may support the Bill and take your seat so that other Members may speak.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : Sir, this is very unfair. Kindly permit him to stand up for some time. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SUBRATA MUKHERJEE : The peculiar conditions of the National Highways have come out in the statement

of the hon. Minister as well as in the speech of Shri Rajesh Pilot. In this connection, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to one point. We are now going through the process of liberalisation. We are inviting private and foreign investments and it is correlated with transportation. For any country, the economic condition depends on the condition of transportation. In our country, 80 per cent of transportation is dependent on roads. So, we should consider not only National Highways but also the total network of our roadways.

The peculiar conditions of our roads have already been stated by the hon. Minister. I would not like to repeat them. But I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister and especially the Ministry of Surface Transport towards a very specific case of National Highway Nos. 31 and 34 which are very important. Sir, perhaps National Highway No. 31 is running through your State also.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It runs through my Constituency also.

SHRI SUBRATA MUKHERJEE : A part of it is running through North Bengal. After independence, North Bengal has been totally neglected and it has not been treated like South Bengal. So, it is neglected and called a backward area. Both the National Highway Nos. 31 and 34 are not only important but they are busy also. They are not properly maintained due to lack of proper assistance to the State Government by the Central Government. Moreover, the total system of maintenance should be changed. This is my suggestion.

So far as North Bengal is concerned, after the rainy season, the Department does the finalisation of work process like tendering, scrutiny of quotations, etc. as a result of which, the work order comes out from the Department in the month of April or May, and the work is being done in the monsoon period. In North Bengal, there is heavy rainfall in the monsoon period. So, no fruitful results come out due to such work process. Therefore, the total system should be changed so that the work may be completed before the rainy season. By this way, roads can also be maintained.

Another important point is, National Highway Nos. 31 and 34 meet at Dalkola.

The traffic passes through a level-crossing at Dalkola, that is, through the broad gauge and metre-gauge main lines. The vehicles which pass through this road are detained there for hours together. A flyover over the level-crossing at Dalkola is urgently required. It is impossible for a State Government to construct a flyover on a National Highway. So, I request that the Department of Surface Transport and the Railway Board should come forward so that a flyover could be provided over that level-crossing.

[Shri Subrata Mukherjee]

I would also like to say about the Indo-Bangladesh border. The work on the highway is going on. So far as Indo-Pakistan border is concerned, there are lighting facilities. But on the Indo-Bangladesh border, there are no lighting facilities. So, I wanted to bring it to the notice of the Minister of Surface Transport that the work relating to provision of lighting of the road on the Indo-Bangladesh border should be taken up. With these words, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak.

SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL (Erandol) : Sir, the National Highways play a very important role in the development of the country. As it has been mentioned by many of my colleagues, the condition of the roads is very bad. Starting from the First Plan to the Eighth Plan, the growth aspect has not been at all attended to well. It has been totally stagnant during the last several years. As it was pointed out very rightly, 34,200 kms of National Highways contribute hardly two per cent to the total length of the roads in our country.

The development of National Highways, both in the sense of constructing new roads and in maintaining the existing roads, has been totally neglected. Because of such a situation, we find that the economy of our country has not been developing. On account of bad quality of the roads, both in regard to construction and maintenance, we find that there is a lot of corruption and the quality is not maintained. Moreover, it has to be done in time. You know it very well that a stitch in time saves nine. It is observed that according to this proverb, it has not been done in the case of our National Highways. It has already been pointed out by some of the speakers that because of bad roads, there are a lot of accidents and also more consumption of fuel.

On account of the bad roads, there are a lot of disadvantages in transportation of both the passenger as well as the goods traffic.

Sir, the statistics would show that day by day transportation of passenger traffic as well as goods traffic by roads is increasing. The investment that has been made for roads from the First Five Year Plan to the Eighth Five Year Plan has been on the decrease. The statistics clearly show that this aspect of roads has not at all been considered on a priority even though it is one of the important modes of development of the country.

Sir, acquisition of land would certainly hasten the improving and increasing the road network in the country. But I am really surprised to hear and I do not know also whether the acquisition proposal in one of the highways, namely, highway no. 4, from Mumbai to Bangalore, was for

the private land or for the land within the range of the road. This aspect needs to be clarified. I would like to request the hon. Minister to kindly clarify whether the private land would also have to be taken in order to compensate for the cost of roads.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude now.

SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL : Sir, I have already mentioned about the passenger and the goods traffic. The percentage in terms of goods traffic and passenger traffic in the year 1950-51 was 12 and 26 respectively. Now, in comparison, the percentage in terms of goods traffic and passenger traffic is 53 and 59 respectively. I think, if all the provisions of the Bill are implemented well and with a will, then it would certainly help in improving the road network in the country.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Should we continue with this now?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : Sir, it was suggested by the hon. Speaker that we should complete this Bill by six o'clock. From six o'clock onwards we could sit up to 10 o'clock for General Discussion on the Budget. I think, within another half-an-hour or an hour's time we would be able to pass the two Bills and would be able to take up the General Discussion on the Budget from 7 o'clock. In the meantime, I would like to bring to your notice that today the house would be sitting late and arrangements have been made for dinner for the hon. Members, the Presspersons and others also.

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN (Coochbehar) : Sir, thank you very much for giving me this chance.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No. I have not given you any chance. I have called the hon. Minister to reply to the debate. If we have to finish this within half an hour, how could I allow you?

... (Interruptions)

18.00 hrs.

SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN : Out of the discussion that has just been concluded, we could infer that there are no two opinions that there are bad roads. However, the Members also agree that it is not on my account but it is a part of an on-going process of which I am just an element. Now, the responsibility lies on my shoulders to answer the clarifications raised by the hon. Members.

I am glad that all the hon. Members have taken into consideration the laudable purpose behind which the Bill is brought before the august House. The Members wanted me to take note of certain points. My predecessor, the hon.

Minister, has also pointed out certain things. I wish to point out one important aspect on which I am still having discussion with the Cabinet. As the Members are aware, in this House as well as in the Rajya Sabha, we had a Half-an-hour discussion on having five per cent cess on diesel and petrol. After the discussion, I went to the Cabinet with a request that five per cent cess should be levied as on account of this I will be getting about Rs. 2000 crore per year in addition to the meagre Budgetary support. Hence, I will be able to maintain the affairs properly. I was under the impression that I could declare at least one State road as the National Highway.

The hon. Members have expressed concern saying that no proper allotment has been made to the States. I beg to submit that it is not as though we have any grievance with any State. The allocation is made according to their own subscription. As they are subscribing, they are taking it back. As has been mentioned by many hon. Members, there is no discrimination at all. The allotment is not made taking into consideration how big a State is. As per their contribution, they are taking it back. So, you cannot blame the Central Government saying that we have no accountability. I do not want to mention the names but there are certain States which are returning funds without using them. I do not want to disclose the names in the House.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Please disclose the names so that they are made aware that they have to spend the money allotted to them.

SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN : There are one or two such States. I told them that this is the fact. They went and clarified the position. They are now taking steps in this direction. I do not want to disclose it for this particular reason.

I am taking all steps available at my command. I am still pressing for the funds and I hope that with the support of all of you I will be able to get the fund and disburse it accordingly. I will rise to the occasion and do whatever is required. I assure the House that I will do my best for all the States. I also request that the amendments, given by the Members, may be withdrawn and the Bill be passed.

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN (Quilon) : I would like to seek one clarification regarding Sections 3C(1), 3C(2) and 3D concerning the objection, hearing and disposal of petition. No specific time is fixed in this regard. I would also like to know. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN : We will do it if it comes under the rules.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I shall now put the Statutory Resolution to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"That this House disapproves of the National Highways Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 1997 (No. 9 of 1997) promulgated by the President on January 24, 1997."

*The motion was negatived.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Bhargava, the train has left the platform. What can we do? You have missed the train. The House has negatived your Resolution. Nothing is possible now.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : At least for once, we should congratulate him for being kind to the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the National Highways Act, 1956 and the National Highways Authority of India act, 1988, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House shall now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clauses 2 to 10 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 2 to 10 were added to the Bill.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title stand part of the Bill.

*The Motion was adopted.*

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.*

SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN : I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is 6 o'clock. The hon. Speaker announced that the General Discussion on Budget would begin at 6 p.m. If you do not want to turn the discussion on the Budget into a farce, you should take it up now. The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is trying to convince me that this Bill

[Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee]

will be passed in 15 minutes. Have we ever had such an experience in the House? No Bill can be passed before two hours. I, therefore, suggest that either Budget discussion should be taken up now or it should not be taken up tonight at all.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let us try to pass it in half-an-hour. The Minister has submitted in the House and I have taken the sense of the House.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU (Rajapur) : What happens to the ruling of the Speaker in the House? ... (*Interruptions*)

18.08 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE : DISAPPROVAL  
OF LALIT KALA AKADAMI (TAKING OVER OF  
MANAGEMENT) ORDINANCE—1997

AND

LALIT KALA AKADAMI (TAKING OVER OF  
MANAGEMENT) BILL—1997

*As Passed by Rajya Sabha*

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Item Nos. 34 and 35 will be taken up together. Shri Ram Naik.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM NAIK (Mumbai-North) : Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House disapproves of the Lalit Kala Akadami (Taking Over of Management) Ordinance, 1997 (No. 10 of 1997) promulgated by the President on January 24, 1997."

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to oppose the manner in which the ordinance was issued. While supporting the Bill, introduced by the Government, I would like to express my views.

Sir, the question of opposing is arised time and again only when ordinance is issued. I think, so long as 13th Ordinance is not approved by the House, a new record of issuing ordinances cannot be set up by this Government. Today, I went to library to find out the maximum number of ordinances issued between two sessions. I could not get information of issuing such ordinances more than 5 to 10.

[*English*]

This Government has established a new record in issuing ordinances. It goes to the credit of this Government.

[*Translation*]

Now the question arises as to what was the necessity of issuing this ordinance. In the Objectives and reasons given in the Bill it has been stated that a Haksar Committee was appointed in 1988 which gave its report in 1990 but later on no action was taken on this report. Then some hon.

Members, including Shri George Fernandes and myself made some complaints. Then an Administrative Enquiry was ordered to look into the complaints and thereafter the Government thought that an ordinance should be issued in this regard. This has been stated in the Bill. This was under consideration since 1990 and our last winter session ended on 22nd December. When this matter was under consideration for last 6-7 years then why you have not brought a bill to this effect in the last session itself. No action was taken on this report during last 6-7 years and you can say that you were not in the Government during this period but I fail to understand that when nothing was done in the last 6 years, what major damage would have been caused, had it been delayed by a month or so. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister to state the reason for bringing it through an ordinance. What I think is that we have started a system of Standing Committee and this Government, on one pretext or the other, is trying to oppose this system because if a new Bill is referred to the Standing Committee, the Committee would go through it very minutely and make improvement in the Bill. But this Government does not want any such improvement. It seems that the Government want to keep everything in its own hands and that is why it is by-passing the Standing Committee in this process. That is why I am condemning this ordinance.

After talking about ordinance, now I would like to say about this Bill that on August 5, 1954 a Resolution was adopted by the Parliament to set up a Lalit Kala Akadami. This Akadami was registered forty years ago on March 11, 1957. After giving all sorts of autonomy, it was most unfortunate that this Akadami could not rise to the occasion in the field of art and literature. I think if we look at the working of this Lalit Kala Akadami during the last 40 years we would find that the artists have themselves blemished their names. The artists and their leaders have lost the confidence expressed in them by the Parliament. They should not have done so. I think it is necessary to criticise each and every one who headed this Kala Akadami. It is very sad that the Parliament has expressed confidence in them but they could not rise to the occasion. Such persons were appointed there to head the Kala Akadami. Now what would happen by the elections? Due to elections, many wrong things are happening in politics and I think the same thing is happening in Kala Akadami and corruptions, irregularities, discriminations and many such other things are going on there for last 15-20 years. That is why it has reached to this condition today.

Now it is an age of privatisation. The Government Organisations are not working properly, so we are going for privatisation. But in this Akadami, the private people have not worked properly and that is why it is being taken over by the Government. This is the motive of this Bill. This is a reverse trend and the Government should not resort to it so frequently. In this context I would like to say that it is the duty of the management of the Akadami to bring forward

the new talented artists, but it has not done so as a result of which a wide gap has been created between the new artists and the artists sitting in the management. Now we have to think as to how that gap can be filled and how such gaps may not be created in future. I have referred to the report of the Haksar Committee. It has also been mentioned in the objectives and reasons of the Bill.

This report was submitted in July 1990 but I fail to understand as to why this report was made confidential. The Government has made this report confidential which is relating to a most important field. I demand that it should be made public.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam) : It was confidential earlier but now it is public.

SHRI RAM NAIK : It has not been made public.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Your name is also in the list of speakers but if you interrupt like this again and again I would consider that you have expressed your views.

SHRI RAM NAIK : It is a separate thing as to how I have obtained its copy, but people should know about it. The Parliament should know and the common man should know about it. Even today 'confidential' is written on it. My first demand is that it should be published for the people.

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota) : Sir, I was also a member of the Standing Committee of Human Resource Development Ministry constituted to look into the report of Haksar Committee. No where it was mentioned as to what was said in the report....

MR. CHAIRMAN : Joshi ji, your name is also in the list, therefore, you need not to interrupt.

SHRI RAM NAIK : Secondly, it has been said that letters from some MPs were received and some criticism also appeared in newspapers and then Administrative enquiry was ordered. It came to know that 3000 books and several precious exhibits have been lost. I was also surprised to know that many people who had to pay rent even more than one lakh, did not pay it. Not only this, many exhibits which were sent to Bangladesh and Japan, returned by ordinary ships but the Akadami had to pay Rs. One lakh 40 thousand to Bombay Port Trust as demurrage. When the exhibits were returned from Bangladesh Rs. one lakh and ten thousand was paid as demurrages. So these irregularities which were investigated through an administrative enquiry along with the Haksar Committee report should be laid on the Table of the House. This would help in bringing the guilty to book. These persons would get exposed. We do not only want the report but also the action taken by the Government in this regard. An Action Taken Report on the similar pattern as in case of Standing Committees should be prepared and I demand that it should be laid here within three months.

It is most unfortunate that this Bill provides for taking over of the management of Lalit Kala Akadami. We are handing it over to the bureaucracy. It has been said that in this case the

[English]

remedy should not be worse than the disease.

[Translation]

The bureaucrat who takes over the reins of this Akadami may be well versed in the field of fine arts. That is a different matter. The taking over of the Akadami is for a limited period of three years. I feel that remedy should not be worse than the disease. The situation should not turn from bad to worse with this change. I demand that an advisory committee should be constituted to aid and advise the Administrator. This Committee should constitute of eminent persons from the field of fine arts and other allied fields. This work should be completed within one year instead of three years.

[English]

The reconstruction of any institute within a year is not a very difficult job.

[Translation]

I feel that the hon. Minister should intervene in the matter. What are the consequences of Lalit Kala Akadami not working properly. Rs. 5000 is awarded to the prize winning exhibit. It is a meagre amount. It should be at least Rs. 25,000 to 50,000. A token amount of Rs. 5,000 along with a certificate and TA/DA is very meagre and is not the proper way to recognise the services of an artist. This should stop. The Prize amount should be increased. Besides the exhibits which are sent abroad should reflect the true spirit of Indian culture. There is lot of discrimination and corruption in selection of these exhibits. Most of them are not original but even then a claim to this effect is made. The hon. Minister should clarify the position in this regard while replying to the debate.

The functioning of Lalit Kala Akadami has been derailed. To bring it back on the rails this Bill has been brought forward in the shape of an Ordinance. It is very important to keep this Akadami on rails and make progress. The Government must complete this task within one year. With these words I would urge the Government to stop this tendency of Issuing Ordinance repeatedly.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to provide for the taking over of the management of the Lalit Kala Akadami for a limited period in the public interest and for matters connected

[Shri S.R. Bommal]

therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration.”

Sir, my task has been made easy by the senior hon. Member, Shri Ram Naik because he has narrated the background justifying the take over of the Lalit Kala Akadami by the Government.

This Akadami and other Akadamies were established with a high objective of helping the artists and encouraging them. We give them autonomy so that the artists themselves should manage and keep the standard and the Government should not interfere in these matters. It should have the freedom. With this high objective in mind, this Akadami was established. Earlier years, I must say, the office-bearers, the Chairman and the Members had done yeomen's service to the artists. They had kept a very high standard. But later on, deterioration has taken place and therefore, the Haksar Committee was appointed in 1988 and the Committee gave a report in the year 1990. The Committee's recommendation, so far as Lalit Kala Akadami was concerned, was sent to the Akadami for acceptance. They did not accept that. They refused to act. Meanwhile, there was maladministration, favouritism and nepotism. Favouritism was shown to their own relatives and I must say that there are rare instances of the Chairman getting award for himself of a Committee.

They were also giving awards to their kith and kin. Everywhere defalcation was there. Disappearance of articles was there.

When I took charge of this Ministry, I received letters from hon. Members, Shri George Fernandes and Shri Chaturanan Mishra and number of other Members of Parliament to take it over immediately. The Union of the Akadami came and narrated a story how the Akadami was being run and how it was going to be ruined.

Then I thought it fit that there should be a quick administrative inquiry. I got it done, audited and when I saw the Report then I thought that immediately it should be taken over. As Parliament was not in Session, the Ordinance was issued. In principle, I agree with Shri Ram Naik that we need not have taken recourse to an Ordinance. Incidentally, as he said, when for six years no action was taken why do we not wait for one month more?

I thought that within one month they were going to remove important articles of the Akadami. That may create trouble. And I had to act. I agree with you that such a matter may not go to the Standing Committee bypassing Parliament. Quick action was there. I need not disclose. I was getting queries from the Members of Parliament asking me, what I had done, what action I had taken, and because, I thought also their pressure was in the right direction, therefore I had to resort to an ordinance.

Therefore, I would only assure other Members that I have no intention to prolong as it is a painful job. I want to reorganise the Akadami within one year, if possible. I do not want to extend the period of this Government administration for a longer period. As early as possible within a year, I would like to see that proper action is taken and the Akadami is reorganised and is ready for functioning.

Another thing is, I have already given an assurance in the Rajya Sabha that the appointment of an Advisory Board was under consideration and the right people who have got the academic talents and qualifications and who are qualified to be the Members of this Akadami would be on the Advisory Committee.

With these few words I would like the House to consider this Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motions moved:

“That this House disapproves of the Lalit Kala Akadami (Taking over of Management) Ordinance, 1997 (No. 10 of 1997) promulgated by the President on January 24, 1997.”

“That the Bill to provide for the taking over of the management of the Lalit Kala Akadami for a limited period in the public interest and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration.”

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) : Mr. Chairman Sir, I fully agree with what the chief whip of our party said just now. The hon. Minister also said that he had to take recourse to issuing the Ordinance because he wanted to act fast in this matter.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Today you are not tired of speaking?

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Sir, I can speak for a long time, even if I have to sit throughout the night. But this is an injustice that the time of discussion on the Budget has been shifted from 7 to 8. At that time there would be only 2-3 Members. I do not want to say anything else on that, Shri Jena may run the House the way he wants.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please restrict yourself to Lalit Kala Akadami only.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Sir, I am on that subject itself. This Ordinance was issued ... (Interruptions). The Lalit Kala Akadami was established in 1954....

SHRI S.R. BOMMAL : Shri Ram Naik has dwelt on it at length.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Please listen to me. I am referring to the irregularities that were committed there.

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : No, no. The details of the dates have already been given.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Anyway, please give time to Joshiji.

DR. GIRIJA VYAS (Udaipur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, as this is an important subject many Members would like to speak on it. Therefore we should fix a day when at least one hour is kept for discussion on Lalit Kala Akadami. If the hon. Minister agrees to it it would be very good.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You may not get time later on. The Bill is here before us, therefore make good use of the time allotted.

DR. GIRIJA VYAS : That is why I was submitting we should conclude with this subject.

MR. CHAIRMAN : If you want one hour, this discussion can continue for one hour.

DR. GIRIJA VYAS : We can take it up later.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It may not be taken up later. This is the right time. If you want to speak you can utilise this time.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Sir, I was submitting that the Advisory Committee of Human Resource Development Ministry did not agree to the suggestions given by the Haksar Committee on the Lalit Kala Akadami. But even then the hon. Minister proposes to hand over the Akadami to famous artists like Shanku Chaudhary, Krishan Khanna and S. Bhushan. It is a matter of regret that they have been occupying the workshop studio for the last 20 years illegally and the Haksar Committee had given suggestion in that regard and there should be a discussion on it. In the Rajya Sabha the hon. Minister said that the Administration of Akadami is being taken over because during investigation it was found that 3000 books were printed less.

MR. CHAIRMAN : This has been admitted by the hon. Minister himself.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : If he has agreed then elections can be held within one year. The reconstruction work should be completed within one year. There will be no controversy then.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right. You have given your suggestion.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Sir, you are in the Chair and I seek your protection. The charge of misuse of autonomy by the Akadami administration is wrong. The hon. Minister has said in the Rajya Sabha that there is enough evidence of large scale irregularities in appointments. There was a report to this effect in *Janasatta* dated 11.3.1997. Besides, there are other reports also. The person who has

been appointed in the Culture Department has no experience in the field of fine arts and he has been appointed the administrator of the Akadami. He has been recently relieved from A.G.R. Department whereas there is a ban on the appointment of retired officers to Lalit Kala Akadami. The same work is being done by the Culture Department also. These are some of the reasons why he is not fit to become the administrator of the said Akadami. I have an apprehension whether the administrator would be removed and elections will be held there within one year.

According to reliable sources it has been reported that the Vigilance Committee of the Culture Department has hushed up cases against corrupt officials on whom there was charges of misappropriation of funds. This has been done inspite of the fact that Lalit Kala Akadami had given these charges against these officials in writing alongwith sufficient factual evidence. We fail to understand how the Culture Department makes tall claims about transparency in administration whereas the cases are being hushed up. I demand that the report of the Vigilance Committee should be placed on the Table of the House.

The fourth submission is that the Akadami gives grant to 93 Institutions. This time also grant was given to those Institutions but instead of making payment to these Institutions photo machine and other four equipments are being purchased which is a clear case of misappropriation of funds by the Administration whereas several computers are already lying unused in the Lalit Kala Akadami. You are its owner you can go there and see yourself. The very corrupt photo officer of Lalit Kala Akadami, Shri Paramjeet Singh who was dismissed from service for purchasing certain items from a fictitious firm is being re-instated soon by its Administrator and Joint Secretary, Shri Ashok Vajpayee based on the report of Shri D. Sengupta, Deputy Secretary Administration, Department of Culture. Therefore, my submission is either a new Panel of Chairman may be constituted by calling a general body meeting of elected and nominated members or democratic system may be protected in the Akadami by conducting elections immediately through some recognised body based on the suggestions given by Justice Khosla committee or P.N. Haksar Committee so that corrupt artists may not get an opportunity to enter the Akadami through the back door. This report has been published in three National dailies viz. Navbharat Times, Rashtriya Sahara and The Times of India.

Therefore, my submission is that the Lalit Kala Akadami is an institution of repute and has a big name. Lot of discussions take place about this Institution in the Ministry of Human Resource Development. It is therefore, requested that you should do some thing concrete to run this Institution properly which is in doldrums. You yourself has admitted that corruption is rampant and administrative inefficiency is there then why don't you stamp out such an inefficient

[Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava]

administration. Elections should be conducted there properly and the Akadami should function. The employees who have served this Akadami previously are today wandering from pillar to post. Had Shri Jena ji permitted me in the morning, Chairman ji, I would have definitely exposed the functioning of Lalit Kala Akadami which would have shaken you also. I just want to submit this only since time is not there because of rush of work. That is why I don't want to speak more. But Minister Sir whatever I have said about this Akadami that it should be rejuvenated within an year, should be kept in mind. I am very grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Nalanda)  
Chairman Sir, whatever has been said by Shri Ram Naik about the Ordinance I agree with that and I would like to thank the Hon'ble Minister for bringing the matter of Lalit Kala Akadami to a decisive stage through the Ordinance. We are struggling since 1995 for this. I am calling it a struggle because one of my friends, Shri Madhav Rao Scindia who was the Minister of Human Resource Development than had told me outside this House that I am the Minister of this Department and this is a small Institution of my department but I could not do anything for this. Then I asked him that when this loot is going on here and so many corrupt and worthless people are working in this Institution who are not only misappropriating but looting the Government funds sanctioned through this House and you are saying that the Government cannot do anything and you people cannot do anything. Then I wrote a letter to him giving all the proofs which were collected through various sources. Some proofs were collected from outside and some through audit report of the Ministry and through other sources. Some proofs were concrete proofs. Therefore, I would like to ask from the hon'ble Minister as to what action has been taken against those officials who looted this Institution. Those officials are still working in that organisation. Will they continue there in spite of all this looting. Though I thank you and I am grateful that you intend to streamline the functioning of Lalit Kala Akadami. But will you not make enquiries against all those corrupt officials who proved that they are corrupt and who proved that we are also involved with them? If you could not enquire all these things and if you are not in a position to give a proper reply then such things would go on. So I request you to kindly look into all these things so that such things are not repeated and such group of officials may not swallow this institution. This should not happen. Chairman Sir, it is really surprising that Parliament cannot do anything. Ministry of Human Resource Development cannot do anything and if I say

so even president cannot do any thing in this matter. What is this? This group of corrupt officials would go on like this and the situation has come to such a pass. Hon'ble Minister Sir, I am reminding of 5 Aug. 1996 when Mr. Madhav Rao Scindia while replying my letter said:

[English]

"I am enclosing herewith the detailed comments of the Department of Culture for your kind perusal and necessary action".

Necessary action by me! (Interruptions)

[Translation]

What were his comments—his comments were that when such eminent persons like Mulkh Raj Anand, D.P. Raichaudhry, Mehendi Nawaj etc. adorned the office of the Chairman looting was natural because they used to travel by second class and used to claim A.C. class fare and it was not once but dozens of times. Therefore that group of officials had concentrated the whole functioning of this office in their hands. A big man associated with this institution is now residing in NOIDA but he has always claimed fare for attending meetings from Gorakhpur to Delhi though he resides in NOIDA. He has got his house, office and everything in NOIDA. It is also one of the methods of being dishonest.

When I invited the attention of the Government towards the family monopoly (nepotism), the Minister replied as under:

[English]

In the first ever national photographic exhibition held in March, 1995 the awardees were relatives of Jury members and relatives of the officials.

[Translation]

These are the comments of the Government, I am telling the comments of your Ministry.

[English]

"Three out of the five award winners of the first ever national photographic exhibition were close relatives/family members of the Jury, akadami officials. The details are as follows :

Mrs. Chitragada Sharma—Wife of Shri O.P Sharma,  
Jury

Shri Anil Kumar Sharma—Son of Vice Chairman Shri  
Anand Dev

Shri Bhupesh Chandra Little—Son of Shri P.C. Little  
Member of the Jury.

[Translation]

Amongst them Anand Dev was the chief of all these misdeeds and Anil Kumar Sharma is his son. That means it was all within the family. This is one of the example which I gave to you regarding photographic exhibition. Besides, there are so many scandals about which I don't want to say anything because I don't want to waste the time of the House because of the paucity of time. But it is not understood

as to why you did not take any action despite all these facts and information available with you, because this information is from the note of the Ministry. You could not do anything. Even President has no powers to show the place deserved by him. But you could have approached the police because you had all the proofs. Lot of bungling was there, money being looted, fake vouchers were being given and different methods were being used to loot the money. This is what has been mentioned in the Audit report. Had there been anything from our side I would have read for you.

You told about a few things about 4000 books etc. but here lakhs of rupees are involved. It is not a matter of a book. Bungling was there even in the matter of water tanker. It is not known whether the water tanker used to bring the water or not but the payment was made. All these things have been mentioned in the Audit report. I am not saying something of my own.

So many things have happened in so many departments if I tell you but don't know why the officials of your department did not inform the police when you had proof of these lapses, you had all the reports in your own Ministry. Why did not the officials report the matter to the police? What they were getting? Who pressurised them not to inform the police? What was their responsibility? What for these officers meant? What were the terms and conditions of their service? Whose responsibility it is to monitor the functioning of the Department?

Chairman Sir, therefore I expect the hon. Minister to take this matter seriously. When he has taken those matters in his own hands and when he is going to streamline the functioning of this Akadami, prior to that he must find out the causes of all these lapses and take necessary action to streamline the functioning. I must say one thing that of course we cannot have full debate on this issue but you have budgetary provisions in this Bill for three years and then for two years which I would request that do not drag it for years and complete this work within the next one year. Whatever steps are necessary to be taken to handover this Institution in the right hands, you must take those steps. I don't want to say anything more. While concluding and thanking you I would request that all those guilty persons should be brought before the court if need be. If the whole thing is needed to be brought before the House, it should be brought. I conclude with these words.

[English]

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I welcome this piece of legislation because I am also one of the signatories alongwith Shri George Fernandes in pointing out the troubles and other irregularities which are taking place in Lalit Kala Akadami. The Minister himself has agreed that a lot of irregularities are taking place in this Lalit Kala Akadami which was set up 40 years back with a noble idea and objective of promoting our cultural heritage as well as artists.

Unfortunately, for so many years, this organisation has not been managed well and its functioning has attracted a

lot of criticism from different quarters, not only from the Parliament but also from outside. A lot of articles were written in this regard. Some very renowned artists of our country had submitted their proposals and had accused the organisation. They raised the issue of malpractices and fraudulent activities which are taking place in the Lalit Kala Akadami.

This is an apex cultural body which was set up to promote visual arts, paintings, graphics, sculptures etc. This was set up by a Resolution passed by the Parliament. So, the Parliament and the Government of India must express their concern on the functioning of the institution. It is very unfortunate to say that the genuine artists were ignored and not given any opportunity in the functioning of Lalit Kala Akadami.

18.47 hrs.

[SHRI P.M. SAYEED *in the Chair*]

We are in favour of giving full autonomy not only to Lalit Kala Akadami but also to other institutions which were set up with the noble objective. We are in favour of giving them complete autonomy even though these institutions are funded by the Government of India. If these institutions do not function in a proper way, it is the duty of the Government to intervene and set the things right. But it does not mean that the Government's intervention should continue. This is only for a limited period and limited purpose. I think that the hon. Minister will take care of this aspect. I would also say that giving the whole administration to the bureaucracy will also not help. We have had enough experience in the past. Definitely, due to malpractices and financial irregularities, the Government is now taking over Lalit Kala Akadami. But it should be for a short period and be entrusted back to genuine artists who can definitely reflect our cultural heritage as well as the modern art. So, my request to the hon. Minister is that the period of its taking over by the Government should be specifically mentioned and set the things right.

Of course, Shri P.N. Haksar had made 33 suggestions in his report regarding restructuring of General Council, Executive Board, electoral rolls etc. The Government had accepted only 23 out of 31 suggestions put forward by Shri P.N. Haksar. I do not want to go into all the 31 suggestions, but there are certain suggestions which are very important for making this organisation more vibrant and effective. The Government should agree with this. The Government should specifically take care of the exhibitions which are conducted abroad. There are a lot of complaints regarding international exhibitions. The genuine artists were not allowed to participate and their sculptures and paintings were not shown. This has been the experience in the past. So, the highest standards should be maintained in the international exhibitions.

So, special care should be taken towards this particular aspect. Otherwise, our cultural heritage will be criticised

[Shri Ramesh Chennithala]

abroad and we will not be able to reflect the real art and culture of our country there.

Sir, as far as the programme of purchasing the works from the contemporary artists is concerned, this has attracted a lot of criticism and there is a big controversy about this programme. There are a lot of allegations of favouritism and the purchases were of no real merit. I do not know whether the Government has accepted the suggestion of Shri P.N. Haksar in this regard. I think the Government should take care of this aspect and accept the proposal put forward by Shri P.N. Haksar to set right the things in this respect.

Sir, I do not want to take much time of the House. This organisation has been working for 40 years now and the number of artists have increased. So, when the Government takes over this organisation it should ensure that the activities of the Lalit Kala Akadami should be expanded which is very necessary, in view of the increase in the number of artists.

Sir, the Lalit Kala Akadami is collaborating with Max Muller Bhawan, Japanese Foundation, British Council etc. We can contribute a lot towards promoting our cultural heritage by collaborating with these well-known institutions. I think the Government should take care of this aspect also. Then, autonomous character of this organisation should be maintained. The Government should plug the loopholes to prevent corruption in this organisation and transparency should be brought in the entire functioning of this organisation. Then only we can infuse confidence among the artists and make this organisation more effective.

SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN (Barpeta) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support this Bill. I welcome this piece of legislation because the entire functioning of the Lalit Kala Akadami was getting rotten. This Bill is a good measure because sometimes, to save the patient we have to go in for a surgical operation also. The Lalit Kala Akadami was meant to promote our cultural heritage, encourage the artists and various other related activities such as paintings etc. Though this organisation was set up with the lofty ideals, it is seen that these ideals are nullified due to the growth of a coterie in this organisation and because of this, this organisation is not able to fulfill these ideals of promoting our culture and encouraging the young artists of our country.

Sir, my colleagues have already elaborated as to how the entire Akadami is being mismanaged. Though it is funded by the Central Government, the funds are misutilised and there is a lot of nepotism in this organisation. Due to this reason, the young artists are getting alienated. So, instead of encouraging the young artists to promote our cultural heritage, this organisation is discouraging the new artists. Through this piece of legislation, I think, the

Government is trying to make this organisation more vibrant and effective.

At the same time, I want to say that these organisations should have more autonomy. The autonomy should not be curtailed. The services of the celebrities should be obtained to develop art activities. It will also encourage the young artists. A lot of damage to the books and other things is already there. There is a lot of corruption also. But this is to be taken care of so that in coming years these things could be prevented. There should have been some confidence-building activities to encourage the young artists. Their confidence should be built up which would create a healthy atmosphere in the Akadami. At the same time, it is necessary that the services of the learned fellows and the celebrities in this field should be availed of. I think there should be some arrangement to have more exhibitions inside and outside the country so that young artists are encouraged. I am not going to speak more about this but I think the autonomy of this institution has to be maintained. The period of take over by the Government should not be a long one. It should be as short as possible. Its functioning autonomy should be maintained. I hope the Government will take steps against the corrupt persons. There is a coterie which indulge in corrupt practices by misuse of authority. I think the Government would take steps to check this.

With these words, I thank the hon. Minister for bringing this Bill and I support this Bill.

Sir, I also thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak.

[Translation]

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota) : Mr. Chairman, is rather good that this Bill was first introduced in Rajya Sabha and the condition of three years sought to be made in the Bill had to be cut down to one year on the insistence of Shri K.R. Malkani. I would like to point out that the Government is dispensing with the elected representatives. It was after a great deal of difficulty that elections were held in this institution and that too not in an ordinary manner, five hundred artists from all over the country, who had participated in the shows at the international level, were given voting rights in order to hold the elections. After the elections, the elected committee proposed three names for the office of Chairman. Unfortunately, all the three names forwarded to the President have not been cleared till date. They are pending clearance for two years. When the name of Shri R.N. Mirdha came up, it was cleared in the very first instance. He is not a party man, but an artist and as such it was not a party man but an artist who got the opportunity to hold the office. The Minister should have gone up to the President and see to it that a Chairman was appointed to take care of those artists, but even that much was not done in the case of Lalit Kala Akadami.

I would like to ask him who has committed all those offences as charged by Shri George Fernandes? Whether it were the elected representatives who committed them? No, in fact they were not in a position to do so. It were the administrators who were hankering after the office. When an artist entered upon that office, the administrators were hell bent on making him unsuccessful, therefore, the introduction of the Bill through him (the Minister) here is the result of their conspiracy.

19.00 hrs.

There is the Haksar Committee report which should have come up before the HRD Committee. When the latter Committee discussed about the Haksar Committee, it was not even properly briefed, it was misled, leading us into a situation in which we are dissolving the committee comprising of the elected representatives.

I would request them not to do what they have done. Now I would like to ask why the embezzlers are not getting punishment? They should have been punished, but they are not being punished. Out of the two persons empanelled for the office of Chairman under the law, the one who possesses at least some knowledge of the Lalit Kala Akadami deserves to be the Chairman as per the norms, but instead they have picked up someone from Accounts and made him Chairman. He has no knowledge whatsoever of Lalit Kala Akadami. This is going to result in bringing the entire activities of the Akadami to a standstill for one year. Therefore, I would request them to select a better Chairman for this Committee. There are charges against the two persons appointed by the Chairman as Secretary and Dy. Secretary.

They should have been suspended, Shri George Fernandes has levelled charges against them, but instead of this such persons have been made Secretary and Dy. Secretary respectively. They should now be sent back home, the embezzlers responsible for ruining Lalit Kala Akadami should be dispensed with and the elected representatives should be allowed to take over again within three months. This is what I request for. Otherwise a fine institution will become lifeless. The institution which flourished under the leadership of Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha is going to the dogs today.

[English]

SHRI SURESH PRABHU (Rajapur) : Sir, I am not going to repeat any of the points that have been mentioned. I want to say two things. One is, as the President of the Konkan Kala Akadami as well as the Vice-President of All-India Marathi Stage Federation, I know the difficulties that the Artists really face in getting any help, recognition and even, for that matter, to know that such an organisation

exists outside the Lalit Kala Akadami. I have experienced it personally. My request is that in this one year period that you want to use, please try to make sure that you differentiate between the Artists and the people who claim to be Artists and try to be leaders in the name of Artists. That is one thing which you may please try to do.

The second point is, which is very important, how can we bring up the budding Artists? That is very important. I was going through the first Resolution which was moved in Parliament and this was the real objective for which this organisation was set up.

The third point is that the Minister has already assured that he does not want to use the provisions in the Act to extend it beyond five years. If that is the case, why do you not drop it? Why do you not say that one year is the period for which this will be in existence? My earnest request is that you may please go outside the corridors of Lalit Kala Akadami and try to bring up the Artists closer to the Akadami.

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : Sir, I am extremely thankful to the hon. Members and, in fact, all of them have supported the action of the Government. The important points that have come out of the debate are, firstly, what is the action being taken against the people who are guilty for the offences committed and who are the culprits. Hon. Member Shri George Fernandes and others have asked this question. I am prepared to assure you that on the basis of the report, appropriate action against all those people who are found guilty, some way or the other, will be taken and that too as early as possible.... (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : He has rather given posts to those embezzlers of whom Shri George was talking. ... (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not disturb now. Please do not disturb like this.

... (*Interruptions*)\*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record. This is not the way. You will have to hear the Minister.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please control your Members. You just cannot stand up and say anything as you like. You cannot do that and please do not do that.

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : Another suggestion that has been made is that as early as possible the recommendation of the Haksar Committee and the suggestions of the hon.

[Shri S.R. Bommai]

Members should be implemented, and also the Akadami structure and its selection procedures should be amended.

I assure them that it will be a democratic set up. It should be headed and managed by the artists only. Though it is a cent per cent Government-funded institution, yet the laudable object of establishing it is to encourage the budding artists and the present artists. With that view, suitable amendments would be made in the constitution of the Akadami.

Another question was asked : How long will it take? I re-assure you that I would like to complete all these things within a year, if possible but not more than a year. But I cannot give a date today. However, I would like to do it as early as possible.... (Interruptions)

The Administrator is a retired Dy. Comptroller and Auditor General of India. I am appointing a retired officer. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Why do you not become the Administrator?

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : Then, it will become a mess. (Interruptions)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Why? ... (Interruptions)

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : I do not have the time. I do not possess the artistic attitude.... (Interruptions)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : You have vast experience in leading the Janata Dal. Can you not manage it? ... (Interruptions) If you can manage the affairs of Janata Dal for five years, you can easily manage the affairs of the Lalit Kala Akadami. ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Minister may confine to those points raised in the debate and finish as quickly as possible.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : If my friend is ready, I will consider his name. Apart from that, I have already said that the Government is considering to appoint an Advisory Committee and artists will also be there.

With these assurances, I appeal to everybody to withdraw his amendment and unanimously pass the Bill and help me in updating this institution.

I appeal to Shri Ram Naik to withdraw the Statutory Resolution.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am not going to make a lengthy speech. The Minister has assured of

many things, I welcome them. I thank him for assuring that he will take action, make it a democratic set up, will not take more than a year in reconstruction. But he has not answered one question. If he says yes regarding it then I am willing to withdraw. I had asked for publishing the Haksar Committee report, the Administrative Committee Report and thereafter the Action Taken Reports on both, if the Minister is prepared to do this much, I too am willing to withdraw it.

[English]

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Tell something about the Advisory Committee also.

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : About that, I have already assured you. So far as the Haksar Committee Report is concerned, it is supplied to all the Members of Parliament. It has been published. When it is supplied to the hon. Members, it is not a secret document. It has already been published. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NAIK : I suppose you will not treat it as a confidential report.

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : It is not a confidential report.

SHRI RAM NAIK : It is a confidential report. That is what I am saying.

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : Earlier, it was confidential. Since it has been distributed to every Member, it ceases to be a confidential report.

SHRI RAM NAIK : What about the administrative report?

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : It has been distributed. If you want, I will send the report. Every Member will get it.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Minister, just answer about the administrative report.

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : About the administrative report, I will consider whether it is to be published or not. But the action taken will be reported to this House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Has the hon. Member leave of the House to withdraw this Statutory Resolution?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

*The Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill to provide for the taking over of the management of the Lalit Kala Akadami for a limited period in the public interest and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House shall now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clauses 2 to 16 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 2 to 16 were added to the Bill.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is:

"That clause 1, the Enacting Formula, the Preamble and the Long Title stand part of the Bill".

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula, the Preamble and the Long Title were added to the Bill.*

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI RAM NAIK : How nicely we have cooperated!

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : Thank you very much.

19.12 hrs.

### GENERAL BUDGET 1997-98

**Demands for Grants on Account (General), 1997-98**

**Demands for Supplementary Grants—General, 1996-97  
and**

**Demands for Excess Grants—General, 1994-95—Contd.**

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, we shall take up item nos. 22 to 25 together.

Shri Sanat Mehta—not present.

Dr. Girija Vyas

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. GIRIJA VYAS (Udaipur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, today the Budget for 1997-98 has been presented. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is a mockery of the Budget. Discussion is taking place after 7 p.m. on such an important Budget.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It has been so decided in the BAC and we are discussing it accordingly.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : The discussion is going on in the darkness of night.

MR. CHAIRMAN : One has to do work in the night.

DR. GIRIJA VYAS : Mr. Chairman, Sir, General Budget 1997-98 has been introduced in the House bringing all guesses, estimates and conjectures to a halt. The Finance Minister faced many problems in this Budget and he, while very deftly resolving them properly, kept intact the sentiments of the various constituents of the United Front Government. I would also like to thank the hon. Finance Minister for furthering the policies of the Congress adopted five years ago and the economics of Shri Manmohan Singh.

Hon'ble Mr. Chairman, the GDP growth rate has grown from one per cent to seven per cent during the last five years. Inflation has decreased. External accounts, both current and capital have registered an increase. However, we have not been able to fulfil the 'Garibi hatao' slogan. The object, however, still remains as before.

The employees class has been pleased by providing relief in income tax, the trading class has been satisfied by giving concession in import duty and the investors by the announcement of a number of facilities. Thus *prima facie* this Budget would be called as 'a Budget pleasing all'. Even in some of the newspapers it has been hailed as a wonder Budget while in others a question mark has been put before it as to how the Budget deficit is proposed to be made up. The day the Minister presented the Budget, India reverberated with a new echo and we are marching again with the policies formulated five years ago. The special features of the Budget are as follows.

SHRI RAM NAIK : However, Mr. Manmohan Singh refuses to agree.

DR. GIRIJA VYAS : The special features are—the new scheme for voluntary disclosure of black money, more autonomy to the public sector establishments; introduction of capital board index bonds; permission for making forward deals in cotton and jute. Foreign Exchange Regulation Bill to be presented in the latter half of this year, oil exploration and industrial parks also to be brought within the ambit of Income Tax Act's clause 80 i (a); raising the rate of contribution in the provident fund by both employers and employees from 8.33 per cent to 10 per cent with effect from March 1, 1997 additional capital of Rs. 500 crores for the new NABARD to facilitate investments by foreign investment institutions and non-resident Indians, removing domestic forward trading in cotton and jute, more loans to small scale industries, relaxation in guidelines for enterprises' capital funds, measures for improvements in capital markets, double allocations for technology development fund, estimate of an expenditure of Rs. 2,32,176 crore for 1997-98, record budget of Rs. 7858 for the plan, attempt to link up the

[Dr. Girija Vyas]

Indian economy to global economy has been made by slashing tariff rates. Reduction in Excise and Customs duties will pave the way for development of industries. Items will become cheaper due to reduction in excise and, inflation would also be under control, these are the guesses made after the hon. Minister's Budget Speech.

Sir, one fails to understand how Mr. Chidambaram will be able to restrict the revenue deficit to just 4.5 per cent of the gross national product even after giving so many concessions? In my opinion he must be thinking that reduction in tariff rates will lead to increase in national income thereby reducing the Budgetary deficit in proportion to the national income.

Sir, union budget is an important statement with regard to the economic policy of the Government. Although our Finance Minister is day by day feeling helpless in maintaining balance between revenue and expenditure therefore our economic policy is not an independent one. In this context the budget for 1997-98 can be taken from two different aspects. First, whether it brings forward the economy reforms on the earlier economic path. Secondly whether the calculation made therein is authenticated? There are two main points in it. On the first test this budget definitely appears to be a meaningful effort. On the face of it this budget appears to be meaningful one but when we delve deep into it, it is not so. Important feature of it is to have reduction in all rates of individual income tax. Maximum rate of taxation is fixed at 30 per cent. With this rate of taxation India will come at par with the other Asian countries. As far as tax reforms are concerned this was a long term measure. No doubt it is a bold step but at the same time it is hazardous. It is hazardous because it is expected that there will not be a fall in the revenue. We congratulate the Finance Minister for the same. Similarly surcharge has been removed from corporate tax and double taxation on dividend has been removed. It is also a good effort towards tax-reforms. Similarly the effort has been made towards custom-duty. It is a meaningful effort to fix maximum rate at 40 per cent and to reduce custom duty on certain items. Has the Minister made any assessment regarding shortfall to be caused as a result of these steps? What is the answer in this regard? For example it will result in shortfall of corporate tax by Rs. 6,387 crores. From what sources you shall meet this shortfall of 21,196.75. In other words it will result in shortfall of income tax by 7567 and in custom duty by 17242. All of us have this question marks in our mind. The latent calculation of budget is doubtful. With regard to the expenditure the required financial discipline is not found there. The burden of interest has reached about 70 thousand crore rupees. The implementation of recommendation of new pay commission is estimated to involve an expenditure of more than ten thousand crore rupees.

The defence budget has increased many fold and it was necessary to increase the allocation in this regard. Non-plan expenditure has also been increased too much. Keeping in view all these aspects whatever estimate regarding financial deficit has been presented is highly optimistic. There is no indication found in the budget with regard to put a check on the increase in the prices. Will the Minister reply to our question on to how the rate of inflation, increased in the period of April-June 96, will come down and how more than 30 per cent increase in prices will be brought down?

All of us have this question mark also in our mind.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, now the question arises as to how the budget is taken by the common people. On the day when the budget was being presented one TV Channel asked a woman who was passing by—what profit and loss she will realize out of the budget? Surprisingly she looked towards TV Camera. They again asked—do you know about budget? The woman replied the budget means an increase in prices. For the common people the budget is meant only an increase in prices and the budget continue to be declaring in the same manner for the last 50 years. That is why all of us are having the same question mark in our mind whether in spite of all those efforts the benefits of this budget shall reach to the common people or not?

The profit of the items on which custom duty has been reduced will certainly be realised by the producer but it is difficult to say that this profit will go to the consumer. There is no such arrangement made in our machinery so as to ensure that the profit of the reduced rate in custom duty will go to the consumer.

Indiraji tried to reach the common people with her slogan of 'Garibi Hatao' and the common people appreciated her move. The Congress adopted her move for a long time. While presenting the budget hon'ble Finance Minister certainly kept this aspect in his mind that we should pay attention to the poor people and the same was always asserted by Shri Manmohan Singhji in his budget. But it seems that we did not go beyond the slogan of 'Garibi Hatao' and we have not been able to reach the base of 'Garibi Hatao'.

In spite of being a general budget it does not appear that the common people would be benefitted by this budget at all. There is no encouraging proposals for farmers, women and for children. One point is definitely emerged and economists also believed that the most discouraging aspect of the budget is to save the Government from the responsibility of infrastructural development. Sir, I shall come to this point later on but I would like to say that the prices of those items have been increased which coincidentally, are the consumer items for the common people. These items include ball point, biri-cigarette, postcard, inland letters, envelopes, Jam, sauce, soup and sun-goggles etc. Highest increase has been made in the price of envelope. Its rate has been doubled. Two rupee in place of one rupee whereas the prices of postcard and inland letter have been increased

by 10 Paise and 25 Paise, respectively. Postal registration charges has been increased from Rs. 8 to Rs. 10. As postal material and postal services are utilized by all of us, nobody will be left without having the impact of this price-rise. If we take the price-rise of the envelope from the point of view of proportionate price rise, it does not seem to be a justified one.

It is doubtful that the benefit of these items the prices of which have been reduced will reach the common people because the consumer of these items are very less. For example take the parts of the imported watches. How many people possess imported watches? How many people use air conditioners? How many houses have glazed tiles? Barring middle class and affluent class people in the urban areas how many people use cosmetic items? Moreover, with the declaration of reduction in prices of these items, their prices shall not go down and if it happens so whether the finance minister will provide any relief to the common people by giving such concession to the few people?

It has been tried to please the service class by giving him long awaited income tax relief, service class people get relief through other means even, with the increase in price index they get increase in the rate of their dearness allowances. They get relief by way of interm relief, pay scales as proposed by the Pay commission from time to time. But the relief to this class cannot be taken as a relief given to the common people. Hon'ble Minister will have to find out some other measure to give relief to the common people.

Sir, a social deviation is likely to emerge. Among the service class a race for hoarding wealth through unfair means is increasing day-by-day. It is essentially required to put a check on it somewhere. Service class face this crisis with its increased income sources but the real sufferers are those who come under non-service class as the people of the both classes are equally consumers of these items.

Sir, from the speech of the Hon'ble Minister and afterwards his interview taken, it appears that the inflation will not be increased but if we take it from micro economic point of view, the inflation will definitely increase.

As per micro assumption tax and non-tax revenue will register 16–17 per cent increase in the next year. It indicates the economic growth of 7 or 8 per cent. It is question of monetisation of 16 thousand crore rupees. Only two aspects indicate the increase in inflation—first increase in rail fare and freight charges and second oil pool deficit. Sir, 8 per cent inflation which emerged in the second half of this year is an alarming challenge before our country. As far as any of the countries progressed its inflation rate came down to three per cent. We shall have to admit that Government ultimately will have to pay its attention towards this aspect.

Sir, if we compare our country with the other Asian Countries we find that India is far lagging behind. Economic growth in Singapore and Malaysia ranges from 8 to 10 per cent. It ranges very high in China and Japan also. If we look for transparency we shall find that the measures slated by Shri Paul Fugman deem fit in the context of India—First, employment to the maximum people, second, increase in production and third, increase in export. If we pay attention towards education, employment according to priority, which will be a social justice also, economic growth may increase to 8–10 per cent. We shall bring the rate of inflation down to 3 per cent alongwith promotion in exports but the Hon'ble Minister cannot do it alone. He will have to take the cooperation of his ministry. The RBI Governor thinks that existing inflation rate ranges from 6 to 7 per cent. During the last summer it went up from 4.6 per cent to 8 per cent. It indicates the rise in prices is certain. Rate of inflation is already increased, the height is that the Government compares inflation rate with wholesale prices whereas there is a difference between wholesale price index and retail price index. It should be taken as with the decreasing value of rupee and decrease in income, the rate of inflation will increase and it will result in the rise in the prices. If the Government considers the rise in railway freight charges and old service tax cargo which is likely to result in the price hike, it accepts the inflation rate to be about 7 per cent. The prices of petroleum products are likely to increase. With the increase in the prices of power and surface transport, it appears that the inflation rate will cross the figure of 10 per cent. Oil pool deficit alone may rise up to twenty thousand crore rupees. In such a situation how the Government will be able to check the rate of inflation? It is a question-mark before the hon. Minister? We and our party are worried because Shri Narasimha Rao and Shri Manmohan Singh had considerably brought down the inflation rate with great efforts. We were about to reach to achieve the objective of "Garibi Hatao" and not the slogan alone, by that name. If the inflation rate goes up today, we may retract back from the stage where we have reached.

This budget will encourage consumerism. In India hardly 25 per cent people can come under consumerism. We have 75 per cent people who are poor. Heavy discount in customs duty is a danger to heavy consumer goods and Indian industry. Hon. Minister should think about this aspect also. Sir, inflation will give rise to social problems as well, and these have grown as well.

The attitude of the Government is also not pragmatic. Public Distribution Expansion programme should be visualised from pragmatic point of view. Procurement further food will encourage inflation, which had increased up to 30 per cent last year. Due to difficulties in procurement there will be increase in crisis and inflation in food items will also be increased. Prices are directly related to the balance in demand and supply. Production of wheat has decreased

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last year which is a matter of concern for us. A cause of our concern is that we have not made the expected progress in agriculture. Some agriculturists have gained through foodgrains, pulses, cash crops but the production of wheat has decreased this time. Inflation has decreased but internal and external debts have increased. Rate of flow of money because of increase in production is 5 to 6 per cent more which is a dangerous sign.

Hon. Chairman, Sir, there are no such indications in the budget where check can be imposed on the rise in prices. During April-June, 1996 the rate of inflation was less than 5 per cent which increased to 8 per cent in July. In what terms it had come down? It appears that the prices will be soaring up in the near future and the main cause would be stress on the cost aspect. On the one hand there is 12 per cent rise in railway fare and freight and on the other hand the rise in the prices of petroleum products cannot be postponed for a longer time. As far as the financial discipline is concerned, a welcome step is that the Government can not borrow from the RBI by way of *ad hoc* Treasury Bill. We would like to thank the hon. Minister on this account. A discussion has been going on for this step be taken since last 2-3 years. It will have a good effect and it would be compensated. The Government shall have to take loan on more interest rate. Due to this the payment of interest in the budget will increase enormously. As I said earlier the Government will come across difficulties by payment of taxes both internal and external.

As far as the common man is concerned he will have the burden of railway fare and freight alongwith rise in prices and how he can emerge safely out of it, is a major question before us. Through you I would like to tell the Government that it should make efforts to reduce the rate of inflation.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, hon. Minister has tried his best to present this Budget in a better way. It can be called a budget of his cleverness and wisdom, but the greatest difficulty is on the expenditure side. In this sense, it has proved to be a weak budget. In the revised estimate, the central outlay is 10,000 crore rupees which is less than the previous years. It is 5 per cent in agriculture, and far too less in rural development, irrigation, electricity, energy, transport. I do not feel a need to give the figures, but one thing I would definitely like to say that when the expenditure on the means of our development will increase only by 6 per cent whereas the cost will increase by 13 per cent, you can understand that there are chances of 7 per cent decrease as well.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister has mentioned about Seventh Services. We welcome it, but increasing it from 2 thousand rupees to 3 thousand rupees is a paltry rise. Secondly, a State which is completely bankrupt and if these funds are given to them they will utilise it somewhere.

I would like to request the hon. Minister that the funds of the development of Seventh Services shall have to be done by the Union Government, otherwise these funds will be utilised in paying salary to the State employees or certain other fields which do not come under the purview of the Seventh Services.

Sir, I would like to cite only two examples. Health Services, which is other Medical training has been allotted only 753 crore rupees which is Rs. 10 per person. For Education it is 4158 crore rupees which comes to Rs. 46 per person. So the Educationists have labelled it as anti-education budget.

I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister that the Government has proved itself pro-education by implementing Kasturba Gandhi Scheme especially in the field by Childrens' Education, but if you happen to go to any village of Rajasthan you will find that the womens' education even now is not more than 3-4 per cent. It is not proper to hand it over completely to the State Government. I would like to cite the examples of the area near my constituency, these are Doongarpur, Saloombar, Jaisalmer and Barmer where it is 2 per cent. As Education Minister and Finance Minister I had tried to provide some incentive there, but if you will demand the Literacy Report of Rajasthan and sit quietly in a village there where the Government has presented 100 per cent figures, you will be surprised to see that the literacy rate is still 16-17 per cent there. If we will give this scheme to the Government completely, the monitoring of the Central Government is necessary, and if the Womens' Institutions are given this work, the scheme will definitely be implemented in a better way.

Sir, last time, it was promised in the manifesto of various political parties that the Government will spend six per cent of Gross Product on Education. What is the reply of the hon. Minister in this regard? It appears that while reducing funds on education, we have arrived at a situation that education has not remained accessible to all. It is a mixed influence. Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev is present here. We always say in a good humour that the situation of Congress is just like a man sitting in the middle. Neither we can oppose Budget fully nor can we appreciate it. We are compelled to remain in the centre. I tried to present before you the mixed experience—rather, sweet-sour which I have undergone—but one thing still remains, on which I put a Question-mark and that is how to make up the budget deficit. Entire India is grateful to you for the formation of taxes, but how to compensate the deficit. You will be definitely contemplating on it, but my personal opinion is that even if we take only 5 sectors, it would be still sufficient. Agriculture is the first sector. If you see the growth rate you will see that it is 3 to 4 per cent, 2.9 per cent in foodgrains. During the Reform period it was 3.4 per cent. This means that there is no difference in agriculture between pre-reform and post-reform. Just now you have claimed that agriculture growth will increase by 3 per cent but the economists claim

that agriculture growth will in no way will be more than 1.2 per cent. We shall have to re-establish Gandhian philosophy. The previous Government also said for one year that we should follow the middle path, we shall have to find the middle path, but we have not been able to find it. That is why we are in the centre. I am presenting my pain and agony in clear terms. I would request the hon. Minister and the Government that Gandhiji was never irrelevant so while accepting him we have to frame such an economic policy for re-establishing him which will have reform and liberalisation on the one hand, knock at 21st century and your budget is quite proper for it. But on the other hand, our budget and budgetary proceedings (procedure) should have to be made agriculture based.

Twenty-seven per cent demand of G.D.P. comes through agriculture. Sixty-seven per cent of national work force is utilised in it. But there was no progress in it after industrialisation, although there is a great scope. These days the Prime Minister's attention (aptitude) is towards agriculture it should not be taken as an applause on paper or through print media, but a new Gandhian philosophy should be given a start. I would like to appreciate the hon. Minister for increasing the subsidy on fertiliser. The agriculturist will get a double credit flow within 5 years but some new efforts are to be made in this direction and one of these efforts is that export of wheat and rice shall also have to be allowed. Now-a-days in the prices of wheat are less by 12 per cent as compared to foreign countries and likewise the prices of rice are less by 34 per cent. If our agriculturist exports agricultural produce he will be benefitted, he will get a better incentive and the burden on the national exchequer will also be abated i.e., the buffer stock will be less. When the Government is thinking of a big leap in agricultural sector then incentives should be given in this sector so that big farmers also make progress by increasing the produce.

Only after meeting the requirements of our people as I have already said, the big farmers should be allowed to export. It should be as an incentive. All of you should think over it in a joint meeting. When the buffer stock is being discussed now we feel that it should be considered more especially because when we are knocking at the door of 21st Century. India can emerge as one of the biggest exporter of cotton in the world. The Government should come with some new incentive schemes about molasses and sugar, because molasses can be used as a new alternative for petrol as well. Discussions in this connection are going on with the Government. Mr. Chairman, Sir, the next source is export growth, which has increased to 20 per cent from 7 per cent. India's share in the world Trade was 0.5 to 0.9 per cent. But in January, 1996 the export growth started coming down and from 11.5 per cent it was only 6.02 in July. The Report of G.C.R. is quite frightening. Previously our position in the world was 45th, now it is 50th,

in 1994 it was 35th and now it has gone very low. So you shall have to find out a new aspect for export. The main sources of export can be granite, marble, silver, cotton and jute etc. The Hon. Minister will consider these separately because if only a few sources are attended to, we can improve the revenue earnings for the country by enhancing the exports. As far as export is concerned it has increased from 4.2 to 26.92, but in the second phase of slow down there has been an improvement. But increase in exports alone will not help us. We shall have to increase the exports for covering the revenue deficit. It is to be improved for the development of the country as well. Likewise industrial growth is also to be increased. By abolishing corporate surcharge by 7.5 there would be a great change. I would like to present the case of two sectors i.e., Tourism and minerals and mines. If the hon. Minister takes over these two sectors then there won't be any kind of deficit. Tourism has emerged as a source of financial development in 1982 as Tourism policy. In 1992, a National Action Plan was prepared on this. It was declared as an industry. It will ensure the development of the area, generate jobs and money as well. In 1994-95 it generated income of Rs. 7366 crores which increased to 10,000 crore rupees in 1995-96. But still, sufficient attention is not being paid to tourism. I would request the hon. Minister to hold a separate meeting with the Tourism Ministry, because neither India has been divided sector-wise, nor themewise. Moreover there has not been sufficient propaganda about it in the foreign countries. The dreams which the foreigners want to fulfil here do not come true in this land. A few Five-Star hotels cannot develop the Indian tourism. If we develop tourism in the right direction, India can be the number one country and we can earn maximum amount from tourism. Earnings from tourism were about one crore rupees in 1994-95 which can be further enhanced. From the point of view of Indian culture and development, tourism can become an important sector.

Now I would like to speak about mines and minerals. According to the Report of 1995-96, we have earned Rs. 32,904 whereas a target of 11% growth-rate has been fixed for it. I believe that it can easily be raised to 30 per cent, but for that it is necessary for the State Governments to enter into dialogue with the Central Government. All the same, the Government may consider the effects of environment units on the State Governments.

Now I come to the last subject. Hon. Minister, You have not given 10 marks to you, instead you have scored between 7 and 8 which speaks of your intention that where there is imperfection, you have made efforts towards perfection. Hon. Minister, Sir, you may make so many improvements, but unless the people have something to fill their bellies and coins in their pockets, all the efforts will be fruitless. So please repeat your old tradition of making efforts as a poet says:

[Dr. Girija Vyas]

“Jab pet mein roti hoti hai,  
Jab job mein paise bajte hain,  
Us waqt yeh zara heera hai,  
Us waqt yeh shabnam moti hai”

(When your belly is filled and there are coins jingling in your purse (pocket), that time a small speck is a diamond and a dew drop is a pearl.)

To change it into a reality, please come here with a budget for the middle-class and with a slogan “Garibi hatao” on the basis of Gandhian philosophy and who try to look at the people who are thrown out of job in the power sector. With these few suggestions and some mixed personal experiences I welcome this Budget.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, normally I make a submission before I start speaking on the General Discussion on the Budget. I would like to submit that I would abide by your bell.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I would just like to caution you towards the end.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, I have not completed yet. As soon as you ring the bell, I would stop. That is agreed. But the other part of the condition is that so long as I speak, please do not ring the bell.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Make a balance between the two.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I would like to begin my speech with a reference to the part-B of the Budget speech of the hon. Finance Minister. It begins like this :

“I have set for myself a goal of augmenting the net tax revenues of the Central Government by a healthy 15 to 16 per cent and I believe that through the measures proposed by me, we would attain this goal”.

Sir, my first submission is that for achieving this goal, the United Front Government was not necessary and secondly, a very able person need not have been at the top of the Finance Ministry. Why do I say this? The Finance Minister towards the end of the Part-A of his Budget Speech has himself stated that if nothing is done, no tax proposals are made, then on the basis of existing rates of tax, without any change, that growth rate would be achieved. He has given us the figures.

He says in Paragraph 80, “Gross tax revenue at the existing rates of taxation are estimated at”, mark the words ‘existing rates of taxation’. He has given us the figure of Rs. 1,53,347 crore. The net tax revenue to the Centre is Rs. 1,13,094 crore. This is on the basis of the existing rates

of taxation. Do you know what was the answer? After the Budget speech, instead of Rs. 1,13,094 crore he has arrived at Rs. 1,13,394 crore. So, this goal was not really worth setting. Not only that, Rs. 300 crore will be collected by sacrificing Rs. 600 crore of direct taxes and by collecting Rs. 900 crore by way of indirect tax, which is in the nature of excise but not on goods but services. So, even in mobilising Rs. 300 crore, he has sacrificed the golden principle that there should be more of direct tax and less of indirect tax. All this, of course, assume that the statements that are being made about the revenue collections are valid. I have doubts about that. I will illustrate it because the Finance Bill also would be coming.

I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the receipts' side of the Budget. In the receipts side, if you look at the collections of both Corporation Tax and the tax on income other than the Corporation Tax, there is something very ominous. The Revised Estimate is higher than the original Budget Estimate. The original estimate is Rs. 7652 crore and the revised estimate is Rs. 8602 crore. But, somewhere there is a shortfall and that shortfall relates to advance tax collections. What is the advanced tax collection? The advanced tax collections are made on the basis of next year's rate. The reduction already introduced last year for this year is reflected in the fact that the tax collections have come down.

I want the Minister to contradict this. There is a desperate appeal on the TV, “Please pay your advance tax by 15th of March, even by 15th night.” That was shown on the TV. A fair lady, good looking, approaches her boss to say that. The fact remains that all that is included in these revised estimates.

For the corporation tax, look at this. Ordinary calculations have exceeded that of the Budget Estimates in the Revised Estimates. But it is not so in the case of advance collection. A sharp shortfall is there and that is despite MAT. This is one point. When he says that he will be collecting more, at least by Rs. 300 crore, ! submit that the reduction of tax rates will lead him somewhere else. Is that the only aspect? I will illustrate. I will not be elaborating because the Finance Bill will draw our attention to it.

Let me mention another indicator, so to say. That indicator is, there is a special Customs Duty of two per cent that was imposed last year, and the revenue would be spent somewhere, say on infrastructure. Now, the collection assumption is that the estimates were placed at Rs. 1400 crore, and they are expecting Rs. 2,550 crore this year. Now this means that the import has to grow. If Rs. 1400 crore is for the whole year, the Budget was not there for the whole year.

19.57 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

There has to be adjustment for nine months' collection. But this estimate shows that imports have to grow at the rate of 35 per cent in order that the reduced customs duty and the target are arrived at. These are the two indicators. Either the imports would be so high as cannot be balanced by our export earnings and other earnings, or the collections would not be that much. That is why I said that even this effort of raising Rs. 300 crore is highly suspect. If that happens, even what the existing rates of taxation would have provided would not be in the Government's kitty.

I will submit this right now. I will open it and come back to it again. The tax concessions have been given I will come to that again a little later. But there is an impeccable source, impeccable to the Minister at least because he was considered to be one of the brilliant persons. A very insulting question was put at the CII seminar when the Prime Minister of UK, Mr. John Major was asked a question, "What would be your advice to India's Finance Minister?" He was suave enough to refuse to reply to that. But our industrialists, not having any sense of prestige, could ask such a question to the Prime Minister of UK. But what does he say? This is what I am trying to draw attention to. The GDP is expected to grow, it has been accounted, in nominal terms to be 15 per cent to 16 per cent taking into account the 7 per cent real growth rate and taking into account supposing 8 to 9 per cent.

20.00 hrs.

It will be a nominal growth of 15 per cent to 16 per cent, which he has set as a goal of growth of tax revenue collections.

As we all know, Mr. John Major is leading a losing Party in the United Kingdom. Now he says this. "The average level of public expenditure, public spending in the European Union rose from 44 per cent of GDP in 1979 to around 50 per cent of GDP today. An advanced country is spending 50 per cent of its GDP as part of Government expenditure. And he also says in relation to labour—just not exactly the preceding Government but the Government before that represented by his Party which lost in a way and have, I believe, gathered wisdom out of their loss as expressed in her speech as well as the speech of these illustrious predecessors—minus 13 days.

Mr. John Major challenges the labour. He says—on the losing side that he is trying to reduce public spending to 40 per cent or less of Gross Domestic Product. He accuses the Labour Party they are trying to raise it and we lose. If he reduces it, he is not going to win the elections. That is quite ominous. Now why I referred to this. I will come to it

when I come to the expenditure part. As we all know, everybody is pleased, initially. 'Everybody' means what? Less than one per cent of individuals in the country. Firstly, in terms of receipts. I am not sure about the income-tax figure even now. I am sure, he also does not know the figure. This figure, according to the income-tax sources, refers to—as I interrupted Shri Vajpayee to point out refers to returns—not to actual payees. Assesseees who submit returns, who not necessarily pay taxes. We know the corporation tax. Returns have been submitted. Two thousand companies do not pay taxes. When he proposes to widen his tax net, he wants to net in these returnees and the net has so many loopholes that tax payees will go out of the net. Anyway, these people are pleased. They are happy and the richer, the happier. At an income of Rs. 10 lakh there is a bonus through income-tax deductions of Rs. 98,000 or Rs. 1 lakh. This is not just enough. It is not only Rs. 1 lakh. The dividend tax has been withdrawn on the basis of the false argument that it involves double taxation. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : It is a false argument.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Absolutely false argument. Nowhere in the world is double taxation defined by assuming taxes on two different entities. As far as Corporation tax is concerned, he gives the figure as Rs. 1.22 crore. Out of that, he takes Rs. 88 lakh from the individuals and rest from corporations. These are different entities.

You cannot say that because I have taxed the corporation therefore, I tax the individual. They are different entities. That is why it is present even in the country of the Almighty, that is the United States. But it has been granted. What does that mean?

Earlier up to Rs. 2,000 of dividend earned was not taxed, so it does not refer to them. Now, who has Rs. 10 lakh of income? Of course, not a salaried person. The Government salaries are to be raised, if agreed, to a maximum of Rs. 30,000. So this income of Rs. 10 lakh comes from other sources, may be speculation, primarily from this dividend. Therefore, the Rs. 10 lakh income earners, as he pointed out, are no more than only 12,000. One per cent would have been 90 lakhs or 93 lakhs. They comprise only 12,000—poor people—it is a very small group. They will come down to 5,000 because their income was primarily on such income. The net will be wider. More people will be pleased to submit returns in order to prove the point that they need not pay any tax. So the rich are happier.

Now, who are the other people who would be very happy? Those people who want to dump their goods from outside into our country, that is the importers. They are very happy, no matter what impact it has on India's economy. The multi-nationals abroad would be very happy because they will have a larger market when the customs duties were a little higher. Goods produced by the multi-nationals

[Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee]

would be sold in larger volumes generating a larger profit and they will be happy.

Who else will be happy? Who else are pleased with this? There is a reduction from 20 per cent to 10 per cent on the capital gains tax on NRIs. Why? We have heard opposite argument from the Ministry of Finance. The FIIs, Foreign Institution Investors, in the share market were paying ten per cent on capital gains and NRIs were paying 20 per cent. Indians also pay 20 per cent tax. Now, instead of raising the FIIs to 20 per cent level, we are kind enough to our brothers living abroad that we have reduced it to 10 per cent. They, therefore, are pleased with the Budget.

The foreign investors, of course, have plenty of reasons to be happy. I will elaborate this a little later. Now, immediately, we can say that they have reasons to be happy by our policies of first restricting them to 24 per cent, then 40 per cent, moving on to 51 per cent, then 74 per cent and then take over at 100 per cent.

Multinationals will be happy in supplying goods and in being able to invest. Of course, their spokespersons in the IMF and the World Bank already have expressed their happiness.

There is another aspect. It is assumed that no matter who had raised, no matter how he defends himself in this, there is an amnesty scheme. They will be very happy, not because they have to pay but because they can generate more black money. You know this and some of you may have noticed this. It is very interesting that there is an appeal on TV for paying the advance taxes. It is almost crying hoarse. But we people, do not cry hoarse. This appeal was necessary for this reason that if they pay advance tax today, they have to pay at a higher rate of 47 per cent. If they pay it next year through the amnesty scheme, they will have to pay 30 per cent only. I am not teaching you. They will refuse to pay their last instalment on 15th of March so that they avoid 47 per cent of burden and get the advantage of the amnesty scheme for 30 per cent. This is for this year's people. How about the others? What signal has gone to all those who have accumulated, amassed black wealth and generated black income every year. Two very important signals have gone to them. One is that amnesty schemes will come. With this argument that it is one-time affair for every three years, then I am convinced that whatever the colour of the Government, the amnesty schemes will continue to come.

The second point is, please collect more because the promise is for further reduction of taxes in the coming years. If at all this scheme of things that has been introduced would generate much more black income than the amnesty scheme can ever mop up, he can say that somebody, somewhere has advised him or some Minister has advised him.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : It is not somebody, somewhere. It is the Chief Minister, Shri Jyoti Basu's speech in the National Development Council. Why is he hesitating to say that? Why is he saying somebody and somewhere? He is criticising it.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : It is because I wanted him to say so and nothing else.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : He is entitled to criticise it. But he should have the courage to say that that suggestion came from the Chief Minister, Shri Jyoti Basu.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Yes, I do say so.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : You say that.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I wanted him to say that. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : You say it. Even now, he is unwilling to utter the name and the place. You utter it now.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : This is true and that was wrong.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : You say it and say the name.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I am not going by the name.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Then why do you say, 'somebody and somewhere'?

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Shri Jyoti Basu is not 'somebody'.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I am going by the argument.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : You say the name and place and then argue.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I wanted him to say that.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Why can't you say that?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : It is because you have only that defence and there is no other defence for your argument.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : That is not the only defence. I am willing to defend and I will defend it in my reply. I am taking objection to a courageous parliamentarian hesitating to mention a name and place.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I am not hesitating at all.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Even now you are not in a position to say it.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : He has said that it was Shri Jyoti Basu's speech in the National Development Council.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Say it once.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : It does not matter if the Chief Minister of West Bengal has suggested it. On the basis of the argument one has to meet.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I will meet your argument.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : That will help me. We should see that. Now I will come to the other argument.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : After the Budget presentation, whether any discussion took place in the CPI(M) wherein Shri Jyoti Basu participated or not? You could have avoided these confusions.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I will help you to understand that.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : You help yourself and your Party.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I will help you when I will be able to indict you.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please address the Chair.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : The other thing that I want to point out is the argument for tax reduction.

This is the kind of tax reduction that is revealed. I had mentioned it elsewhere, let me mention this in the House.

What have I got here? I have got a rate schedule of income-tax of different countries. The maximum rate mentioned—it will be surprising to the House because not many would be knowing this—is for Australia. The highest rate in Australia is 47 per cent, not 30 per cent. The highest rate in Austria is 50 per cent.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Agriculture is exempted there.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : You know about agriculture in Austria. I am talking of income-tax first. The picture of corporate tax is probably not very dissimilar.

In Belgium the highest tax rate is 55 per cent, in Denmark it is 40, in Ireland it is 48, in Italy it is 50, in Japan it is 50, in Netherlands it is 60 and in Spain it is 56. For Norway it is not given here.

These are the highest rates of tax.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : What about Russia and China?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : They do not exist us! So, these are the rates in the respective countries.

In fact, it is the same story in the U.K. when he says that after the Second World War there was a tendency not only in India but also everywhere that in order to finance the wars, rates of taxes were increased to incredible heights. We do not support that. Ours was, it was called a confiscating levy. It was 97 per cent. Then it began coming down. But today the argument is of a different quality altogether. Because that was continued, that was necessary to the emergency of the war. Today on the basis of the arguments pointed out if the Minister of Finance does not tax, or if the tax is not very low he will not collect taxes. There is an example here also. At least there is one country where the minimum rate is one per cent and the maximum is 13. It is on this that the amnesty people hinged that our very able Ministry of Finance would be tempted to move towards that. Therefore, he may go on generating black income and accumulating black wealth.

I do not want to go into the details of the custom duties because they will go on. But a few general observations can be made. The most astounding one is, what economic function that serves—one wonders—by Indians going abroad and coming back with baggages. It is a terrible function! Going abroad and coming back with satisfaction. Therefore, it is reduced from 60 to 55 per cent. It was 210 per cent at one time, 130 per cent later, then 80 per cent, 60 per cent and now it is brought down. For whose satisfaction is it brought down? Whom does he want to bring in his tax net? Anybody who has gone abroad once in a year is brought in, for his satisfaction. I do not know. He wants to spread his net so that more people are encouraged to come together because the baggage rate is reduced. And then, there are some—I just mentioned about this—the duties proposed are terrible. What does the hon. Minister examine and where does he increase?

I know that many Members of Parliament would be happy about this proposition, but why?

It is because the duty on the parts of cellular telephones and pagers has been reduced from 30 to 20 per cent. It is, of course, to subscribe the cause of the people below the poverty line. ... (*Interruptions*). The colour television has become very popular. Therefore, its rates have been reduced from 20 per cent to 10 per cent.

We have passed the Anti-Pollution Authority Bill. Delhi is a very polluted city. Who does not know about it? It may be for so many reasons. Therefore, in order that the richer section of people who owned these modern cars and yet not pollute the poor, the duty on the catalytic converters has been reduced from 25 per cent to 5 per cent. Is it a service to the country? The rich is not allowed to pollute and, therefore, a concession is given.

Now, I would like to say something about hotels. The duty on the specified food items imported by approved hotels

[Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee]

has been reduced from 50 per cent to 25 per cent. Perhaps we all love to see our talented Minister of Finance, Shri Chidambaram's face—a very likeable face—and we would like to have a photograph of him. Therefore, the duty on the photographic goods also has been reduced. ...*(Interruptions)*. The Common Minimum Programme (CMP) says that if at all growth is there, we are for the poor. That is what we proudly say that we distinguish it. There were many funny things in terms of excise duty. I do not understand why a Tariff Commission is there. What was the hurry not to refer the whole set of customs duties to the Tariff Commission instead of introducing it in this manner? There is no such thing for excise duty, but the Tariff Commission can look into that also. They can look into this inconjunction so that there is some degree of protection and some threat of competition. That is a story. This has not been done in terms of excise duties. It is a very peculiar thing. I do not understand their logic. He will certainly make me understand that. The excise duty rates are 8, 13 and 18. There must be some logic somewhere as to why these numbers have been preferred and not 10, 15 or 20. There must be some logic. I have failed to fathom it. He will certainly explain it. ...*(Interruptions)*. In doing that the small scale sector have also started complaining that the kind of duties which have been imposed on them would create problems. I will tell you the reasons. A part of the small scale sector can take the help of MODVAT, a part cannot. Now, in those areas where it is 10 per cent labour and 90 per cent materials brought from outside, it does happen in certain sectors that the larger one who will pay MODVAT instead of paying taxes gathers more. The MODVAT credit he gets, say 13 per cent or 14 per cent and pays a duty of 8 per cent. So, somebody has to look into the arithmetic which may have escaped his attention. As far as small scale sector is concerned, we know that the policy of dereservation is also there. I shall not dilate on the receipt side any more because we shall come back to receipt side when the Finance Bill is considered.

Let me now turn my attention to the expenditure side. That is very interesting. I think I should preface with the Approach to the Ninth Five Year Plan, which is very interesting. The Planning Commission focuses our attention to what has happened in the course of the Eighth Five year Plan. There is a neglect of agriculture. This is an astounding statement! I was surprised. Look at paragraph 1.21. The *per capita* income in U.P. and Bihar has come down over the last several years in real terms. Can you imagine? Perhaps these kinds of realisations have led his illustrious predecessor minus thirteen days to rethink.

With regard to employment opportunities, the Planning Commission's Approach says—once again that magic fifteen number comes up—that in real terms there must be 15 per cent growth. This is in real terms, not in nominal terms, as

is his anticipation. And then, of course, they refer to the weaknesses of the basic minimum thing. They say that public investment in the infrastructure area, particularly in the irrigation sector, has dropped. Then, in the employment sector also, they say, it has dropped. I do not know if they are aware that there are fewer salaried persons and there is more and more casualisation in the economy. About the social sector, of course, we all know the poverty line story. Whether it has grown or not, that is not the point. The point is that the estimate has been revised to say that about 35 per cent of the people still live below the poverty line.

*[Translation]*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : How much time would you take? You have already spoken for 40 minutes.

*[English]*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : That is, I think, almost the opening sentence.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Sir, what is the time allotted for his party?

*[Translation]*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : That is why I was asking.

*[English]*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I shall come to the expenditure side now.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, nobody else is speaking from his party apparently.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, why should he feel uncomfortable, I do not know.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I am not feeling uncomfortable. He has to wind up because others also have to speak.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Let me conclude.

Sir, they have noticed a decline in the share of the States. In the course of the Eighth Five Year Plan, public investment has squeezed. It is in this context that we have to assess the pattern of expenditure that has been proposed. I will not say that one has drawn no lesson from this. The best example, of course, is the Targeted Public Distribution System. Let us pay our homage to the States. It is they who started. Let us remember N.T. Rama Rao in this House for his 'two-rupee campaign' which was considered to be populism. It is that kind of an idea which has come up by saying in a refined way that give to the targeted group, to those who are below the poverty line, at half the price or near about that.

It is also true that in the social sector, more has been given.

There is no doubt about that. It is also true that there are two very important programmes like accelerated irrigation and accelerated water supply.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Chatterjee, I have checked up your party got only 26 minutes. You have spoken for 40 minutes. This way, no member of your party can get a chance to speak.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, I know that. That is why I am raising above the Party. ... (Interruptions) I am coming to that. I know it. The point is that these are the positive orientations of the Budget. However, the point that I am making is that in order to do that and in order to pay, the expenditure has grown from the Budget Estimate of Rs. 2,04,000 crore to the Budget Estimate of Rs. 2,32,000 crore. I do not want to compare the Revised Estimate while comparing with the next year's Budget Estimate. They are not comparable. You can have the Budget Estimate and then do not spend and have a different kind of Revised Estimate; or spend more and have a different kind of Revised Estimate. The comparable entities are Budget Estimates. Looking at that, these accelerated programmes also do not seem to be as high as is the case. All the same, it helps through that this has been done. What has happened in the process? Some extra expenditure of Rs. 8,000 crore was there. An amount of Rs. 16,000 crore goes for Defence and for interest expenditure, additionally. So, what remains? An increase of Rs. 28,000 crore has been proposed from the Budget Estimate. Of that, Rs. 16,000 crore is taken away. The growth is only for the rest which is only 7 per cent. In one broad view one can immediately see that that means that the expenditure is being cut in other areas in real terms.

This is as simple as daylight and this is what has happened. Even within the social sector, when we check the figures we will see that in order to give one more there are two kinds of things which have happened. In real terms, it has come down or even in nominal terms, in certain cases, it has come down. It is here that my initial point is relevant.

There has been less expenditure for public enterprises.

[Translation]

LT. GENERAL SHRI PRAKASH MANI TRIPATHI (Deoria) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, whether there has been a decision to increase the time allotted for discussion on the General Budget.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Not for the time being.

LT. GENERAL SHRI PRAKASH MANI TRIPATHI : If not, then all the people should speak at the proper time.

otherwise the people whose names are towards the end of the list do not get time. We are compelled to speak quickly and we are asked to finish within 5 minutes. It is, because the Hon. Members do not speak within the time allotted to them.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, I will try to conclude. Our time was cut because of the Bill which took one-and-a-half hour's time. The discussion on the Budget ought to have started at 6 p.m. ... (Interruptions) I will now mention one infrastructure. Irrigation has been given; but to the surprise of everyone the most important infrastructure, which is the Railways, is neglected. We went through the debate on the Railway Budget. The Plan expenditure, in real terms, for Railways has come down. We talk about robberies and dacoities in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh where the *per capita* income is less. People complain that the Railway Minister has provided more for Bihar. I would have loved to give more to Bihar because it is through the Railways, by opening up and by giving more employment and by generating more income that we will be able to control it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Chatterjee, you are talking on General Budget. Please confine your speech to it. You have taken double the time allotted to your Party.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, I am referring to Railways because this part is mentioned in the General Budget. It is mentioned here. ... (Interruptions) I am illustrating that in trying to emphasise one infrastructure we have denied the most important infrastructure of the country, the Railways its share.

It is there that I want to suggest. Not only that. Look at the concern for the small-scale sector. The subsidies provided to handloom and *khadi* have come down in real terms. Even the subsidies provided to food and fertilizers have also come down in real terms despite the targeted PDS. It is in this context that I was quoting Mr. John Major. Unless you collect more, you cannot spend more. You emphasise on this, but not at the cost of some other item. The country has no future if the Government expenditure does not rise as a proportion to the General Budget. In terms of employment, he has mentioned the question of prices. Prices are bound to rise for the simple reason that if you give this targeted PDS at a lower price, you enhance the prices in the rest of the market.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please finish now.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I am concluding now. If you do that, the market which is reflected in the Wholesale Price Index would rise. Even, it may go beyond two digits.

The whole approach of the Budget, it seems to me, is to give the plea that the Government can do no more, India's countrymen can do no more. Therefore, the outsiders

[Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee]

must help, be they multinationals or World Bank or International Monetary Fund.

You look at the approach to petroleum products. Today, it has been mentioned that there is a shortage of petroleum and we are opening it up, but there was not a single word to say that the petroleum consumption should be cut down, as suggested, even alternative days or odd number of days. They have talked not of cutting down the consumption because the entire approach is to generate a market where multinationals can flourish. It is this aspect which is also reflected in the opening up of the insurance sector. Therefore, I say that the whole purpose of the Budget, in spite of the fact that it does a few good things, only declares the weakness of the country in order to invite the foreigners.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Sir, let me start my speech with some welcome changes in the Budget. I am speaking immediately after Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee. So, I think, probably, I am saying something which is said 'is not good'. I feel that I must congratulate the Finance Minister.

SHRI DATTA MEGHE (Ramtek) : You are supporting the Budget.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : I am yet to come to that stage. You are there in good number to support it. Why do you need our support? ...*(Interruptions)*

Firstly, the reduction of tax rates for both the sectors—corporate as well as individuals—is really a welcome step. This is because it is better to prevent than to offer a cure. As Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee was saying, if you want not to have Voluntary Disclosure Scheme in future, it is better to provide for it now by reducing rates of tax and bringing them at a level which really meets with some sane thinking.

Sir, there was a time when 97.75 per cent was the highest individual tax that the people had to pay. From there, we have come down to 30 per cent now and I really congratulate the Finance Minister for being so bold and innovative in offering such a tax rate both for the individuals as well as the corporate sector. Of course, the rates for the corporate sector are different, but I really congratulate him for reducing these rates.

Sir, the second point on which I, again, wish to compliment him is for removing the tax on dividends. While introducing that measure, he said that he wants to end the controversy. But I do not think that the controversy has really ended. Probably, Shri Chatterjee was trying to revive the controversy has to whether the tax on dividends is a double tax or not. But, I think, it is very clear in the minds of those who receive the dividends that it was a double tax and I really congratulate the Finance Minister for removing it.

There are various issues on which one will have to really find fault with the Budget. But I am aware of the fact that Finance Minister was acting in a very unenviable situation in which he had a problem of resources. On the one hand, he had the problem of lack of financial resources which he had to find somewhere and on the other hand, he had enough resources in terms of many parties offering him political resources by saying as to what should be done and what should not be done. So, may be, one is the lack of resources which has prevented him from doing the things and the other is the abundance of resources which was available to him in terms of advice. In that situation, I think, probably he had to do certain things which he, otherwise, would not have done in a normal situation.

Sir, I will fail in my duty if I do not point out one fundamental weakness that, I have seen, is there in the economy. We often make a reference to it and in fact, everybody, who talks about the Indian economy, makes a reference to it. But I really do not know as to why we are not attempting to, at least, take a first step to bring about a solution to this problem. The debt servicing this year is Rs. 1,42,632 crore and our total revenue receipts are Rs. 1,53,143 crore. So, probably, in the year 1998–99 or definitely in the next year after that, our debt servicing obligations will be more than the revenue receipts, as is the trend now. I think, we are really entering into a very serious situation and I do not know as to how one could salvage this situation.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have placed a paper on the Table of the House about our external debt.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : I am not talking about external debt; I am talking about the total debt.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Just a moment. When you talk about debt servicing, please read the paper about external debt. We are not into any kind of debt trap.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : While increasing the prices we can, always, reduce the proportion.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Sir, whether we are into a debt trap or not, if we really see the figures, this year Rs. 1,42,632 crore is the debt servicing obligation as opposed to the total revenue receipts projected at Rs. 1,53,143 crore. This is a very serious situation that the gap is Rs. 11,000 crore. So probably, if not next year, the year after the next definitely we will be having a serious problem. That is my apprehension. I am very glad that the Finance Minister has something else to feel about it and it is very nice. This is a matter of very serious concern that almost 42 per cent of the total revenue receipts are now eaten away by way of interest which is to the tune of Rs. 68,000 crore and only 58 per cent of the income of the Government is left for something else, out of which a part is also going into Non-Plan expenditure like subsidy and other areas. But what is

important is, if we are really going to continue with a situation like this, how much amount is going to be left with us for developmental works? If that situation continues, our people who are going to pay the taxes will realise that nothing is going to be used for them in any form of developmental expenditure. So, a very serious situation might arise and, I think, this is a point of serious concern for all of us to really ponder over.

[*Translation*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : One thing I would like to bring to your notice. According to this schedule, only one minute is allotted to your party.

[*English*]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, imagine the farce about this time schedule.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : But you have taken more than double the time that was allotted to your party. As I did allow you, I am allowing him also.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Sir, as you allowed him, I hope that you would allow me also.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Yes.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Sir, the other area of concern is the point about the infrastructure. The Common Minimum Programme has talked about \$ 200 billion of investment that is needed in the infrastructure sector. It says that an amount of \$ 200 billion investment is necessary to go into the field of infrastructure at today's prices, of today's requirement and to be implemented in the next few years' time.

Sir, the committee which you appointed for commercialisation of infrastructure has also anticipated the same amount in another five years' time. The CMP is also talking of putting six per cent of GDP in infrastructure in the next five years. Keeping that in view, how much amount we have really invested this year into infrastructure is something which is really a cause of concern for all of us. This is a very important thing because the Finance Minister is projecting very high on the premise that there is going to be seven per cent growth. To bring about seven per cent growth of economy, if the infrastructure investment this year and also in the years to follow are not going to keep pace with the envisaged requirement of 2000 billion dollars as mentioned in the CMP, I really do not know how are we going to avoid a situation which is not going to be alarming.

The other issue of concern is the cost of governance. Every year our cost of administration is going up and after the adoption of this report of the Fifth Pay Commission, it is going to go further up. What steps are you really going to initiate to reduce the cost of governance, there is no talk about it. There was only a talk about this expenditure in the

last Budget. But I think this year again we have really not thought about it at all.

Sir, the other issue is about employment and the new jobs created during the year. There is no specific mention of it. This is also an area of concern in a country like India where the thrust should be more on employment than on any other thing. Apart from giving figures of the growth of GDP—which in necessary—we should also start giving figures in the Annual Plan about new jobs created during the year. It is important for us to assess the performance of the economy in that year.

Sir, this year we must make an attempt to create more jobs in manufacturing sector or in services sector which create more stable jobs. The United States is also saying that we do not want MAG jobs but we want manufacturing jobs. So, some stable job should be created in the economy on an on-going basis which is very important. This is more important because we are now going in for a highly automated types of operations in the economy for more jobs. May be, there will be loss of jobs than new jobs created. So, I think such type of figures need to be given.

Sir, another assurance or another milestone that the CMP wants to achieve is the abolition of poverty by the year 2005. An amount of Rs. 2466 crore have been provided this year in this Budget. I think, the figures of people going below the poverty line during the year as has been suggested even by the CMP are really alarming and there is not much improvement in this.

Sir, the other point of concern is the deficit under the oil pool account. But I will not blame the Finance Minister for it because when this new Government came there was already a deficit in the oil pool account which was not recouped for the last so many years. Probably the supporting parties want that it should not be recouped immediately. They want that some time should elapse between the time the deficit in the oil pool account and the time it is recouped. So, I think they are waiting for some more time on the advice of the parties which are supporting them.

Sir, another area of concern is the decline in capital expenditure. I think this is a direct cause for which core sector of industry is really suffering. Sir, the cement and steel industries are going down and the reason is that the Government's capital expenditure is on decline continuously for the last few years. Sir, the last budget also mentioned that there is going to be Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) of 10 billion dollars. This year, I think we have got just a little over about one billion dollar.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : We have over two billion dollars.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : I think, two billion dollars is the sanctioned but what is the actual?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I am talking about actual.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : All right, it is two billion dollars. So, it is 20 per cent of what we are really targeting.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I have said that a target of 10 billion dollars cannot be achieved in one year. It is like trying to go from step one to the top step of the flight of stairs. You have to take one step at a time or two steps at a time. We have done in terms of foreign exchange inflows into the country much better than last year. In fact, the problem is really how to sterilize the foreign exchange inflows. By the time March 31 is over, it will reach the highest foreign exchange reserves ever in this country. So, the real issue is how do you get FDI? FDI this year is more than that of the last year. The GDR is much more than last year. It is running at 50 per cent higher than last year.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : I agree with you but I was just talking about FDI alone.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I am talking about FDI plus GDR. GDR is also FDI.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Even then it is not more than two billion dollars.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, FDI is over two billion dollars, FII is over two billion dollars and GDR is about a billion dollar.

The total foreign exchange inflow, I am talking from memory, is about seven billion dollars, this year. Last year, we ran down foreign exchange of three billion dollars. This year, by March 31, we would have built up foreign exchange of four billion dollars.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : So, you are going to get this ten billion dollars over a period of time. How much time will it take because two hundred billion dollar investment is necessary in infrastructure alone? So, it will take a long time.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : It is a good debate, I wish, we could enter into. Two hundred billion dollars is not going to be foreign money. The bulk of that capital will be raised within India. Foreign capital is only at the margin. It is about four per cent of our requirements. So, when we talk about two hundred billion dollars, it is only to give an idea, not merely in crore terms but also in billion dollar terms, about the size of the investment. Please read Rakesh Mohan's Report. Nobody is saying that two hundred billion dollars will come from outside the country. The bulk of it will be raised in India. The Indian capital market will provide it; the Indian savings will provide it. At the margin, we require foreign capital because it brings in technology.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : I was reading from Mohan's Report "Commercialisation of Infrastructure".

Sir, the other point is about education and health. The CMP said that six per cent of the GDP is going to be spent

on education. As opposed to that, the provision this year on education is Rs. 4,158 crore, and on health care, it is Rs. 755 crore. Probably, the CMP was talking about minimum amount that could be provided. It is not six per cent, but less than six per cent.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Six per cent of GDP is what this country should spend on education. You must add the State Governments' expenditure on education and the Central Government's expenditure on education. You must aim at a target of spending six per cent of GDP on education. The State Governments are also spending on education

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Sir, in animal form, the U.F's manifesto is supplemented by various supplementaries. I think, the CMP also has some supplementaries.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : You must read it carefully.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : You should be happy that the Minister is giving answers to all your queries.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : I am happy about it.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I am willing to answer if you have got any genuine doubts.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Sir, the other issue is about widening of tax net. There are about 13 million assesseees, and it should definitely increase the number of assesseees from 13 million to 400 million because we are always saying that India has a middle-class of 400 million people comparable to probably Europe. That is why, foreigners should invest in the country. If we really have that type of a critical mass, who could be assesseees, then probably this is a good measure to tax them or to bring them under the tax net. If he meets one of the four conditions, he has to pay tax.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : If a person meets two of the four conditions, then he has to pay the tax.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please try to wind up.

SHRI SURESH-PRABHU : Sir, this is unfair.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I am not including the time taken by the Finance Minister for his interventions. You have already taken more than ten minutes.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Sir, everybody has taken 40 minutes or 45 minutes or one hour. I should at least be given some more time.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN (Karad) : You can take up the rest in the discussion on the Finance Bill.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Sir, I have a query to the Finance Minister. Suppose an agriculturist having an agricultural income satisfies two of the four conditions, will

he be required to file a tax return? Otherwise, his income is not taxable. So, the logical step to take is, whoever is fulfilling one of the four conditions, even if his income is from agriculture, he should be taxed. But there is no provision for that. It is not really provided in the Budget. I think, this is the time that we should really go for it.

The other sector that has not been met with the Prime Minister's attention is the cooperatives. The cooperatives contribute significantly to the welfare of the economy also. There is a provision in the Income Tax Act, Section 80 (P), which needs to be amended. Otherwise, there are some cooperative societies whose profits are getting taxed even though it is a concept of mutuality between the member and the cooperative society. Despite that, it is getting taxed, and also the reservers created by the institutions, if they are invested and the income arising out of that is also getting taxed. Probably, the Finance Minister would certainly look into it.

Sir, the last Five Year Plan never had a chapter on cooperation, and probably this approach to Five Year Plan is not even talking about it. Probably, we will have an exclusive chapter on cooperation, as was there right from the First Five year Plan, in this sector also.

Sir, the Seventy-third and the Seventy-fourth Amendments have now given a different type of constitutional rights to local self-Governments. I think the same type of rights need to be given to the cooperatives, if at all we want them to function in a proper manner.

I am happy that the Finance Minister has taken very bold steps to provide autonomy to the RBI. The real function of the RBI should be to control the prices, to control the inflation and also to control the price of the rupee—what should be the value of the rupee. This should be the responsibility of the Central Bank. This year, the Central Government has taken Rs. 6,000 crore of profit of the RBI into the credit of your Consolidated Fund.

A sum of Rs. 16,000 crore of monetised deficit has also been attributed to the Reserve Bank of India as per the document. I will show the figure of Rs. 16,000 crore here. I would like to know about one thing. The Central Government is going to borrow from the RBI, not through the Treasury Bills but only through the ways and means advances. When the State Governments are getting such ways and means advances, if there is a default, the RBI does not allow them to draw one rupee more. Is the same rule going to apply to the Central Government when the Bank is acting as the banker to the Government? It is something about which I would like to know from the hon. Minister. Then only we will really know whether the autonomy of the Reserve Bank is a reality or not.

The Common Minimum Programme has also talked about the sick companies. There was a proposal saying

that the SICA would be totally revamped so that the BIFR could work in a proper manner and the small scale sector would be brought under the purview of the Sick Companies Act. There is no such provision. In fact, that is something which needs to be done immediately so that probably all the money that is blocked with the sick companies would really come into productive areas. Even the banks would have reduced the Non-Performing Assets.

About agriculture, there is a provision this year. Last year, the plan outlay for agriculture and irrigation was Rs. 1242 crore with the actuals going to Rs. 815 crore whereas in 1997-98, the provision is Rs. 323 crore with a substantial reduction. I think the Minister will really try to do something about it. Girls' Education Programme has been started. I think the mid-day meals programme of the Prime Minister is discontinued.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : No, that is there. It is not discontinued.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : I think the other point which is really important is: How are we going to raise our savings in the Indian economy? The individuals and the non-Governmental sectors are saving the most. How are we going to really bring about increased savings because as the Finance Minister has said the bulk of \$ 200 billion has to come from savings? What are the incentives offered to the household savers who are really the biggest contributors to the savings, who will really replace possibility of the FDI not coming into the country? How are they going to benefit? If you are going to offer so much of incentives to the FDIs and others, what incentives are you offering to the household savings? It is something about which we would like to know from the hon. Minister.

I will make three suggestions to the hon. Finance Minister for his consideration. One, we need to have a debt redemption fund. Probably, the proceeds of the PSUs should be directly credited to that. Also, we must have some sort of a swap of equity of the PSUs with some sort of a debt.

Another point is about telecom fee. Telecom fee is a one-time gain for the Government. You are giving away the monopolies of the State in respect of certain sectors and in lieu of that you are receiving certain compensation from the operators. We have taken a credit of Rs. 3700 crore this year as licence fees from the telecom sector. Really speaking, even from normal accounting standards this money is something like a windfall gain and should not be treated as a revenue receipt in the hands of the Government. There is need to use this money. Since it is a one time receipt, you should use it for something more than just using it to meet the revenue expenditure of the Department. I think there is a need to have a policy on how we are going to use the money which we receive one-time on account of such receipts.

[Shri Suresh Prabhu]

We need to have a backward area approach in a properly articulated manner. As per the CMP, you have already said that hundred districts, which are most backward districts of the country, are going to be identified and you are going to target some money towards this purpose. So, various types of programmes are there. Some areas never get the benefit. There is the area of Konkan in Maharashtra which is not receiving the proper attention of the Government. We are not really identifying the areas and articulating them properly and trying to direct the investment towards them. So, I think there is need to have some sort of a proper planning in terms of targetting them.

A lot of investment on infrastructure is needed for the areas which are more backward than the others. In fact, unless we really remove the backwardness of the areas, we should not target investment towards other areas. There is a need to provide more funds for Mumbai. You are not really giving anything to it. People from all over the country are staying in Mumbai. So, there is a need for providing more money to the development of Mumbai.

Sir, we have dispensed with the licensing system. Where an industry has to be located is no longer decided by the Government. Unless you provide certain fiscal benefits whereby the industries will be directed to go or tempted to go to a particular place, they would not really go to such places.

21.00 hrs.

Sir, I earnestly request the Finance Minister to, at least, have his attention on these issues that for backward areas he needs to have a different approach and different fiscal policy so that we can really get people going into that area.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, Sardar Surjit Singh Barnala.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Sir, I bow down to your decision for calling Shri Barnala very rightly. But my point is that out of 140 Members of our party, only one has spoken. So, please after him, at least, allow two Members from our side to speak. It is because yesterday, I agreed to the request of the hon. Speaker and allowed Shri Sharad Yadav to speak although it was the turn of our Party to speak.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Next turn is of B.J.P. but I am calling him first.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly) : Only one person from our party has spoken. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : What is our position? (Interruptions). ...It is too much. ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI DATTA MEGHE (Ramtek) : How long will the sitting continue today.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Upto 10 p.m.

SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA (Sangrur): Thank you for giving me time. I have listened to Finance Minister's speech with rapt attention. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev, how many Members have spoken from the BJP side? From their side also only one Member has spoken so far.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : If from the BJP only one Member has spoken, then I agree. ... (Interruptions). I have got the name of a lady member also who is waiting to speak.

[Translation]

SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA : The terminology used is excellent. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : No interruption, please.

[Translation]

SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA : While listening you can't make out in whose favour it is going. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

He has used soft and illusive language.

[Translation]

In whose favour it is going and against whom. It is going on. There used to be a lot of hue and cry after the Finance Minister's speech. There is immediate reaction. Some people are of the opinion that it is a pro-weak budget, while some say it is anti-poor budget. Some people say that it is anti-farmer budget while some say it is pro-industry budget. ... (Interruptions) we have not heard these words. I have not come to listen to these words. One thing is definitely there, that it is a pro-liberalisation budget. This trend is prevailing throughout the world. Pro-liberalisation was not a bad thing. Even after that it so happens that people usually start pitching their tents after the budget speech. Some people carry red flags while some carry other kinds of flags. This way there are so many camps. Some sit on hunger strike that it is not our job. Budget should be alright. It goes on. This time, it is not the case. It appears that some people have accepted this budget.

I was looking at it from a different angle. It was a difficult task for the Finance Minister because there are 14 parties. All these 14 parties have different philosophies, varied thinking. Somebody looks to the left and some to the right, while somebody adopts the middle course. It was a difficult task to go along with two parties which are supporting from outside. It was difficult to go along with them.

[English]

SHRI P. SHANMUGAM (Vellore) : Sir, will the debate go on beyond 10 p.m. also?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : No.

... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please keep quiet. Order please.

[Translation]

SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA : They deserve praise. They have done a commendable job. Some people are happy with it. Stock market, corporate sector, foreign investment—all these are flourishing. ... (Interruptions)

I have listened to the speech of Shri Vajpayee. He could not taurt so much although he was attempting to do so, because while sitting in the opposition one has to speak something. We are receiving deputations very often. Previously they would come for this and that. This time only two deputations have come. One from Induction Furnishes, Steel Industry especially in Govindgarh, Punjab.

[English]

It was a tight rope walking and he walked the rope very well. I give credit to him for that.

[Translation]

People came from there because duty on the install capacity has been levied on induction furnishes. They say that our production is not so high. We shall have to think about it that duty should not be levied on installed capacity. It is better to be levied on the production. It may be checked. Is there any way out. If they are evading it can be done in a better way. There was a gentleman whose name Shri Vajpayee made during his speech that he created circumstances of quarrel. A war is declared between jute bags and polythene bags. They had come to us. I am mentioning this because I have a little knowledge of it. When I was Food Minister in 1978, during that time there was the procurement period as it is now. For procurement we required gunny bags. We required 8 crore bags but we got only 4 crore. We were in a fix what to do. We could decide nothing. Meanwhile we received a demand for some rice from Bangladesh, and also for some rice seeds. We had it, so we at once talked to them that we can provide them if they require, but give us jute bags. You will be receiving these commodities when you will be sending jute

bags to us. We had to import jute bags from Bangladesh. So there should not be monopoly. When there is monopoly, there is exploitation. I would not go into the details that who gains or who does not. In some cases, polythene bag is of a great use, whereas in some cases jute bags are of a great help. I am not against them.

We have some apprehension and that is this budget is silent. Nothing has been said about the petroleum prices. Everybody feels that petroleum prices will go up very soon. And it will have its impact. It appears to me that when the petroleum prices go up, the prices of all commodities start going up. Everybody feels that when petroleum prices go up there will be inflation. They have to watch these things.

There are certain things for which there is minimum provision. Just now my friend was saying that the funds allocated for irrigation are not sufficient. In Punjab there is an old irrigation project named Theen Dam Project. It helps in irrigation, and generates some power as well. But there is delay. Initially, the project cost was 84 crore rupees, now it is of 3000 crore rupees, but it is not completed. I was in Punjab when Rajiv Gandhi was Prime Minister. I led him to that place. Foundation stone was laid in 1986. Funds were provided for 1-2 years for this and there was good progress. Tunnel is constructed and the work is almost accomplished. Some funds are still required there, which it is not getting. If the total funds are given in one year, then next year the irrigation will commence in the power sector, power generation will start within one year. So, I would tell the Finance Minister that he should make provision for it. We have tremendous power requirements and the supply is not sufficient. We have got two thermal power stations—one is in Ropar and the other at Bhatinda. Coal does not reach both of these stations. We have to discuss coal every now and then. When the coal is left for 2-3 days then it is lifted with great difficulty. There should be some provision for their smooth functioning. According to me we should get an atomic power plant alongwith it. It is an old demand from Punjab, and we have to get the coal from a long distance, so we should get atomic energy we have been trying for it for the last 15 years, but nothing is being done. Now we only ask that an atomic plant is established anywhere in Punjab. Site has also been visited but what remains is the sanction. It is not being constructed yet. There is a need to do it. I would like to mention one point in general about Punjab, and that is about special term loan. There is some dearth of funds in Punjab since the terrorism increased there over the last ten years from 1985 to 1995 Punjab is in the grip of a debt, because Police is required to combat terrorism, we require equipment and so many other things all the same whatever funds we were getting those were given to us in the name of special term loan. It went on increasing upto 5600 crore rupees by 31 March 1995. There is interest on this amount. Shri Narasimha Rao went to Punjab, and he said "yes" it would be written off. But it was not written off. Mere 800 crore were left, after he left, rest of the amount is still as it is. Punjab problem is not the problem of Punjab alone, it is a national problem. It was a

[Sardar Surjit Singh Barnala]

proxy war which was fought by the people across the border, and Punjab was fighting with them.

[English]

But this was a national problem. Punjab was fighting for the nation.

[Translation]

We fought successfully, we sacrificed a lot, there was heavy loss of life and property, loss of every kind. Now the term loan has accumulated to such an extent that Punjab cannot pay it back. We have been impressing upon the Government time and again for the same. A few days back, Chief Minister had met the Prime Minister, then a deputation from our side also met him. This term loan should be written off, Punjab cannot pay it back. If Punjab will begin paying this money, its progress will stop at once.

Now, I would like to speak about food production. Food problem has acquired a bigger dimension. Now, situation has arrived where we have to import foodgrains. We are importing 2 million tonnes this year and if the present state continues, we shall have to import foodgrains every year. The import which had once stopped shall have to be resumed again and it costs a heavy amount of money, foreign exchange reserves are left minimal which creates many problems. First of all, what we import costs much. We are importing wheat at the rate of Rs. 662 per quintal. Here it is provided at the rate of Rs. 415. Its landed cost will increase further which will go upto Rs. 675–680 nearly and here it will cost Rs. 680 at the port. The farmer here will get it at Rs. 415. I had requested the Food Minister here in the Parliament also. This way I feel there won't be less procurement in the next year also. So we shall have to think about it, the Government shall have to pay some incentive, then the farmer will give foodgrains for procurement otherwise he won't give. This way procurement will come down. The Government shall have to think about it right now, because the season will commence within 15 days. Foodgrains will come into the market in Punjab whereas it will start coming in the markets of Haryana. You shall have to think about it just now, so that there is maximum procurement. The country faces heavy losses because of lack of procurement and problems also multiply. There should be some incentive so that procurement could be increased.

Same has been the case with the rice as well. There are two varieties of rice, one is fine and the other is superfine. The same variety is graded in Haryana as superfine, it would cost 20 rupees more. This rice was taken in Punjab after making it fine. We got the money less by Rs. 20. We continued to protest but nobody listened to our plight this way we had to bear a loss of Rs. 150 crore. This continued for 3 years, but it has not been solved. Sometimes, some Punjab peasants somehow reach Haryana and sell the foodgrains in the market of Haryana because he gets

Rs. 20 more. When there was a hue and cry in Punjab and when Shri Brar was the Chief Minister, a decision was taken by the Central Government that Rs. 5 would be given as bonus. Although Rs. 5 is a paltry amount, but the farmer did not even get that bonus. So what I would like to say is that all these things are to be taken into account, because if the food production goes down due to any reason, it becomes a subject of discussion. I mentioned it when there was a discussion on fertilizers.

Likewise there is the question of cotton. The prices of cotton are not taken into account. Last year the price of cotton was Rs. 2200. This year, in the beginning we expected a little increase in the price, but later on it came down and the farmer had to sell it off at Rs. 1500.

There is no settlement in this regard. Cotton Corporation came in the field at a time when the farmer had already sold his commodity in the market. That time he took it up, and then the export policy was framed, that we are going to do so and so. Whereas this policy ought to have been framed earlier that there would be so much export of cotton and so much cotton will be purchased by Cotton Corporation or NAFED or any other agency. For that, it was better to go to the market at the proper time. Then alone the cotton grower would be benefited.

The dispute in regard to sugarcane is in the entire country, but it is more so in Punjab. We have got 20 sugar mills, 6 are in the private sector and 14 in the co-operative sector. The farmers have an arrear of nearly 147 crore rupees. Nothing is being done. People are sitting on dharna and are protesting. We are producing fruit also, but the facility of processing is not available. The State Government is doing something, but that is minimal. The Government of India should look into it and provide more processing facilities. The grapes are being produced in Punjab but this has been reduced to a sort of table fruit and its sale has gone down.

Many times these get perished. It perishes in the field itself. Sometimes the grapes are sold at the rate of 2 rupee per kg in our area. People take it in bulk for sale in mandis.

In our area one more dispute is there. It relates to river water. This dispute has been there for a long time. The share of canal irrigation in Punjab is not up to the required level. Canal irrigation constitute 35 per cent of the whole irrigation in our area and rest of the irrigation is provided through tubewells. It is a small state. The people satirically call it 'Punjab sub'. There are 8 lakh 50 thousand tubewells in this region. Due to this large number of tubewell, they consume too much electricity and also ground water is being used. So the level of ground water is receding which is resulting in the creation of lot of difficulties. Some parts of the area are turning to be gray. No further tubewell can be installed there because this installation will not bring out any water. All this is happening due to the fact that the

people want more and more irrigation. River water does not fulfill their requirement. Therefore we strengthened the channel which resulted in stoppage of underground recharging. It is also causing a lot of difficulties. 1.5 lakh tubewells are being operated through diesel. When people don't get electricity or its connection, they operate their tubewell through diesel, when the prices of diesel increase, it affects the cost of production. The cost of production of wheat in Punjab is more than that in other states because we use superior quality of seeds, use more quantity of fertilizer that is why we have been requesting you time and again to take these facts into your consideration. Now a days the agriculture is not profitable. Therefore, the Government should think about it. I would request the Finance Minister to keep all these problems in mind and try to find out some suitable solution.

[English]

SHRI I.D. SWAMI (Karnal) : Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the General Budget. Every Budget creates a hysteria in this country. This year also some hysterical statements came. One of the stock brokers in Mumbai wanted the hon. Minister of Finance to be nominated for the Nobel Prize. This appeared in the newspapers. One industrialist from the same city of speculators even went to the extent of saying that he gives 9.90 marks out of 10 marks to the hon. Minister of Finance.

It is all because of the fact that he had offered good sops to shareholders and businessmen which is something that all the Finance Ministers normally do because they need their help. But I think, the stock markets will realise very soon that a few sops to shareholders do not make a Budget at all, at least not in a country like India where they constitute a very small minority.

Corporate earnings will not matter much if the total economy does not improve. The hon. Finance Minister claims to have brought down the fiscal deficit from 5.9 per cent last year to five per cent; and it will further come down, according to him, to 4.5 per cent in the coming year. This may perhaps satisfy the IMF or the World Bank or the business community. But the fact remains that Rs. 65,000 crore deficit is the highest ever in this country which is there in this Budget. Out of this amount, 'monetisation' to the extent of Rs. 16,000 crore will be met through the printing of currency notes. Never before has the Central Government gone in for such a massive printing of paper money. What would be its effect?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, let me intervene. I think, it is time to dispel this misconception about Rs. 16,000 crore. For the first time, quite transparently, we had indicated the extent of RBI support to the Government's borrowing programme. That figure is being described as 'monetised deficit', that is the maximum support which the RBI will give to the Government's borrowing programme. That is not equal

to the net RBI credit to the Government which is the monetised portion of the deficit. The net RBI credit to the Government will be Rs. 16,000 crore at the maximum minus RBI's open market operations. Therefore, for the sake of transparency, in order to moderate interest rates, we have declared that this is the maximum support the RBI will give to the Government's borrowing programme.

It is also not correct to say that there has never been a high of 'monetised figure'. In 1995-96, that is the last year of the previous Government, the year for which full figures are available, the 'monetised deficit' in terms of net RBI credit to the Government was Rs. 19,855 crore.

SHRI I.D. SWAMI : You are lagging a little behind this year.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : After this explanation also, if you still say that I am lagging behind, I am sorry, my explanation has fallen on deaf ears! The figure of Rs. 16,000 crore is the maximum support that they will give. The net RBI credit will be available only at the end of 1997-98, after we come to know of what the RBI's open market operations are. For example, in 1996-97, until day before yesterday, the 'monetised deficit' is only less than Rs. 6,000 crore. There was no reason to assume that next year, the 'monetised deficit' will be Rs. 16,000 crore. That will be known only next March, after the RBI's open market operations. What we have done is we have introduced a new measure to indicate the RBI's maximum support to the Government's borrowing programme. Therefore, the figure of Rs. 16,000 crore is not the 'monetised deficit.' The 'monetised deficit' will be RBI's net credit to the Government which will be available only at the end of 1997-98.

SHRI I.D. SWAMI : What about the deficit of Rs. 65,000 crore?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : That is fiscal deficit. In nobody's case the absolute fiscal deficit has come down; and in nobody's case, it can be brought down also. The absolute number will come down only when you tackle the revenue deficit. Today what we are trying to do is to compress fiscal deficit as a percentage of GDP. When Dr. Manmohan Singh took over, the fiscal deficit was 8.3 per cent. When he laid down the Office, it was about 5.5 per cent. We have brought it down to five per cent; and we hope to bring it down to 4.5 per cent. It is my hope that whichever is the Government, we will bring it down even below that.

SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Anyway, I was mentioning about the Budget estimates of the Central Plan outlay. In 1996-97, it was Rs. 87,000 crore. Out of these, only Rs. 77,500 crore have been spent and the balance has been shown as saved. And sector after sector has found it hard to spend the money allocated to it not on current account but even on capital account. There are big shortfalls under petroleum,

[Shri I.D. Swami]

atomic energy, rural development schemes, agriculture and even power which is very crucial.

It is really shocking that an administration that complains perennially of shortage of resources could not manage to meet the moderate Budget targets last year. These savings are then used to show a lower deficit. How? The amount saved is almost one per cent of the GDP and would have been raised to six per cent. The deficit would have been six per cent. But that one per cent saving has come down to not five per cent as claimed in the Budget speech. In fact, if one per cent saving is added, it would be six per cent deficit. The allocations in the coming year are, in many cases, lower than those of the last year. Even in nominal terms, allocation under one sector alone, that is, power, is Rs. 6,943 crore, that is, Rs. 150 crore less than that of the last year. In real terms, it may be much less. If a power crisis is to be avoided by the end of the next Five year plan, the power generation capacity has to be increased by at least 40,000 MW out of which 30,000 MW will be in the public sector. This calls for an investment of Rs. 1,50,000 crore in five years, about Rs. 30 crore per year. Wherefrom would this money come? It has not been shown anywhere in the Budget. The provision in the Budget is less than Rs. 7,000 crore. We need Rs. 30,000 crore.

Even in Haryana, we want to have some more plants like that in Punjab, as Shri Surjit Singh Barnala has mentioned. We need a lot of more plants. We have the sixth plant at Panipat for energisation of which we need about Rs. 600 crore. We had requested the hon. Prime Minister also. All the MPs had gone to him. We launched upon the prohibition policy in Haryana, which, in fact, is the bounden duty of the Government of India as per the Directive Principles of State Policy mentioned in the Constitution of our country. Had it been done, perhaps we would not have asked for it. We had asked for an aid of Rs. 600 crore because ultimately we will be adding this energy. We borrow from Orissa. We borrow from Himachal Pradesh also. But even transmission lines have to be updated. For that, in Haryana, we need about Rs. 600 crore. Only for four or five paddy-growing districts like Karnal, Panipat, Kurukshetra, Kaithal, etc., in my constituency, we need about Rs. 250 crore for building up or for updating the infrastructure of transmission and distribution. I am not talking of generation at all.

We request the hon. Minister of Finance that at least a small State like Haryana, where the total Budget is very small, a loss of Rs. 600 crore on account of prohibition is much more. It is an obligation of the Government of India as much as ours. That decision has been hailed by the people as a very good change. The crime has come down. Accidents on the roads have come down because of prohibition. The ladies, the elderly people and even the

younger ones have accepted it very happily. We would like to request that at least for power generation, Rs. 600 crore may kindly be given to this small State.

Even at macro level, there is a very little attempt to curb the revenue expenditure and boost the capital outlay. How? During 1990 to 1995, when the new economic policy was launched—Shri Manmohan Singh's era—the Government spending went up by just over six per cent. But now the current spending went up by 13 per cent. And capital spending, the kind of spending which is concerned with the growth, has fallen down by 19 per cent. No wonder, there are shortages of power and petroleum products as also at most levels of infrastructure.

Sir, the most important and the most vital sectors which are the bedrock of our economy and provide employment to our people and constitute about 90 per cent of our labour force, are agriculture and the small scale industries. Both these sectors are stagnating, if not sinking. Foodgrain production has been growing at 1.7 per cent per year since 1990 while the population has grown at 1.9 per cent per year. This is a dangerous situation for a country like ours where almost half of the populace subsist on one meal a day. As has been pointed out by Shri Surjit Singh Barnala, the State of Haryana can produce more but last year, the production has gone down all over the country. Procurement has also gone down. After the Green Revolution, we have been boasting about the country's self-sufficiency and exporting abilities. But today it is the same square one position for us. We have come back to the same point from where we started. Procurement prices should be increased or some bonus should be given to the surplus States—as some other States are given, like there are some other incentives for minerals for some of the States—we produce wheat and rice, particularly rice which is exported and is liked very much in the foreign countries.

Sir, as far as the small scale industries are concerned, I was amazed to read in the part A of the Budget speech of the hon. Finance Minister that 14 items have been taken out from the purview of manufacture in the small scale sector. Some recommendations have been received in this regard. What does the de-reserved items include? They are rice milling, dal, poultry seed, vinegar, biscuits, synthetic syrup, icecream, a variety of automobile parts and corrugated paper and paper boards. It is expected, the Finance Minister says, that new investment and new technology would flow into these businesses. For biscuits and icecreams, what new investment Technology do we need? These things should be left out for the small scale industries. Otherwise, the multinational and big industries will eat into the small scale industries, like the Tatas and Birlas, they are being taken over by the multinational companies. The small scale industries would die and stagnate if such things are allowed to happen.

I would only like to quote one particular instance. I had the privilege of mentioning this aspect to the hon. Finance Minister before the Budget last year also. The Indian Woollen and Shoddy Mills Association has been crying hoarse for the last one year because of excise duty. Central excise has been imposed on the shoddy woollen yarn. Cotton yarn is exempted from paying excise duty. What is this shoddy yarn? This shoddy yarn is meant only for the poorer section of the society. Panipat is the only place in the country where there are hundreds of these small shoddy yarn units and they are engaged in the manufacture of blankets which are sold at a price ranging between Rs. 50 to Rs. 150. These are meant for the common men and the poor people. It is a labour intensive industry. Custom duty has been reduced from 35 to 30 per cent last year but central excise has been imposed.

Sir, there is another danger of corruption as well. It is not an apprehension or danger but it is a fact. Many times when the rags are imported, the officers of the custom and Central excise Department tell them that goods made of cotton are exempted from paying any excise duty but these rags contain more synthetic yarn, woollen yarn and less cotton yarn and so they would have to pay duty. They pay under the table so as to save this duty and thus it has become a source of corruption as well. I would like to request the hon. Minister, last time also some delegation had met him and I requested him if he could sort out this problem. But this problem is still continuing this year also. This is what is happening in regard to the small scale industries.

I have mentioned just one small scale industry in Panipat. There are hundreds of labourers in those small scale units. Those are labour intensive units and are not capital intensive units at all. There are hundreds of such units.

Now, a word about voluntary disclosures. It looks like an eyewash. This scheme was tried in the past from time to time. The last time it was attempted, as far as I have been able to read, was in 1975. What did it yield? It yielded a total of only Rs. 1400 crore which is nothing but peanuts. Tax arrears have been estimated at three to four times the tax collections or about Rs. 1,00,000 crore a year. It would have been a big thing if the Government was able to collect even 10 per cent of this amount every year. I suspect that even this much will not come. The scheme has to be a mixture of stick and carrot. Hoards of black money stashed in foreign accounts of Indian businessmen are supposed to be anything like 100 per cent to 150 per cent. We should have to bring that money into our country. Seven times of our foreign reserves and one and a half times of our foreign debt will be cleared from that money alone. What we can do about it should certainly be the worry of the hon. Finance Minister and the Government of India.

The reduction in personal income tax as well as corporate tax is welcome. But an improvement in corporate

earnings alone does not necessarily translate into high GDP. For that, you need a firm hand on budget deficit, ban on printing of paper money, sharper focus on agriculture and small scale industries, bigger outlays for infrastructure, and drastic overhauling of public sector units. Instead, I think the hon. Finance Minister is relying excessively on foreigners to bail us out. I hope it is not resorted to.

In this context, the whole of the Budget seems to be inflationary, anti-poor, anti-masses, and anti-farm. One lakh hectares of irrigated area needs Rs. 800 crore as special expenditure but it is coming down. In the rural development side also, many schemes like Indira Awas Yojana, Jawahar Rozgar Yojana really look very bright and beautiful. But if you take the total allocation of Indira Awas Yojana and the number of people living below the poverty line, in my constituency, I have gone round and I find not even one house in one village. If 150 names are sent by the Panchayat, only one house is constructed. That is because the total allocation is so meagre. Unless the allocations are bigger under Indira Awas Yojana, or Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, these things are not going to improve the conditions in the rural areas.

Before 1947 we always used to blame the Britishers for all our failings, for all our shortcomings, for all our difficulties in the villages.

*[Translation]*

The dream of Mahatma Gandhi for the development of rural areas could not be realised till now.

*[English]*

That is because nobody has cared for the rural masses. Even today wherever we go, a small water tap is needed, a small road is needed, a primary school is needed to be upgraded, a small dispensary is needed. After fifty years of freedom, after half a century, we face the same problems that we used to face before 1947, before freedom was won at the huge sacrifice of the countrymen of this land of ours. Unfortunately this has happened, and we cannot blame the Britishers today. The Britisher had come to rule over us. He had come from a foreign land. He had no love lost in our countrymen. He had nothing to do with our people or with our rural masses. He never looked into our problems. But after fifty years also we are stagnating in the rural areas and 6,56,000 villages are still starved of water, of a road, of a primary school, of a dispensary. Talk of the social sector and allocations will not feed their empty stomachs. What is needed is, more allocation, more saving and not the corporate sector and big business sector alone.

*[Translation]*

SHRI DATTA MEGHE (Ramtek) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Hon'ble Finance Minister Shri P. Chidambaram has presented a good budget. It is good for the business community in particular. The present finance minister has presented this budget in pursuance of initiatives

[Shri Datta Meghe]

taken by Shri Manmohan Singh ji as the finance minister. Shri P. Chidambaram is basically a Congressman and believes in Congress ideology and that is why even today we consider him as a Congressman. I think the budget presented by him will lead the country on the path of development and it will prove in particular to be a good budget for the poor people of the country. It also includes to some extent, seven points identified in the meeting of the Chief Ministers for the development of rural masses and for providing basic facilities to the people in the rural sector. The provision to provide tax concession has been made in the budget which would provide relief to middle class and service class people. But still there are many loopholes in the tax structure and I believe, as the Finance Minister was saying about the budget, he would definitely remove them. The people of this country have high hopes from the Minister. In the budget a substantial amount has been provided for subsidy and adequate provision has been made to provide subsidy to the poor people wherever it was necessary. It is a good thing but subsidy has also been provided on such items where it can be misused. Investment expenditure in rural areas has also increased. No attention has been paid towards the improvement of banking and insurance sector which was included in the common minimum programme. The problem of increasing prices of edible items and increasing oil pool deficit have been ignored in the budget. Petroleum oil pool deficit is increasing day by day. People of this country also know that the prices of essential commodities may also go up. The fare and freight charges of railways have also increased and now if the prices of petroleum products are also increased, the prices of all other commodities shall also go up. Therefore we should deliberate upon this problem in the House. It is also claimed in the budget that PDS system would be revamped which is a good thing. It has been mentioned in the budget that wheat, rice and other essential commodities would be provided to the people living below the poverty line at half rates. It is also a good thing. It involves expenditure of crores of rupees from the exchequer. It should be ensured that the benefits of this scheme should reach the poor. We have seen in Maharashtra and in many other parts of the country that the beneficiaries of this scheme have not yet been identified. I would like to know as to when they would be identified because the announcement of this scheme have provided great relief to the people and they are looking towards Central Government for further speedy action. The rural and urban people living below the poverty line are eagerly looking towards the Government as to when this scheme would be implemented. It is also necessary to pay attention towards the states which have not yet identified the beneficiaries of this scheme. The first budget of this Government had badly affected the share-market. And now in second budget many tax concessions have been given. The benefit of tax-concessions should also reach the

unemployed people of this country but how they would be benefitted by the proposed concession. There are so many cotton mills in Vidarbha Region of Maharashtra. It was assured by the previous Government that all the cotton mills would be modernised and they would be provided with new machines. The then Labour Minister formulated the modernisation plan of Rs. 2500 crore but in this budget, the provision of one lakh rupee only has been made whereas it is a very big plan for modernisation and reorganisation of textile mills all over the country. I think it is negligible amount and the Hon'ble Minister should think about it and provide sufficient funds for this purpose.

In the PDS system also there is not proper monitoring by the Government as a result of which the benefits of this system is taken away by the blackmarketees. Under this scheme the Govt. have to provide ration on subsidised rates and for that purpose it has to procure the foodgrains first. From where you would get foodgrains to supply. Just now Shri Barnala ji was saying that if the Government do not procure foodgrains in sufficient quantity, it would not be possible to implement the revamped P.D.S. scheme and the poor people would not get the benefit of the scheme. The misuse of this scheme by the middlemen cannot be ruled out. You have entrusted the states with a big responsibility to implement this scheme in the interest of the poor people. But today there is a rampant corruption in its implementation. You shall have to check it. We demand that rigorous punishment should be given to the guilty persons. You should make provision of vigorous punishment in the Act because they don't care for imprisonment of one day, 15 days or one month. When subsidy is given on a large scale it falls in the hands of those people who misuse it. Therefore, it is necessary that guilty should be punished vigorously.

You have liberalised the taxation in your present budget so as to bring out black money. But in this liberalisation we shall have to be careful about the tax evasion. Special attention needs to be given towards this aspect. We want black money to come out. Such announcement was made earlier also. But the people takes this announcement in their own way—to hoard as much as you can and declare whenever required—which resulted in disappearance of black money. I don't know when your scheme would be implemented but your department has done a very good job for the last 6–8 months. It is fact that we have been talking about the corruption through the country and some of the facts were brought forward by some leaders, some businessmen. It is also a fact that we cannot put a total check on the corruption, even then your income tax Department should do its job of bringing out the black money meticulously irrespective of the status of black marketeers. This department has done a good job. Now we should pay more attention towards bringing out black money so that more and more black money could be brought out.

You have given some concession in custom-duty in the budget but I feel that it will leave adverse impact on the small scale industries in the country.

You have made provision of 700 crore rupees for education in your budget and said that some provision would be made by the State Government also. But as far as higher education is concerned I want that equal recognition be given to the higher education whether it is given by any private educational institution or by a Government college. Just now our Hon'ble member was saying that out of the educated people in our country only 2 per cent women are literate. Keeping it in view it is necessary that more and more provision should be made for primary as well as for higher education in all the states. If you can give any help for higher education, state government cannot give any help, it is necessary to formulate such scheme under which private educational institution may give better training, better education to the desirous persons.

There is a medical council, dental council in our country. All these councils say that at least the amount, as much as is spent by the Government in the name of higher education, should be given to them. If such amount of expenditure is not given to them, the education given by them would not be recognised equally. It is necessary to put surveillance on the big educational institutions so as to check them from engaging in malpractices. But we should encourage those institutions which perform well. We should try to strengthen those institutions which are not in a position to function. We should not leave each matter on Supreme Court. If we move as per directive of the Supreme Court how shall we be able to build a good structure for higher education. If all these things are to be attended by the Supreme Court, then what will be left for the Government to do? In such a situation we cannot pay more attention towards the primary and higher education. Proper arrangements need to be made so as to persuade each institution to impart the best education.

We have not reached our destination in uplifting the people living below poverty line. As was said here just now which bring clear picture of the villages that whenever we go to the villages, there are 2000 villages in my constituency, I find that the some of the villages are still lacking the facility of potable water. No road is found there. We could not provide the basic facilities which are being sought by the people living there. In Maharastra, the people pass satirical remarks against Congress. They say that the legislator at least should do the work which is assigned to them. But the works which could not be done in 40 years, can now be done within one or two years. It is not a magic. When we discuss the budget leaving the political discussion aside, we should see as to what actually we are going to give to the people in the budget and who are those people that are going to be benefited by this budget. This budget is going to benefit the businessmen. And if the business-

man is benefited you also shall get more capital but you shall have to see who is going to be benefited by this capital. You should ensure that maximum benefit goes to the poor people.

We find that revenue has been curtailed to a large extent in this budget. By giving concession, income will be reduced by 536 crore rupees. Similarly curtailment in taxes will also reduce the income by 98 crore rupees. An amount of 3000 crore rupees has been curtailed out of the total earnings in the budget. The main reasons behind this curtailment is that the funds are not being mobilised through resources and investment. Due to this factor 575 crore rupees will be received against the target of 5100 crore rupees. A deficit of 2684 crore rupees is likely to emerge in revenue budget and capital budget. This deficit is due to the concessions given by you but you have to think about the money which will come to the Government in sufficient quantity—how it will be spent on the development of villages as well as for providing basic facilities to the villagers.

Mr. Chairman, the interest rate on the loan which our country gets is very high. The interest in our country is upto 17 or 18 per cent whereas in foreign countries it is 3 or 4 per cent. Unless you reduce the rate of interest, no youth, unemployed person can set up any industry. The industry cannot flourish. Major part of the income earned in the industry goes to the bank as interest and in this the industry does not flourish at all. The attitude of bank employees towards the industry is a big reason for making it sick. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to tell my experience of a bank. I have seen how corruption prevails in the banks. It is my own example. I would like to refer Punjab National Bank. I would like to name the Chairman of Punjab National Bank in the House and tell you that in all big loans, whatever granted from there, percentage is taken and that percentage is distributed among all the members of the board. No loan is granted without percentage. The Hon'ble Minister, I am disclosing this fact before you in the House and I would like to request you to conduct an inquiry into the loans granted during the last two years and find out the persons to whom these loans were granted and how much percentage was taken by the Chairman therein. The outcome of the inquiry will reveal the extent of corruption prevailing in the banks. I myself went there. I was told that the loan would not be granted without percentage. I was surprised to listen as to how the Chairman of the bank is openly asking for a percentage from a Member of Parliament for grant of loan. I want to say that there is rampant corruption in Punjab National Bank. That is why I request you kindly to conduct an inquiry into the corruption practices being adopted by the Chairman of Punjab National Bank and find out the person to whom loans were granted during the last two years. When the Chairman of Punjab National Bank dares

[Shri Datta Meghe]

to ask for percentage from a Member of Parliament, you can just imagine the fate of a common person, a poor person. I would request that an inquiry be conducted into the property held by the Chairman of Punjab National Bank. When we raise some issue in Parliament you should take it seriously, you should get the matter inquired so that you may come to reality.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it appears that coal mines of our area are going to be privatised. Now privatisation of every thing is being talked about. Indira ji had nationalised coal mines because in private sector coal mining was not being done properly, mine-labourers were not getting their wages regularly. Good profit was accrued from the coal mining as a result of its nationalisation. Private sector is facing shortage of funds to develop its own coal mines. You have allowed some concessions to the private sector coal mining but even after that you have left some problems for this sector. I find particularly in Vidarbha, that mining work is not being done properly. When we demand a small state, our colleagues ask as to why we are demanding a separate state for Vidarbha? I want to say that in a small state, more development takes place and from administrative point of view also it is conducive to the functioning of the state. We were already having Vidarbha state. Today they are demanding a separate Vidarbha state because of much potential existing there. No action is taken for the development of our village Khare by any of the officer or by the Chief Minister of Maharashtra if they pay any visit to this place. Even from the administrative point of view no proper attention is being paid towards this village. Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and Haryana made good progress. Every village has been developed therein. But Maharashtra is a big State but development could not take place there. Uttarakhand in U.P. is being talked about and you are going to form a separate state of Uttarakhand. Until you form small states in the country in real sense you cannot provide justice to the poor people, farmer, labourer and unemployed youth living in the villages as well as to the industry set-up there because we face shortage of funds in comparison to the big area of the state. From this point of view we cannot do justice to the people living there. Our demand for Vidarbha is justified. Not only Vidarbha but small states should be formed throughout the country. It will be good thing for the country. Nagpur also is a capital in our Vidarbha. Assembly also exists there. The importance of Nagpur was diminished by the formation of new capital. Mines, fertile land, water etc. all these things are available in Vidarbha. All these things are being exploited to full extent. Keeping all these aspects in view, small states should be formed in the country so that more concessions could be given to the people. It appears to me that it will not involve much expenditure of the Central Govt. Moreover it will fulfill the desire of the masses.

Today, main problem in the country which industrial and agricultural sector face is the problem of providing employment. We are not able to provide employment to the people whether they live in slums or elsewhere. I would request the Hon'ble Finance Minister, who is very successful and able leader, to formulate such a scheme which may provide employment. ... (Interruptions) We think that he is working better than Shri Manmohan Singh. Whatever data he presented they are convincing. We are happy. He is a new man. We hope that he will present a good budget.

Hon'ble Minister, Sir, please bring forward a comprehensive scheme. You give them employment who are sitting idle because they feel very uncomfortable without employment. It should not happen. You give remuneration to that person who works but don't give money without work. There was an employment scheme in our Maharashtra. You give money to that person only who works but don't give money to anybody without work.

Today there is unemployment all over the country. You should formulate a scheme to solve these problems. You give them money but after the work is done. For this you shall have to make more provision in the budget but it will not bring any loss. You formulate a scheme to provide a job. ... (Interruptions) we did not find any such provision in the budget. Don't leave this aspect to the banks only. ... (Interruptions). They should be given the opportunity to work. They are doing well. If all raise hue and cry, they shall do their work in the same way. ... (Interruptions), you give them work for 8 days, for 15 days but they must be given work. They should have right to live with honour in this country. No such provision is found in the budget but we want that the 13 parties coalition Government should rise to the occasion in providing basic facilities to the people living in the villages. Till now no coalition Government was formed by such a number of parties. This Government is doing well. We should cooperate with the Government for the welfare of the poor people. You should work keeping this aspect in your mind.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri L. Balaraman.

... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow at 11 am.

22.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, March 19, 1997/Phalgun 28, 1918 (Saka).*

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