

Series, Vol. VII, No. 18

Monday, December 16, 1991

Agrahayana 25, 1913 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

**Second Session
(Tenth Lok Sabha)**



(Vol. VII contains Nos. 11 to 22)

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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Tenth Report—*Presented*

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Monday, December 16, 1991 / Agra-hayana 25, 1913 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

RE KILLING OF TAMILIANS IN KASNATAKA ON CANVERY ISSUE

Shri C.K. Kuppuswamy and some other Hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Go to yours seats. If you speak from your seats, it will be recorded.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will consider and I will allow. If you want what you say to be recorded, you must take your seats. I will allow one of you.

SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU (Dharampuri): In the last two three days, in Karnataka State, the police are killing Tamils and allow-

ing the chauvinist people to kill Tamils every day. More than 1,000 people died and more than 25,000 people have come to Tamil Nadu border in Dharmapuri district alone. Every minute people are fleeing out of fear. There is no security for Tamils. This is what is happening. People are telling many many stories of what the Police are doing. We want the Central Government to come to the rescue of Tamils and we want protection. The other day in your Chamber and in the august House, I demanded that Tamils should be protected in Karnataka. We are brothers. We do not have any hatred feelings against the people of Karnataka. But the Tamil People should not be killed like this and butchered like this. This is happening there now. As brothers, we are living in that society. But this is the society where we are getting this treatment. Now only this. It is a very bad treatment given to the Tamils. There is no security today. Every minute they are coming out of the State. Thousands of people are driven away from the State. Their life and property is in danger today. What assurance is the Central Government going to give in this regard? Let the Home Minister come out with a Statement. He is present here. We welcome his statement...*(Interruptions)* I request him to make a statement giving the factual position. We want that he should contain the situation immediately. He should ask the State Government to stop this killing immediately. Then only we will be saved. There is problem in Tamil Nadu. We do not want to create more problems. We, therefore, appeal to the august House and the hon. Prime Minister, the Home Minister as also the Chief Minister of Karnataka to stop this killing. We want this should be stopped immediately. This is a very serious matter. That is why I brought it to your notice. I thank

you for giving me this opportunity to express our feelings. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI M. R. KADAMBUR JANARTHA-NAN (Tirunelveli): I have given notice of an Adjournment Motion. What happened to that?

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY (Kanakapura): Mr. Speaker, Sir, once again with more pain and agony, we have to express this today. You know, the entire country knows that Karnataka is a peace-loving State. We have harmonious relationship with all our brothers - whether it is the Tamils, Telugus or minorities or other ethnic minorities. At the intervention of the hon. Prime Minister, the State is getting back to normalcy. I appeal to my Tamil brothers not to arouse passion, not to be moved by emotions. It is not a fact that 300 Tamils were killed.

DR. RAJAGOPALAN SRIDHARAN (Madras South): No, Sir. It is not true. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMY (Coimbatore): Dismiss Shri S. Bangarappa.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY: That is not the issue before us. Such issues cannot be resolved by decisions of the Courts or the orders of the Tribunal or by enactments. Even the decision of the Court cannot be implemented peacefully. But such issues can be resolved peacefully, through negotiations only. Negotiations only could save this country to keep this country together. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHA-NAN: More than 200 people were killed. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY: I would just appeal to my fellow Tamil brothers from Tamil Nadu to be calm and not to arouse passions. As elected representatives of Karnataka, we are trying our best to resolve this issue amicably. We have requested our people to be calm and restrained. I would also like to say that at the

intervention of the Prim Minister, the people of Karnataka have taken it so seriously and they are acting positively. Let us wait for one or two days.

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHA-NAN: What about the lives of the Tamil people there? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMY: I had gone to Bangalore and had seen for myself the situation there. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY: I do not know what was the haste in the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's requesting for the deployment of Army, it will only further aggravate the situation, create ill-will and hatred towards these tow sections of the people there, two States. There fore, I appeal to the entire House to resolve it amicably and peacefully. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANBARASU ERA: Sir, this is not an exaggeration. I would like to bring it to the notice of the hon. Home Minister that this is a state-engineered terrorism. Not only the Tamils are attacked there but also our own party MLAs and MPs are attacked. This is a sad state of affairs. Because these MLAs and MPs are opposed to the Chief Minister of Karnataka on this issue, the Chief Minister himself is engineering such a move to consolidate his own position. Therefore, the problem is a creation by the Chief Minister himself. So, I earnestly appeal to our Congress brothers that they should take a serious note of it. Unless the President's Rule is imposed in Karnataka and the leadership is removed, nothing will solve the problem. Therefore, I request the hon. Home Minister to make a statement in this regard immediately.

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHA-NAN: That is not our request. Our request is to protect the lives and properties of the Tamils. Do not dilute the situation. We must be allowed to speak. Sir, we must be allowed to talk... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: May I say something

before you speak. Please hear me what I am saying.

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHA-NAN: Sir, please allow me to speak.

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow you also. But please hear .. e.

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHA-NAN: Sir, the matter should not be diluted in a political way. We want to save the lives of Tamils.

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow you. But let me say something. It is natural that if something of this nature has happened, people are bound to feel agitated. But let us at least know what has happened because without knowing what has actually happened, we should not discuss. If we discuss without knowing what has happened, then it goes out of control. This is exactly what I am trying to say.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am allowing Shri Janarthanan; who is your colleague. Let him speak. And everybody need not speak.

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHA-NAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have come here to express the grief of the Tamils. We do not want any political profit out of the blood of the Tamils. We do not want any President's rule or anything like that.

Sir, unabated violence is taking place with the aid and instigation of the local police. Therefore, military should be sent immediately by the Central Government, to save the Tamils. Tamils who were living in Bangalore for generations together, are fleeing out of Bangalore and are coming to Vellaiyur with women and children and they did not have any food for three days.

Therefore, it is our wish and the wish of

the Tamil Nadu people that the Central Government must come forward to send military and para-military forces, so that the Tamils can be saved. The negotiations or talks cannot be of any use if the Tamils are being killed. Therefore, our Chief Minister has told that when our Tamils are being killed and are dying, there is no use of any talks. Therefore, the killings of Tamils should be stopped and then only any talks can be held.

SHRI G. MADE GOWDA(Mandya): Sir, I fully agree with what our friends from Tamil Nadu have expressed; they said that lot of violence has been continuing in Karnataka State. I am very sorry to say that not only the people from Tamil Nadu, residing in Karnataka are suffering by way of lootings, firings and other things but the Kannadiga people are also suffering more than the Tamils....
(Interruptions)

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHA-NAN: In what way.
(Interruptions) I said, no lives should be lost.
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You should be very brief.

SHRI G. MADE GOWDA: Please hear me. I am very impartial in these things. The people who were killed, whether they are Tamils, kannadigas or from any other State, they are all Indians. But the thing that we must understand is how to solve this situation. We cannot stand on certain prestige. Since Tamil people have been killed, you cannot submit a wrong report to the House.
(Interruptions)

[Translation]

*SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMY: Tamils living in Karnataka especially those who live in Bangalore city are at the receiving end. The violence and atrocities against the peace-loving Tamils residing in Bangalore disturbs us all. Hundreds of Tamils have been rendered homeless in the attacks. Thousands

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

of Tamil people have lost their property and many have also got killed in the brutal attacks. Thousands of Tamils are fleeing away from Karnataka and are reaching Vellore, Salem and Coimbatore. I had been there yesterday and I had seen with my own eyes the gory violence let loose against the Tamil people. The Cauvery issue is assuming a tragic dimension and Union Government should intervene immediately to give protection to the lives and properties of Tamils living there. It is said that Karnataka police ignore the hooliganism against Tamils. If it is so you must dismiss Bangarappa. It is not correct to say that there is normalcy and there are no attack on the Tamils. I myself witnessed in person and saw the plight of the hapless victims. Hence I report this matter to this house so that Union Government attends to it immediately...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will ask the Home Minister to respond.

(Interruptions)

SHRI G. MADE GOWDA: Sir, kindly let me speak for two minutes.*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I allowed you and gave you a chance, but you did not come out.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Mr. Speaker Sir, it is very unfortunate...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI G. MADE GOWDA: Sir, let me complete.*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Gowda, I allowed you, but you did not speak out.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will hear Shri Somnathji.

(Interruptions)

SHRI G. MADE GOWDA: I have not completed my statement Sir.*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Complete it in one or two minutes. I gave you a chance, you were not speaking, you did not come out. Now come to the point and finish within two minutes.

SHRI G. MADE GOWDA: Let us not be emotional. Being Members of this House, if we become emotional, this problem will not be solved...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: When time is given, you should utilise it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI G. MADE GOWDA: I have not precipitated any problem. I am fully one with the views that the Members of Tamilnadu have expressed. Not only Tamilnadu people have suffered property loss and life loss, even our police have died.*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have no doubt that every section of this House every hon. Member here - is for the maintenance of unity of this country. My hon. friends here from Tamilnadu as well as from Karnataka, no doubt, want it. Unfortunately certain incidents have happened which aroused the feelings of the hon. Members. We do not wish to either play down that or to ignore that. Certain realities have to be taken note of. We also feel that in an issue like this, we should all strive hard to see that no incident of violence takes place. We do not think that any issue can be there, which cannot be discussed and resolved by negotiation or settlement. That is the best way to solve it.

We appeal to all sections of this House and the people of this country to abjure violence. This is a matter which is concerning the future of the people in some of the Southern States. We request the Prime

Minister to take all necessary steps to see that this issue is resolved across the table. The Central Government should, in the meantime, take all possible steps to protect the linguistic minorities in whichever State they may be. Let us not create a situation inside the House which will only aggravate the situation that is prevailing in some parts of the country. (*Interruptions*) I am not trying to minimise the importance of the issue that has been raised. I take it that the feelings are justified. But, how to resolve that issue? Unfortunately, we are witnessing a scene here, where the hon. Members are trading charges and counter-charges against each other which is not helping the situation.

Therefore, let this House - which is the highest body in this country - not send any signal to the country which may be exploited by others. What is necessary is calmness and that should prevail. So, the political leadership in this country and the Government at the highest level should immediately intervene. The Home Minister is here and he should at least assure this House and through this House, the country that the Central Government will take most stringent measures to see that not a single innocent life is lost in this country, no damage caused, nobody is assaulted and violent incidents are stopped.

I would also appeal to all my hon. friends here to see as to resolve it. We feel that negotiation and settlement is the best way out. The Prime Minister should immediately take steps and the Home Minister being here, should respond favorably to that. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I must thank Shri Somnath Chatterjee for putting the matter in a very correct perspective. I will just allow one or two Members to express their views. Then I will request the hon. Home Minister to respond. We are all sympathetic with those who suffer and nobody here wants people to suffer. But, at the same time, we have the rules to follow and let us follow those rules. By following the rules, we would be highlighting things which should be highlighted, in a

proper manner, rather than violating the rules.

May I request all the hon. Members - in spite of the fact that their feelings are agitated - to calm down and follow the rules? It will help all of us to conduct the business of the Hours in a proper manner. Suffering of any individual in any part of the country is our suffering. If they suffer, we will also suffer; nobody is having anything else on this point.

So, let us be very responsible Members and the representatives of the people. Let us act and conduct ourselves in such a fashion that the difficult situation is resolved. I may request one or two hon. Members to speak. We have assessed your feelings — feelings of the brother from Tamilnadu and the feelings of the brothers from Karnataka. So, please do try to speak out and express your feelings; please allow me to conduct the House in a fashion which will help all of us. I am calling Shri Vajpayee to speak.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it should be kept in mind that units of Indian union whether it is Tamil Nadu, Karnataka or any other region are integral parts of our country and the people living there even if they speak different languages, are citizens of this country. Sir, definitely rivers unite and do not divide. Dams are constructed by men for optimum utilisation of available water resources. But if these dams become a bone of contention and disputes over sharing of waters reach the stage of bloodshed, then it is a clear signal that this great nation is deviating from the avowed path.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the water dispute should be sorted out either through discussion, mediation, arbitration or should be referred to Supreme Court for judgement as a last resort. However, even if the dispute persists then the Hon. Prime Minister, who has since come to the House, must sort out the matter by convening a meeting of the Chief Ministers of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu in pursu-

ance to the wishes of the august House and countrymen. Unfortunately, the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, as per newspaper reports, has refused to attend any such meeting.

MR. SPEAKER: We do not know the veracity of the report.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: I am quoting newspaper reports and what has taken place in Karnataka...

[English]

SHIR M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN (Tirunelveli): The killings of Tamil people must be stopped.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: I entirely agree with you.

SHIR M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN: Our people are dying in Karnataka. (*Interruptions*) Do not misinterpret our Chief Minister's statement. There is no use of our Chief Minister going for a talk when our people are dying in Bangalore.

MR. SPEAKER: He is putting it in a correct perspective.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not want to arrive at any conclusion on the basis of newspaper reports. However, if any injustice is being meted out to Tamilians in Karnataka, then it must be stopped. What wrong the Tamilians living in Karnataka have done? They are not any way different from Kannadigas, though their language is different. They are living for years and have made great contributions to the prosperity of Karnataka. In case of dispute between the two States, will the people of one state living in the other state be made the target? All this lead to disintegration of the country and I fully agree that wherever killings are taking place, those must be stopped. Sir, I agree with your observation that no conclusion can be arrived at simply on the basis of newspaper reports and in the ab-

sence of other details we look to the hon. Minister of Home Affairs for more details. Sir, you earlier stated that the hon. Minister of Home Affairs will make a statement and after that a discussion would be allowed the issue in the House. The Hon. Prime Minister must call a meeting of the Chief Ministers of the two States. The matter was debated upon in the House on a earlier occasion also but the bloodshed over water dispute must be stopped. The responsibility for ending bloodshed rests on all of us and also on the people of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): Sir, it is a fact that in this water dispute, there has been a conflict of interests. That is why all the Hon. Members on both sides seem to be agitated over that issue. Prime Minister was pleased to state that he was going to call a meeting of both the Chief Ministers.

I will request all the Hon. Members to create a congenial atmosphere to have a kind of discussion which, in fact, will result into resolution of this very complicated issue. In the meanwhile, I am in full agreement with what Mr. Vajpayee has said. What Hon. Member Shri Vajpayee has said is correct that there should be no killing, there should be no atrocities committed, there should be no violence.

Whatever assistance the Central Government can possibly give to them for resolving this kind of an issue, certainly, we are prepared to give them. Five or six companies of the CRPF have already been sent at their request. I have specially talked to the Chief Minister of Karnataka to see that this kind of unpleasant events do not take place. But in the meanwhile, I would also request the hon. Members to kindly help us in creating the necessary atmosphere (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to share the

sentiments expressed in the House by other hon. Members. When all sections have expressed their views, the Janata Dal would also like to put its point of view on the issue, otherwise it will be quite embarrassing for my party. I fully share the views just now expressed by Shri Somnath Chatterjee and Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee in the House. Since, both the Hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Minister of Home Affairs are present in the House at this moment and if any issue is persistently raised in the House, then it must be considered seriously. As my colleagues made it clear, all this does not present a good image outside the House. I think the matter should be ended here itself. I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Prime Minister, present in the House, and also submit that he must assure both the sides and sort out the issue through discussion by convening a meeting of the concerned Chief Ministers. If the matter is continuously raised in the House then neither it will be in accordance with the decorum of the House nor will it make a good impact outside the House.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I would like to thank the hon. Members for putting the things in a very restraint and trying to put in a correct perspective. I think after the statement made by the hon. Home Minister, it should not be necessary for us to prolong it. Let us gone on with the regular business and I am sure that the Government and the hon. Prime Minister who is here are very much seized of the matter. The hon. Home Minister is here and all Members have expressed their views. We need not worry about that. They would certainly take all necessary steps to see that nothing untoward happens and justice is done to everybody. I hope that you will kindly cooperate with me.

We will proceed with the Question Hour.

11.32hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Plans to cover South Asia and China by Network

***345. SHRI RABI RAY:**
SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have formulated plans of covering the entire South Asia and China by uplinking the present Doordarshan network;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the estimated amount to be spent on such expansion and linkage programmes?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING(KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS):

(a) to (c). By virtue of technical spill-over Doordarshan's programmes are already being received in Maldives, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Parts of Burma and China. These programmes can be seen with appropriately designed Dish-Antenna system. With the acquisition of additional transponder for regional services within the country, the TV signal is likely to spill over to some additional Asian countries.

[Translation]

SHRI RABI RAY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is considering to make the net-work programmes more attractive, which are at present not so fascinating and entertaining and as a result the people of India are learning drawn towards the Cable and Star T.V. ?

KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir the hon. Member's concern over the inclination of our people towards some of the programmes telecast by the neighboring countries is quite natural. Our Ministry is equally concerned about it. So, besides laying emphasis on the interesting, attractive and entertaining programmes on T.V., we are also endeavouring to increase the strength of the Doordarshan so that the people of our country may not be inclined further towards the programmes of neighboring countries. Our Ministry is committed to this.

SHRI RABI RAY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my second question is whether it is a fact that the Vardhan Committee has already submitted some of its recommendations in this regard to the Government; if so, the details of the recommendations thereof; and when those recommendations would be implemented by the Government?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): Sir, Vardhan Committee was formed for the purpose of finding out mainly if public corporations are floated, under what circumstances they are to be given and to find out the opinion of various experts and also of those who show their willingness to participate in such public corporations which will compete with Doordarshan. That was the purpose for which the Varadhan Committee was appointed. The Committee was not appointed for finding out the impact of foreign satellites on India.

[Translation]

SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYA SADUL: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any proposal before the Government to connect each and every corner of the country through the multi-channel with the Doordarshan's programme besides making it more effective; and if so, the arrangements being made by the Government to provide funds for it.

[English]

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA: Our whole intention and desire is to first cover entire India. Through Doordarshan, we have now been able to cover 78 per cent of the population. Therefore, the first emphasise is to cover the rest of the area. That is why we are making the groundwork ready. Wherever required very low power transmitters are set up, we are setting up Low Power Transmitters(LPT) and High Power Transmitters(HPT), gradually and as fund is available. The Eighth Plan is coming. As regards the remaining portion of the area, we try to cover as much as possible within the finances available. We have projected our plan to the Planning Commission and if that is sanctioned fully, we will be able to cover most of the uncovered area with better programmes.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: What are the plans, timewise and moneywise, to acquire these additional transporters? When will the work be completed? In how many additional Asian countries will the programmes be received and which are those countries?

SHRI AJIT PANJA: At present we are covering the programmes through INSAT-1-D and Arab-Sat. So far as the future programme projected by the Department of Space is concerned, after INSAT 1-D, INSAT-2 series come into being. Hon. Members will be happy to know that we have been informed by Prof. U.R.Rao, Chairman, ISRO that the new satellite, viz. INSAT-2, indigenously made by Indian scientists and technocrats for the first time, has come out of the laboratories and it is now put inside the simulated space model for purposes of inspection. Last week I met him personally when he came for discussions at my invitation. He has said that things have been operating nicely and the targeted date is March next year when it will be put in the sky. INSAT-2 will consist of 5 spacecraft. The first two spacecraft, INSAT-2A and INSAT-2B are planned to be experimental in nature and these are not meant for operational use at this stage. In the event of successful opera-

tion, one of them has been tentatively planned for operation purposes. INSAT-2A is planned to be launched in March 1992 and INSAT-2B in March 1993. The operational space craft of INSAT-2 series shall become available there after in the years 1993 to 1995. In order to cover the uncovered area with better programmes and better transmission, Doordarshan has tentatively allotted the use of 4 S-Band and 4 C-Band and 6-extended C-Band transponders under INSAT-2 series. I have with me in detail the possible utilisation pattern when the three INSAT-2 series satellites become operational. I will give the details if the hon. member so desires.

[*Translation*]

SHRI AYUB KHAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to point out categorically to the hon. Minister that a large area of Rajasthan-Barmer, Anupgarh, Ganga Nagar, Bikaner, Jaisalmer is located along the border of Pakistan and the people of those areas like to enjoy Pakistani Programmes neglecting our programmes because the strength of T.V. Tower is low and the quality of our programmes is sub-standard. I would like to know the steps being taken by the Government in this regard.

KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, under 'the coverage in border areas plan' the land has been acquired and the work is in progress in regard to setting up a 10 K.W. high-power transmitter in Barmer and Jaisalmer. And under the 'strengthen of border areas plan' Anoopgarh is being covered and in the long run the Jodhpur area is also to be covered.

[*English*]

Provision of Telephone Lines

*346. **SHRI B. DEVARAJAN:**
SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently decided to provide seven lakh telephone lines in the country during the current financial year; and

(b) if so, the guidelines laid down by the Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). Yes Sir, The guideline in determining this target has been the objective of rapid expansion of the network for increased availability of Telephones in the country. The attempt is to reach a level of 20 Million Telephone connections by the year 2000 by regulating the rate of expansion of the network.

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my question was very specific, as to whether by the year end the Government will be able to provide 7 lakh telephone connections in the country. I would like to know whether the Government has any agency to monitor the progress of the work. We read in the newspapers that every day the Government is providing 200 telephone connections in different parts of the country. May I know from the hon. Minister the progress in this regard, especially in the rural areas, and whether he can give us the State-wise details of the progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the target of our Department is to give 7 lakh telephone connections this year. We could not cross the figure of 4.5 lakhs this year. But, we had fixed a higher target because the demand of telephones is going very high. I may inform the House that the progress made in this area is very satisfactory and we will meet the target of 7 lakh by March 1991-92.

Secondly, Sir, he has asked about our providing 200 telephone connections per day. I think he has read it slightly wrong. Our target is to give about 100 connections per day. We decided this in the month of Decem-

ber. To monitor this we have deputed a special task force in each State and we also have one monitoring agency at the Central level. We could not achieve the target of 100 telephones per day - some times we could achieve 70, 80 and sometimes even 130 - but we hope that by March 1992 we will be able to achieve an average of 100 per day.

On the National Highways we wish to give the STD facility after every 50 Km so that people travelling on the national Highways can make use of this facility. Three out of the four sectors on which the work has been completed are Delhi-Jaipur, Pune-Bombay and Bangalore-Madras and the work on the other Sector is still going on.

I have been informing the House of and on that the demand of telephone has gone very high. A few years back it was matter of status to have telephone but now it has become a necessity. That is why in the new Industrial Policy we have opened up the production. Until we have more production in the country, we cannot meet the rising demand. Our ratio of 100 telephone per day compared to other parts of the world is very little. In the 8th Plan our target is to give 75 lakh new telephone connections and we hope to achieve this target.

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Sir, it has been mentioned here that the Government has taken steps to provide telephone facilities in the rural areas. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether they have taken enough precaution that these telephones do not go out of order. It is our experience that most of the PCOs and other facilities that are provided in the rural areas are not at all being attended to.

So, what are the specific actions that you have taken so that within a limited time, the defective telephones are attended to and whatever complaints are received are attended to within a minimum possible time?

MR. SPEAKER: From giving lines to maintenance!

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: I agree Sir, giving a line has no meaning till such time that it is serviceable. The technology that had been given to the rural areas is very appreciable and wherever I have gone, in the rural areas, I have heard people saying that 'if nothing works, at least telephone works'. But in some areas, especially, like Madras and so on, where batteries are reported to be faulty, there, I have given instructions that those batteries should be replaced. The idea was to give one PCO to a Panchayat each from the Government's side, connect that PCO or the Panchayat with the District Headquarters, and then to give the District Headquarters, all over the country STD facility by March, 1992. We are hoping that by March, 1992, all the districts in the country will have the STD facility. In other words, we are trying to connect the Panchayats with the rest of the country by this procedure.

Now, I will come to repairing of faults. In the urban areas - we have taken a decision - that if a fault is reported, it should be cleared within 24 hours. I have been monitoring it and I have found that there is a good progress.

Yesterday, I was in Bombay. We had an Open house, where we called the people to report as to what they feel about the communication services. We had a good report. In about 82 per cent of the faults, we had reached within 24 hours. If there is a major fault, it is the Exchange who will tell: "Sorry, it is a major fault and it will take five days to repair that phone." So, we have taken all these steps to improve the services.

[Translation]

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to welcome the hon. Minister for his assurances to instal more telephones in future and expansion of its network. But as far as the working of the village telephones is concerned, it is in a very bad condition and we, the members of Parliament have to bear with the people's resentment that we cannot express it in the House. There is no machinery in the commu-

nication department for it. Telephone is there but without a dial-tone. If dial-tone is there, the line is not available. Sometimes even after 8 days the call is not materialized.

[*English*]

"Telephone is the fast means of communication"

[*Translation*]

in the rural and remote areas. Any fault in it creates a great difficulty there. But the staff deputed there are not ready to listen to any one. Unless they are made accountable..... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: What is your question?

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: We are going to set up new-type of telephones. But what will be the use of old-model telephones? Is it no longer the concern of the communication department. Has the hon. Minister made any plan to improve the working of it or not?

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Are you reacting?

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Mr. Speaker, Sir I can react to that.

MR. SPEAKER: When it does not come out of it, can you reply? You can reply, I am not objecting to it. You were on your legs, you can reply.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Mr. Speaker, in response to the hon. Member's feelings, I would like to explain it a little more. Since taking over the charge of the Government at first we paid our attention towards it. there is any particular instance in the knowledge of the hon. Member to which we could not have paid our attention, he may tell us. Though most of our subscribers have become accustomed to the Electronic Exchange which is technically much different from the cross-bar exchange. So we want to instal elec-

tronic exchanges all over the country and our emphasis is on the production of electronic exchanges as well.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: The telephone even of the Parliament House remains out of order.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: It may happen so at some places. I do not say that it is faultless. Some faults may lie in its operation. I admit the hon. member's assertion that our work culture requires some kinds of improvement. That is why, we have started the best operator and the best maintenance awards and we are giving some incentives... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Just now, I have to try five times to get a line in the Parliament House. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI SATYANRAYAN JATIYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has stated that the efficiency of the old-modelled strowger and cross-bar telephone exchanges has gone down and those are not working efficiently. So, through you, I would like to know from him as to what measures the Government is taking to increase the productions of the required items to meet the demands of the new electronic system?

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have already stated about the steps we have taken under the new industrial policy to increase its production through the joint sector, Public Sector and Private Sector. It is quite essential, otherwis we cannot meet the demand. Since we have switched over to the Electronic Exchanges, we have made our constant effort in this regard and very soon its capacity will increase.

Arrest of Terrorists

*347. **DR. GUNAMANT RAMBHAI SARODE:** will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of terrorists apprehended as on date; and

(b) the number of terrorists who have been prosecuted and sentenced during the last three years?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) Available information in respect of part (a) is as under:-

	1989	1990	1991 (upto Nov.)
In Punjab	2466	1759	1842
In J & K	299	2360	1963
In North East (excluding Assam)	129	83	135

Detailed information in respect of part (a) and (b) is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

DR. GUVANT RAMBHAU SARODE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government has mounted a heavy pressure on the terrorists in Punjab. So they are moving to other neighbouring states mostly in Uttar Pradesh. Now I would like to know from the Government of India as to what help it will provide to the Uttar Pradesh Government to enable it to discourage the terrorists. My second question is whether the Government is proposing to react against the terrorists training centres located in Pakistan.

[English]

SHRI M.M. JACOB: Regarding the first part of the question, the Government of India is aware of the likely pressure on the terrorists moving in other States like Uttar Pradesh. In order to chalk out necessary modalities, a meeting of the Home Secretary and the Director-General of Police was held in the affected State or supposed to be affected State on 6th December and joint plan action was formulated and also sharing of the intelligence information with the States.

As far as second part of the question is

concerned, what will happen to the training camps across the border in Pakistan, that is a matter we are really concerned about and diplomatic level efforts are being pursued with the Government of Pakistan to see that terrorists are not harboured like that and the training centres are not nurtured in Pakistan which is against the interest of India.

[Translation]

DR. GUVANT RAMBHAU SARODE: In response to my original question, will the hon. Minister like to state the number of the terrorists apprehended and prosecuted so far?

[English]

SHRI M.M. JACOB: I have given the figures in my original answer regarding Punjab and Jammu & Kashmir. I have already given the numbers in my answer part (a).

MR. SPEAKER: How many have been punished?

SHRI M.M. JACOB: The figure of convicts is very low. I have to collect the information from the various States about the figures of those exactly convicted. There is also a matter to be brought to your notice because the House must be aware of it. In most of the

States where these terrorist crimes are detected the cases are being pursued, information is for the coming. But people not coming forward to be whiteness and to give evidence. So, the courts are finding it difficult to pin down the terrorists. Also, there is a fear psychosis existing in those areas. The hands of the judiciary have to be strengthened by some other means. So, information is being collected from those States about the number of convictions in these areas.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWLE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to know from the hon. Minister about the incidents of the bomb-explosion in Maharashtra, especially in Kalyan in Bombay city—

MR. SPEAKER: Rawle ji, not in this way. This question is not related to a particular area but it relates to the whole of India. He cannot give you a separate information of that kind. You should go through the answer of the question first and if any other question comes out of that then raise it further. You please read the question first.

SHRIMATI RITA VERMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the beginning of this year on 3rd January, a sinuus Superintendent of Police of Bihar was killed in an encounter with the terrorists who later on moved to West Bengal where they had created a havoc for 3 days by killing the people and hijacking the buses etc. and when their ammunition was finished, three of them committed suicide. But until now their local contacts could not be detected. A.C.B.I. inquiry had been ordered in this regard. So, I would like to know from the hon. Home Minister about the progress made in the said enquiry? Further in the part 'b' of this question I would like to know from him as to what measures he is thinking to adopt to protect the coal areas of Bihar especially Dhanbad from being the den of the terrorists as these areas because of their rich minerals have always been attracting various types of criminals and terrorists.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This question does not come out of the question that is being answered. I would request the Minister to give the information, if he has. Otherwise he may send it in writing to the hon. Member.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWLE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the terrorists have evloved a new policy of kidnapping the V.I.Ps for the release of their colleagues from the custody of the Government which has always surrendered to their demands. I would like to ask the Government as to why it does not kill 10 or 100 militants, when they kidnap one person, instead of releasing the 10 terrorists?

[English]

SHRI M.M. JACOB: It is not the policy of the Government to release hard core militants who are in our custody in exchange of hostages. It must have happened in some isolated cases. It is not the policy.

SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Terrorists have been already on the increase all these days and punishment has been very much disproportionate to the crime they committed, like killing, shooting, abducting, etc. The Home Department has already been in the process of working so many things. But nothing has come out. Has the Government any master plan to control all these things either by preventing infiltration or finding a new methodology to control them? It is not only a law and order problem, but it is also a social problem, just like, Bangalore has become a hide out for some of the ULFA activists who were caught day before yesterday there. Still there are some who have made it their hide out. What is the reaction of the Government to this?

SHRI M.M. JACOB: As I stated earlier, the Home Ministry has taken the initiative to convene a conference of Directors General of Police and Home Secretaries. Following that, to evolve a strategy, the Home Minister

has proposed to convene a meeting of the Chief Ministers to provide the necessary inputs and then formulate an action plan in this particular direction.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): Sir, the latter part of the hon. Member's question is that Bangalore is being used as a kind of hide-out by some of these people and they are really purchasing real estate in that area in *benami* transaction. We are trying our level best to find out as to how best Income-tax Department can possibly go after them because everybody knows that this is a *benami* transaction. But the real estate has been purchased by a particular person. So, if we can succeed in getting this kind of information, I am sure that this will also help us in reducing the terrorist activities in certain areas.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM SARAN YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has been said just by the Government that the hard core terrorists are never released in exchange of hostages. Would they like to elaborate it further as to who are the hard-core terrorists?

[English]

SHRI M.M. JACOB: Sir, against whom heinous crimes are reported; police have found that they are really involved in heinous crimes. Therefore, it is in that context I have used the words 'hard core terrorist'.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Upliftment of Tribal Population

***348. KUMARI VIMLA VERMA:** Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated by the Union Government for upliftment of the tribal population in the country during the Seventh Five Year Plan, State-wise;

(b) whether the amount allocated for this purpose had been spent by the State Governments properly; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to speed up the development of the tribal population in the country during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) The amount allocated under Special Central Assistance and under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of the Ministry of Welfare, State-wise during the Seventh Five Year Plan is given in the Statement '1' attached.

(b) The utilisation figures made available by the State Governments are contained in the Statement 'II', attached of the House.

(c) Under Special Central Assistance Rs. 250 crores is allocated for 1991-92 as against Rs. 224.70 crores in 1990-91.

STATEMENT

Amount allocated under Special Central Assistance and under the allocation

Seventh Five Year Plan (1985-90) Period

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes									
		Special Central Assistance to Tribal sub-Plan	Giris Hostels	"Boys' Hostels	Research & Training	Development of Oilseeds & c/s	Post Matric Scholarships	"Book Banks	Cosch- ing & Allied	Grant 1st provd 275 (1) of the constit- ution	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5166.18	275.45	—	30.57	—	532.01	45.08	12.19	749.87	
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	30.55	—	—	—	—	—	—	49.30	
3.	Assam	3721.80	20.25	—	56.16	—	483.80	10.95	2.00	370.79	
4.	Bihar	11412.21	40.69	—	2.48	63.43	1487.45	9.84	6.26	1006.58	
5.	Gujarat	6663.75	18.11	—	3.04	—	519.41	9.79	1.99	960.20	
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1347.98	10.92	—	—	—	20.11	0.21	1.79	84.28	
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—	—	—	5.00	1.50	—	—	

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No. State/UT

Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Special Central Assistance to Tribal sub-Plan	Girls Hostels	"Boys' Hostels	Research & Training	Development of Oilseeds & Crops	Post Matric Scholarships	"Book Banks	Coaching & Allied	Grant under 1st provd 275 (1) of the constitution	
8.	Karnataka	629.58	2.86	—	1.75	—	182.36	6.88	7.86	315.80
9.	Kerala	473.50	18.87	—	33.63	—	46.88	15.36	5.80	48.81
10.	Madhya Pradesh	23405.23	161.92	9.48	20.42	114.67	789.88	10.28	7.23	2179.81
11.	Maharashtra	6060.58	17.55	—	21.89	—	605.85	17.70	—	1175.41
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1418.71	27.45	—	12.16	—	98.06	1.40	1.00	94.15
13.	Meghalaya	—	10.19	—	—	—	98.88	1.46	1.00	188.20
14.	Mizoram	—	—	—	—	—	214.73	—	0.40	81.85
15.	Nagaland	—	6.00	—	0.12	—	425.24	—	—	112.70
16.	Orissa	11497.94	89.50	1.54	22.34	—	207.39	9.33	4.01	1099.86
17.	Rajasthan	5732.00	47.82	—	16.95	—	153.03	2.50	12.85	723.85

DECEMBER 16, 1991

Written Answers

Sl. No.	State/UT	Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes (Rs. in lakhs)									
		Special Central Assistance to Tribal sub-Plan	Girls Hostels	"Boys' Hostels	Research & Training	Development of Oilseeds & cils	Post Matic	**Book Banks	Coach- ing & Allied	Grant under 1st provi- 275 (1) of the consti- tution	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
18.	Sikkim	227.38	4.28	—	—	—	—	30.87	—	—	29.19
19.	Tamil Nadu	911.43	2.26	—	43.14	—	—	38.74	26.65	4.25	89.92
20.	Tripura	1429.52	9.47	6.00	2.37	—	—	14.19	2.17	1.71	111.05
21.	Uttar Pradesh	246.23	—	—	12.91	—	—	234.56	24.67	12.08	40.32
22.	West Bengal	4042.00	10.30	—	18.00	62.68	227.96	2.17	3.12	531.41	
23.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	221.00	6.75	—	—	—	—	0.52	—	—	
24.	Dadra & Haveli	—	5.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
25.	Daman & Diu**	37.00	—	—	—	—	—	0.52	0.76	—	
26.	Lakshadweep	—	8.25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	

* Scheme started from 1989-90.

** Scheme is for SC & STs.

*** This was earlier Goa, Daman & Diu.

STATEMENT -II**UTILISATION**

Utilisation of special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Plan reported by State Governments/UT Administration during 7th Five Year Plan (1985-90)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Amount (Rupees in lakhs)	Period Reported for
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4320.543	Upto June, 1989
2.	Assam	1886.380	Upto 1987-88
3.	Bihar	5625.490	Upto 1987.88
4.	Gujarat	6330.960	Upto 1989-90
5.	Himachal Pradesh	1175.710	Upto Sept. 1988
6.	Karnataka	467.820	Upto June, 1988
7.	Kerala	451.380	Upto 1989-90
8.	Madhya Pradesh	13361.480	Upto June, 1989
9.	Maharashtra	4975.980	Upto Sept., 1989
10.	Manipur	955.570	Upto Dec., 1988
11.	Orissa	7942.210	Upto Sept., 1988
12.	Rajasthan	4712.280	Upto 1989-90

Sl. No.	State/UT	Amount (Rupees in lakhs)	Period Reported for
13.	Sikkim	146.710	Upto Sept., 1988
14.	Tamil Nadu	902.970	Upto 1989-90
15.	Tripura	1361.691	Upto Dec., 1989
16.	Uttar Pradesh	116.300	Upto Dec., 1988
17.	West Bengal	3659.400	Upto 1989-70
18.	A & N Islands	171.463	Upto 1989-90
19.	Daman & Diu	35.380	Upto 1989-90
	Total:	58599.697	

[Translation]**Terrorist Activities in Tarai Region**

*349. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has submitted any proposal to the Union Government for checking the increasing terrorist activities in the Tarai region of the State;

(b) when this proposal was received by the Union Government;

(c) the action taken by the Union Government thereon; and

(d) the total amount asked for by the Government of Uttar Pradesh through the above proposal and the amount actually sanctioned by the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): (a) to (d). The Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh had written to the Home Minister in October 1991 seeking Central assistance for combating terrorist activities in the State. A detailed proposal in this regard has been received from the State Government early this month. Among other things, the State Government has requested for additional paramilitary force, as well as weapons for the State police. The State Government has estimated the cost of the schemes for combating terrorism at Rs. 36 crores and has requested the Center to meet at least half of this cost. The proposal is under examination. Some assistance in terms of weapons and additional para-military forces is already being provided.

[English]**Citizens' Committees in J & K**

*350. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up district-level citizens' committees in Jammu & Kashmir to counter the growing influence of militants; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): (a) and (b). The Government of Jammu & Kashmir has decided to constitute District Advisory Groups to assist the District Development Commissioners in different aspects of district administration including developmental matters. The Advisory Groups are to consist of MICS, former MPs and MLAs, Sarpanches, representatives of recognised political parties and scheduled castes/tribes, academicians and prominent social workers. To start with these groups have been constituted in the Jammu region.

[Translation]**Post Office in Each Gram Sabha**

*351. SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any long term scheme to open a Post Office in each Gram Sabha of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of the States in which the said scheme is being implemented at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) While for locating a post office, gram panchayat headquarters are given preference, the criteria that is followed for opening post offices in rural areas is satisfaction of certain norms relating to

population served, distance from existing post office and financial position. The existing norms in this respect are as under:

NORMS FOR RURAL AREAS FOR OPENING OF POST OFFICES:

In normal rural areas.

- 1) **Population:** 3000 population in a group of villages;
- 2) **Distance :** The minimum distance from the nearest existing post office will be 3 Kms.
- 3) **Anticipated income:** The minimum anticipated revenue will be 33 1/3% of the cost.

IN HILLY, TRIBAL, DESERT AND INACCESSIBLE RURAL AREAS:

- 1) **Population:** 500 population in an individual village or 1000 population in a group of villages.
- 2) **Distance:** The distance limit will be the same as above except that in hilly areas, the minimum distance limit can be relaxed by the Directorate where such relaxation is warranted by special circumstances.
- 3) **Anticipated income:** The minimum anticipated income will be 15% of the cost.

(b) and (c). In view of reply to (a) above the question does not arise.

[English]

Thermal Power Generation

*352. SHRI CHETAN P.S.
CHAUHAN:
SHRIMATI MAHENDRA
KUMARI:

Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether thermal power generation has registered a negative growth during the first six months of the current financial year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government have identified the causes thereof; and
- (d) the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

(d) As a continuing programme Government had initiated various measures for optimal utilisation of the installed thermal generation capacity such as:

- (i) Renovation and Modernisation of old Units;
- (ii) Assistance to Electricity Boards in undertaking plant betterment programmes; and
- (iii) Supply of requisite quantity and quality of coal.

[Translation]

Northern Region Electricity Board

*353. SHRI SIMON MARANDI: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state;

- (a) whether the Northern Region Elec-

tricity Board (NREB) has stopped the supply of electricity being provided by the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) to Bihar;

(b) if so, the steps taken to settle the dispute and when it is likely to be sorted out;

(c) the total amount outstanding against the Bihar State Electricity Board and the procedure and conditions regarding the payment of this amount;

(d) whether necessary instructions for restoration of electricity supply to the Bihar State have been issued; and

(e) if so, results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (e). Bihar is not a Constituent of the Northern Region. Inspite of this due to serious power shortage conditions in Bihar, assistance to the extent of about 100 to 150 MW is being provided to the State from the Northern Region depending upon the availability of power in the Northern Region. However, due to continuous default by Bihar in making payments to National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) for the purchase of energy from the Northern Region, the power supply to Bihar from the Northern Region was discontinued by the Northern Regional Load Despatch Centre (NRLDC) from 0605 hrs. on 26th October, 1991 but was restored from the 0905 hrs. onwards on the same day on assurance by Bihar Government regarding payment of arrears towards cost of power supplied.

The total amount of outstanding dues payable by Bihar State Electricity Board to the various Central Power Corporations, is about Rs. 592.47 crores.

The Government of Bihar has finalised an Action Plan for making payments to the

Central Generating Companies for the power purchased by the Bihar State Electricity Board.

[English]

Transmission Losses of Electricity

***354. SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK:** Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Energy Projects in India-WB aid must focus on efficiency report" appearing in the 'Times of India' of November 11, 1991;

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

(c) whether the percentage of transmission losses is very high; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to curb the transmission losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) The news-item captioned "Energy projects in India - WB aid must focus on efficiency: Report" appeared in the Times of India of November 22, 1991.

(b) The Government is in agreement with the main thrust of the news-item and has itself accorded high priority to energy conservation in its power programme.

(c) and (d). The transmission and distribution (T&D) losses including theft of electricity in the country have been ranging between 21% to 23%. In order to reduce the T&D losses, various measures have been taken. These include:

- (i) Conducting energy audit by State Electricity Boards (SEB)/ Electricity Departments (ED) to identify system elements responsible for excessive losses;
- (ii) Formulation of system improvement schemes for strengthening T&D system both in rural and urban areas;
- (iii) Installation of capacitors, introduction of energy audit in the power systems of SEBs/EDs;
- (iv) Theft of energy has been made a cognizable offence; and
- (v) Introduction of an incentive scheme for reducing T&D losses.

S.T.D. and Direct Dialling Facilities In Telephone Exchanges of Trivandrum

*355. SHRI A. CHARLES: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the telephone exchanges in Trivandrum without S.T. D. facility; and

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to provide S.T.D. facility in those exchanges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) None Sir. All the 5 exchanges in Trivandrum i.e. Trivandrum X-Bar, Trivandrum-Kaithamukku, Trivandrum Medical College, Trivandrum-Ambalamukku RLU & Karyavattom RLU are having the S.T.D. facility.

(b) Question does not arise.

Kota Thermal Power Station In Rajasthan

*356. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the generation of power at the Kota Thermal Power Station in Rajasthan is less than its capacity;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to improve the performance of the plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON- CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). The generation capacity of Kota Thermal Power Station in Rajasthan is 640 MW. During the period April-November, 1991, against the programme of generation of 1620 million units of energy, at 43.2% Plant Load Factor (PLF), the actual generation was 2223 million units at 59.3% PLF.

(c) Various measures being taken to further improve the performance of Kota Thermal Power Station include renovation and modernisation of old units, assistance to the Rajasthan Electricity Board in undertaking plant betterment programmes, supply of requisite quantity and quality of coal, training of operation and maintenance personnel and strengthening of Transmission and Distribution Systems.

[Translation]

Power Generation Capacity

*357. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the capacity for generation of power in the country has gone down during the year 1990-91 as compared to 1989-90;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to meet the demand for power?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). The installed generating capacity in the country on 31st March, 1990 and 31st March, 1991 was 63290 MW and 66066 MW respectively. The energy generation during 1990-91 was 264.2 BU against the energy generation of 245.1 BU during 1989-90 which represents an increase of 7.8%.

(c) Various measures being taken to improve the availability of power include expediting commissioning of new generating capacity, implementation of short gestation projects, improving the performance of existing power stations, reduction of Transmission and Distribution losses, implementation of demand management and energy conservation measures and arranging transfer of energy from surplus to deficit areas.

[English]

Shortcomings In Field Units

*358. **SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:**

DR. A.K. PATEL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether serious shortcomings had been noticed in April, 1991 in the working of the field units under the charge of the Chief General Managers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any feed-back was received from the field units; and

(d) if so, improvements, if any, made in the working of the various units?

THE MINSTER OF STATE OF THE M 'TRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAVE 'I PILOT): (a) No, Sir. No serious shortcomings had been detected in the working of field units.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir. Monthly report under Mission "Better Communications" indicating various service performance parameters and important events are being received.

(d) There is comparative improvement in various service performances, parameters as given in the attached statement.

Sl. No.	Parameter	For the year ending					
		March 1986	March 1987	March 1988	March 1989	March 1990	March 1991
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Telephone Fault Rate (%)	35.0	22.2	19.2	17.84	17.19	17.36
2.	Telex Fault Rate (%)	62.0	42.0	35.4	25.38	21.54	18.18
3.	Call Success Rate Local (%)	90.00	93.3	96.1	97.7	95.3	96.85
4.	Call Success Rate Junction (%)	70.0	90.0	90.9	91.3	91.6	90.95
5.	Call Success Rate STD (%)	20.0	47.8	69.4	78.1	88.4	85.54
6.	Effective Trunk Calls (%)	73.0	78.9	84.5	81.0	81.01	80.50
7.	Computerised Directory Enquiry Service (No. of Cities)	4	6	14	23	38	54
8.	Improve Billing credibility (by giving details of STD Calls), No. of subscribers Covered in lakhs	0.5	0.63	2.35	3.70	6.40	10.28
9.	Provision of Public Telephones in urban areas (all type of PTs)	19869	44248	49879	53226	63165	81825

Sl. No.	Parameter	For the year ending					
		March 1986	March 1987	March 1988	March 1989	March 1990	March 1991
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10.	Delivery of Telegrams within 12 day light hours within CTOS/DTOS (%)	38.0	54.0	72.0	81.9	83.8	87.44
11.	Average Revenue per direct exchange line in a month	85—86	86-87	87-88	88-89	89-90	90-91
		311	332	452	575	609	667

[Translation]

Works and Speeches of Dr. Ambedkar

***359. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK:** Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whethers the Government propose to publish the works and speeches of Dr. Ambedkar in Hindi and other Indian languages;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in the matter so far?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) to (c). There is a proposal to translate and publish the writings and speeches of Dr. Ambedkar in Hindi and other Indian languages, based on the material available in the English edition of the Government of Maharashtra's publications of the writings and speeches of Dr. Ambedkar. The proposal is being examined in consultation with the Deptt. of Culture and Directorate of Publications of the I & B Ministry.

[English]

Modernisation of Telephone Exchanges in Andhra Pradesh

***360. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to develop/modernise the telephone exchanges in Andhra Pradesh during the Eighth Plan period; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The draft 8th Plan proposals envisage addition of around 6.5 lakh lines and replacement of around 1.90 lakh lines mostly by Electronic equipment during the plan period in Andhra Pradesh Telecom Circle which includes:

- Achieve fully automatic network by March 1994 by replacing all manual exchanges

Replace life expired and worn out switches as and when they become life expired

- Replace all strowger MAX-III exchanges by electronic exchanges (as part of the programme to provide national subscriber dialling to all exchanges)

- Provision of Subscriber Trunk Dialling facility to all exchanges

Profit/Loss made by N. F. D. C.

***361. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE:** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the profit and loss made by the National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) from the exhibition and sale of films during the six months commencing April, 1991; and

(b) the number of the countries from which films were imported and the amount paid to those countries by NFDC during the above period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS):

(a) National Film Development Corporation has generated a revenue of Rs. 96.85 lakhs from the sale and distribution of foreign films by various modes of exploitation for the first six months of the financial year commencing from April, 1991. The Corporation has incurred an expenditure of Rs. 49.48 lakhs on import of films and for preparation of prints and publicity materials for distribution of films in India. Thus, making a gross revenue of Rs. 47.37 lakhs from exploitation of foreign films during the said period.

(b) During the period, films were imported from six countries and an amount of Rs. 39.95 lakhs was paid for the imports.

District Headquarters:- Sonbhadra (Robertsganj), Jittarkashi New Tehri.

Other Stations:-

<i>Name of Places</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Name of places</i>	<i>District</i>
Pipri (Renukoot)	Sonbhadra	Pilkhuwa	Ghaziabad
Srinagar (Garhwal)	Pohri	Pant Nagar	Nainital
Badrinath	Chamoli		

The following places are proposed to be provided with S.T.D. facility during the remaining part of the year 1991-92

<i>Name of places</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Name of places</i>	<i>District</i>
Jhansi	Jhansi	Farukhabad	Farukhabad
Baghpat (Agrawal Mandi)	Meerut	Garh Mukteshwar	Ghaziabad
Gajraula	Moradabad	Barwa-Sumerpur	Hamirpur
Unchahar	Raebareli	Malwan	Fatehpur
Dibaiapur	Etawah	Golagokaran Nath	Lakhimpur Kheri
Nawabganj	Unnao	Chori Chora	Gorakhpur

Name of places	District	Name of places	District
Paliakalan	Lakhimpur Kheri	Sikandrabad	Bulandshahar
Rishikesh	Dehradun	Fatehpur Sikri	Agra

The following 30 places in Uttar Pradesh are proposed to be provided with STD facility during 92-93.

Name of places	District	Name of places	District
Haldwani	Lakhimpur Kheri	Neemsar, Sidhuli	Sitapur
Sardhana, Mawana	Meerut	Sikandrarao, Atrauli	Aligarh -do-
Etmadpur	Agra	Meja	Allahabad
Rasra	Ballia	Karwi	Banda
Aonia	Bareilly	Dhampur, Najibabad	Bijnore
Khalilabad	Basti	Dumariaganj	Sidharth Nagar
Hata	Deoria	Kairana	Muzaffar Nagar
Anand Nagar	Maharajganj	Dunda, Rajgahri	Uttarkashi
		Purola, Bhatwari,	-do-
		Gangotri, Yamnotri	-do-
Khimath, Guptkashi Chamoli Joshimath, Kedarnath Chamoli		Nignasan	Lakhimpur-Khiri

[English]

Price Mechanism for Imported News-print

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY:

*363. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRADAD:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to introduce a three-tier price mechanism for imported newsprint;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the advantage (s) of the new price structure over the existing one?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Tele Films on Drug Addiction

*364. **SHRI C.P. MUDALAGIRI-YAPPA:**
SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA:

. Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether films to spread awareness about the problems of drug addiction are being telecast regularly on Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such films are being telecast in all the Indian languages from different Doordarshan Kendras;

(d) if so, the details thereof and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS):
(a) to (e). Programmes on Drug Abuse are regularly telecast by Doordarshan in various formats such as telefilms, serials, sports/quickies, interview based programmes and discussions in different Indian languages from its different Kendras.

Fake documents by Travel Agents

3829. **SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some travel agents in Delhi and Punjab have been arranging fake documents and other facilities for Punjab youths;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any travel agents have been arrested in this connection; and

(d) the action taken by the Government against such agents?

THE MINSTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

IPS Officers of Harijan, Adivasi and Backward Classes

3830. **SHRI BHUBANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA:** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of I.P.S. Officers in the country and the number of those out of them who belong to Harijan, Adivasi and Backward Classes;

(b) whether the number of such officers belonging to these classes is very less and their number is also not according to the quota reserved for Adivasi and Harijans; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to remove the disparity and to fill up

the posts reserved for them in accordance with prescribed quota?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) The total number of direct recruit and promotee IPS officers in the country was 2694 as on 1.1.90, and 464 were from Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities. There is, however, no classification for Backward Classes.

(b) and (c). Every year, a number of Scheduled Caste & Scheduled Tribe candidates allotted to IPS on the results of Civil Services Examinations is equal to the number of vacancies identified for being filled by the candidates belonging to these categories. As such, no special steps are required to be taken to fill the reserved posts.

[English]

Langpi Hydroelectric Project

3831. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Langpi Hydroelectric Project in Karbi Anglong of Assam is running behind the schedule;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the time by which the Project is likely to be completed; and
- (d) the total capacity, expenditure incurred on the project with full details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAJ): (a) to (d). Karbi Langpi

Hydro-electric project in Assam with an installed capacity of 2x50 MW and generation potential of 390 Million Units per year, was sanctioned by Planning Commission in August, 1989. The project was originally scheduled to be commissioned in 1985-86. The contract for dam works which was originally awarded to M/s. Sibson Construction Company in September, 1982 was terminated due to slow progress and reawarded to the National Projects Construction Corporation (NPCC) in September, 1987. Due to poor mobilisation and cash flow problems of NPCC, the dam works which were to be completed in May 1989 are now programmed for completion by June 1993. The expenditure incurred upto 31st May, 1991 is Rs. 116.78 crores.

Funds for Border States to maintain Security

3832. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether funds are being provided to the border States to maintain security in the border areas;
- (b) if so, the amount of Central assistance allocated to different States during the last three years;
- (c) whether the funds allocated to the State of Rajasthan are inadequate as compared to the actual requirement of the State;
- (d) if so, whether the Government propose to enhance the allocation for the year 1991-92; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) to (e). Funds specifically for

maintaining security of border areas have not been given to border States. However, funds for the development of border areas of some States have been given.

SC/ST Employees in Orissa Telecom Circle

**3833. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS:
DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of employees in different groups of services working in Orissa Telecom Circle and number out of them

belonging to SC/ST category alongwith the sanctioned strength both on March 31, 1991;

(b) the places in Orissa where Telecom Distt. Manager Offices and DET Offices are located (with their numbers)/proposed to be located in the near future; and

(c) the names of places in Orissa where different types of Training Centres, Store Depots and Workshops are situated?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The required information is given as below:

	<i>Sanctioned strength</i>	<i>Working strength</i>	<i>S.C.</i>	<i>S.T.</i>
Group -A	37	37	5	-
Group-B	231	194	19	16
Group-C	4919	4472	787	556
Group-D	1303	1180	346	245
Total:	6490	5883	1157	817

(b) There are two Telecom District Managers and 12 numbers of Telecom. District Engineers/Divisonal Engineers. Details of the same is given below:

	<i>Offices</i>	<i>Head of Office</i>	<i>Location</i>
1.	TDM, Cuttack	Telecom. District Manager	Cuttack
2.	TDM, Bhubaneswar	Telecom. District Manager	Bhubaneswar
3.	TDE, Berhampur	Telecom. District Engineer	Barhampur
4.	TDE, Bargarh	Telecom. District Engineer	Bargarh
5.	TDE, Balasore	Telecom. District Engineer	Balasore
6.	TDE, Dhenkanal	Telecom. District Engineer	Dhenkanal

<i>Offices</i>	<i>Head of Office</i>	<i>Location</i>
7. TDE, Rourkela	Telecom. District Engineer	Rourkela
8. TDE, Sambalpur	Telecom. District Engineer	Sambalpur
9. TDE, Koraput	Telecom. District Engineer	Koraput
10. Divisional Engineers – 3 numbers	Telecom. Dist. Manager Cuttack	
11. Divisional Engineers – 2 numbers	Telecom. Dist. Manager Bhubaneswar	

(ii) No. of TDE offices proposed to be created in the near future – Nil. There is a proposal for creation of one additional D.E. at Puri under TDM, Bhubaneswar and two at Cuttack under TDM, Cuttack.

<i>(c) Type of Training Centre</i>	<i>Location</i>
Circle Telecom. Training Centre	Bhubaneswar
<i>Type of Store Depot/Workshop</i>	<i>Location</i>
Retail Telecom. Store Depot	Bhubaneswar
Workshop — Nil	

There is, however, a proposal for opening of Circle level Workshop at Bhubaneswar.

STD and Group Dialling Facilities in Gujarat

3834. KUMARI DIPAKA CHIKHLIA:
SHRI CHANDUBHAI
DESHMUKH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS
be pleased to state:

(a) the number of electronic exchanges in Gujarat especially in Vadodra district which are in operation; and

(b) the time by which STD and group dialling facilities are likely to be provided in these exchanges and places in the country for which STD link is provided from these exchanges?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The numbers of Electronic Exchanges in Gujarat is as under:

1. Gujarat –(As on 30.9.91) –231
2. Vadodra District (Present position) –13.

(b) As per Draft Eighth Five Year Plan proposal of Telecom. Department, it is envisaged to provide STD facilities to all telephone exchanges by the end of Eighth Five Year Plan. This would facilitate linking of Telephone exchanges to National Subscriber Dialling Network. Hence, in Gujarat all telephone exchanges would have STD facilities

by the end of Eighth Plan. Their linkage will be to all other exchanges with this facility in the country.

Indo-US Telecom Link

3835. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether digital fibre-optic tele-communication net work between India and United States through the efforts U.S. based telecom network sprint and Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd. is likely to be available and that an agreement to this effect is proposed to be signed in November this year;

(b) if so, when the project is likely to commence and completed; and

(c) the details of the project?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Review of Marathi Dramas

3836. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mumbai (Bombay) Doordarshan every month presents a programme on review of Marathi dramas (Natyavlokan);

(b) if so, the number of such programmes telecast from November 1990 to October 1991 and the names of the Marathi dramas which were reviewed and the names of the compères of these programmes;

(c) the names of the writers, producers and directors of these reviewed dramas;

(d) whether any selection committee selects the dramas;

(e) if so, the names of the members of this committee together with their qualifications;

(f) the norms for selection of dramas for the review; and

(g) the names of dramas which were considered for selecting a drama for review from November 1990 to October, 1991?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRI JAVYAS): (a), (b) to (c) and (g). The information is given in the statement attached.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) By convention, dramas are selected for review on the basis of the following criteria:

(i) If it is professional stage play, it must have performed successfully a minimum of 50 stage shows.

(ii) The play should have a different dimension, through its theme, presentation of performance.

(iii) If it is an experimental stage play, it should contain some special technique, social theme, excellent performance and direction.

STATEMENT

Details of the 7 Programmes of Natyavabokan Telecast by Doordarshan Kendra, Bombay Between November 1990 and October 1991

Sl. No.	Name of Drama	Name of Producer/Writer/Director	Componer
1	2	3	4
1.	Lalda Sadan	Vivek Pandit	Shriram Kanekar
		Suresh Jairam	
2.	Swapnatalya Sukhano	Prakash Inamdar	Mohan Joshi
		Rajan Mohadikar	
		—do—	
		—do—	
3.	Aao Ghadu Shakatan	Vilasraj	Madhav Manohar
		Dinkar Jani	
		Katesh Shah	
4.	Zulva	Indian National Theatre	Sujata Nerurkar
		Uttam Bandu Tupe (adaptation by Chetan Datar Waman Kendre)	

Sl. No.	Name of Drama	Name of Producer/Writer/Director	Comptee
1	Lok Mahabharat	3	4
2	Indian National Theatre	Kamalakar Sontakke	4
3	Suresh Chikhale	Suresh Chikhale	4
4	Jambhul Akhyan	Ajit Bhagat	4
5	Avishkar'	Avishkar'	4
6	Savalya	Chetan Datar	4
7	One Room Kitchen	Satyadev Dubे	4
8	Kala Vaibhav	Gangaram Gavankar	4
9	Vinay Apie		4

Ad-Hoc Appointments in A and N Islands

3837. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the employees working on ad-hoc basis under categories A,B and C Posts in Andaman and Nicobar Islands as on October 31, 1991 and since when they are working;

(b) whether Government propose to regularise them;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and shall be laid on the table of the House.

(a) whether any proposal to provide domestic electric connection to residents of Bank Colony, Shahdra, Delhi and Jharera Village under Delhi Cantt; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to provide the same and the time by which electric connections will be provided there?

[Translation]

Electric Connection to Residents of Bank Colony, Shahdra and Jharera Village

3838. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4241 on September 4, 1990 and state:

(a) whether information mentioned in reply to the above referred question has since been collected;

(b) if so the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). The requisite information pertaining to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4241 for 4th September, 1990 has since been collected and is furnished below:

(a) ad (b). According to the D request has been received from the concerned Residents Welfare Association for electrification of the Bank Colony, Shahdra. Since the Colony has been developed by a private agency in a rural area, its electrification is not covered under the normal rules of DESU. However, a general question regarding electrification of such colonies in Delhi has already been taken up by DESU with the Delhi Administration. As regards the Jharera village, it falls in Delhi Cantt., and any new scheme for electrification of this village is required to be sponsored and financed by the Delhi Cantonment Board. However, ESU is giving electric connections to the consumers in this village from the nearby main subject to technical feasibility, completion of usual commercial formalities and production of a No Objection Certificate from the Delhi Cantonment Board.

The above information has already been furnished to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs/Lok Sabha Secretariat.

Power Rates In States

3839. SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA:
Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether information regarding above

(a) The rate at which power is being supplied to various States;

(b) Whether the Government have received any request for reducing the rate of power supplied to Tamil Nadu; and

(c) If so the action taken thereon?

The above information has already been

mentioned question has since been collected; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENGERY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). The requisite information pertaining to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2818 for 13th August, 1991, has since been collected and is furnished below:

(a) The rate at which power is being supplied by various Central Generating Corporations to various States/State Electricity Board Station-wise is given in attached statement

(b) and (c). There is no proposal under consideration of Government for reducint the rate of power supplied to Tamil Nadu.

furnished to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs/Lok Sabha Secretariat in fulfilment of the assurance given.

STATEMENT

Statement showing rates at which power is being supplied by Central Generating Stations to various States/State Electricity Boards

Sl. No.	Name of Generating Station with capacity (MW)	Beneficiary Boards/Depts/	Basic Tariff (P/kwh)	Fuel Price Adjustment (P/kwh)	Total (P/kwh)	Transmission Charges	Any Extra taxes, wheeling charges if any	Remarks
National Thermal Power Corporation								
(Tariff is applicable as on 1.7.1991)								
1.	Singrauli STPS (2660)	UPSEB RSEB DESU PSEB HSEB J&K CHANDIGARH	37.0	100 ⁰¹ (AS ON 7/91)	47.01	7.43 p/kwh	In addition, NTPC is also billing Rs. 78.53 lakh/month for HVDC back to back link between Singrauli and Vindhya chal and Rs. 181.11 lakh/month (May, 1991) for line associated with gas stations i.e. for Anta and Auraya Gas power Stations. This is not accepted by State Electricity Boards.	
1.	Rihand STPS (2660)	UPSEB RSEB DESU PSEB HSEB J&K CHANDIGARH	37.0	100 ⁰¹ (AS ON 7/91)	47.01	7.43 p/kwh	In addition, NTPC is also billing Rs. 78.53 lakh/month for HVDC back to back link between Singrauli and Vindhya chal and Rs. 181.11 lakh/month (May, 1991) for line associated with gas stations i.e. for Anta and Auraya Gas power Stations. This is not accepted by State Electricity Boards.	
2.	Kotba STPS (2100)	MPSEB MSRB	34.50	9.09 (as on 7/91)	43.59	RS. 804.53 lakh/month	4.62 p/kwh 3.00 p/kwh..	'Wheeling charges being billed by

Sl. No.	Name of Generating Station with capacity (MW)	Beneficiary Boards/ Depots/	Basic Tariff (P/kwh)	Fuel Price Adjustment (P/kwh)	Total (P/kwh)	Transmission Charges	Any Extra taxes, wheeling charges if any intermediate SEBs if applicable	Remarks
		GEB Dadra & Nagar Haveli Daman & Diu					13.00 p/kwh***	MSEB on Goa Cess on sales to MPED ...MP Duty and Cess on Auxiliary
5.	Ramagundam (STPS (2100)	APSEB TAEB KES KSEB Goa Pondicherry	73.10	8.67 (as on 7.91)	51.67	Rs. 462.29 lakhs/month	2.00* p/kwh	“Wheeling charges for supply of power between WBSEB, BSEB, DVC and OSEB.
6.	Farakka STPS (600)	WBSEB OSEB BSEB DVC Sikkim	53.98	8.87	61.85	3.22 p/kwh		This tariff is subject to finalisation of norms for fixation of tariff for NTPC gas based power stations by a Group set up by Central Electricity Authority and acceptance of the same by the Government of India.
7.	Arta STPS (413)	UPSEB RSEB DESEB PSEB HSEB J&K CHANDIGARH	110.0 (ad-hoc rates)					
8.	Auraiya STPS (652)	UPSEB RSEB DESEB PSEB HSEB	110.0 (ad-hoc rates)					This tariff is subject to finalisation of norms for fixation of tariff for NTPC gas based power stations by a Group set up by Central Electricity Authority and

Sl. No.	Name of Generating Station with capacity (MW)	Beneficiary Boards/Depots/	Basic Tariff (P/kwh)	Fuel Price Adjustment (P/kwh)	Total (P/kwh)	Transmission Charges	Any Extra taxes, wheeling charges if any intermediate SEBs if applicable	Remarks
8.	HPSEB J & K CHANDIGARH	DESU	61.38	35.73	97.11	—	—	acceptance of the same by the Government of India.
9.	Badarpur TPS	DESU	61.38	35.73	97.11	—	—	
Note: The tariff is provisional and is subject to revision.								
National Hydro Electric Power Corporation (Tariff is applicable as on 28.8.91)								
10.	Bairi Sull (180)	PSEB HSEB DESU HPSEB	40.55	N.A.	40.55	Included in Tariff	Wheeling Charges @ 2.4 p/kwh payable by HSEB, DESU and HPSEB to BBMB.	Tariff at Pong Sub-Station.
11.	Loktak	Manipur Negaland Assam SEB NEEPCO	56.90	N.A.	56.90	Included in Tariff	Wheeling payable by payable by to Manipur @ 3.06% of Loktak Tariff.	Tariff at Power House Busbar.
12.	Salal (345)	J & K PSEB HSEB DESU	47.66	N.A.	47.66	Included in Tariff	Wheeling Charges @ 3p/kwh payable by HSEB and	Tariff at Power House Busbar.

Sl. No.	Name of Generating Station with capacity (MW)	Beneficiary Boards/Depts/	Basic Tariff (P/kwh)	Fuel Price Adjustment (P/kwh)	Total (P/kwh)	Transmission Charges	Any Extra taxes, wheeling charges, if any Intermediate SEBs if applicable	Remarks
13.	Chukha (396) owned by Bhutan	WBSEB BSEB OSEB DVC Sikkim	48.50 N.A.	48.50	Included in Tariff		DESU to BBMB (2.4 P/kwh), J & K (0.3 p/kwh) and PSEB (0.3 p/kwh)	Surplus Power from Chukha Generating Station owned by Bhutan is being purchased by NHPC and is supplied to the different beneficiaries in the Eastern Region through Chukha Transmission system owned by NHPC.
14.	Tarapur APS MSEB (320)	MSEB	34.89		19.88	54.57		
15.	Rajasthan APS (440)	RSEB APSEB KSEB Pondicherry			35.36	22.60	57.96	
16.	Madras APS (470)	TNEB APSEB			68.47	6.88	69.53	

Nuclear Power Corporation
(Tariff is applicable as on June, 1991)

14.	Tarapur APS MSEB (320)	19.88	54.57
15.	Rajasthan APS (440)		
16.	Madras APS (470)		

Sl. No.	Name of Generating Station with capacity (MW)	Beneficiary Boards/Depots/	Basic Tariff (P/kwh)	Fuel Price Adjustment (P/kwh)	Total (P/kwh)	Transmission Charges	Any Extra taxes, wheeling charges if any Intermediate SEBs if applicable	Remarks
17.	Narora APS	KEB KSEB Pondicherry	120.40*	N.A.	120.40	• Tariff is provisional		
18.	Neyveli TPS—I (600)	UPSEB RSEB DESU PSEB HSEB HPSEB J & K CHANDIGARH	120.40*	N.A.	120.40	• Tariff is provisional		
19.	Neyveli TPS—II	APSEB KEB KSEB TNEB PONDICHERRY	120.40*	N.A.	120.40	• Tariff is provisional		

Neyveli Lignite Corporation
(Tariff is valid for 1991-92)

18. Neyveli TPS—I (600) TNEB 55.00 — 55.00

19. Neyveli TPS—II APSEB KEB KSEB TNEB PONDICHERRY 55.00 — 55.00

North Eastern Electric Power Corporation
(Tariff is applicable as on date)

Sl. No.	Name of Generating Station with capacity (MW)	Beneficiary Boards/ Depts/	Basic Tariff (P/kwh)	Fuel Price Adjustment (P/kwh)	Total (P/kwh)	Transmission Charges	Any Extra taxes, wheeling charges if any intermediate SEBs if applicable	Remarks
20.	Constituent States in North-Eastern Region.		67.88	—	67.88			
	Note: The Tariff is under revision							
	Damodar Valley Corporation (Tariff is applicable as on 1.7.91)							
21.	BSEB WBSEB RAIL COAL SAIL M & Industries in Bihar and West Bengal		77.00	41.00	118.00 For non- SEBs.	Included in Tariff	N.A.	A rebate of 10% is allowed to State Electri- city Boards.
	106.00 For SEBS after allowing a rebate of 10%							

Transmission Losses in Andhra Pradesh

3840. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the loss of power in transmission is more than 20 per cent of the quantity generated;

(b) if so, whether the said loss is more than the deficit of power in certain States like Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) if so, the steps the Central Electricity Authority propose to take to prevent such losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). The Transmission and Distribution (T & D) losses in the country have been ranging between 21% to 23%.

In order to reduce the T & D losses various technical and administrative measures have been taken. These include:

- (i) conducting energy audit by SEBs/EDs to identify system elements responsible for excessive losses;
- (ii) formulation of system improvement schemes for strengthening T & D system both in rural and urban areas;
- (iii) installation of capacitors, introduction of energy audit in the power systems of SEBs/EDS;
- (iv) theft of energy has been made a cognizable offence; and

(v) introduction of an incentive scheme for reducing T & D losses.

Effective implementation of these measures by the SEBs/EDs would help in reducing the gap between demand and availability of power in the States including Andhra Pradesh.

Rajiv-Longowal Accord

3841. DR. SUDHIR SRAY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to implement Rajiv-Longowal accord;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (c). The Government stands by the Rajiv-Longowal accord and is committed to implement the same. Most of the items in the accord have been implemented and for those that remain, efforts will be made to implement them expeditiously.

Relaying Capacity of Trivandrum Doordarshan

3842. SHRI KODIKKUNNISINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government purpose to increase the relaying capacity of Trivandrum Doordarshan; and

(b) if so, whether all places in Kerala are to be covered through Trivandrum Doordarshan programmes?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS):

(a) No, Sir. There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government at this stage.

(b) Regional TV service originating from Doordarshan Kendra, Trivandrum is at present available to an estimated 81% of the TV viewing population of the State spread over the whole or part of 11 out of 14 districts. Further expansion of regional TV service in the State would depend upon availability of requisite space segment capacity, adequate resources for the purpose and relative priorities.

STD Facility in Towns of Himachal Pradesh

3843. SHRI D.D. KHANORIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the towns in Himachal Pradesh where STD facility has been provided;

(b) the names of the towns without STD facility ; and

(c) the time by which this facility is likely to be provided in the remaining towns?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Bilaspur, Dharmshala, Hamirpur, Mandi, Nahan, Parwanoo, Shimla , Dhallu, Jutog, Solan, Una, Kullu, Chamba, Sujanpur.

(b) Dalhousie, Kangra, Nagrota Bagwan, Nurpur, Palampur, Mehatpur, Paonta, Sahib, Nadaun, Bhuntar, Dagshai, Kasauli, Subathu, Ghumarwin, Rampur, Bushahr, Theog, Sundernagar, Rohru, Jogindernagar, Bakloh, Chauri Khas, Daulatpur, Gagret, Sarahan, Dehragopur, Jawalamukhi, Yol,

Pandoh, Arki, Manali, Nalagarh, Nainadevi, Santokhgarh.

(c) Progressively during the 8th Plan period subject to the availability of resources.

Nepalese living in India

3844. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV: SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Nepalese living in India at present;

(b) whether due to the acute economic crisis in their country, a large number of Nepalese have entered Delhi via Assam during 1987 to 1989;

(c) whether they have also been occupying land and constructing houses unauthorisedly in North Bengal along with Bhutan boundary and also in Upper Bihar in a planned and organised manner; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIM.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). Under the existing rules, Nepali nationals do not require Indian visa or their national passports to come to India. They are also exempted from the requirement of registration formalities. As such, it is not possible to give any data regarding the number of Nepali nationals living in India.

(c) and (d). Under the provisions of the Indo-Nepal peace and Friendship Treaty

1950, Nepali nationals can acquire immovable and movable property in India.

[Translation]

New Telephone Exchanges in Maharashtra

3845. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to open new telephone exchanges in Maharashtra;

ashtra;

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

(c) the time by which these are likely to be opened?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The information is given in enclosed statement.

STATEMENT

The Number of New Exchanges Proposed to be Opened in the State of Maharashtra by 91-92 District-wise is as under:

S.No.	Name of District	No. of New Exchanges Proposed to be opened
1.	Ahmednagar	9
2.	Akola	2
3.	Amravati	3
4.	Aurangabad	2
5.	Beed	3
6.	Bhandara	3
7.	Buldhana	1
8.	Chandrapur	3
9.	Dhule	3
10.	Gadchiroli	1
11.	Jalgaon	6
12.	Jalna	2

S.No.	Name of District	No. of New Exchanges Proposed to be opened
13.	Kolhapur	4
14.	Latur	3
15.	Nagpur	2
16.	Nanded	1
17.	Nasik	4
18.	Osmanabad	2
19.	Parbhani	1
20.	Pune	6
21.	Raigad	3
22.	Ratangiri	7
23.	Satara	6
24.	Sangli	6
25.	Sindhudurg	3
26.	Solapur	10
27.	Thane	4
28.	Wardha	3
29.	Yeotmal	1
30.	Bombay Telephones	12

[English]

BBC/CNN ahead in giving News on Disasters/Happenings in India

3846. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:
Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether BBC/CNN and others are ahead of Doordarshan in giving news on Disasters/Happenings in India;

(b) whether STAR TV is giving calendars of events in India which are never given by Doordarshan;

(c) whether the Doordarshan is not giving details of programmes or participants at the end of the programme; and

(d) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS):
(a) No, Sir. Doordarshan always endeavours to report such events at the earliest possible opportunity, after checking the veracity of the concerned facts.

(b) There is at present no communication imperative, considering the limited telecast time available, for Doordarshan to provide such information.

(c) This is not correct, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Applications pending for Registration under Newspapers Registration Act

3847. SHRI NANI BHATTACHARYA: SHRI PIUS TIRREY:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of applications for registration under Newspapers' Registration Act are pending for the last several months;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the applications for the registration of Jharkhanda Today "Jharkhanda Times" have been forwarded through the SDO Ranchi, Bihar; and

(d) the details of the action taken against the application for registration of the magazine 'Tribal India' forwarded through the SDO,

Ranchi Bihar?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS):

(a) and (b). During the calendar year 1991, the Registrar of Newspapers received 19, 318 applications for verification of titles upto 30.11.1991. Of these, titles were verified as available in 8521 cases whereas refusal letters were issued in 9938 cases on account of non-availability of the titles proposed by the applicants. Discrepancy letters were issued in 755 cases and only 104 applications were pending as on 30.11.1991.

(c) and (d). A photocopy of the declaration dated 14.6.1991 duly signed by SDO, Ranchi was received in the office of Registrar of Newspapers for India along with a photocopy of the letter dated 13.9.1991 from Shri Bhai Gokul Chand. Since the titles proposed were not available under the provisions of the PRB Act, a refusal letter was issued by the RNI on 22.11.1991. The declaration dated 14.6.1991 from Shri Mukti Tirkey duly signed by SDO, Ranchi was received in the office of RNI on 31.10.1991. The proposed title 'Tribal India' was not available and a refusal letter was issued in this case also on 22.11.1991.

Kuppan Rural Electrical Cooperative

3848. SHRI M.G. REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the amount released so far to Kuppan Rural Electrical Cooperative in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) whether any representations have been received to include Punganur and Palamner Constituencies into Kuppan Rural Electric Cooperative; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) The Rural Electrification Corporation has reported the release of Rs. 14.06 lakhs to the Kuppam Rural Electrical Cooperative in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years.

(b) and (c). A letter received from the Hon'ble Member suggesting inclusion of Punganur and Palamner under the Kuppam Rural Electrical Cooperative has been forwarded to the Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board, since the Cooperatives are under the administrative control of the State Government.

Use of Indian Soil for Trafficking In Bangladeshi Girls

3849. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that Indian soil is being used for trafficking in of Bangladeshi girls;

(b) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item published in the "Jansatta" dated November 7, 1991 according to which Delhi is the main centre for such activities; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (c). Information is being col-

lected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Telephone System in Calcutta

3850. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Calcutta Telephone system is in utter shambles;

(b) the reasons for not introducing the so-called state-of art technology to upgrade this and bring it to the level of the system in Delhi;

(c) whether any short-term and long-term plan has been formulated for improving the Calcutta Telephone system; and

(d) if so, its broad features the various phases in which this will be implemented and the capital outlay involved?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) A number of state-of-the art technologies like Electronic exchanges, PCM digital Microwave, Optical Fibre and underground ducts have been already introduced in Calcutta Telephones.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Broad features of the Plan are;

(i) Replacement of old life expired exchanges;

(ii) deloading of cross-bar exchanges to improve their efficiency;

(iii) Upgradation of external plant which includes introduction of more op-

tical fibre and digital microwave system and ducts;

(iv) Modernisation of auto manual trunk exchanges.

The estimated capital outlay involved is around Rs. 700 crores.

Conference on 'Computer and Communication'

3851. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is holding for the first time, an international conference on 'Computer and Communication';

(b) if so, the main purpose of this conference; and

(c) to what extent the conference will help to develop the communication and computer system in India?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

[Translation]

Implementation of Prevention of Atrocity Act, 1989

3852. SHRIGAYA PRASAD KORI: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the expenditure incurred by the Union Government in Uttar Pradesh on implementation of the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocity) Act, 1989 during 1990-91 and the amount allocated for this, for the year 1991-92; and

(b) the details of the amount allocated and incurred by the Uttar Pradesh Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) and (b). An amount of Rs. 79,35,000/- was released as matching central share to the State Government of Uttar Pradesh during 1990-91. No proposal has been received from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh for allocation of funds for 1991-92. Nor has the statement of expenditure been supplied by the State Government.

[English]

Abduction of Foreigners in Kashmir

3853. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the number and the details of foreigners abducted by the extremists in the Kashmir Valley during the last two months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): On the night between the 14th and 15th October, 1991 one French national Shri Antonio Silva, an Engineer of Dul-Hasti Hydro-electric project was reported missing. His car was found at the bottom of a ravine burned and smashed into pieces but no trace of the body was reported. Later on 17.10.91 a Jammu and Kashmir terrorist outfit 'Al-Fateh' claimed responsibility for his abduction.

Scheme for development of Tribal Areas in Maharashtra

3854. SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have for-

mulated any scheme for the development of tribal areas in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the central assistance provided under the scheme; and

(c) the progress made so far under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) (a) to (c). The details of the Tribal Sub-Plan of Maharashtra are available in the State Plan Document.

Proposal to start Regional New Unit and P.I.B. Unit at Vizag in Andhra Pradesh

3855. SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to start Regional News Centre and P.I.B. Centre at Vizag in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, steps initiated in this regard so far?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRIJA VYAS):

(a) and (b). The opening of new PIB offices depends on the size of the 8th Plan and availability of financial resources.

There is no proposal to start Regional News Centre at Vizag in Andhra Pradesh.

Performance of Thermal Power Plants

3856. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently reviewed the performances of all the thermal power plants in the country;

(b) if so, the period of performance for which information has been received; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). The performance of thermal power stations in the country is being continuously monitored. The details of energy generation and plant load factor of thermal power stations during April-November, 1991 are furnished below:

Period: April-Nov. 91

Thermal Generation (Million Units)

Target	135597
--------	--------

Actual	131710
--------	--------

Plant Load Factor (%)

Target	54.4
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Actual	52.8
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The main reason for shortfall in thermal generation was taking of maximum number of thermal units under planned maintenance due to low irrigation demand and excess hydro generation during monsoon months.

Expenditure on Security of Ex-Presidents and Ex-PMs

3857. SHRI KUNJEE LAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the expenditure incurred by the Government on the security of ex-President, ex-Prime Ministers and their families during the last one year, month-wise;

(b) the details of the expenditure incurred on each of them, separately;

(c) the total expenditure incurred on the security of Union Ministers, month-wise; and

(d) the details of the expenditure being incurred on the security of each of the Ministers of the present Council of Ministers, separately since its formation?

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

[Translation]

Discrimination in Telephone Connections in Delhi

3858. SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the time taken in providing tele-

phone connections after sanction in Delhi;

(b) whether any discrimination is being done by Mahanagar Telephone Nigam, New Delhi in sanctioning telephone connections in order of priority;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) The time taken in providing telephone connections after sanction varies from exchange to exchange and locality to locality. However, subject to technical feasibility and availability of exchange capacity, telephone connections are being provided generally within 3 to 4 weeks of their sanction.

(b) to (d). No, Sir. Telephone connections are sanctioned strictly in order of their registration number in the waiting list except in those cases where sanctions for out-of-turn priority are issued as per rules.

[English]

Migration of Pak Nationals to Gujarat

3859. DR. K.D. JESWANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of pakistani nationals migrated to the State of Gujarat during the last one year;

(b) whether they have been allowed the facilities for Long Term Visa and grant of citizenship; and

(c) if so, how many such persons have been granted citizenship during last one year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) According to the information available, approximately 16573 pakistani nationals visited Gujarat during the year 1990 on valid travel documents.

(b) Requests for long term visa are considered according to rules and granted on merits. 321 applications were pending with the State Government at the end of December, 1990.

(c) According to the Citizenship Act and the Rules framed thereunder, cases for citizenship are considered only in such cases where the foreigners have been allowed to stay in India continuously for a period of five years. Therefore, the question of granting citizenship to those who came to India during last one year does not arise.

[Translation]

Complaints against police personnel of Seelampur and Welcome Seelampur Police Stations, East Delhi

**3860. SHRI GOVIND CHANDRA MUNDA:
SHRI NANI BHATTACHARYA:**

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of complaint received by the Government against the police personnel of Seelampur and Welcome Seelampur Police Stations in East Delhi during the last three years;

(b) the details of each of these complaints;

(c) the action taken in this regard and whether Government propose to conduct an

enquiry into these complaints through Central Bureau of Investigation; and

(d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Educational Facilities to Chakma Student in Arunachal Pradesh

3861. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the educational facilities such as scholarships, book grants and hostel facility etc. given to Chakma students residing in Arunachal Pradesh upto 1979 were withdrawn; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) According to information received from the State Government, Chakma students residing in Arunachal Pradesh are not given scholarship, book grant and hostel facility. However, they are getting free schooling facilities and merit scholarship.

(b) Question does not arise, Sir.

Telephone Directories in Assam

3862. SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether upto-date telephone Directories are available to the telephone users of Assam, if so, when these were last brought out;

(b) whether the Telephone Advisory Committee, Assam, had recommended Publication of an Assam Circle Telephone Directory; and

(c) if so, the time by which it is likely to be published?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) No, Sir These were last brought out almost two years back with publishing of supplementary directory for Kamrup Telecom District on 29.8.1990.

(b) Yes, Sir, it was recommended to print a consolidated telephone directory comprising of all telephone exchanges in Assam Telecom Circle during the TAC meeting held on 16.7.1990.

(c) This is likely to be published in a period of about 9 months subject to acceptance of tenders, not as a Circle Directory but separately for each S.S.A. (Secondary Switching Area).

[*Translation*]

Shifting of P.M.G. Office in Uttar Pradesh

3863. SHRI SANTOSH KUMARGANGWAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) since when the the office of the Post Master General (North), Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh is functioning and the districts attached to it;

(b) whether there is any proposal to shift the said office; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) The office of the Postmaster Generaly Bareilly Region has been functioning since 15.3.1990. The following revenue districts are attached to it:

- i) Almora
- ii) Badaun
- iii) Bareilly
- iv) Hardoi
- v) Kheri
- vi) Moradabad
- vii) Nainital
- viii) Pithoragarh
- ix) Shahjahanpur

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Vividh Bharati Commercial Programmes from Jabalpur Station of AIR

3864. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMARPATEL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to put into operation the 10 KW-FM-Stereo system to broadcast Vividh Bharati Commercial and other programmes from Jabalpur Station of AIR; and

(b) by when these programmes are likely to commence?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b). The scheme to set up a 10 KW FM Transmitter at AIR, Jabalpur for broadcast of Vividh Bharati Commercial programmes can be considered once the financial allocation and physical target of the Eighth Five Year Plan is finalised by the Planning Commission.

Clearance to Draft Rajasthan Highway Bill

3865. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Rajasthan had submitted a Draft Highway Bill, similar to the Bombay Highway Act, 1955 to the Union Government for approval in 1984;

(b) whether the above Bill is still to be cleared by the Union Government; and

(c) if so, the time by which the Union Government propose to clear this Bill?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) The Government of Rajasthan had forwarded the draft Rajasthan Highway Bill in 1984 for prior approval of Government of India before its introduction in the State Legislature.

(b) and (c). Comments of the Government of India on the draft Bill have been communicated to the State Government for their consideration.

Nationality-wise Foreigners overstaying in India

3866. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the nationality-wise break-up of the foreigners overstaying in India;

(b) their break-up where duration of overstaying is less than one year and where it is more than one year; and

(c) the date of which the information given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 576 refers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Gas Turbine Power Station in Maharashtra

3867. DR. GUNAVANT RAMBHAI SARODE: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra submitted a feasibility report for setting up Gas Turbine Power Station in Dhutta which is near HBJ pipeline; and

(b) if so, the progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Hydel Power Generation Potential

3868. SHRI LAETA UMBREY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of hydel power generation potential in Arunachal Pradesh;

(b) the quantum of hydroelectric power generation in the State;

(c) whether there is any hydel power project under construction in the State if so, the estimated power generation capacity and the total estimated cost and its target set for completion;

(d) whether there is any project under foreign aid or collaboration; and

(e) if so, names of the projects with

estimated power generation-estimated cost and target fixed therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) As per the assessment carried out by Central Electricity Authority during 1979-88 the economic hydroelectric potential of Arunachal Pradesh is of the order of 26756 MW at 60% load factor for a total of 102 identified schemes.

(b) 27 hydroelectric schemes with an installed capacity of 17.66 MW are presently in operation in Arunachal Pradesh as on 30.11.91.

(c) The following Hydro-electric projects are under construction in Arunachal Pradesh. The estimated power generation capacity, total estimated cost and target for completion are indicated below:-

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Installed Capacity Annual Energy Generation	Latest Estimated cost (Rs. Crs)	Commissioning Schedule
1.	Tage H.E.P.	3x1.5 MW 29 Gwh	10.09	Unit 1 & 2 already Commissioned. Unit 3 - Feb. 92.
2.	Nuranang H.E.P.	3x2 MW	17.98	1995-96
3.	Ranganadi State-I H.E.P.	3x135 MW	516.49	1996-97

(d) No, Sir.

pleased to state :

(e) Does not arise.

Inter and Group Dialling Facility in Coimbatore

(a) whether Government propose to provide inter and Group dialling facility in Telephone exchanges of Coimbatore District and particularly in Pudupalayam exchange, Tamil Nadu; and

3869. SHRI B. RAJARAVI VARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) and (b). (i) Interdialling facility is proposed to be introduced in Coimbatore district as under:

1. Thungavi and Udumalpet
2. Koduvai and Palladam during the current year.

(ii) At present there is no proposal to introduce interdialling/Group dialling at Pudupalaym Exchange.

Isolation of Palghat and Manakpur, ITIs

3870. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to isolate Palghat and Manakpur units of Indian Telephone Industries for E-10B and OCB-283 versions;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the financial implications arising out of the decision; and

(d) whether such decision will lead to massive employment of the products of the above industries?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) No, Sir.

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

Vacant Posts of Grade I Officers in Delhi Administration

3871. SHRI DHARAMPAL SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS

be pleased to state:

(a) whether 250 posts of Grade I Officers in Delhi Administration are lying vacant for the last two years; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to fill up these posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) and (b). The Delhi Administration has reported that 229 posts of Grade I Officers are lying vacant at present. The seniority list of Grade II Officers is under finalisation for effecting promotions to Grade I.

Proposal to Open more Channels on Doordarshan

3872. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to open more national channels to overcome the keen competition thrust on doordarshan by foreign T.V. networks;

(b) whether the Government have improvisation plans to enhance the standard of both the soft ware and Land-ware to compete with satellite transmission of other countries; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Constant efforts continue to be made to upgrade the technology and to bring about qualitative improvement in the

programme content and format of *Door-darshan* so as to sustain the interest of its viewers.

[*Translation*]

Telephone System Around Delhi

3873. SHRI AVTARSINGH BHADANA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the telephone system of the areas adjoining Delhi are functioning properly; if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether its inspection report is being submitted from time to time;

(c) if so, whether any deficiencies have been noted in the working of the system;

(d) whether telephone lines in Taudu and other areas of Faridabad Parliamentary Constituency have been lying out of order for the last several months;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) Telephone system of areas are functioning properly.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Deficiencies noticed during inspections are attended promptly.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f). Does not arise.

[*English*]

Regularisation of Encroachments of Government Land in Andaman Island

3874. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pre-1978 encroachments of Government land in the Andaman and Nicobar islands regularised by the Andaman Nicobar Administrations as on date;

(b) the rate of premium charged in such cases;

(c) whether land premium rates for fresh allotments/regularisations have been raised recently and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether revised rates of land premium is likely to be applicable to persons belonging to labour class and other weaker sections of the society and to those encroachers whose cases are to be regularised hereafter; and

(e) whether Government of Andaman & Nicobar Administration has received any representations in this regard and if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) to (c). The Andaman & Nicobar Administration has regularised 7212 cases of pre-1978 encroachments, subject to the payment of premium as may be determined/fixed by the Administration. No premium has been charged so far in all these cases.

The revised rates of premium, to be effective from 1.12.88, for allotment of land

for the house sites have been notified by the A&N Administration vide their notifications dated 19.8.1991 and 3.12.1991.

The revised rates of premium for occupation of land for house sites are as follows:-

Area	Revised Rates
Port Blair Municipal Area	Rs. 100 per sq. m.
Semi Urban Area	Rs. 50 per sq. m.
Rural Area	Rs. 25 per sq. m.

(d) Revised rates of land premium are applicable to all cases of encroachment. However, poor category of persons have been exempted from payment of premium for allotment of house sites.

(e) Two representations were received by the A&N Administration requesting for scrapping the revised rates of premium in all cases. These representations were examined by the A&N Administration. However, the request made in the aforesaid representations was not acceded to.

Setting up of Special Development Board in Bolangir District

3875. SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATTANAYAK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up Special Development Board in Bolangir district of Orissa; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) No such proposal has been

received from the Government of Orissa.

(b) Does not arise.

Mallapuram District Uncovered by Doordarshan

3876. SHRI E. AHAMED: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the entire Mallapuram District in Kerala is not covered by the present arrangement of telecasting by Doordarshan from Thiruvananthapuram Station; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to cover the entire area?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRIJA VYAS)

(a) and (b). Whereas the low power (100 W) TV transmitter functioning at Mallapuram relays National Programmes put out from Delhi, almost the entire Mallapuram district is expected to receive regional service programmes of Doordarshan Kendra, Thiruvananthapuram, subject to local terrain conditions, when the high power (10 KW) TV transmitter under implementation at Kozhikode in Kerala in replacement of the existing low power (100 W) transmitter there, is commissioned into service.

Farakka Thermal Power Station

3877. SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the ashes of the Farakka Thermal Power Project have been increasingly creating a new layer on the surface of corn fields spread over a vast area adjacent to the plant;

(b) if so, whether Government has made any assessment of the loss to the farmers have already to suffer for the decline in the fertility of their lands;

(c) whether any measure to compensate the loss of the farmers and to check further degradation of the land has been contemplated by the Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Ash from Farakka Super Thermal Power Project is not increasingly creating a new layer on the surface of corn fields spread over a vast area adjacent to the plant. However, during the recent floods in October, 1991 which occurred in the area, some ash which was deposited earlier in the Kangoli river bed escaped into the neighbouring fields due to the breaches in the banks of this river.

(b) to (d). No assessment has been possible so far because of the standing crops in the area. Block Development Officer of the area is seized of the matter.

Benefit of Electronic Media in Remote Areas

3878. SHRI SUBASH CHANDRA NAYAK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide the benefit of electronic media in remote areas inhabited by Adivasis and other weaker sections of society in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE

MINISTRY OF INFORMATON AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. While the objective of All India Radio and Doordarshan is to provide radio and TV coverage respectively to the entire population of the country in a phased manner, due priority is given to extend such coverage to hilly and remote areas, mostly inhabited by Adivasis and other weaker sections. On completion of the ongoing schemes under implementation, sizeable areas of tribal districts are expected to be covered.

Proposal to Free Convicts Awarded Life Term

3879. SHRI SURESHANAND SWAMI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether on the occasion of Republic Day Government propose to free convicts who have been awarded life term and are in jails for 15 years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) to (c). 'Prisons' being a state subject, the State Governments are competent to take a view in this regard. Under the Constitution the Governor of a State has the power to suspend, remit or commute the sentence of any person, convicted of any offence, against any law relating to a matter to which the executive power of the State extends.

[*Translation*]

New Telephone Exchanges in Madhya Pradesh

3880. SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR SINGH THAKUR:
SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons in the waiting list for telephone connections in, Madhya Pradesh, Category-wise and district-wise;

(b) the time by which the waiting list is likely to be clear;

(c) whether Government propose to increase the capacity of the existing telephone exchanges and also to set up new telephone exchanges in Madhya Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, district-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE

MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) The waiting list position as on 30.9.1991, categorywise and districtwise is given in enclosed Statement-I.

(b) As per draft 8th Plan proposals expansion programmes are being drawn with an objective to provide by the end of the 8th Plan.

- i) telephones practically on demand in rural areas; and
- ii) to reduce the waiting period to within two years in larger systems.

Accordingly, the above waiting list will be cleared progressively during the 8th Plan period.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The details of existing telephone exchanges to be expanded and new telephone exchanges likely to be set up district-wise in Madhya Pradesh during 1991-92 is given in enclosed Statement-II.

STATEMENT—I*Waiting list in Madhya Pradesh (districtwise and categorywise) as on 30.9.91*

Sl. No.	District	WL OYT		WL N-OYT(S)		WL N-OYT(G)	
		1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Balaghat	20		35		222	277
2.	Bastar	84		44		233	361
3.	Betul	44		27		251	322
4.	Blhind	52		60		436	548
5.	Bhopal	158		370		4409	4937
6.	Bilaspur	10		16		1142	1168
7.	Chhatarpur	13		25		242	280
8.	Chhindwara	43		62		477	582
9.	Damoh	11		28		263	302
10.	Datia	7		0		115	122

<i>I. No.</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>WL OYT</i>	<i>WL N-OYT(S)</i>	<i>WL N-OYT(G)</i>	<i>WL</i>
1	2	3	4	5	6
11.	Dewas	59	0	589	634
12.	Dhar	26	6	313	345
13.	Durg	229	241	3210	3680
14.	Guna	44	38	412	494
15.	Gwalior	419	744	7316	8479
16.	Hoshangabad	4	9	440	453
17.	Indore	8516	6297	56994	71807
18.	Jabalpur	217	321	6849	7387
19.	Jhabua	1	4	133	138
20.	Khandwa	21	48	1295	1304

<i>l. No.</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>W/L OYT</i>	<i>W/L N-OYT(S)</i>	<i>W/L N-OYT (G)</i>	<i>W/L</i>
1	2	3	4	5	6
21.	Khangone	14	42	664	720
22.	Mandla	20	3	138	161
23.	Mandsaur	41	66	831	938
24.	Morena	166	26	455	647
25.	Narsinghpur	0	30	156	186
26.	Panna	0	0	172	172
27.	Raigath	3	6	230	239
28.	Raipur	20	138	4223	4381
29.	Raisen	6	9	264	279
30.	Rajgarh	0	0	323	323
31.	Rajnandgaon	13	38	421	472

<i>I. No.</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>WL OYT</i>	<i>N—OYT(S)</i>	<i>WL N—OYT (G)</i>	<i>WL</i>
1	2	3	4	5	6
32.	Ratlam	43	75	1510	1628
33.	Rewa	44	68	1204	1316
34.	Sagar	12	167	1355	1534
35.	Sarguja	48	64	440	552
36.	Satna	18	50	869	937
37.	Sehore	0	0	61	61
38.	Seoni	34	29	73	136
39.	Shahdol	1	5	401	407
40.	Shajapur	0	0	339	339
41.	Shivpuri	6	40	441	487

i. No.	District	W/L OYT	N—OYT(S)	W/L N—OYT(G)	W/L
1	2	3	4	5	6
42.	Sidhi	0	0	286	286
43.	Tikamgarh	0	0	117	117
44.	Ujjain	14	7	1990	2011
45.	Vidisha	20	30	449	499
		10501	9274	102693	122468

STATEMENT-II

S.No.	District	New Exchanges to be opened (91-92)	No. of Exchange to be expanded (91-92)
1.	Balaghat	4	6
2.	Bastar	5	9
3.	Betul	3	8
4.	Bhind	3	13
5.	Bhopal	2	18
6.	Bilaspur	7	4
7.	Chhatarpur	3	10
8.	Chhindwara	5	26
9.	Damoh	4	7
10.	Datia	2	4
11.	Dewas	6	13
12.	Dhar	6	19
13.	Durg	4	8
14.	Guna	7	11
15.	Gwalior	2	17
16.	Hoshangabad	6	11
17.	Indore	5	18
18.	Jabalpur	5	32
19.	Jhabua	4	12
20.	Khandwa	6	22
21.	Khargone	9	22

S.No.	District	New Exchanges to be opened (91-92)	No. of Exchange to be expanded (91-92)
22.	Mandia	4	8
23.	Mandsaur	5	17
24.	Murena	5	16
25.	Narsinghpur	5	15
26.	Panna	1	2
27.	Raigarh	5	12
28.	Raipur	5	20
29.	Raisen	1	7
30.	Rajgarh	2	10
31.	Rajanandagaon	4	5
32.	Ratlam	10	12
33.	Rewa	5	16
34.	Sagar	6	22
35.	Sarguja	3	5
36.	Satna	6	14
37.	Sehore	4	20
38.	Seoni	4	9
39.	Shahdol	3	8
40.	Shahjapur	6	15
41.	Shivpuri	4	14
42.	Sidhi	2	8
43.	Tikamgarh	3	4

S.No.	District	New Exchanges to be opened (91-92)	No. of Exchange to be expanded (91-92)
44.	Ujjain	7	12
45.	Vidhisha	2	9
		200	570

[English]

**Private Sector Participation in Telecom-
munications**

3881. SHRI R. DHANUSKODI
ATHITHAN: Will the Minister of
COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Tele-
communications has the sole monopoly of
controlling and running telephone and tele-
communications services in the country; and

(b) if not, whether the Government pro-
pose to promote the Indian manufacturers
producing large size exchanges i.e. MAX in
view of new industrial policy introduced in
last July?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI
P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise. However, as regards
the manufactures of equipments, as per the
new industrial policy, no licence/permission
is required for the manufacture of large size
exchanges i.e. MAX.

**Renovation/Modernisation of Power
Station**

3882. SHRI K. THULASIAH VAN-

DAYAR: Will the Minister of POWER AND
NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY
SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to
renovate and modernise old power stations
in the country in order to augment power-
generation capacity; and

(b) if so, the amount proposed to be
spent and the details of power stations to be
taken up for renovation in different states?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CON-
VENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI
KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The total estimated cost for Renova-
tion and Modernisation (R&M) Programme
(Phase-I and II scheme) is Rs. 1222.88
crores and Rs. 1260.06 crores covering 34
and 46 old thermal power stations, respec-
tively. Details of these stations, in different
states, are given in Statements-I and II at-
tached. In so far as Hydro Power Stations
are concerned, the estimated cost of R&M
works of 66 stations is Rs. 1171 crores.
Details of Hydro station proposed for R&M in
different states are given in the enclosed
Statement-III.

STATEMENT — I

Details of R & M Phase-I Schemes

Sl. No.	Organisation/Renovation Scheme	No./Rating of units (M/W) covered under Renovation	Total Rs. Lakhs.
1	2	3	4
1.	NTT/C/Baradarpur	5/3x100, 2x210	3697.00
2.	DF SU/I.P.	5/1x35, 3x62.5, 1x60	5380.95
3.	HSEB	6	6355.00
	(I) Faridabad	3x80, 1x15	4300.00
	(II) Panipat	2x110	2055.00
4.	PSEB/Bhatinda	4/4x110	4815.00
5.	UPSEB	27	19531.00
	(I) Panki	2x32, 2x210	4466.00
	(II) Obra	5x50, 3x100, 5x200	6770.00
	(III) Hardaiganj	3x30, 2x50, 4x60, 1x100	8295.00

1. No. Organisation/Renovation Scheme		No./Rating of units (MW) covered under Renovation		Total Rs. Lakhs.
1	2	3	4	
6. MPEB	21		7699.14	
(I) Korba	1x10, 3x30, 4x50, 2x120		2068.00	
(II) Amarkantak	2x30, 2x210		1705.00	
(III) Satpura	5x62.5, 1x200, 210		3988.00	
7. GEB	10		6903.29	
(I) Gandhinagar	2x120		1921.47	
(II) Dhuvaran	4x63.5, 2x140		1594.00	
(III) Ukai	9		4801.25	
(IV) Paras	1x30, 1x62.5		259.75	
9. APSEB	9		10512.00	
(I) Kothagundam	4x60, 4x110		9947.00	
(II) Ramagundam	1x62.5		585.00	

<i>1. No.</i>	<i>Organisation/Renovation Scheme</i>	<i>No./Rating of units (MW) covered under Renovation</i>	<i>Total Rs. Lakhs.</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>
10.	TNEB	8	15672.29
	(i) Ennore	2x60, 3x110	14695.00
	(ii) Tuticorin	3x210	977.29
11.	NLC/Neyveli	9.3x100, 5x50	4970.78
12.	OSEB/Talcher	4/4x82.5	3615.50
13.	DVC	11+2*	8870.20
	(i) Chandrapura	3x120, 3x140	6763.00
	(ii) Bokaro	3x50, 1x55	1272.00
	(iii) Durgapur	2x55, 1x140	835.20

1. No. Organisation/Renovation Scheme		No./Rating of units (MW) covered under Renovation		Total Rs. Lakhs.
1	2	3	4	
14.	BSEB	16		9730.00
	(i) Patratu	4x50, 2x100, 2x110		6813.00
	(ii) Barauni	2x50, 2x15		2399.00
	(iii) Karbigahia	2x1.5, 1x3, 1x7.5		518.00
15.	WBSEB	8		5773.00
	(i) Santaldi	4x120		2192.00
	(ii) Bandel	4x80		3581.00
16.	IPL/Durgapur	5/2x30, 1x70, 2x75		3552.00
17.	ASEB/Namrup	5/3x23, 1x12.5, 1x30		810.00
	TOTAL:	162 + 2*		122288.40

STATEMENT-II

Proposed Second Phase R&M Schemes During Eighth Plan Period

As on 1.12.1991

Sl. No. Organisation/Renovation Scheme.		No/Rating of Units (MW) covered under Renovation	Cap. (MW)	Estimated cost (Rs. lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
A. Details of Proposed Second Phase R&M Schemes Cleared by T.E.C. Committee of C.E.A.				
1.	DESU/PI	5/1X30+3X62.5+1X60	277.50	1570.00
	HSEB			
2.	Faridabad	3/3x55	165.00	1050.00
3.	Panpat	2/2x110	220.00	1658.00
	PSEB			
4.	Ropar	2/2x210	420.00	560.00
5.	Bhatinda	4/4x110	440.00	750.00
	RSEB			

1. No.	Organisation/Renovation Scheme.	No/Rating of Units (MW) covered under Renovation	Cap. (MW)	Estimated cost (Rs. lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
6.	Kota	2/2x110	220.00	3904.00
	UPSEB			
7.	Obra	13/5x40+3x94+5x200	1482.00	13800.00
8.	Panki	4/2x42+2x105	274.00	1510.00
9.	Harduaganj	8/1x30+2x40+4x60+1x105	455.00	3320.00
10.	Paricha	2.2x110.	220.00	1013.00
	MPEDB			
11.	Amar Kantak	2/2x120	240.00	2816.00
12.	Korba (East)	6/4x40+2x120	400.00	2856.00
13.	Korba (West)	2/2x210	420.00	940.00

1. No:	Organisation/Renovation Scheme.	No/Rating of Units (MW) covered under Renovation	Cap. (MW)	Estimated cost (Rs. lakhs)
2	GEB	3	4	5
14.	Satpura	9.5x62.5+11x200+3x210	1142.05	1340.00
15.	UkaI MSEB	5/2x120+2x200+1x210	850.00	2708.00
16.	Koradi	7/4x115+200+2x210	1080.00	999.00+390.00*
17.	Chandrapura	2/2x210	420.00	1337.00+611.00*
18.	parli	4.2x30+2x210	480.00	714.00+665.00
19.	Bhusawal	3/2x210+1x58	478.00	442.00+634.00*
20.	Nasik	5/2x140+3x210	910.00	1692.00+3876.00*
	TNEB			
21.	Enhore	5/2x60+3x110	450.00	6890.00
22.	Tuticorin	3/3x210	630.00	1043.00

1.	No. Organisation/Renovation Scheme.	No/Rating of Units (MW) covered under Renovation	Cap. (MW)	Estimated cost (Rs. lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
23.	APSEB KOTHAGUDEM	4/2x105+2x110	430.00	2903.00
24.	Nellore	1/1x30	30.00	1385.00
25.	NLC			
26.	Neyveli	9/1x45+5x50+2x100+1x95	590.00	25000.00
27.	WBPDC			
28.	Kolaghat	2/2x210	420.00	926.00
29.	WBSEB			
30.	WB	4/4x120	480.00	1277.00
	DVC			
	Durgapur	6.3x120+3x140	780.00	2722.00
	WB	2/1x140+1x210	350.00	1441.00
	Durgapur(DPL)	5/2x30+1x70+2x75	280.00	-

1. No.	Organisation/Renovation Scheme.	No/ Rating of Units (MW) covered under Renovation		Cap. (MW)	Estimated cost (Rs. lakhs)
		1	2	3	4
	BSEB				
31.	Baruni	4/2x50+2x105		310.00	1577.00
32.	Patratu	10/4x40+2x90=2x105+2x110		770.00	7583.00
	ASEB				
33.	Bongaigaon	4,480		240.00	880.00
	OSEB				
34.	Talcher	6/4x60+2x110		480.00	11040.60
	Sub Total:	155		16814.00	111858.00 + -8176.00

I. No. Organisation/Renovation Scheme.		No/Rating of Units (MW) covered under Renovation	Cap. (MW)	Estimated cost (Rs. Lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
B. Details of proposed second Phase R&M Schemes each costing less than Rs. 5.00 Crores.				
APPROVED BY MEMBER (0) CEA.				
GEB				
1. Gandhinagar	2.2x120	240.00	90.00	
2. Wankabori	3.3x210	630.00	337.00	
3. Dhuvaran	6.4x63.5 + 2x140	534.00	139.00	
MSEB				
4. Paras	2/1x58+1x20	78.00	344.00(+1) 644 ^o	
DVC				
5. Bokaro	4/3x50+1x40	190.00	284.00	
BSEB				
6. Muzaffarpur	2/2x110	220.00	292.00	
Sub Total	19	1892	1476.50(+1) 644	

<i>I. No.</i>	<i>Organisation/Renovation Scheme.</i>	<i>No/Rating of Units (MW) covered under Renovation</i>	<i>Cap. (MW)</i>	<i>Estimated cost (Rs. lakhs)</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
C. Details of Proposed Second Phase R&M Schemes Under Examination in CEA/YET to be Received from SEBs/ORGNs				
1.	Badarpur	5.3x95+2x210	705.00	3500.00
2.	Bandel ASEB	4/4x80	320.00	3672.00
3.	Chandrapura	2/2x30	60.00	300.00
4.	Namrup	5/2x22+1x12.5+1x30-1x22.5	111.00	3200.00
5.	Lakwa	4/4x15	60.00	2000.00
6.	Mobile Gas Turbine at Galeky and Kathulguri	7/7x2.705	18.09	
Sub-Total		27	1274.9	12672.00

ABSTRACT

Sl. No.	Particulars	No. of Schemes	Units covered		Est. Cost (Rs. lakhs)
			No.	Cap. (MW)	
A.	Schemes cleared by TEC/CEA	34	155	16814.00	111858.00 + 6176.00*
B.	Schemes approved by Member (0)/CEA	6	19	1892.00	1476.50+ 664.00*
C.	Schemes under examination/yet to be received from SEBs/Organisation.	6	27	1274.09	12672.00
Grand Total (A+B+C)		46	201	19980.90	126006.50+ 6840.00*

* Proposed to be financed from saving out of World Bank Loan sanctioned for Chandrapura Thermal Power Station/SEB.

STATEMENT-III***Renovation & Modernisation of Hydro Power Stations Updated Estimated Cost*****Rs. in crores**

Sl. No.	Power Stations	Capacity (MW)	Updated estimated cost
1.	2.	3.	4.
I. ANDHRA PRADESH			
1.	Macnkuna	3X17+3X21.25	90.00
2.	Nizxam Sagar	2x5	5.75
3.	Supper Sileru	2X60	10.00
4.	Tungabhadra Dam	4x9	5.00
5.	Hampi	4x9	5.0
6.	Srisailam	7x110	16.0
7.	Lower Sileru	4x115	9.0
8.	NSPH	1x100+7x100.8	20.00
9.	Donkarayi	1x25	2.00
10.	NSRCPP	3x30	5.00
11.	Pochempad,	3x9	3.00
II. BIHAR			
12.	Koshi	4x4.8	0.422
13.	Subernarekha	2x65	1.055
III. GUJARAT			
14.	Ukai	4x75	13.0
IV. HIMACHAL PRADESH			
15.	Giri	2x30	9.85

Rs. in crores

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Power Stations</i>	<i>Capacity (MW)</i>	<i>Updated estimated cost</i>
1.	2.	3.	4.
V. JAMMU & KASHMIR			
16.	Chenani	5x4.66	5.37
17.	Lower Jhelum	3x35	12.17
18.	Sumbal Sindh	2x11.5	4.66
VI. KARNATAKA			
19.	Nagjhari	6x135	10.36
20.	i) Sharavathy	10x89.1	46.00
	ii) Sharavathy, Unit 9 & 10	2x89.1	8.94
21.	Shivasamudram	6x3+4x6	0.85
22.	Mahatma Gandhi	4x12+4x18	1.51
23.	Munirabad	3x9	8.49
VII. KERALA			
24.	Poringalkuthu	4x8	8.06
25.	Neriamangalam	3x15	6.28
26.	Sabarigiri	6x50	54.50
27.	Sholayar	3x18	7.58
28.	Pallivasal	3x5+3x7.5	8.04
VIII. MAHARASHTRA			
29.	Koyna I & II	4x65+4x75	38.53
30.	Koyna III	4x80	0.80

Rs. in crores

Sl. No.	Power Stations	Capacity (MW)	Updated estimated cost
1.	2.	3.	4.
IX. MEGHALAYA			
31.	Kyrdemkulai	2x30	1.52
X. ORISSA			
32.	(I) Hirakut-I, Unit 1 & 2	2x37.5	69.41
	(ii) Hirakud-I, Units 3 &	2x24	54.30
	(iii) Hirakud-I, Units 5 & 6	2x37.5	82.64
33.	Hirakud-II	3x24	35.91
XI. PUNJAB			
34.	UBDC	3x15	9.23
XII. RAJASTHAN			
35.	Ranapartap Sagar	4x43	15.72
XIII. TAMIL NADU			
36.	Moyer	3x12	1.62
37.	Kundah III	3x60	5.45
38.	Papanasam	4x7	10.88
39.	Periyar	4x35	22.00
40.	Sholayar-I	2x35	1.40
41.	Pykara	3x6.65+2x11+2x14	11.27
42.	Mettur Dam	4x10	16.34
43.	Kadamparai	4x100	14.720

Rs. in crores

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Power Stations</i>	<i>Capacity (MW)</i>	<i>Updated estimated cost</i>
1.	2.	3.	4.

XIV. TRIPURA

44.	Gumti	2x5	12.87
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XV. UTTAR PRADESH

45.	Pathri	3x6.8	1.06
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46.	Khatima	3x13.8	1.64
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47.	Dhalipur	3x17	3.54
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48.	Ramganga	3x66	0.525
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49.	Chilla	4x36	4.260
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50.	Tiloth	3x30	8.02
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51.	Rihand	6x50	1.43
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52.	Obra	3x33	1.53
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XVI. WEST BENGAL

53.	Jaldhaka I & II	3x9+2x4	2.55
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CENTRAL SECTOR**BBMB**

54.	Bakra Left Bank	5x108	50.00
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55.	Bakra Right Bank	5x132	77.50
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56.	Kotla	2x24.2	28.00
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57.	Ganguwal	2x24.2	27.00
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58.	Pong	6x60	25.00
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Rs. in crores

Sl. No.	Power Stations	Capacity (MW)	Updated estimated cost
1.	2.	3.	4.
59.	Dehar	6x165	38.49
60.	Kotla	1x29.25	15.10
61.	Gamguwal	1x29.25	15.10
DVC			
62.	Maithon	3x20	29.85
63.	Panchet	1x40	7.27
NEEPCO			
64.	Khandong	2x25	0.66
NHPC			
65.	Baira Siul	3x60	30.03
66.	Loktak	3x35	19.86
	Total	12,027.76	1170.932
	Say 12,028.00 MW		1171.00

National SCs/STs Finance and Development Corporation

Departments for the Welfare to these Communities;

3883. SHRIRAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for loan received by the National Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation and sanctioned loan to persons, organisations of Scheduled Casts/Scheduled Tribes, State Governments and other

(b) the number of pending applications in headquarter and State Corporations separately; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) and (b). Against 274 applications received for loan, 110 have been sanctioned by the Corporation and 164

applications are pending at headquarters.

(c) The main reason for pending applications is non-receipt of requisite information to assess the viability of the projects.

Voluntary Organisations in District Alleppey Getting Financial Assistance

3884. SHRI T.J. ANJALOSE: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to State:

(a) the voluntary organisations in the district of Alleppey in Kerala which have received grants or financial assistance for welfare activities during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the amount allocated to each organisation during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether these organisations submitted their accounts and reports regularly to the Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) None.

(b) to (d). Question does not arise.

[Translation]

P.C.Os. in Dhulia, Maharashtra

3885. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an annual quota of 25 P.C.Os to be set up in one district;

(b) if so, the number of PCOs opened in Dhulia district of Maharashtra during the year 1991-92 so far according to quota;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the number of PCOs opened in this district during the last three years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No such target has been fixed.

(b) A target of 40 Public Telephones to be opened during 1991-92 in Dhulia district has been planned, out of which 32 have been opened so far.

(c) Additional Public Telephones will be opened on the basis of requests and technical feasibility.

(d) 89 during the last three years i.e. 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91.

[English]

Setting up of Low Power TV Transmitter at Puri

3886. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal for setting up a new low power TV transmitter at Puri in Orissa is likely to be completed in the current financial year; and

(b) if not, by when it is likely to be set up?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRI JAVYAS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) As per the present indications, the proposed low power TV transmitter at Puri is expected to be completed towards the end of 1992.

[Translation]

(b) Major items of import planned are:-

Import of Telephone Equipments

3887. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any scheme to import telephone equipments for development of communications services in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of industrial units in public and private sector in the country which are manufacturing telephone equipments and the production in each unit during the last three years, year-wise; and

(d) the details of the scheme to meet the increasing demand for telephone equipments?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(i) Packet Switched Data Network catering to about 8500 subscribers and

(ii) Computerised Trunk Manual exchanges for 14 stations.

(c) There are a large number of industrial units in Public and Private sector in the country which are manufacturing telephone equipments. Production of 25 major units producing telephone equipments during the last three years, year-wise is given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) Government has formulated Draft 8th Five Year Plan with a proposed investment of Rs. 40,000 crores for the period 1992-97. Government has also announced a liberal industrial policy under which production of telephone equipments have been delicensed and also placed in the list of priority industries for automatic foreign collaboration approvals.

STATEMENT***Production of Major Units Producing Telecom Equipment during the last three years******Value of Production (In Rs. Lakhs)***

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Item	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91
1.	M/s. ITI Ltd.	Telecom Products	73779.00	101823.00	99389.00 (Provisional)
2.	M/s. HTL	"	2689.95	2930.18	4813.93
3.	M/s Webel	"	674.00	2176.00	3494.00
4.	M/s Punjab Communications Ltd	"	1534.00	3163.06	4006.6

Value of Production (In Rs. Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Item	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91
5.	M/s Bharat Electronics Ltd	"	41.74	1100.93	3376.33
6.	M/s Electronic Corp. of India Ltd. (ECIL)	"	99.50	532.50	654.90
7.	M/s Tata Keltron	"	536.32	796.31	1014.85
8.	M/s Bharati Telecom	"	1000.00	1675.00	1470.00
9.	M/s Swede (India) Electronics Ltd.	"	639.19	770.37	737.99
10.	M/s Telematics Systems Ltd	"	201.63	507.48	647.37
11.	M/s Priyraj Electronics	"	61.57	351.59	546.29
12.	M/s Rajasthan Telephone Ind. Ltd.	"	673.00	1069.95 (1987-88)	376.59
13.	M/s NODE (Northern Digital Exchanges)	"	808.87	1071.00	1298.29
14.	M/s Tata Telecom	Telecom Eqpt.	1116.00	2163.00	2481.00
15.	Larsen & Turbo	Telecom Eqpt.	0.80	1.20	300.00
16.	M/s Instrumentation Ltd.	"	41.10	115.73	227.90
17.	M/s Crompton Greaves	Telephone Instruments	170.00	460.00	530.00
18.	M/s MELTRON	Telecom Eqpt.	1702.00	2400.00	3079.00
19.	M/s Indchem	"	100.00	300.00	450.00
20.	M/s BPL Systems	"	568.42	836.17	1214.40

Value of Production (In Rs. Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Item	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91
21.	M/s OPTEL	-	Nil	1085.00	3889.31
22.	M/s Karnataka Telecom Ltd	-	392.00	807.00	407.00
23.	Set Telecom	Telephone Instruments	350.00	400.00	400.00
24.	G.C.E.L	-	490.00	860.00	430.00
25.	Punjab Wireless	-	180.00	250.00	350.00

[English]

CASTING be pleased to state:

Security Arrangement at IGI Airport

3888. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to hand over the security arrangements at Indira Gandhi International Airport to Central Industrial Security Force; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Expansion of T.V. Stations and Studios in Madhya Pradesh

3889. SHRI SARELAL JATAV: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROAD-

(a) whether there is any proposal for the expansion of the existing television stations and studios in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b). The Programme Production Centres at Bhopal and Raipur, where high power TV transmitters are presently in operation, are technically ready and will be commissioned on the availability of the requisite manpower. In addition, high power TV transmitters one each at Jagdalpur and Jabalpur are under implementation in replacement of the existing low power TV transmitters there and are expected to be completed during 1992 and 1993 respectively. Two more high power TV transmitters at Ambikapur and Guna in replacement of the existing low power transmitters; two low power TV transmitters at Datia & Jaora and one very low power TV transmitter at Kukadeshwar, are planned to be set up in Madhya Pradesh subject to actual availability of resources and interse priorities.

Hydro Electric Power Projects

3890. SHRISUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the names, estimated cost and the date of commencement of ongoing hydro-electric power projects in Kashmir Valley;

(b) the likely targetted date of completion of each of the ongoing projects; and

(c) whether due to disturbed conditions in Kashmir valley work on hydro electric power projects lagging behind and if so, the date by which work on these projects is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) The names, estimated cost and date of commencement of the ongoing Hydro-electric Projects in Kashmir Valley are as under:-

<i>Name of the Project</i>	<i>Estimated Cost (Rs. Crs)</i>	<i>Date of Commencement</i>
CENTRAL SECTOR		
1. Uri (NHPC) (4x120 MW)	2833.11	Nov., 89
STATE SECTOR		
1. Upper Sindh-II (2x35 MW)	162.59	1982-84
2. Upper Sindh-II (Extn.) (1x35 MW)	25	This project is an extension of Upper Sindh-II and the civil works of the project are to be done with Upper Sindh-II.

(b) and (c). Disturbed conditions in Kashmir have affected the progress of the above Hydro-electric projects. However, they are likely to be commissioned as detailed below:-

1. Uri Hydro-electric Project - 1996-97
2. Upper Sindh-II H.E.P. - 1993-94
3. Upper Singh-II Extn. - 1994-95

[*English*]

Militants' Activities

3891. SHRI MORESHWAR SAVE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "And, now anti-aircraft guns" appearing in the "Times of India" dated 27 September, 1991; and

(b) if so, the details of various steps taken by the Government to curb the activities of militants in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a Yes, Sir.

(b) Government is fully alive to the situation created by the terrorist elements in some parts of the country and is determined to ensure that a durable climate of peace, stability and progress prevails throughout the country. Various steps are being taken by the Centre and State Governments in this direction.

[Translation]

Substandard Cables Sold to DESU

3893. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether substandard cables have been sold to Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking by Delhi based cable manufacturing factory;

(b) if so, the details of the companies involved;

(c) whether the Government have taken any action against those companies;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (e). DESU has received complaints about supply of sub-

standard cables by M/s. Roxy International Pvt. Ltd., Bhiwadi (Rajasthan); M/s Konark Cables, NOIDA; M/s. Vijay Cable Industries, NOIDA/New Friends Colony, Delhi; M/s. Universal Cables Ltd., Satna (MP) and M/s. Victor Cable Industries, Faridabad. All these firms have their offices in Delhi. Based on the laboratory tests, the cables supplied by M/s. Konark Cables and M/s. Roxy International Pvt. Ltd. have been found to be sub-standard. M/s. Vijay Cables Industries, New Friends Colony, Delhi, who are reported to have supplied inferior quality cables, have agreed to replace the defective cables. DESU has already taken action to blacklist these firms besides withholding their pending payments. Action against the remaining firms would depend upon the results of the laboratory tests.

[English]

Air Correspondents Posted Abroad

3894. SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HAN-DIQJE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether All India Radio correspondents posted abroad are attached to Indian missions;

(b) if so, the position of the AIR correspondents posted abroad while performing this duties as media-men; and

(c) whether the Government propose to redefine the role and functions of the AIR correspondents as an independent news organisation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRI JAVYAS): (a) and (b). The AIR Correspondents are not posted in the Indian Missions but are only attached for the limited purpose of drawal of salaries and other allied requirements and

continue to be under the direct administrative control of AIR.

(c) At present, there is no proposal to redefine the role and functions of the AIR correspondents as an independent news organisation.

Freedom Fighters' Pension Cases

3895. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to State:

(a) whether the Union Government have rejected about 150 cases of pensions to freedom fighters which were cleared by the former Government;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of such rejections State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (c). No, Sir. 34 cases cleared by the former Government have been reviewed by the new Government. Of these, so far, only 3 cases pertaining to Bihar have been rejected. The earlier decision to sanction pension could not be sustained as the eligibility criteria were not met.

Arrest of Pakistani Nationals

3896. SHRI HARIBHAI M. PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Pakistani nationals were arrested at Meerut in Uttar Pradesh on November 14, 1991 for alleged spying;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a protest in this regard has been lodged with Pakistan authorities; and

(d) the number of cases of such activities of Pakistani spies that have come to light during 1.1.1990 to 15.11.1991 and the action taken by the Government against each such case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) No Pakistani national was arrested at Meerut in Uttar Pradesh on 14.11.1991. However, a national of another country was apprehended on that date at Meerut.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

(d) According to available information, 30 cases of espionage/suspected espionage have come to notice during the period 1.1.1990 to 15.11.1991. Action in such cases is taken according to the law.

Post Offices in Tikamgarh and Chattarpur Districts

3897. KUMARI UMA BHARTI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no Post Office in the districts of Tikamgarh and Chattarpur;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to open at least one post office in each village; and

(d) if so, by what time?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). No, Sir. The existing postal network in these districts is as hereunder:-

Distt.	Head Post Office	Departmental Sub Post Offices	Extra Departmental Branch Post Office
Teekamgarh	1	18	158
Chhattarpur	1	24	186

(c) and (d). It is proposed to open, subject to justification, one extra departmental branch post office in Teekamgarh and seven in Chhattarpur districts during the current year 1991-92.

S.T.D. Facility in Gujarat

3898. SHRICHANDRESH PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to expand and modernise Telephone Exchanges with S.T.D. facility in the districts of Jamnagar, Bhavnagar, Rajkot, Junagarh and Porbandar in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the future programme to connect various places with S.T.D. facility with the above districts and other parts of the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of exchanges planned to be expanded and modernised in 91-92 are given in the Statement attached.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The remaining exchanges are planned to be expanded & modernised during 8th Five Year Plan, including S.T.D. facility.

STATEMENT

Name of the District	No. of Exchanges planned to be expanded & modernised	Name of Exchanges planned to be expanded and modernised during 1991-92
JAMNAGAR	60	DHROL, LALPUR, JAMJODHPUR, KALYANPUR, KALAVAD, BHATIA, ALIABADA, BALACHIHADI, BALVA, JIVAPUR, SALVAYA, SIKKA, TAR-SAI
BHAVNAGAR	55	TALAJA, GARIYADHAR, SHIHOR, ALANG, BHIMDAD, BUDHEL, DHOLA DIHOR, JESAR, KHOPLA, MANDVA, MANDVI, MOTA

<i>Name of the District</i>	<i>No. of Exchanges planned to be expanded & modernised</i>	<i>Name of Exchanges planned to be expanded and modernised during 1991-92</i>
		KHUMTAWADA, PITHALPUR, ROHTSHALA, SONGADH, VALUKAD, VANDA, VIJAPADI, ZAMRALA
RAJKOT	66	PADDHARI, VIRPUR, DERDI, JET-ALSAR
JUNAGADH/ PORBANDAR	75	MENDARDA, TALALA, RANAVAV, VANTHALI, VISAVADAR, UA, AJAB, AKOLWADI, GIR GADHADA, KHIRSARA, MADHAVPUR, MAJEWADI, MORASA, MOTI MON-PARI, SHAHPUR, TIKAR, VADAL.

Computerisation of Rourkela Telephone Exchange

3899. KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to replace the existing machines at Rourkela telephone exchange with computerised ones;

(b) if so, the time by which computerisation is likely to be completed;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the construction of the new Telephone Bhavan at Rourkela has been delayed; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

There is a proposal to replace existing Electro - Mechanical Exchange by E 10B Electronic Exchange.

(b) 4000 lines E 10B electronic exchange is planned to be commissioned by 93-94 at Rourkela Plant.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Electronic Exchanges in Bhandara, Maharashtra

3900. SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of electronic telephone exchanges proposed to be installed in Bhandara district of Maharashtra during 1991-92;

(b) the details of the expansion programme of Gondia telephone exchange;

(c) whether radio links are proposed for Gram Panchayats within 20 Kms. radius of Gondia, Tumsar and Bhandara exchanges during the same period; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) 15 Nos.

(b) (i) Expansion of existing exchange from 1800 to 2000 lines during 1991-92.

(ii) Replacement of existing exchange by a 3000 lines electronic exchange during 1993-94.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Four Multi access rural radio systems: 2 at Bhandara and one each at Gondia and Tumsar.

[Translation]

Killings of Government Employees by Terrorists and Dacoits

3901. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the details of the Government employees and other persons killed by the terrorists and dacoits in various States during the last three months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Programme on the Life of late Smt. Gandhi

3902. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a special programme on the life of Late Smt. Indira Gandhi was telecast by Doordarshan on November 19, 1991 at 11 p.m.

(b) the reasons for telecasting programme of such a national importance late at night, which could not be viewed by persons; and

(c) whether Doordarshan propose to change its policy and show such national programmes in prime time?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMAR GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b). A number of programme including one titled 'Indira Gandhi - A Colossus of courage and determination' in the National Programme at 10.36 P.M. were telecast by Doordarshan during the course of the day (19.11.91) from all their Kendras to mark the occasion. The scheduling of these programmes was decided by Doordarshan keeping in mind their overall programme requirements.

(c) Doordarshan are already slotting programmes of national importance during prime time and hence no change is proposed to be made in this regard at present.

Resistance to Penetration of Pak Trained Militants

3903. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian villages on the Indo-Pak border;

(b) whether people of those villages have been organised by the Government to resist the penetration of the Pak-trained militants into India; and

(c) the total area in the border which has been fenced and lighted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(c) Fencing in Punjab for 356 kms and in Rajasthan for Approx. 58 kms have been completed. On Rajasthan border, fencing in 144 kms is in progress. Flood lighting has been provided in Punjab Sector for 382 kms approx. and in Rajasthan for 62 kms approx. In Rajasthan work to provide flood light is in progress on 175 kms of the border.

Promotion of Non-Conventional Energy Sources

3904. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-

CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the steps taken to promote non-Conventional sources of energy particularly in Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Chandigarh;

(b) the total amount of expenditure incurred thereon during the last three years; and

(c) whether the success achieved in this regard is considered satisfactory by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Through research, demonstration and extension efforts, the Government of India, through Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources have launched a Number of programmes such as National Programme on Biogas Development, National Programme on Improved Chulahs, Solar Thermal, Solar Photovoltaic, Wind, Mini-Micro Hydel projects etc. in order to promote non-conventional energy in general and Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Chandigarh in particular. The total number of devices installed as on 31.3.91 in the four regions are, however, as follows:

	<i>Punjab</i>	<i>Haryana</i>	<i>Himachal Pradesh</i>	<i>Chandigarh</i>
<i>(In numbers)</i>				
<i>Biogas</i>				
CBP/IBP	128	11	3	-
Family Size Biogas Plants	17195	20077	24490	78
<i>Biomass</i>				
Gasifiers	7	5	2	1

	Punjab	Haryana	Himachal Pradesh	Chandigarh
<i>(In numbers)</i>				
Energy Plantations	30	159	285	—
Improved C. Iha	515795	569135	360885	8498
Solar Thermal Energy				
Solar Cookers	4095	2600	6088	569
Domestic Water Heating Systems	82	33	19	—
Industrial Water Heating Systems	146	116	70	35
Air Heaters/Crop Dryers	1	—	—	—
Timber Kilns	2	1	2	—
Solar Stills	122	120	—	—
Solar Photovoltaic				
Street Lighting (No. of Villages)	1	2	160	—
Solar Pumps (Nos.)	5	8	10	—
Community Lighting Systems	43	42	9	—
Dom. Lighting Systems	—	6	214	—
Power Plants	—	20	—	—
Wind Energy				
Wind Pumps	77	31	12	4
Battery Chargers	—	—	2	—
Wind Farms	—	—	—	—
Urjagram				
Projects under Implementation	4	3	1	—

	Punjab	Haryana	Himachal Pradesh	Chandigarh
<i>(In numbers)</i>				
Project completed	—	—	—	—
Battery Operated Vehicles	4	—	—	—

(b) As ascertained from Planning Commission, the figures are as follows:

	Punjab	Haryana	Himachal Pradesh	Chandigarh
<i>(Rs. in lakhs)</i>				
Year				
1988-89	39.56	21.00	87.00	0.90
1989-90	46.00	40.00	95.00	2.90
	<i>(anticipated)</i>			
1990-91	71.00	42.00	90.00	3.33
	<i>(Outlay)</i>			

(c) Generally, Yes. However, steps are being taken to popularise the various programmes further.

[Translation]

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

Electronic Exchange in Siwan District, Bihar

3905. SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposed to set up new electronic exchanges in Siwan District of Bihar, particularly in Basantpur;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these are likely to be set up?

Demolition of Temples in J&K

3906. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR:
SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of temples demolished in Jammu and Kashmir during the last three years; and

(b) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). Government of Jammu and Kashmir has advised that no temple has been demolished in the State during the last three years.

[English]

Tourist Permits to Foreigners

3907. SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether North-Eastern States including Sikkim have requested to Union Government that existing practice of issuing Tourist permits to foreigners should be scrapped;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is likely to deprive the country from rich source of foreign exchange and is likely to effect the earning of hotel industry, transport sector and various other services of concerned States; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The North Eastern States, including Sikkim, have requested to either scrap or relax existing

Restricted Area permit/protected Area permit system.

(c) and (d). No, Sir. A number of places of tourist interest in these States have been opened for foreign tourists. Foreigners can visit these places after obtaining necessary permits from the competent authorities. Government is continuously reviewing the position in the interest of tourism and development of the region.

Strategy to Meet Terrorism

3908. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have chalked out any strategy to meet terrorism in various parts of the country under Central coordination at high-level;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (c). "Public Order" being the State subject, it is for the State Governments to devise various methods and take concrete steps to improve law and order situation. At the Central level, action is taken to facilitate coordination of the anti-terrorist operations of different States and to improve flow of information useful for control of terrorist activities among the States. All possible assistance is being provided to the State Governments, whenever required in this regard.

Assam Rifles in Manipur

3909. SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Manipur has requested for the removal of Assam Rifles from the site of Kangla; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) After the Government of Manipur have provided facilities like Water, power and approach road to the new site recently allotted by it in Senapati/Imphal District in favour of Assam Rifles, Government would endeavour to quickly develop the site to raise minimum infrastructure on it with a view to shift the Assam Rifles Battalion from its present location in Kangla Fort, Imphal.

Telephone Connections in Andhra Pradesh

3910. SHRI SOBHNADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the latest number of applicants for Telephone connections in Andhra Pradesh,

district-wise and particularly in and around Vijayawada city; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to clear the waiting list?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The waiting list of applicants for telephone connections in Andhra Pradesh, District-wise and Vijayawada as on 30.11.1991 is given in Statement-I & II respectively.

(b) The Department of Telecom has formulated draft Eighth Five Year Plan for telecom development and it is envisaged to:-

Provide telephone connections practically on demand in rural and tribal areas.

Waiting period for telephone connections not to exceed two years at large telephone systems.

Accordingly expansion programmes are being drawn for Andhra Pradesh to wipe out waiting list progressively by the end of the Eighth Plan period.

STATEMENT-I

Sl. No.	Name of Telecom District	No. of wait listed applicants (As on 30.11.91)
1.	Rangareddy	1516
2.	Mahabubnagar	995
3.	Kumool	2187
4.	Anantapur	1355
5.	Cuddapah	1564

Sl. No.	Name of Telecom District	No. of wait listed applicants (As on 30.11.91)
6.	Tirupathi	2885
7.	Nellore	2190
8.	Guntur	4858
9.	Prakasam	722
10.	Krishna	9204
11.	Warangal	3326
12.	Karimnagar	1683
13.	Nalgonda	1265
14.	Khammam	1451
15.	Adilabad	610
16.	Nizamabad	399
17.	West Godavari	2635
18.	Visakhapatna	8668
19.	Srikakulam	454
20.	Vizianagaram	485
21.	East Godavari	4072
22.	Rangareddy	3140
23.	Hyderabad	71257
Total		126921

STATEMENT-II

Waiting list of exchanges in and around Vijayawada city as on 30.11.1991

Sl. No.	Name of the Exchange	No. of waiting list
1.	CTX, Vijayawada	4467
2.	Bandar Road, Vijayawada	1521
3.	Industrial Estate, Vijayawada	957
4.	Ibrahimpatna	35
5.	Poranki	134
6.	Ramavarappadu	104
7.	Gannavaram	277
8.	Kondapalli	31
9.	Kankipadu	150
10.	Kotham Tadapally	1
11.	Mulapada	18
12.	Mustabad	6
13.	Munna	3
14.	G. Konduru	6
Total		7710

[Translation]

Telephone Connections in Uttar Pradesh

3911. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons for getting the

new telephone connections in Uttar Pradesh upto October 1991, district-wise particularly in Allahabad; and

(b) the time by which telephone connections are likely to be provided to them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The state-

ment is enclosed.

tribal areas;

(b) The Department of Telecome has formulated draft Eight Five Year Plan for telecom development and by the end of the Plan it is envisaged to:

- provide telephone connections practically on demand in rural and

- waiting period not to exceed two years in the large systems:

Accordingly, expansion plans are being drawn to fulfil the above objectives and wipe out waiting list progressively during the 8th Plan period.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of Distt.	Waiting List
1.	Agra	11025
2.	Aligarh	1903
3.	Allahabad	4524
4.	Almora	378
5.	Azamgarh	343
6.	Bahraich	100
7.	Ballia	46
8.	Banda	169
9.	Barabanki	124
10.	Bareilly	1128
11.	Basti	19
12.	Bijnor	48
13.	Budaun	26
14.	Bulandshahr	1444
15.	Chamoli	8
16.	Dehradun	8626

<i>SL No.</i>	<i>Name of Distt.</i>	<i>Waiting List</i>
17.	Deoria	94
18.	Etah	46
19.	Dtawah	343
20.	Faizabad	261
21.	Farrukhabad	560
22.	Fatehpur	151
23.	Ferozabad	2230
24.	Ghaziabad	15923
25.	Ghaxipur	314
26.	Gonda	22
27.	Gorakhpur	2400
28.	Hamirpur	130
29.	Hardoi	116
30.	Hardwar	1704
31.	Jalaun	493
32.	Jaunpur	113
33.	Jhansi	955
34.	Kanpur	13986
35.	Kanpurdehat	182
36.	Lakhimpur kheri	45
37.	Lalitpur	228
38.	Lucknow	11074

Sl. No.	Name of Distt.	Waiting List
39.	Maharajganj	0
40.	Mainpuri	143
41.	Kathura	1723
42.	Maunathbhanja	370
43.	Meerut	11205
44.	Mirzapur	151
45.	Moradabad	2475
46.	Muzaffar Nagar	1967
47.	Nainital	2783
48.	Pauri-Garhwal	143
49.	Pilibhit	34
50.	Pithoragarh	104
51.	Pratapgarh	152
52.	Raebareili	5
53.	Rampur	182
54.	Saharanpur	2481
55.	Shahjahanpur	102
56.	Siddartha Nagar	28
57.	Sitapur	70
58.	Sonbhadra	152
59.	Sultanpur	354
60.	Tehri-Garhwal	21

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Distt.</i>	<i>Waiting List</i>
61.	Unnao	50
62.	Uttarkashi	30
63.	Varanasi	4723

[*English*]

**Replacement of Old Wirings by
D.E.S.U.**

3912. SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the DESU is not replacing the old/obsolete wirings and other articles and causing great inconvenience to Delhi people particularly the residents in walled city area;

(b) if so, whether the DESU had declared non availability of any material for replacement;

(c) if so, reaction of the Government in this regard, and

(d) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (d). According to DESU, the old wiring and other unserviceable/irrepairable equipments are replaced by DESU, as and when needed, to maintain the power supply system in Delhi, including the walled city area. Every effort is made to

ensure availability of the requisite material for this purpose. DESU has already prepared a scheme for the improvement of electric supply in the walled city area of Delhi, which includes replacement of old underground cables/worn out service lines, etc. The implementation of the scheme would depend upon the techno-economic viability and availability of resources etc.

[*Translation*]

**Conversion of Telephone Exchange
Into Electronic Exchanges in Dhampur,
Uttar Pradesh**

3913. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether government propose to convert the Dhampur (Uttar Pradesh) Telephone Exchange into electronic exchange;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reason therefore?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) By March, 1992.

(c) Not applicable.

[*English*]

High Power Tv Transmitter at Mysore

3914. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS: Will the minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any High Power TV Transmitter exists at Mysore;
- (b) if not, whether the Bangalore Doordarshan programmes are not visible on TVs in Mysore and other parts of Mysore District;
- (c) if so, whether the Government propose to set up a high power transmitter at Mysore; and
- (d) if so, by when?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRIJA VYAS): (a) No, Sir. However, a low power (100W) TV transmitter has been functioning at Mysore since 1st October, 1984.

(b) to (d) The low power TV transmitter at Mysore already relays within its service range, the programmes produced and telecast by Doordarshan Kendra, Bangalore. It is envisaged to set up a high power TV transmitter at Mysore subject to actual availability of resources and relative priorities. On the commissioning of this transmitter, TV service in the district will be considerably strengthened. The normal lead time for completion of a project of this magnitude is about four years after the scheme is formally approved.

[*Translation*]

Schemes for the welfare of SCs/STs

3915. SHRI RAM BADAN: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of special programmes and schemes formulated for the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Utter Pradesh;

(b) the financial allocations made during the 7th Five Year Plan and for the current year, programme-wise and scheme-wise;

(c) the financial allocations proposed to be made for this purpose during the next financial year; and

(d) the details of the steps taken by the Government to make the programmes a success?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITA RAM KESRI): (a) and (b). The information is available in the State Plan Documents.

(c). The financial allocations would be incorporated in its Budget Documents for 1992-93 by the State Government.

(d). The ministry of Welfare is providing Special Central Assistance and also financial assistance under its centrally Sponsored schemes.

[*English*]

Pending Applications Of Freedom Fighters

3916. SHRI P. C. THOMAS: Will the minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the details of such ten applications for pension of freedom fighters which are pending for longest period alongwith the dates when these were submitted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

L. S. D. Link with other Countries

are proposed to be connected with the country through I. S. D. during 1991- 92.?

**3917. SHRI RAM PRAKASH CHAUDHARY:
SHRI B. L. SHARMA PREM :**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number and names of countries connected with India through I. S. D. ; and

(b) the names of the countries which

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) Sir, International Subscriber Dialling Service (ISD) is available for 210 countries from India. The names of the countries are given in the statement attached.

(b) There is no proposal at present to provide I. S. D. Service to additional Countries during 1991- 92.

Statement**List of ISD Countries**

S.No.	Country	Citycode
1.	Alaska	1-809
2.	Albania	355
3	Algeria	213
4.	Andorra	33628
5.	Angola	244
6.	Anguilla	1-809
7.	Antigua	1-809
8.	Argentina	54
9.	Aruba	297
10.	Ascension Island	247
11.	Australia	61
12.	Austria	43
13.	Azores	351
14.	Bahamas	1-809

S.No.	Country	Citycode
15.	Bahrain	973
16.	Bangladesh	880
17.	Barbados	1-809
18.	Belgium	32
19.	Belize	501
20.	Benin	229
21.	Bermuda	1-809
22.	Bhutan(Dot)	975
23.	Bolivia	591
24.	Botswana	267
25.	Brazil	55
26.	Brunei	673
27.	Bulgaria	359
28.	Burkina Fasso	226
29.	Burma	95
30.	Burundi	257
31.	Cameroon	237
32.	Canada	1
33.	Canary Islands	34
34.	Cape Verde	238
35.	Cayman Islands	1-809
36.	Central African Rep.	236

S.No.	Country	Countrycode
37.	Chad Republic	235
38.	Chile	56
39.	China	86
40.	Christmas Islands	672
41.	Cocos Islands	672
42	Colombia	57
43	Congo People's Rep	242
44	Cook Islands	682
45.	Costa Islands	506
46.	Cuba	53
47.	Cyprus	357
48.	Czechoslovakia	42
49.	Denmark	45
50.	Djibouti	253
51.	Dominican Island	1-809
52.	Domician Republic	1-809
53.	Ecuador	593
54.	Egypt	20
55.	El Salvador Rep of	503
56.	Equatorial Guinea	240
57.	Ethiopia	251
58.	Falk Land Islands	500

S.No.	Country	Ctrycode
59.	Faroe Island	298
60.	Fiji	679
61.	Finland	358
62.	France	33
63.	French Guiana	594
64.	French Polynesia	680
65.	Gabon	241
66.	Gambia	226
67.	Germany East Gdr	37
68.	Germany West Frg	40
69.	Ghana	233
70.	Gibraltar	350
71.	Greece	30
72.	Green Land	299
73.	Grenada	1-809
74.	Guadeloupe	590
75.	Guam	671
76.	Guatemala	502
77.	Guinea Bissau Rep of	245
78.	Guinea Republic	224
79.	Guyana	592
80.	Haiti	509

S.No.	Country	Citycode
81.	Hawaii	1-808
82.	Honduras	504
83.	Hongkong	852
84.	Hungary	36
85.	Iceland	354
86.	Indonesia	62
87.	Iran	98
88.	Iraq	964
89.	Ireland	353
90.	Italy	39
91.	Ivory Coast	225
92.	Jamaica	1-809
93.	Japan	81
94.	Jordan	962
95.	Kenya	254
96.	Kiribati	686
97.	Korea(North) (PDR)	850
98.	Kuwait	965
99.	Lao PDR	856
100.	Lebanon	961
101.	Lesotho	266
102.	Liberia	231

S.No.	Country	Citycode
103.	Libya	213
104.	Liechtenstein	41
105.	Luxembourg	352
106.	Macao	853
107.	Malagasy	261
108.	Malawi	265
109.	Malaysia	60
110.	Maldives	960
111.	Mali	223
112.	Malta	356
113.	Marina Island	670
114.	Marshal Island	692
115.	Martinique	596
116.	Mauritania	222
117.	Mauritius	230
118.	Myotte	269
119.	Medeira	351
120.	Mexico	52
121.	Micronesia	691
122.	Monaco	33
123.	Mongolia	976
124.	Montserret	1-809

S.No.	Country	Citycode
125.	Morocco	212
126.	Mozambique	258
127.	Namibia	264
128.	Nauru	674
129.	Nepal (Dot)	977
130.	Netherlands	31
131.	Netherlands Antilles	599
132.	New Caledonia	687
133.	New Zealand	64
134.	Nicaragua	505
135.	Niger	227
136.	Nigeria	234
137.	Niue Island	683
138.	Norfolk Island	672
139.	Norway	47
140.	Oman	968
141.	Pakistan (Dot)	92
142.	Palau	680
143.	Panama	507
144.	Papua New Guinea	675
145.	Paraguay	595
146.	Peru	51

S.No.	Country	Citycode
147.	Phillipines	63
148.	Poland	48
149.	Portugal	351
150.	Puerto Rico	1-809
151.	Qatar	974
152.	Reunion	262
153.	Rodriguez Island	230
154.	Romania	40
155.	Rwanda	250
156.	Samoa American	684
157.	Samoa West	685
158.	San Marino	39
159.	Saotome & Principe is	239
160.	Saudi Arabia	966
161.	Senegal	221
162.	Seychelles	248
163.	Sierraleone	232
164.	Singapore	65
165.	Solomon Islands	677
166.	Somania	252
167.	South Africa	27
168.	South Korea	82

S.No.	Country	Citycode
169.	Spain	34
170.	Srilanka	94
171.	St. Christopher	1-809
172.	St. Helena	290
173.	St. Lucia	1-809
174.	St. Pierre & Miquelon	508
175.	St. Vincent	1-809
176.	Sudan	249
177.	Surinam	597
178.	Swaziland	268
179.	Sweden	46
180.	Switzerland	41
181.	Syria	963
182.	Taiwan	886
183.	Tanzania	255
184.	Thailand	66
185.	Togolese Republic	228
186.	Tonga	876
187.	Trinidad & Tobago	1-809
188.	Tunisia	216
189.	Turkey	90
190.	Turks & Caicos Is.	1-809

S.No.	Country	Citycode
191.	Tuvalu	688
192.	U.A.E.	971
193.	U.S.S.R.	7
194.	Uganda	256
195.	United Kingdom	44
196.	United States	1
197.	Uruguay	598
198.	Vanuatu	678
199.	Vatican City	39
200.	Venezuela	58
201.	Vietnam	84
202.	Virgin is (B)	1-809
203.	Virgin Island (US)	1-809
204.	Wallis & Futuna is	681
205.	Yemen (PDR)	969
206.	Yemen Arab Republic	967
207.	Yugoslavia	38
208.	Zaire	243
209.	Zambia	260
210.	Zimbabwe	263

[Translation]

Zink Smelter Dewasi, Udaipur Plant

the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

3918. SHRI BHERRU LAL MEENA: Will

(a) the power required for the Zink

Smelter Dewasi, Udaipur Plant and names of the places from where this electricity is being supplied and the quantity thereof;

(b) whether D.G. sets have been installed in Zink Smelter, Udaipur due to shortage of electricity; and

(c) if so, the number thereof and the percentage of consumption of electricity being met thereby?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Regional Language Films On Doordarshan

3919. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: Will

the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of regional language feature films shown on Doordarshan from April 1990 to March 1991;

(b) the break-up of feature films in regional language shown in different languages: and

(c) the criteria fixed for selecting feature films in regional language?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b). 78 regional language feature films were telecast from Doordarshan Kendra, Delhi from April, 1990 to March, 1991. The language-wise break-up is given below:

(i)	Assamese	...	2
(ii)	Awadhi	...	1
(iii)	Bengali	...	9
(iv)	Bhojpuri	...	3
(v)	Gujarati	...	1
(vi)	Kannada	...	7
(vii)	Haryanvi	...	4
(viii)	Rajasthani	...	3
(ix)	Konkani	...	2
(x)	Malayalam	...	9
(xi)	Manipuri	...	2

(xii)	Marathi	...	5
(xiii)	Nepali	...	1
(xiv)	Oriya	...	2
(xv)	Punjabi	...	1
(xvi)	Sindhi	...	1
(xvii)	Tamil	...	8
(xviii)	Telugu	...	9
(xix)	Tulu	...	3
(xx)	Brij	...	1
(xxi)	Coorgi	...	1
(xxii)	Kashmiri	...	1
(xxiii)	Koudri	...	1

(c) The following are the broad criteria for selecting regional language feature films for telecast on various Doordarshan Kendras including Delhi and its linked transmitters:-

- International/national/State awards won;
- Thematic value;
- Cinematic value;
- Entertainment value;
- Year of production;
- Suitability for family viewing;
- Extent to which the film has been commercially exploited;
- Number of times the film has been

shown on TV and from which Centres/Kendras.

A regional language film for telecast in the National Network of Doordarshan is also required to fulfil the criteria as listed in the enclosed statement.

STATEMENT

Regional Feature films which fulfil any of the following criteria or have won any of the following national /state awards , as the case may be , only are considered for telecast on the national network of Doordarshan:

- (i) National award for the best or second best feature film of the year (in all language combined).
- (ii) Indira Gandhi Award for Best first film of a director.

(iii) Award for best film providing popular and wholesome entertainment .

(iv) Nargis Dutt Award for best Feature Film on National Integration .

(v) Best film on Family Welfare.

(vi) Best film on Other Social issues such as prohibition, women and child welfare , anti-dowry, drug abuse etc.

(vii) President 's Award of 'Rajat Kamal ' for the Best Feature Film in an Indian language .

(viii) Films which have won the ' Certificate of Merit ' in the National Film festivals.

(ix) Entry in the Indian Panorama and mainstream Sections of any International Film festival of India / filmotsav .

(x) State Goverment Award for Best Feature Film .

(xi) State Goverment awards for Best Direction.

(xii) Films which have won any two State Goverment awards (other than those mentioned above).

(xiii) Films which have celebrated Silver Jubilee (having run continuously for 25 weeks) and carry a 'U' certificate.

Rajiv Gandhi Assassination Day

3920. SHRI ANBARASU ERA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to declare May 21 , the date of assassination of Shri Rajiv Gandhi as ' Anti-terrorism Day '

and to declare that day a public holiday ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB) : (a) There is no such proposal with the Government .

(b) Does not arise.

Bihar State Electricity Board

3921. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of loan sanctioned by the Power Finance Corporation to the Bihar State Electricity Board during 1989-90 and 1990-91;

(b) the extent to which it has been utilised; and

(c) the amount refunded by the Board to the Power Finance Corporation so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) PFC has sanctioned a loan of Rs. 4. 33 crores in 1989 - 90 and Rs. 44. 30 crores in 1990-91 to the Bihar State Electricity Board (BSEB)

(b) The above loans are yet to be drawn by the BSEB, hence the question of its utilisation does not arise .

(c) Bihar State Electricity Board has , so far , refunded an amount of Rs. 175.38

lakhs out of loans drawn out of sanctions for 1988-89.

Feature Released By PIB

3922. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of features released by Press Information Bureau during the last three years;
- (b) the number of Hindi features released out of them ; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government to release more Hindi features ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) Number of features released by PIB during the last three years:

1989	:	357
1990	:	436
1991	:	365 (Upto December 9, 1991)

(b) Number of Hindi features released out of them :

1989	:	112
1990	:	103
1991	:	098 (Upto December 9, 1991)

(c) All efforts are being continuously made to release more and more features in Hindi on different subjects. A Number of features are issued in Hindi on special

occasions like Independence Day, Republic Day etc.

[Translation]

Teaching Of Languages Other than English And Hindi

3923. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a)whether except English, Maithili language is the only language among the languages recognised by Sahitya Academy and not included in the eighth schedule of Constitution which is being taught upto post - graduate level in six universities;
- (b) the number of persons speaking languages other than the languages recognised by Sahitya Academy and Maithili according to census of 1991;and
- (c) the reason for not including Maithili and other languages recognised by Sahitya Academy in eighth schedule of constitution ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB) : (a) information is being collected .

(b) Data according to the 1991 census, is not available .

(c) The Government are of the view that inclusion of more language in the eighth schedule to the constitution would create other repercussions and reactions. However , it will continue to be the endeavour of the Government to develop cultural and literary heritage of all the language irrespective of their being included in the eighth schedule or not.

[*English*]

Electrification Of Major Roads In Rohini

3924. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:
Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the electrification of major roads in Sector 18 of Rohini in Delhi and the roads linking sector with outer Ring Road is being done on a very slow pace;

(b) whether in view of law and order situation it is imperative that the work should be completed expeditiously : and

(c) if so, the steps the Government propose to take for completion of the work expeditiously ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) to (c) According to DESU, the work of electrification for street lighting on the main road in sector - 18, Rohini is being executed expeditiously. The work on this road linking it with the outer ring road has been hampered due to construction of deep flood drains etc. being carried out in the area. The street lights on the portion of the road from Badli village school to sector -18, Rohini have, however, been installed and are expected to be energised by the end of January, 1992. DESU also propose to provide temporary street lighting on the approach roads from Badli village side and canal side till the construction work on the main road is completed.

[*Translation*]

Conversion of Telephone Exchanges Into Electronic In Hardoi District, Uttar Pradesh

3925. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK:
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any memorandum to convert telephone exchanges in Hardoi District of Uttar Pradesh into the electronic exchanges particularly Shahbad Telephone Exchange;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A letter was received from Sh. Babu Khan, MLA, U.P. Legislative Assembly in September, 1991 regarding replacement of existing telephone exchange by an electronic exchange.

(c) Out of total 17 existing telephone exchanges in Hardoi district, three are already electronic. Replacement of 2 telephone exchanges including Shahbad by electronic exchanges has been planned during 1991-92. The remaining exchanges will be replaced by electronic exchanges progressively during 1992-94.

Kidnapping by Militant Groups

**3926. SHRI MOHAN SINGH:
SHRI RAM NAIK:**

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the number of persons kidnapped by the different militant groups in J & K, Assam and Delhi in the month of September and October categorywise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): As per the information furnished by the State Governments, the number of persons abducted by different militant groups in

Jammu and Kashmir, Assam during September and October, 1991 are given below:-

	September	October
(i) Jammu and Kashmir	27	25
(ii) Assam	21	03

In Delhi during 1991, 661 cases of kidnapping and abductions were reported upto 30.9.91.

Training Facilities in CRPF Group Centres

3927. DR. LAXMI NARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of the C.R.P.F. group centres where training is imparted;
- (b) whether residential accommodation and other essential amenities are also available to the officers and jawans at all such centres; and
- (c) when C.R.P.F. centre at Nimach was established and the kind of training imparted at this centre and upto which level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) There are 18 group centres in CRPF located in the various parts of the country. Some training courses for the NGOs are conducted in all the group centres.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In Neemuch CRPF have various establishments. The Group Centre was established in 1968, Central Training College—

is functioning there from 1960, the Recruit Training Centre-I is functioning there from 1968. Training is conducted in these institutions for all ranks of CRPF.

P.C.Os. in Trans-Yamuna Area

3928. SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have provided the facility of PCOs in different areas of Delhi;
- (b) if so, the number of such PCOs provided in Trans-Yamuna areas;
- (c) the number of applications pending with the Government at present and the reasons for not taking any action on them;
- (d) the reasons for delay in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 763.

(c) 2875 requests for PCOs are pending in Delhi because:-

- (i) Some areas are technically non-feasible due to non availability of cable pairs.
- (ii) Some requests have been registered recently.
- (d) and the pending cases are likely to be cleared progressively subject to their technical feasibility and conformity with our guidelines for opening such PCOs by May, 1992.

[English]

Entry permit to visit Nagaland and Mizoram

3929. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
DR. LAXMI NARAYAN PANDEYA:
DR. A.K. PATEL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation, 1873, Indian citizens, not normally resident in certain parts of Nagaland and Mizoram, require Inner Line Permit to visit these areas;

(b) if so, the changes, if any, made during the last two decades to facilitate the entry of Indian citizens into Nagaland and Mizoram without being required to obtain Inner Line Permit;

(c) whether the Inner Line Permit System is also applicable in the State of Meghalaya; and

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The requirement to obtain Inner Line Permit continues.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

Telephone Connections in District Kanyakumari, Tamil Nadu

3930. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the steps taken by the Government to reduce the large number of pending applica-

tions for telephone connections in Tamil Nadu, particularly in Kanyakumari District?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The Department of Telecommunications has formulated draft 8th five year plan (1992-97) for telecom development and it is envisaged to:-

—Provide telephone connections practically on demand in rural and tribal areas.

—Waiting period for telephone connections not to exceed two years at large telephone systems.

Accordingly expansion programmes are being drawn for Tamilnadu & Kanyakumari (Distt. of Tamil Nadu State) in order to fulfil the above objective by the end of the 8th Plan period.

In Kanyakumari distt. gross switching capacity would be added by 2220 lines during 1991-92 resulting in addition of net switching capacity by 1390 lines. This will bring down the present waiting list (2840) in Kanyakumari District. Further clearing of waiting list will be through the plans of subsequent years.

[Translation]

Fencing of Indo-Pak Border

3931. SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether fencing of Indo-Pak border has been erected upto some distance from the pillar of "International Border" as a result of which cultivable land of farmers has also come inside the fencing;

(b) whether farmers face great difficulty in cultivation due to the repeated checking

by the Border Security Force; and

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to purchase this land so that farmers could purchase cultivable land at some other place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). Fencing on the Indo-Pak border has been erected at a minimum distance or 150 yards from the "International Border". Some cultivable lands of farmers do fall beyond the fencing. Gates have been provided at frequent intervals to enable the farmers to reach their lands. Checking is done by the B.S.F. only when persons cross the gate to go to their farms or to return from there.

(c) There is no such proposal with the Government.

Low Power T.V. Relay Stations in Gujarat

3932. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of low power T.V. relay stations in Gujarat, the capacity of which is proposed to be increased by the Government; and

(b) the criteria/norms adopted/laid down by the Government to convert LPTs into HPTs in the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) A high power TV transmitter in replacement of the existing low power transmitter is under implementation at Bhuj in Gujarat. Besides, two high power TV transmitters are

also envisaged to be set up Vadodra and Surat in the State, in replacement of the existing low power transmitters, subject to actual availability of resources for the purpose.

(b) The criteria for setting up of a TV transmitter at a particular place and deciding its power rating include various factors such as the extent of coverage desired; terrain conditions in the area; time-frame in which coverage is designed to be achieved; availability of resources and relative priorities.

[English]

Liquor Shops in Residential Colonies of Delhi

3933. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of shops of liquor set up in residential areas of Delhi;

(b) the criteria adopted for opening of liquor shops in residential colonies;

(c) whether there have been a number of violations of law and order due to these shops being in residential areas;

(d) whether the residents of Najafgarh and Rohini have lodged protest against opening of new wine shops in these localities of Delhi; and

(e) if so, the reaction of Government there to?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (c). The Delhi Administration has reported that no liquor shop is opened in a residential colony. Liquor shops are opened

only in commercial areas and/or shopping complexes.

(d) and (e). Following a public agitation against opening of liquor shops in Najafgarh and Rohini in commercial complexes, the Delhi Administration directed the closure of these shops.

[Translation]

**Electrified and Unelectrified
Villages of Bihar**

3934. SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH
YADAV:
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of electrified villages in various districts of Bihar;

(b) the amount allotted and spent during

the last three years, district-wise; and

(c) the names of the current schemes by which electrification facilities are being provided in the villages?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI
KALP NATH RAI) :** (a) A statement indicating the district-wise number of villages electrified in Bihar upto March, 1991 is enclosed.

(b) The Bihar State Electricity Board has informed that funds are not being allocated district-wise. The State Electricity Board has reported that the expenditure incurred on village electrification in the State during the last three years was Rs. 110.76 crores.

(c) The electrification facilities are being provided to villages under the following schemes:-

(i) REC Normal Programme.

(ii) Minimum Needs Programme.

District-wise Village Electrification in Bihar upto 31.3.1991

S. No.	Name of District	Villages electrified as on 31.3.1991
1.	Patna	1392*
2.	Nalanda	1037*
3.	Gaya	2819*
4.	Jahanabad	190
5.	Nawadah	1003*
6.	Aurangabad	1683
7.	Bhojpur	1458

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Name of District</i>	<i>Villages electrified as on 31.3.1991</i>
8.	Rohtas	2433
9.	Ranchi	1393
10.	Lohardaga	311
11.	Palamau	1522
12.	Singhbhum	2323
13.	Gumla	613
14.	Hazaribagh	1621
15.	Giridh	1277
16.	Dhanbad	865
17.	Bhagalpur	1866
18.	Munger	1747
19.	Deoghar	1284
20.	Dumka	1254
21.	Godda	681
22.	Sahebganj	944
23.	Muzzaffarpur	1379
24.	Sitamarhi	803
25.	Vaishali	1256
26.	East Champaran	1037
27.	West Champaran	944
28.	Saran	1348
29.	Gopalganj	980

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Name of District</i>	<i>Villages electrified as on 31.3.1991</i>
30.	Siwan	999
31.	Darbhanga	1037
32.	Madhubani	1042*
33.	Samastipur	1163*
34.	Bemusarai	835*
35.	Saharsa	804*
36.	Madhepura	377*
37.	Purnea	1439
38.	Kaithar	732
39.	Khagaria	285*
		87**
Total:		46263

* Includes certain uninhabited villages.

** Villages electrified under State Plan, the district-wise break up not available.

**Telephone and post office facilities
in the country**

3935. SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL:
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be
pleased to state:

(a) the number of such villages in the
country without telephone and post office
facilities;

(b) the number of villages to which
facilities of post office and telephone are
likely to be provided during the Eighth Five

(c) the names of villages in district
Ahmadnagar which are likely to be provided
with the telephone and post office facilities
during 1991-92?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI
P.V. RANGAYYANAIDU): (a) As on 30.11.91
the number of villages without telephone is
5.18 lakhs and without post office is 4.7 lakhs
approximately.

(b) 8th plan (1992-97) proposals are yet
to be finalised in respect of post offices. 3.6
lakhs villages are proposed to be provided
with telephone facility during 8th plan.

(c) (i) The names of the villages where telephone facility is proposed to be opened are indicated below:

<i>Rural Areas</i>	<i>Tribunal Areas</i>
1. Nimbenandur	1. Kanbharne
2. Golegaon	2. Warshinde
3. Nilwane	
4. Waghapur	

(ii) The names of the villages where telephone facility is proposed to be provided are shown in the enclosd statement.

STATEMENT

Names of villages in Ahmednagar District

Planned for provision on Telephone Facility During 1991-92.

(A) Long Distance Public Telephones

Mhaskewadi

Randhe

Raitale

Waghunde

Malwane

Diksal

Hiwrekhande

Chincholi

Pimprialgaon

Vadgaonambi

Baradgaonsudrik

Chandekasara

Jeukumbhari

Jehrpatoda

Takli

Yesgaon

Sakuri

Velapur

Mahegaondeshmukh

Dharangaon

Kumbhari

Padregaon

Karanji

(B) Telephone Exchanges

Bhandardhara

Palshi

Durgaon

Halgaon

Hatnapur

Yesgaon

Baradari	Madhya Pradesh as well as in tribal areas of the state are given as hereunder:-
Chapadgaon	Total No. of Post Offices in Madhya Pradesh:-
- Shendi	
Kudgaon	Head Post Offices-52
(c) Telephone Exchanges Already Opened	Departmental Sub Post Offices:-
Astagaon	Urban-868
Lingdeo	Rural-459
Kombhali	Extra departmental sub post offices:-
Jawale	Urban-38
Pamdhare	Rural-60
Paragaonsudrik	Extra departmental branch post offices:-

[*English*]

Post Offices in Madhya Pradesh

3936. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ:
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of post offices functioning at present in Madhya Pradesh, particularly in remote tribal areas;
- (b) whether the Government propose to open some more post offices in tribal areas; if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government propose to open STD facilities on district level; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The number of post offices functioning at present in

Total No. of Post offices in Tribal Areas of Madhya Pradesh:-

Head Post Offices-5

Departmental Sub post Offices-141

Extra departmental sub post offices-10

Extra departmental branch post offices-2588.

(b) 40 Extra departmental branch post offices and 2 departmental sub post offices are proposed to be sanctioned in the tribal areas during the year 1991-92, subject to justification. The details in this regard are as follows :-

Tribal areas of Raipur region:-

Extra departmental branch post offices-

Departmental Sub Post Offices- 2

Tribal Areas of Indore Region-

Extra departmental branch post offices-

15

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. 36 district Head Quarters out of 45 have STD facility. It is proposed to provide STD facility at the remaining 9 district Head-Quarters of Madhya Pradesh i.e. Betul, Chattarpur, Mandla, Narsingpur Panna, Rajgarh, Shahjapur, Tikamgarh and Sidhi during 1991-92.

[Translation]

**Functioning of electronic exchanges
in Deoria, Uttar Pradesh**

3937. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work of installation of electronic exchange at the head quarter of Deoria district, Uttar Pradesh has been completed;

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay in its functioning;

(c) whether any direction has been issued by the Government not to link the exchange with Gorakhpur Centre;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which this electronic telephone exchange would start functioning?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The work is in progress.

(b) There is no delay.

(c) and (d) No Specific orders have been issued.

(e) Likely by March, 1992.

[English]

**Proposal to cover the uncovered Areas
In Srikakulam District in Andhra
Pradesh**

3938. SHRI RAMA KRISHNA KONATHALA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to cover the uncovered areas in Srikakulam district, Vijayanagar district and Agency Tribal area of Visakhapatnam district in Andhra Pradesh by commissioning a new T.V. Transmission; and

(b) if so, the time by which the transmission is likely to be set up there?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRIJA VYAS):

(a) and (b). Besides the high power (10KW) TV transmitter and a transposer at Visakhapatnam, a low power (100 W) TV transmitter at Srikakulam is presently in operation. In addition to Visakhapatnam district, parts of Vijayanagaram and Srikakulam districts lie in the coverage area of the high power transmitter at Visakhapatnam. A very low power transmitter is also proposed to be set up at Paderu in Visakhapatnam. Further expansion of TV service in the above mentioned districts would depend upon future availability of resources for the purpose and relative priorities.

[Translation]**Infiltration of Extremists into Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan and U.P.**

3939. PROF PREM DHUMAL:
SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that extremists from Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir are infiltrating into the neighbouring States of Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to take steps to check this infiltration, and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (c). A meeting was recently convened by the Ministry to review the situation arising out of the increasing terrorist violence in States outside Punjab. The spread of terrorism was discussed in detail and decisions taken about arrangements to facilitate joint action by the States concerned including sharing of intelligence and conduct of joint operations.

[English]**Allotment of Flats in Behala to DPS from East Pakistan**

3940. SHRI KAMLA MISHRA MADHUKAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some irregularities in the allotment of flats at Behala Township to DPs from erstwhile East Pakistan has come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[Translation]**Difficulties being faced by Regional Film Producers**

3941. SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware of the difficulties faced by the regional film producers in producing a film;

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

(c) whether the Union Government propose to telecast more regional films on Doordarshan and if so, the steps taken in this regard;

(d) the number of Rajasthani feature films telecast on Doordarshan during the last two years; and

(e) whether the number of Rajasthani films telecast on Doordarshan has been very low and if so, the steps proposed to be taken to telecast more Rajasthani films?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Though Cinema is a State subject, considering the influence of this medium on masses, the Union Government have from time to time been studying the growth and problems of this sector. Necessary steps are initiated by the Government/Groups, etc. In the recent past, a High Powered Committee has studied the problems of the film industry in its entirety and have made a number of recommendations for affording reliefs concessions to this sector. A number of recommendations pertain to State Governments as the matters fall entirely within their jurisdiction and the implementation is being pursued with them, vigorously at the highest levels in the Government.

(c) The present frequency is considered adequate.

(d) Three.

(e) No, Sir. Considering all relevant factors, the number is not low.

Priority for Setting up of Electronic Exchanges

3942. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI:
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the basis of preparing priority list for setting up of electronic exchanges;

(b) whether priority is being accorded to replace the other type of exchanges which are not working at all or percentage of their working capacity has gone down; and

(c) whether priority will be given to those places where construction of buildings for

electronic exchange has already been completed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) There are various factors which are considered while preparing priority list for setting up of electronic exchange namely;

1. Replacement of manual exchanges,
2. State Capitals, Distt. Headquarters etc.
3. Places of Strategic importance like N.E., Punjab, J & K etc.,
4. Year of allotment of equipment,
5. Uniform distribution of equipment to various stations in the network,
6. Availability of infrastructure like building, air-conditioning plant etc.
7. Replacement of life expired and worn out exchanges etc. etc.,

(b) Yes, Sir. Due consideration is also given for replacement of life expired and worn out equipments which have been approved for scrapping by the competent Authority.

(c) Yes Sir. Due consideration is also given to set up exchanges on priority where buildings are available.

[*English*]

Telephones to all Panchayats in Ramanathapuram District Tamil Nadu

3943. DR. V. RAJESHWARAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to give priority to Ramanathapuram district in Tamil Nadu in implementing the Government policy "telephones for all panchayats" to curtail LTTE activities; and

(b) if so, when; if not, the reasons thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). Government have planned to provide telephone facility to all Panchayat Villages in the country progressively by 31.3.1995; Priority will be given to areas affected by Law and Order problem subject to technical feasibility.

[*Translation*]

S.T.D. Facility in Nainital, U.P.

3944. **SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Telephone Exchanges proposed to be linked with STD facility during the year 1991;

(b) whether the Government had also considered linking the Telephone Exchanges of Nainital with STD facility; and

(c) if so, the names of telephone exchanges proposed to be linked with STD facility and the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). Nainital is already linked with STD facility. Six (6) out of fifty one (51) exchanges in Nainital District are having STD facility. In 1991, Pantnagar has been provided with STD facility.

(c) The remaining exchanges in Nainital

District will be linked with STD facility progressively, during the 8th plan period.

Post offices in Anola, U.P.

3945. **SHRI RAJVEER SINGH:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the places selected by the Government for opening Post Offices in Anola in U.P. during the year 1991;

(b) the number of places out of them where post offices have been opened and the number of places where these are yet to be opened ; and

(c) the time by which post offices are likely to be opened at the remaining places?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) & (b). A target of opening 6 Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices, subject to jurisdiction has been fixed for 1991-92 for Bareilly District which includes Anola. Out of these 6 proposed Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices, one is proposed for Gausganj which is in Anola Tehsil and which is yet to be opened

(c) These Extra-Departmental Post Offices are likely to be opened subject to justification by 31.3.1992.

[*English*]

World Bank assistance for Kerala Power Project

3946. **PROF. K.V. THOMAS:** Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the power projects in Kerala for which the World Bank assistance

has been sought with the amount thereof; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government for the speedy completion of the projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). No new Power Project of Kerala State has been taken up with the World Bank for financial assistance.

[*Translation*]

Power Generation in Madhya Pradesh

3947. SHRIMATISUMITRA MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of total power generated by the power plants in Madhya Pradesh being made available to the Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the precentage of total power generated by power plants run by NTPC in Madhya Pradesh being made available to the State of Madhya Pradesh;

(c) whether the production of these power plants is in commensurate with their capacity ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (d). Station wise energy generation details during the period April,91-Nov., 1991 in Madhya Pradesh are as under:

<i>Name of the Station</i>	<i>Generation (MU)</i>		<i>Plant Load Factor (%)</i>	
	<i>Target</i>	<i>Actual</i>	<i>Target</i>	<i>Actual</i>
Thermal				
Satpura	3175	2827	47.5	42.3
Korba-I	0	0	0	0
Korba-II	565	426	60.3	45.5
Korba-III	742	565	52.8	40.2
Korba-I-III	1307	991	55.8	42.3
Amarkantak	841	606	47.9	34.5
Korba West	2945	2856	59.9	58.1
Hydro				
Gandhi Nagar	240	320	—	—

<i>Name of the Station</i>	<i>Generation (MU)</i>		<i>Plant Load Factor (%)</i>	
	<i>Target</i>	<i>Actual</i>	<i>Target</i>	<i>Actual</i>
Punch	207	169	—	—
Bargi	212	420	—	—
Bansagar	252	0	—	—
Bissingpur	27	0	—	—
NTPC Korba	7750	8403	62.1	67.4
NTPC VindhyaChal	4455	4122	62.8	66.6

Madhya Pradesh consumed full generation of their own projects and share from common projects and NTPC projects in the State, power from various generating stations, including Central Stations, is fed into the regional grid from where it gets distributed among the beneficiary States/Systems as per their respective shares.

During the period April, 91-Nov., 91, Madhya Pradesh's actual drawal from NTPC Stations was 5106.8 million units as against the entitlement of 4135.7 million units.

[English]

Functions of Consultative committees

3948. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA:
Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the functions , duties and powers of the Consultative Committee attached to each Ministry;

(b) the names of the Ministries not holding their meetings regularly ; and

(c) the reasons therefor.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIGHULAM NABIAZAD):(a) The Constitution and functioning of the Consultative Committees are regulated by a set of guidelines, a statement of which is enclosed.

(b) and (c) The present Consultative Committees have been constituted in August September,1991 after the General Elections and constitution of the 10th Lok Sabha . According to the Guidelines and practice these Committees were expected to hold so far only two meetings-one during the Budget Session 1991 and one during the subsequent inter-session. Most of the Ministries held their meetings according to this schedule. However, considering the fact that these Committees have been constituted only 4 months back, it is too early to gauge the regularity of their holding meetings.

STATEMENT

1. The Informal Consultative Committees will henceforth be known as Consultative Committees. These Committees are not, however, comparable to the standing Committees of Parliament. The deliberations of these Committees would remain Informa

and no reference to the discussions held in the meeting thereof would be made on the floor of the House.

2. Government will fix the strength of these Committees in consultation with the opposition parties with due regard to the respective strength of various parties in Parliament. Each party may choose its own nominees to these Committees.

3. The Minister concerned with each Ministry/Department shall preside over the meeting of the Consultative Committee attached to his Ministry. Whenever for exceptional reasons this is not possible, the meeting will either be presided over by the Minister of State of the Ministry or the meeting will be postponed.

4. Notices etc. For Consultative Committee meeting will be issued to the regular members of the Committee. If any member other than the member of the Committee suggests any points for discussion in the meeting of a particular Committee, he may be invited for the meeting, subject to condition that he will not be entitled to any TA/DA for attending such meeting. A regular member will, however, be entitled to TA/DA for attending the meeting held during inter-session period as per prescribed administrative orders.

5. Meetings of the Committees should be normally during the session period. It has also been agreed to hold one meeting of each Committee during inter-session period and the date of that meeting may be decided if possible, during the previous meeting. The duration of the meeting should be left to the Chairman depending on the business to be transacted.

6. These meetings would be attended by the senior Officers of the Ministries who could assist the Minister in regard to information on specific items on the agenda and

provide the Minister with facts and figures. The Committees would not have the right to summon any witness to send for or demand the production of any files, or to examine any official records. The Chairman of the Committee may however, furnish any additional information required by members.

7. Brief record of discussion in the meetings on specific matters for which adequate notice has been given, will be circulated to the members. Where there is unanimity of view in the Committee, Government will normally accept the view subject to the following exceptions, viz.

(i) Any view having financial implications.

(ii) any view concerning security, Defence, External Affairs and Atomic Energy.

(iii) any matter falling within the purview of an autonomous corporation.

In case of non-acceptance, reason thereof will be given to the Committee.

8. These Committees would be formed for all the Ministries/Departments.

9. The reconstitution of the Committees will normally be timed with Budget Session.

10. Secretary of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs will notify the constitution of these Committees.

11. At these Committees, Members of Parliament are free to discuss any matter which can appropriately be discussed in Parliament. It would not, however, be desirable to refer on the floor of the House to anything which might have taken place in the Consultative Committees. This will be hindrance on both the Government and the Members.

[Translation]

Public Telephone Service to Gram Panchayats in Madhya Pradesh

3949. SHRI BHEEM SINGH PATEL:
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Gram-Panchayats in Madhya Pradesh proposed to be provided with public Telephones during the years 1990-91 and 1991-92;

(b) the total number of Gram-Panchayats provided with this facility so far district-wise; and

(c) the total number of Gram-Panchayats of Riwa, Madhya Pradesh which are likely to

be provided with the above service during the year 1991-92?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The figures are as under:

Year	No. of Gram-Panchayats
1990-91	316 (provided)
1991-92	1080 (planned)

(b) The total number of Gram Panchayats provided with this facility as on 30.11.91 is 4812. Districtwise details are given in the statement attached.

(c) 70 (Seventy).

STATEMENT

Sl. No	District	No. of Gram Panchayats with telephone facility as on 30.11.91
1.	Balaghat	108
2.	Baster	196
3	Betul	101
4.	Bhind	97
5	Bhopal	20
6	Bilaspur	227
7	Chattarpur	64
8	Chhindwara	150
9	Damoh	77
10	Datia	59
11.	Dewas	101

Sl. No.	District	No. of Gram Panchayats with telephone facility as on 30.11.91.
12.	Dhar	128
13.	Durg	81
14.	Guna	107
15.	Gwalior	93
16.	Hosangabad	106
17.	Indore	68
18.	Jabalpur	111
19.	Jhabua	91
20.	Khandwa	123
21.	Khargone	155
22.	Mandla	100
23	Mandsaur	157
24.	Morena	150
25	Narsinghpur	71
26.	Panna	47
27.	Raigarh	149
28	Raipur	227
29.	Rajsen	103
30.	Rajgarh	95
31.	Rijnandgoan	81
32	Ratlam	96
33.	Rewa	100

Sl. No.	District	No. of Gram Panchayats with telephone facility as on 30.11.91.
34.	Sagar	138
35.	Sarguja	99
36.	Satna	93
37.	Sehore	77
38.	Seoni	100
39.	Shahdol	108
40.	Shajapur	125
41.	Shivpuri	111
42.	Sidhi	60
43.	Tikamgarh	70
44.	Ujjain	114
45.	Vidisha	78
Total		4812

Urja Gram Yojana in Orissa

3950. SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether villages of district Cuttack in Orissa have been taken under Urja Gram Yojana by the Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. An

Urjagram project was taken up in March 1991 through the State nodal agency, namely Orissa Renewable Energy Development Agency (OREDA) in village Baanda in Block Tangi-Choudwar of Cuttack district. Non-Conventional energy systems and devices installed under the project include improved chulhas; family size biogas plants; solar stills; solar photovoltaic street lights, domestic lights, television and pumps.

[English]

Telecom Projects in Eighth Plan
3951. SHRIDATTATRAYA BANDARU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new Telecom Projects proposed to be undertaken during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the allotment of such new Telecom Projects to respective States/Regions and in particular Andhra Pradesh;

(c) whether there is any rationale or ratio of population/subscriber for allotment of new telecom projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The projects undertaken by the Dept. of Telecom relate to the growth of the network. Accordingly, during the 8th Plan period it has been proposed

to add an additional 75 lakh new telephone connections. It is also proposed to provide national subscriber dialling facility to each exchange. Accordingly, transmission projects will also be undertaken to provide necessary connectivity.

(b) The circleywise draft proposals for new Telecom Projects are available of network viz.

(c) and (d) The rational used is the objective laid down for equitable growth of network viz.

- to provide telephone connections practically on demand in rural tribal areas

- waiting period not to exceed two years in large systems.

STATEMENT

Circlewise Draft Commissioning Programme (1992-97) of Switching Capacity and New Telephone Connections

S.No.	Name of the Circle	Net Switching Capacity	DEL's
1.	Andhra Pradesh	648284	514300
2.	Assam	74547	59100
3.	Bihar	127368	101000
4.	Gujarat	794586	630400
5.	Haryana	290612	230600
6.	Himachal Pradesh	71110	56400
7	J & K	53214	42300
8.	Karnataka	599556	475700
9.	Kerala	492341	390600
10.	Madhya Pradesh	402767	319600

S.No.	Name of the Circle	Net Switching Capacity	DEL's
11.	Maharashtra	908356	720700
12.	North East	31635	25100
13.	Orissa	61574	48900
14.	Punjab	499997	396700
15.	Rajasthan	417947	331600
16.	Tamil Nadu	456558	362200
17.	Uttar Pradesh	530707	421000
18.	West Bengal	89115	70800
1.	Bombay	1128200	950000
2.	Delhi	1141800	970000
3.	Calcutta	130900	111000
4.	Madras	320800	272000
Total		9271974	7500000

Talks with Militants in Punjab and Kashmir

3952. DR. G.L. KANAUJIA:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated guidelines within which the Government are prepared to hold talks with militants in Punjab and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

ceived any reaction of militants in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Selection of Quiz Masters to conduct Quiz Programmes

3953. SHRI R. SRIDHARAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROAD-

(a) the grounds on which quiz masters for conducting the quiz programmes on the T.V. are selected; and

(b) the mode of payments to them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS):
 (a) Persons possessing presentable voice in Electronics with personality and well versed in General knowledge are considered for selection as Quiz Masters.

(b) Payment of fee is made through crossed cheques.

Crimes against women in Delhi

3954. SHRIMATI SUSEELAGOPALAN:
 Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of crimes committed against women in Delhi during the last three years;

(b) the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to take firm action against the criminals involved in the crimes ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M.

JACOB): (a) and (b). A statement indicating the crimes committed against women in Delhi during the years 1988, 1989, 1990 and up to 30th November 1991 and the details thereof is enclosed.

(c) and (d) The following steps have been taken to curb crimes:

i) Offences under the Dowry prohibition Act have been made cognizable and non-bailable.

ii) A new section has been added in the Indian Penel Code making the offences of harassment and cruelty to women by their husbands and in laws a cognizable offence.

iii) New Sub-Sections, 113-A and 113-B have been inserted in the Indian Evidence Act providing for presumptions by a Court as to abement to Suicide/dowry death by a married women if cruelty or harassment for dowry is proved.

iv) It has been made mandatory to hold inquest by SDM where death of women occurred in suspicious circumstances.

v) a Special Cell for crime Against Women has been set up. Such Cells have also been set up in each District of Delhi Police.

vi) Policemen are detailed for duty at girls'Colleges and Schools, running buses and also at important market places which are frequented by women to check cases of eve-teasing etc. .

STATEMENT

No.	Year	Cases reported	Cases cancelled	Cases admitted	Cases instituted in Court	Cases ending in Conviction	Acquittal	Cases pending Trial	Investigation	Cases untraced	Persons arrested
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
DOWRY DEATH											
1.	1988	103	4	99	99	1	4	94	—	—	250
2.	1989	109	1	108	106	—	3	103	—	2	286
3.	1990	120	1	119	107	—	—	107	12	—	298
4.	1991 (upto 30.11.91)	112	1	111	49	—	—	140	62	—	227
RAPE											
5.	1988	127	6	121	115	7	14	94	—	6	194
6.	1989	161	8	153	147	3	17	127	—	6	241
7.	1990	185	9	176	159	—	—	5	154	11	6
8.	1991 (upto 30.11.91)	187	5	182	75	—	—	75	105	2	286

Sl. No.	Year	Cases reported	Cases cancelled	Cases admitted	Cases Instituted in Court	Conviction	Cases ending in Acquittal	Cases pending Trial	Cases pending Investigation	Cases untraced	Persons arrested
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
MOLESTATION OF WOMEN											
9.	1988	130	-	130	122	8	20	94	-	8	167
10.	1989	159	2	157	153	2	8	140	-	7	208
11.	1990	177	1	176	166	3	1	162	1	9	232
12.	1991 (upto 30.11.91)	198	-	196	123	-	-	123	71	2	267
4/61/PC (Relating to Dowry)											
13.	1988	390	12	378	339	2	14	323	-	39	547
14.	1989	268	9	259	234	-	7	227	3	22	379
15.	1990	226	15	211	188	-	-	188	16	7	357
16.	1991 (upto 30.11.91)	125	-	125	47	-	-	47	78	-	121

Sl. No.	Year	Cases reported	Cases cancelled	Cases admitted	Cases Instituted in Court	Cases ending in Conviction	Cases ending in Acquittal	Cases pending Trial	Cases pending Investigation	Cases untraced	Persons arrested
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
598-A IPC (Cruelty by husband or in-laws)											
17.	1988	349	9	340	330	2	10	318	-	10	695
18.	1989	336	7	329	310	-	10	300	-	19	747
19.	1990	341	10	331	289	-	-	289	35	7	847
20.	1991 (upto 30.11.91)	386	2	384	132	-	-	132	252	-	595
DOWRY PROHIBITION ACT											
21.	1988	10	-	10	10	-	-	1	9	-	12
22.	1989	10	-	10	10	-	-	-	10	-	17
23.	1990	6	-	6	5	-	-	-	5	1	-
24.	1991	4	-	4	3	-	-	-	3	1	-

Demands of Postmen of Bombay

3956. SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any memorandum was submitted on October 31, 1991 to the Chief Postmaster General, Maharashtra Circle, Bombay;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir. The Memorandum was received on 30th October, 1991.

(b) The memorandum contains items on mail box system, non supply of uniform item to newly recruited officials, dilapidated condition of post office building and regularisation of daily rated overaged employees.

(c) The Government's reaction there to is constructive.

Status of Prasar Bharati Corporation

3957. SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether in considering the introduction of competition in electronic media, the status of the proposed Prasar Bharati Corporation according to Prasar Bharati Act, 1990, has been deliberated by Varadan Committee;

(b) if so, the result of the deliberation;

(c) whether Government is committed

to set up Prasar Bharati Corporation and what is the relationship between Broadcasting Council according to Prasar Bharati Act and Broadcasting Council for granting licences as proposed by Varadan Committee; and

(d) whether Prasar Bharati Corporation will be set up for taking over Doordarshan and A.I.R. before electronic media is laid open to competition?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b). No specific recommendation has been made by the Committee about the status of the Prasar Bharati Corporation.

(c) and (d) Many essential formalities need to be completed and various steps taken before the Prasar Bharati can be established. This Ministry is seized of the issue. The Committee has recommended the setting up, through suitable legislation, of an independent authority comprising of eminent public men with unimpeachable probity which could be called the Broadcasting Council of India. The committee has also recommended that the provisions regarding the Broadcasting Council be appropriately taken out of the Prasar Bharati Act and made part of the new legislation which would entrust to the new authority (Broadcasting Council of India) among other things task of granting broadcasting licences.

[Translation]

Setting up of Electronic Exchanges in Bhavnagar .

3958. DR. MAHAVIR SINGH HARISINGHJI GOHIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone exchanges functioning in Bhavnagar and since when;

(b) the time likely to be taken in replacing the machinery being used at the exchanges;

(c) whether Government propose to set up electronic telephone exchanges ; and

(d) if so, by when?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Two telephone exchanges namely Bhavnagar Main and telephone exchange at Chitra. First 1800 lines of Bhavnagar main exchange were installed in August, 65 and exchange has been expanded subsequently to the present capacity of 9900 lines. First 600 lines of Chitra exchange were installed in March, 1987 and exchange twice to the present capacity of 1000 lines.

(b) The entire equipment of these two exchanges has not yet completed the prescribed life. Some of the life expired capacity is planned to be replaced in Eighth Plan.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) 5000 lines of electronic exchanges in Bhavnagar are planned to be added during 94-95.

[English]

Radio Station at Kolhapur, Maharashtra

3959. SHRI UDAYISINGRAO GAIKWAD: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the setting up of Radio Station at Kolhapur, Maharashtra has been completed in all respects;

(b) if so, whether the same has started

functioning; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRIJA VYAS):

(a) to (c) . Though the new Radio Station at Kolhapur is technically ready, necessary staff required for manning the station is not in position. The Station is envisaged to be commissioned into service when the essential staff required for operation and maintenance of the Station is actually in position.

Use of Languages in Non-Hindi Speaking Areas

3960. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have directed to all Ministries and Departments of the Government regarding the use of language on the name-boards, notice boards, etc. in non-Hindi speaking areas in Regional, Language, Hindi and English;

(b) whether Government are aware that these instructions are not being followed in Maharashtra ; and

(c) if so, steps the Government have taken or propose to take for the implementation of the instructions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Instances of these directions nor being followed in the Offices of the Central Government located in Maharashtra have not come to notice of the Central Government. However, the Officers of the con-

cerned offices are advised to rectify the deficiencies, if any, in the implementation of the Official Language Policy and directions in such offices noticed during the course of inspections of such offices and discussions with their officers by the officers of the Department of official Language of the Central Government. The concerned Ministries/Department also monitor it.

Implementation of Recommendations of Fourth Pay Commission by Health Deptt. of Delhi Administration

3961. SHRI S.N.VEKARIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given on September 12, 1991 to Unstarred Question No. 6821 and state:

- (a) whether necessary information has since been collected;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Capacity of Air Station at Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu

3962. SHRI C.K.KUPPUSWAMY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) the capacity of the All Indian Radio Station at Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu;
- (b) whether the Government propose to raise the same; and
- (c) if so, the time by which it is likely to achieve?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) At present Coimbatore station of All India Radio is equipped with a 10 KW MW Transmitter and Type I (R) Studios.

(b) and (c) While there is an approved scheme for upgrading the capacity of the existing 10 kilo Watt Medium Wave Transmitter to 20 KW, implementation of the same would depend upon the availability of adequate financial resources and relative priorities.

[*Translation*]

Publication of Bhagirath Magazine By Publications Division

3963. SHRI MOTILAL SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to revive the publication of the 'Bhagirath' magazine brought out by the Publication division;
- (b) whether any steps have been taken to include its editorial staff in the Indian Information service Cadre; and
- (c) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) No, sir.

b) and (c). Does not arise.

System to Detect the Mistake

3964. SHRI MUMBAZANSARI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any scientific system to detect the mistake committed by the departmental employees, which cause an undue increase in the telephone bills of subscribers of Max II telephone exchange;

(b) if so, the details of the system and if not, the system developed to detect such mistakes and to protect the interests of consumers;

(c) the number of employees in Bihar against whom complaints have been received in this regard during the last three years and the action taken thereon; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) There is a system of counter checks and random physical test checks. Besides detailed verification is taken up on the complaints received.

(b) In Electro-mechanical exchanges a facility of obtaining detailed particulars of the calls made from the line is available by using the Multi Line Observation Equipment (MLOE) which is micro-processor based equipment. By selectively monitoring the subscriber's line with this equipment and comparing the subscriber's with the calls registered in the meter, it is possible to detect if call other than those made by the subscriber have emanated from his line. A few selected lines can be monitored at a time using this equipment.

(c) There are three such cases in Bihar and disciplinary proceedings are under process in these cases.

(d) does not arise

[English]

Changacherry T.V. Relay Station in Kerala.

3965 SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the present stage of construction of the proposed Television Relay station at Changacherry in Kerala; and

(b) by when it is likely to be completed and commissioned?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRUAVYAS): (a) and (b) A low power (100 W) TV transmitter has been functioning at Changacherry in Kottayam district of Kerala since October, 1989.

Promotion of Non-Conventional Energy Projects in Rural Areas on Subsidised Basis

3966. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union government propose to promote Non-conventional energy projects to be used in rural areas on subsidised basis;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) and (b). The Union Government already provides subsidies for a number of non-conventional devices such

as Biogas plants, Improved Chulah, Solar thermal devices etc. which are used in rural areas. For example, the Department of Non-conventional Energy Sources (DNES) provides a subsidy of 30% to 60% depending on the category of the beneficiary and the area, for installation of biogas plants. A turn key fee of Rs.400 per plant is also paid in addition by DNES to voluntary bodies/local persons for installation of these biogas plants.

Similarly for the fixed models of improved Chulhas, which cost around Rs.60, the beneficiary has to contribute Rs.10 only. The assistance given for installation of portable models of Improved Chulhas costing around Rs. 125 is 75% of the cost of SC/ST beneficiaries and for hilly areas and 50% of the cost for other beneficiaries. These improved Chulhas are installed by self employed workers who are paid Rs. 15 per Chulha (Rs.10/- from government and Rs. 5/- from beneficiary) in plains and Rs.20/- per Chulhas in hilly areas.

In the sector of Solar Thermal Energy, the Department provides Rs. 3000/- as fixed subsidy for the installation of solar domestic water heating systems, 40% of the cost for the installation of other solar thermal devices in government sector, charitable trusts, educational institutions etc. and 30% for private sector, public sector etc.

(c) Question does not arise.

3967. SHRI Y.S. RAJASEKHER REDDY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any criticism regarding depicting of 'Chanakya' on T.V. has been made; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND

BRODCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS):
(a) No specific criticism has been received.

(b) Does not arise.

Increase in Capacity of Telephone Exchanges in Aizawl

3968. D.R.C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the existing capacity of Telephone Exchanges in Aizawl, Mizoram to clear the waiting list;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any progress in this regard has since been made; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) One additional unit of Electronic exchange with capacity of 384 lines has been planned during 1st quarter of 1992-93 as an interim arrangement.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Steps are being taken to ensure supply of equipment on priority

Commissioning of TV Studio Cuttack

3969. SHR K. PRADHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state;

(a) whether the telecast of qualitative programmes from Doordarshan Kendra, Cuttack is possible only after construction of TV studio is completed and commissioned

at Bhubaneswar; and

(b) if so, the steps the Government are taking for completion of this project and when it is likely to be completed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFROMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b). It is the constant endeavour of Doordarshan to effect improvement in the quality of programmes telecast by all Doordarshan Kendras including that of Cuttack. The completion of full-fledged Studio in Bhubaneswar will further enhance the quality and content of programmes which will be of special interest to the viewers of the region. Construction of the Studio building has been completed. Installation of power supply and airconditioning equipment is in progress.

Killings by Terrorists

3970. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased

(i) *Jammu and Kashmir*

Year 1991

Month	Killed	Injured	Abductions	Arrested
June	37	54	58	Total 1963 persons were arrested in 1991 up to 10th November 1991
July	32	27	26	
August	29	100	28	
September	43	109	27	
October	35	63	25	
November	29	60	19	

to state:

(a) the number of persons killed and injured by the terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab and Assam and elsewhere since June, 1991, month-wise;

(b) the number of persons Kdnapped during this perod ir .these States and elsewhere; and

(c) the number of cases where culprits were apprehended?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLAIMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (c). As per the information furnished by the State Government the number of persons killed, injured and abducted by terrorists from 1st June, 1991 to 30th November, 1991 and person in these state are;-

<i>Month</i>	<i>Killed</i>	<i>Injured</i>	<i>Abductions</i>	<i>Arrested</i>
(ii) Punjab				
June	245	108	Total Number of persons abducted during this period is 355.	1842 persons were apprehended up to November '91
July	212	118		
August	212	95		
September	235	171		
October	297	115		
November	154	79		
(iii) Assam				
June	3	3	11	59
July	12	6	37	55
August	13	4	29	111
September	9	9	21	198
October	6	13	3	598
November	21	10	5	665

Computer in Post Offices in Karnataka

these post offices?

3971 SHRI G. MADEGOWDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:-

(a) whether there is any proposal to use computers in post offices in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of post offices to be covered; and

(c) the amount required to computerise

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Microprocessor based multipurpose counter machines have been installed in three post offices in Bangalore. There is a proposal to have more such machines on All Indian basis.

(b) and (c). The pattern will be decided on All India basis and hence the extend of coverage in Karnataka and the amount of investment will be known thereafter.

Telecommunications Tariff in Rural Areas

3972. SHRI GANGADHARA SANIPALLI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the telecommunications tariff in rural areas differ from that in urban areas; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir, in respect of call charges from Long distance public Telephones.

(b) These tariffs have been kept low with a view to encourage the use of telephone in the rural sector.

Inclusions in the SCs/STs Lists

3973. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN.

SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAM:
DR. LAL BHADUR RAWAL:
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:
SHRI G.M.C. BALAYOGI:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether government have received some proposals from various State Governments for inclusion of some castes in SCs/STs lists;

(b) if so, the details of the proposals received in this regard; and

(c) the time by which the action is proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details can not be disclosed in Public interest.

(c) No specific time Schedule can be indicated at this stage.

[Translation]

3974. SHRI CHANDUBHAI DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages electrified and yet to be electrified in Gujarat, district-wise;

(b) the places in these districts where Kuteer Jyoti Yojana has been implemented; and

(c) the names of the villages in the above districts, where Kuteer Jyoti Yojana is to be implemented in near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) A statement indicating the districtwise number of electrified villages in Gujarat is enclosed. The Gujarat State Electricity Board has declared the State as cent per cent electrified.

(b) and (c). Under the 'Kuteer Jyoti Scheme' which was financed by the Central grant during 1988-89 and 1989-90, the task of identifying the beneficiaries was left to the state Govt concerned. So far as Gujarat is concerned, the State Electricity Board has exceeded the target of releasing 21,540 single-point light connections under the scheme spread all over the State. The said scheme has not been continued after 31-3-1991.

STATEMENT

Statement showing district-wise total number of villages and villages electrified in Gujarat State.

S.No.	District	Total No. of villages (as per 1981 census).	Villages electrified
1.	Valsad(Bulsar)	821	819
2.	Surat	1190	1190
3.	Dangs	311	311
4.	Broach	1123	1099
5.	Vadodara(Baroda)	1651	1637
6.	Panchmahals	1895	1872
7.	Kheda (Kaira)	965	965
8.	Ahmadabad	653	653
9.	Gandhinagar	75	75
10.	Sabarkantha	1359	342
11.	Mahesana	1089	1087
12.	Banaskantha	1368	1368
13.	Kutch	887	866
14.	Rajkot	854	854
15.	Surendra Nagar	648	648
16.	Bhavnagar	866	864
17.	Amreli	595	595
18.	Jamnagar	693	690
19.	Junagarh	1071	958
Total:		18114	17892

Note:- the remaining villages are non feasible for electrification.

[English]

Telecom Centres in Kerala.

3975. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Telecom Centres have been sanctioned and not yet opened in Kerala;

(b) if so, the names of the places and reasons thereof; and

(c) the time by which these are likely to be opened?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) For Kerala 55 Telecom Centres have been sanctioned, out of which 46 have already been opened.

(b) and (c): Names of the places where Telecom Centres have been sanctioned and yet to be opened are:-

Kottiyam (Quilon)

Ettumanoor

Kangirapally

Ranni

Karukachal

Vadakancherry

Kuthattukulam

Chavakad

Thoppumpady

Works are in progress and these have been targetted for opening by March 92.

Commercial Energy Consumption

3976. SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the commercial energy consumption in terms of coal replacement of oil products and electricity in 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90; and

(b) the projected requirements for the next five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Commercial Energy consuption in terms of coal replacement of oil products and electricity during 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90. were as follows:

Year	Estimated Commercial Energy Consumption (in Million Tonnes of Coal Replacement)	
	Oil Products	Electricity
1987-88	270.64	159.41
1988-89	289.34	176.83
1989-90	317.03 provisional	192.50 (provisional)

(b) The information regarding projections for the next five years will become

available only as and when the 8th five Year Plan documents are finalised.

[Translation]

Opening of New Telephone Exchanges in Delhi

3977 SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of telephone exchanges functioning at present in Delhi and the capacity thereof;

(b) whether there is any proposal to open some new telephone exchanges in the current year; and

(c) if so, the names and capacities of the

said exchanges?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Total number of Telephone Exchanges and capacity in Delhi as on 12.12.91 is as under:

i) No. of Telephone Exchanges	72
ii) Equipped capacity lines	650176

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. There is a proposal to open the following new exchanges besides expansion of existing exchanges in the current year:

No.	Name of New Exchanges	Capacity
1.	Tikhand RUL (Commissioned)	4000 Lines
2.	Delhi University	1000 Lines
3.	Rohini Sector IX	3000 Lines
4.	Lodhi Road	4000 Lines
5.	Hari Nagar	5000 Lines
6.	Mukherjee Nagar	1000 Lines
7.	Shakti Nagar	10000 Lines

[English]

News-Item Captioned "Phone Racket Spreads Far and Wide"

3978. SHRI LOKANATH CHAUDHURY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item

captioned "Phone racket spreads far and wide" appearing in the Statesman, Delhi edition dated October 23, 1991; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The vigilance monitoring in the Deptt. has been stepped up. Official of the Telecom Deptt. found indulging in such mal-practices are dealt with under the disciplinary Rules. A committee has been set-up to suggest modifications to the Indian Telegraph Act with a view to provide for deterrent penalties for such offences. Assistance of the C.B.I. is also being taken to check such mal-practices.

Selection of Inspector Amongst Women Team (Kabaddi) of CISF

3979. SHRI NARAIN SINGH CHAUDHARI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any women Kabaddi Team of Central Industrial Security Force;

(b) if so, whether any recruitment test of the post of Inspector (Kabaddi), on sports basis, was held in 1990;

(c) if so, whether the appointments have been made; and

(d) if not, the reasons for the delay and when these are proposed to be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB) (a) No, Sir.

b) to d) Do not arise

Reversible Pump-Hydel Turbine Unit Near Panchet Dam

3980. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Damodar Valley Corpo-

ration (D.V.C) decided to instal an Austrian reversible Pump-hydel turbine unit of 40 KW near Panchet Dam about a decade ago;

(b) if so, whether the Project could not be implemented so far; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). This unit has been synchronised in a conventional manner and it came into commercial operation on full load from 11.4.1991. However, the reversible pump turbine system could not be commissioned as the tail pool dam of the project is still under construction. The progress of work on the tail pool dam is slow due to obstruction from the land losers and the local villagers demanding employment.

Microwave tower in Bhubaneswar:

3981. DR. KARTIKESWARPATRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the project for setting up a Microwave Tower in Bhubaneswar sanctioned long back is still awaiting implementation;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the government to set up the same in a time bound programme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) There is an existing Microwave tower at Bhubaneswar since 1972. A second tower has also been completed in January, 19912 and a

modern digital Scheme commissioned in, March, 1991.

(b) and (c). Question does not arise.

Branch Post Office In Trichur District

3982. PROF. SHRIMAT SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: Will the Mnister of COM-MUNCATONS be pleased to state:

(a) wether the government propose to open branch Post Offices in Trichur district of Kerala especially at Sreenarayananapuram village;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these are likely to be opened?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). It is proposed to open three extra departmental branch post offices in Trichur district, subject to justification during 1991-92 at

(i) Adurtrichur,

(ii) Munakkakadavu and

(iii) Thandillam

There is, however, no proposal to open extra departmental post offices at Sreenarayananapuram during the current year.

[Translation]

Hydro Power Projects in Bihar

3983. SHRI SURYA NARAIN YADAV: will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of small and big hydro

power projects in the flood prone districts of northern Bihar and the number of those which have been completed and which are still under construction;

(b) whether the Government propose to start more new projects in the said areas;

(c) if so, the total amount proposed for this purpose; and

(d) the progress made so far regarding these projects and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES(SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) In North Bihar, Kosi Hydel Project with an installed capacity of $4 \times 5=20$ MW in the district of Saharsa is under operation and Eastern Gandak Canal Hydro-electric Project with an installed capacity of $3 \times 5=15$ MW in district of west Champaran is under construction and is scheduled for commissioning during 1992-93.

(b) to (d). At present no Hydro-electric Project of North Bihar is pending for techno-economic clearance in Central Electricity Authority. However, the project report for Tribeni Link Canal H. E. Project $2 \times 1.65=3.3$ MW in West Champaran District of North Bihar was examined in Central electricity Authority and returned to Bihar Hydro-electric Power corporation in February, 1990 with a request to resubmit the project report after reviewing all the features in order to reduce the cost of generation.

Post Offices and Sub-Post Offices In Barabanki district of Uttar Pradesh

3984. SHRI RAM SAGAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the number and the details of Post Offices and sub-post offices proposed to be opened by Government in the Barabanki district of Uttar Pradesh during 1991-92?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): It is proposed to open 12 extra departmental branch post offices, subject to justification, in Bara Banki district of U.P. at the following places:-

- 1) Durgapur Naubasta,
- 2) Jakariya
- 3) Taraganj
- 4) Sukhipur
- 5) Khairi
- 6) Majhiyawan
- 7) Karaundi
- 8) Hidayatpur Sipali
- 9) Maharnau
- 10) Bhatwawan
- 11) Bahrauli and
- 12) Budhera.

[English]

Telecast of Malayalam Programmes from Trivandrum

3985. SHRI PALAI K.M. MATHEW: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Malayalam programmes telecast from Trivandrum Doordarshan are not available in North Kerala and the hilly areas of Idukki and Pathanamthitta;

(b) whether most of the South Indian states have already made arrangements for telecasting programmes in their vernacular

languages;

(c) if so, the whether the Government propose to expedite the process of extending this facility in all parts of Kerala;

(d) if so, by when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFROMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) Subject to local terrain conditions, parts of North Kerala and districts of Idukki and Pathanamthitta are convert by regional service programmes originating from Doordarshan Kendra, Trivandrum.

(b) arrangements for relay of regional service programmes originating from Doordarshan Kendras in the respective State Capitals are, at present, available in the Southern of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.

(c) to (e). Establishment of facilities for early of regional service programme originating from Doordarshan Kendra, Trivandrum by all the TV transistors in the State of Kerala would depend upon availability of the requisite space segment capacity, adequate resources for the purpose and inter-se priorities.

[Translation]

Post Offices in Panchayats of Bihar

3986. SHRI MAHEDRA BAITHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to open post offices in various Panchayats in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government propose

to accord priority to Eastern and Western Champaran and Sitamarhi districts in Northern Bihar;

(c) if so, the time by which these are likely to be opened; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Postoffices in rural areas are opened keeping in view financial, distance and population norms prescribed for the purpose. Panchayat Headquarters are given preference for opening of post offices subject to fulfilment of these norms.

(b) Out of a target of 250 branch extra-departmental post offices to be opened in Bihar during the year 1991-92, the target assigned for East Champaran, West Champaran and Sitamarhi districts are 5, 5 and 7 respectively.

(c) These Post Offices are expected to be opened by 31.3.92.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Negligible Broadcast of Hindi Programmes by Air, Dibrugarh

3987. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to negligible broadcast of Hindi Programmes by All India Radio, Dibrugarh in Upper Assam and poor reception of Vividh Bharati and other programmes, the entire area is deprived of listening the programmes;

(b) if so, whether government propose

to install a low power transmitter at Dibrugarh for relay of Vividh Bharati programmes; and

(c) if so, the details of the plan and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) to (c). The All India Radio Station at Dibrugarh broadcasts programmes in a number of languages including Hindi. Hindi news bulletins and some programmes in Hindi are also relayed from Delhi. An intergrated North-Eastern service functioning from Shillong also originates programmes in Hindi in addition to relaying National Programmes in Hindi.

There is no proposal to set up a transmitter at Dibrugarh for relay of Vividh Bharati programmes as the area does not fulfill the following criteria:-

- i) Size of the potential audience
- ii) Density of population and
- iii) Market potential.

Renewal of Interest by World bank for Power sector

3988. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has renewed its interest to finance the power sector in India;

(b) whether a high power delegation has made some negotiations with the Power finance corporation; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) The World Bank had never ceased to finance the power sector in India.

(b) and (c). A proposal of the Power Finance Corporation (PFC) for a line of credit of US \$ 265 million is pending with the world Bank. world Bank's officials' discussions with the PFC related primarily to this proposal.

Use of Solar Energy for Small Refrigerations

3989. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned ' Gene bank of medicinal herbs' appearing in the Times of India, Bombay edition dated September 21,1991; and

(b) if so, the details in regard to the use of solar energy for sail refrigerators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There are two routes for use of solar energy for small refrigerators - Solar Photovoltaic and solar thermal. In solar Photovoltaic powered refrigerators direct current electricity is generated with the help of photovoltaic cells which in turn is used to operate the compressor. In solar thermal refrigerators heat energy from the sun is used to energise the refrigeration systems.

Vacant Posts In Police Radio Department of Andaman and Nicobar Islands

3990. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of posts in Police Radio department of Andaman and Nicobar Islands are lying vacant;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor and

(c) the steps taken to fill up the vacant posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and shall be laid on the table of the House.

Equipping Police Personnel

3991. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have evaluated the weaponry and other equipments possessed by the various extremist outfits and militant group together with the source of supply; and

(b) the steps the Government have taken to equip the police personnel to much the combat power of extremist and militant groups?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). Position regarding the weaponry available with the various extremist outfits and militant groups is assessed and monitored on a continuous basis by the Central Government in consultation with the State government agencies concerned.

Improved and sophisticated weapons are provided to the State Police forces depending upon their actual requirement as well as availability.

Killing by Militants

3992. SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI:

SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:

PROF. ASHOK ANANDRAO

DESHMUKH:

SHRI MORESHWAR SAVE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of civilians, Government employees and security personnel, separately killed/kidnapped by the militants in Punjab and J & K during the current year upto 31st October, 1991 category-wise;

(b) the number of militants nabbed/killed during encounters with security forces during the above period in Punjab and J & K;

(c) the number of militants released by the Government in both States during the period; and

(d) the steps Government have taken to ensure rehabilitation of kith and kin of the deceased in both States particularly those of deceased Government employees and security personnel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). According to information available 1881 civilians and 427 security force personnel were killed in Punjab by terrorists during the relevant period. 355 persons had also been kidnapped by them during the period. The break-up into Government employees and security force personnel is not readily available. During the same

period 1248 terrorists had been killed in encounters and another 1731 had been arrested.

Information in this regard respect of J & K is being collected and would be laid on the table of the House.

(c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) The Governments of Punjab and J & K have drawn up schemes to provide relief and other assistance to the victims of terrorists.

New Post Offices in Kolam Kerala

3993. SHRI LODIKKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be please to state:

(a) the number of new post offices proposed to be opened in Kerala during 1991-92; and

(b) how many of these will be in Kolam districts and the details of the proposed locations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) A target for opening 50 extra departmental branch post offices has been fixed for Kerala during the year 1991-92.

(b) There is a target to open two Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices in Kolam district during the current year. An extra-departmental Post Office had been opened in Veliyam West on 31.10.91 and another one is being opened at Podiyattuvila.

Proposal to Establish TV Studio at Dharamsala (Himachal Pradesh)

3994. SHRI D.D. KHANORIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a TV studio at Dharamsala, Himachal Pradesh to ensure telecast of regional programmes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b). No, Sir. There is no such proposal under the consideration of the Government at present.

(c) A TV Studio Centre is already under implementation at Shimla in Himachal Pradesh. establishment of another such facility in the State would depend upon availability of resources and relative priorities.

Infiltrators from Bangladesh

3995. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bangladesh Government has agreed to take back infiltrators of the Border Security Force push back Bangladeshi nationals caught at the time of crossing the international border; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). In the Annual Co-ordination Meeting held in Sept, 1991 between Border Security Force and Bangladesh Rifles, it was agreed as Under:-

(1) Illegal migrants who are convicted by the courts in India would be accepted by BDR.

(2) Persons who are apprehended in the process of crossing the border would be accepted by BDR.

(3) Persons who have recently migrated, when being handed over will be accepted on the veracity of their statements. Wherever necessary such persons may be jointly questioned.

(4) Persons who have migrated much earlier, will need detailed verification. In such case, local (District) Civil authorities will be involved in the process of verification, alongwith the representatives of BSF and BDR.

[Translation]

Delay in Delivery of Money Orders in Maharashtra

3996. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of delay in delivery and missing of money order are on the increase;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of such cases reported during the last three months, state-wise particularly in Maharashtra; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A statement is enclosed.

(d) The following steps are taken by the

Department to avoid delay in payment and loss of money orders:

- (i) Line Limits for cash remittance are revised keeping inview the cash requirements of the office from time to time;
- (ii) Post Offices are linked with the State Bank of India/other nation- alised Banks wherever such facilities are available;
- (iii) Transmission net-work is re- viewed from time to time to re- move bottle-necks, if any;

(iv) Random check/verification of money orders paid has been proscribed to be carried out by the sub-Divisional Inspectors, Mailoverseers and Public Rela- tions Inspectors;

(v) On receipt of complaints involv- ing no-payment of money order, immediate enquiries are taken up and incase of either confirma- tion of non-payment or non-re- ceipt of reply from the office of payment, Department take suo- motto action to issue duplicate money orders.

STATEMENT

The Statewise statement regarding number of complaints relating to delay in payment and loss of money orders during the last three months

(1.7.91 to 30.9.91)

Name of Circle	No. of MO/TMO COMPLAINTS received	Delay in payment	Loss
Assam	1334	342	356
Andhra	3991	318	128
Bihar	1943	1187	154
Delhi	6084	2007	8
Gujarat	2724	101	24
Haryana	985	451	66
H.P.	560	104	16
J & K	-Not available-		
Karnatatak	3328	164	66
Kerala	1261	207	144

Name of Circle	No. of MO/TMO COMPLAINTS received	Delay in payment	Loss
Maharashtra	7577	622	205
M.P.	2839	271	5
N.E.	1692	97	104
Orissa	833	243	3
Punjab	2925	1449	432
Rajasthan	1313	355	68
Tamil Nadu	3191	420	47
U.P.	8099	5194	73
W.B.	5879	3418	29

Theft of Telephone Cables in Country

3997. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of theft of telephone cables have come to notice in the country during this year;

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

(c) the total loss suffered as a result thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by the government to check recurrence of such incidents?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes Sir.

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

(d) the steps taken by the Government are as under:

(i) Regular lodging of FIR with the police and keeping close co-ordination.

(ii) Patrolling of cable routes

(iii) Locking of cabinets/pillars.

(iv) Welding/locking of man-hole covers.

Irregularities in Functioning of A.I.R., Ratnagiri

3998. SHRI GOVIDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints have been received by the Government about irregularities in the functioning of All India Radio, Ratnagiri;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by the government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFROMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRIJAVYAS): (a) to (c). Some complaints were received against the style of functioning of Station Director, All India Radio, Ratnagiri and the same have since been enquired into. On the basis of the enquiry report, the Station Director, All India Radio, Ratnagiri has been transferred,

[English]*

Reservation of Jobs for Disabled

4000. SHRI GEORGE FERNADES: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to curtail reservation in jobs for disabled persons from 3 per cent to 2 per cent in the C & D Categories of posts; and
- (b) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.

Festival of India in Germany

4001. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES. Will the Minister of INFROMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some lapses have been noticed in the film sections of the festival of India in Germany; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFROMATION AND BROADCASTING. (KUMARIGIRIJAVYAS): (a) and (b). The Government saw a news item in some newspapers regarding film segment of Festival of India in Germany. The news item perceives some shortcomings in the arrangement for the film festival which opened in Berlin in 16th Sept. 91. The news report mentions that 10 film prints to be subtitled in German did not reach before the inaugural function and thereby causing disappointment among the viewers. The news item also indicates that the Germans were interested in seeing MAHAPRITHIVI as the inaugural film n place of AGANTUK which was shown as naugural film. The report further mentions that there were more bureaucrats than the film personalities attending the festival at Berlin.

Also the quality of film prints has been questioned in the news item.

2. The contents of the news item do not represent a true picture. Will it cannot be denied that the inaugural function did not attain the desired levels of glamour as only two film personalities could participate in the festival, it pricked up momentum as it progressed.

3. Also there can be question of disappointment among the viewers due to arrival of some prints after the inaugural function, since the festival is of substantial duration spreading over nearly 6 months and traveling to different cities in Germany, which would provided ample opportunity to the audiences in different parts of Germany to view each and every film of the package. In fact, 10 film prints which did not reach before the inaugural function were those to be gifted to the German Archives after their wide exhibition in the festival and would be permanently with the Germans and could be exhibited to the audiences even after the festival.

4. As regards the inaugural film, it may be mentioned that there could be only one inaugural film. While the importance of any other film in the package cannot be denied, the selection of AGANTUK as inaugural film was in no way unwise. The film has been subsequently selected in the Indian Panorama '92 - a rare distinction, which in itself puts to rest all the questions arousing doubt. It has been decided to screen MAHAPRITHVI as closing film of the festival. All the prints were checked in India before despatch.

5. It is not true that there were more bureaucrats than the film personalities attending the festival at Berlin since only one official viz., Director of Dte. of Film Festival who was the Commissioner of the film segment of the festival, was present on this occasion. Minister for Information and Broadcasting was invited to inaugurate the festival. Film personalities viz., Shri Adoor Gopalakrishnan, an eminent film Director and Shri Dipaker Dey, hero of the film AGANTUK also attended the inaugural function.

Setting up of low Power T.V. Transmitter at Palamner in Andhra Pradesh

4002. SHRI M.G. REDDY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up low Power T.V. Transmitter at Palamner and Piler in Chittor districts of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFROMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS):(a) to (c). No, Sir. However, Palamner and Piler towns are expected to receive TV service when the high power (10KW) TV

transmitter under implementation at Tirupati is envisaged to be commissioned during 1992.

Newsitem "PSEB Funds"

4003. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "PSEB funds embezzled" appearing in the Tribune dated September 25, 1991;

(b) if so, the salient points brought out in the news report and the extend to which the same are correct; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF THE POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). The newsitem appearing in the Tribune dated 25th September, 1991 relates to embezzlement of funds by some staff members of the Punjab State Electricity Board. Preliminary investigations by the Board indicate that a total amount of Rs.2.36 lakhs has been embezzled.

The State Electricity Boards are autonomous bodies set up by the respective State Governments in terms of the provisions of the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948. The Central Government does not have any direct control over the administrative activities of the Board. The matter regarding investigation into the alleged embezzlement of PSEB Funds falls under the jurisdiction of the State Government of Punjab/ Punjab state Electricity Board, who have already lodged FIRs under various sections of IPC against 14 accused officials.

J.J. Clusters in Delhi

4004. SHRI JEEVAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of J.J. Clusters in Delhi from where street lights have been removed;

(b) the reasons for removing the street light poles therefrom; and

(c) the reasons for not taking similar action in regard to other clusters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). DESU has not removed any street light poles from the J.J. clusters. However, DESU has disconnected supply to street lighting in some of the J.J. Clusters during its drive to check theft of electricity by direct tapping from the overhead lines by the J.J. Dwellers. DESU is continuing its drive against theft of power and other violations in the use of electricity.

Assessment of functioning of MCD, NDMC and Delhi Administration

4005. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given on July 25, 1991 to Unstarred Question No. 614 and state:

(a) the reasons for not making any assessment of the functioning of the MCD, NDMC and Delhi Administration in the absence of an elected body;

(b) whether government propose to take steps in this regard now; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFIARS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (c). There is no proposal under consideration for an assessment of the functioning of the MCD, NDMC and Delhi administraton. The functioning of MCD, NDMC and Delhi Administration remains under constant focus as the problems concerning various utility and civic services of Delhi are being regularly considered in the various Ministers administratively concerned with Delhi. The problems, especially those relating to supply of water, public health and sanitation, infield transport system to meet the needs of daily communication, public distribution system, essential commodities, unified approach to encroachment and unauthorised contractions, etc., are considered for devising corrective and remedial measures.

Proposal to Extend the Range of Calcutta Doordarshan

4006. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of INFROMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to extend the range of the Calcutta Doordarshan to cover all the far-flung areas in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when it is likely to be implemented?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFROMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) to (c). All the high power and low power TV transmitters functioning in the State of West Bengal have started relaying the programmes telecast on Channel-I (Regional Channel) of Calcutta Doordarshan with effect from 5-11-1991. Further expansion of TV service in the State would depend upon

future availability of resources for the purpose.

Gas Based Plants by NTPC

4007. SHRI B. DEVARAJAN: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to instal some more gas based plants by National Thermal Power Corporation;

(b) if so, the details of such gas based power plants state-wise; and

(c) the names of the companies to which contracts for setting up these power plants are proposed to be given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). The details of Gas-Based Power Plants for which National Thermal Power Corporation have submitted proposals are indicated at the enclosed statement.

(c) Contracts for setting up these power plants are to be awarded only after investment clearances to these projects are accorded by the Government.

STATEMENT

New Project Proposals for Gas Based Power Plants by National Thermal Power Corporation

Sl. No.	Gas Based Project	Location	Capacity (MW)
1.	Anta Stage-II	Dist. Kota Rajasthan	430
2.	Faridabad	Dist. Faridabad Haryana	800
3.	Gandhar	Dist. Bharuch Gujarat	650
4.	Godavari	Dist. E. Godavari Andhra Pradesh	400
5.	Tripura	Dist. Agartala Tripura	500
6.	Farukhabad	Dist. Farrukhabad Uttar Pradesh	800
7.	Dadri Stage-II	Dist. Ghaziabad Uttar Pradesh	408

[Translation]

Constitution of Committee for Selection of Subjects. Writers and Translators

4008. SHRI ARHUN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the members of the committee constituted for the selection of

subjects, Writers and translators for publication; and

(b) the recommendations made by the said committee during the last year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFROMATION AND BROADCASTING(KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS):

(a) The following are the names of the members of the Advisory Committee constituted for selection of subject, writers and translators for Publications Division:

1.	Dr. Birendra Kumar Bhattacharya	-Chairman
2.	Dr. P.C. Joshi	-Member
3.	Dr. C. Narayana Reddy	Member
4.	Dr. P.N.Chopra	Member
5.	Dr. M. Malik Mohamed	Member
6.	Dr. S.S. Shashi, (Director, Publications Division)	Member Convenor.

(b) In furtherence of its objectives, the Committee suggested some of the titles for publications and names of authors for of the publications. Other recommendations inter-alia include publishing of more books in languages other than English and Hindi, bringing out of selected speeches and writings of eminent personalities; brining out of collection of folk literature in various languages etc. Besides, the Committee also made suggestions regarding payment of royalty and on copyright aspects.

Memorandum From Indian Postal Employees Association, Agra

4009. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any memorandum from the Indian postal Employees Association, Category III, Agra region, has been received by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed by the Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Allegations against the PMG, Agra Region regarding non-settlement of problems and irregular practices indulged by him.

(c) The matter was enquired into and it

was found that the allegations made in the memorandum was not based on facts.

[English]

Assistance to Ram Krishna Mission

4010. SHRI SIMON MARANDI: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide enough grants and financial assistance to Ram Krishna Mission Training Centre and other social organisations to ensure that typists, stenos, stitching, embroidery, knitting, artisanship and other local programmes are encouraged and these people are group above the poverty line to improve their life-style:

(b) if so, the details of grants and financial assistance provided in this regard since January, 1991 till date and the number of beneficiaries thereof; and

(c) whether the Government have evaluated the work undertaken in this regard under 20 point programmes and if so, the frequency of evaluation of these programmes and the details of the outcome of such evaluations made in Bihar so far?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) Ministry of Welfare provides grant-in-aid to voluntary organisations, including Rama Krishna Mission Ashrams, for taking up welfare and self employment oriented training programmes for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

(b) Rs. 84,46,996.00 has been provided to various organisations as financial assistance since January, 1991 till date. The number of beneficiaries is 15,354.

(c) Under the 20 Point Programmes the evaluation of schemes being implemented by the Government is undertaken.

Militants in Punjab

4011. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of militants who are officially reported to have been killed by the security forces in Punjab between 1st April, 1990 and 31st March, 1991;

(b) the number of those who were identified;

(c) the number of those whose dead bodies were handed over to the next-of-kin;

(d) the estimated number of militants still at large in the State;

(e) whether the Government of Punjab have received representations from voluntary organisations to the effect that a large number of such persons were not killed in encounter but in police custody; and

(f) whether these allegations have been enquired into and if so, with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (c). According to information available 943 terrorists had been killed in encounters with the security forces during the relevant period. Most of those killed had been identified and their dead bodies handed over to their next of kins who claimed them. However, exact figures in this regard are not readily available.

(d) The extremists in Punjab continue to recruit new cadres to replace the losses and as such it is not possible to give any estimates in this regard.

(e) and (f). Information is being col-

lected and would be laid on the table of the House.'

Soviet Assistance for Power Projects

4012. SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Soviet Union had assured a credit of 1000 million roubles for the Tehri Hydro Electric Project in Uttar Pradesh,

700 million roubles each for Kayankulam, Mangalore and Maithon, 400 million roubles for Vidyachal Phase II, 220 million roubles for Kahalgaon and 370 million roubles for Bakreshwar in West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the amount related by the Soviet Union so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). the projectwise details are as follows:-

<i>Name of the Project</i>	<i>Soviet credit available</i>	<i>Soviet Credit utilised as on 31.10.1991</i>	<i>(In million Roubles)</i>
1. Kahalgaon STPP (840 MW)	219.16	199.443	
2. Tehri Hydro Power Complex (2400MW)	1000.0	27.408	
3. Vidyachal STPP (Stage.II) (1000 MW)	400.0	6.331	
4. Vidyachal Stage-II Transmission Line	220.0	0.584	
5. Maithon Right Bank Thermal Power Project (840 MW)	770		
6. Kayankulam STPP Stage-I (420 MW)			
7. Mangalore STPP Stage-I (420 MW)			
8. Bakreshwar Thermal Power Project Phase I (630 MW)	370		
Total	2979.16		233.766

Medical Facilities to P&T Employees in Orissa

4013. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: DR, KARTIKESWAR PATRA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of medical/Health care facilities available or proposed to be made available to Telecom and Postal employees in Orissa; and

(b) the steps taken to set-up Polyclinics, Mini Hospitals in Telecom District Manager localities as well as at Bhubaneswar?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The P&T employees of Orissa are eligible for Central Govt. medical attendance rules as Central Government employees elsewhere. In addition, to this P&T employees of Orissa are provided basic outdoor medical facilities through three P&T dispensaries situated at Bhubneswar/Cuttack and Berhampur Ganjam. Family Welfare Programme as well as Universal Immunisation Programme towards mother and child are also made available through these dispensaries. Primary laboratory test facilities are attached to all the three P&T dispensaries and basic tests are performed in these dispensaries.

Under the reimbursement of medical charges, employees where such dispensaries are not situated can get medical treatment from recognised, authorised medical attendants who are appointed by the Central Government. They are also eligible for full medical reimbursement at State Govt. and recognised hospitals in the case of major ailments as Coronary by-pass surgery, Kidney transplant, neurological surgery, cancer and other like-wise medical problems which are available also outside the state on due

authorisation by the State Government.

(b) No proposal at present is being processed for setting up Polyclinics, Mini-Hospitals in Orissa.

[Translation]

Educational Facilities to Orphans

4014. SHRI SIMON MARANDI: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "En Bal Divas Par Uska Bachpan Chhina" appearing in Jansatta dated November 15, 1991;

(b) whether the Government have made any special arrangements for the education and other needs of or hans;

(c) if so, the details of arrangements made in this regard and the expenditure incurred on education, boarding and lodging of such orphans, handicapped children during the last three years;

(d) the action proposed by the Government in this regard during the current financial year; and

(e) the details of implementation of other related schemes and the estimated expenditure to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) Under the Centrally sponsored scheme for the Welfare of Children in Need of Care and Protection for orphans, destitute and the neglected children, assistance to voluntary organisations upto 90% of the cost is given. The expenditure on financial assistance to voluntary organisations is shared equally by the Central and the State Govern-

ment concerned. The voluntary organisation concerned is required to contribute 10% of the expenditure but only 5% in case of voluntary organisations in tribal areas. Financial assistance of Rs. 250/- per child per month is given to cover recurring items like food, clothing, soap, oil, electricity and water charges, textbooks, vocational training, health etc. and rent of Rs. 40/- per child per month. Financial assistance of Rs. 500/- per child is given for initial non-recurring items like furniture, vocational training equipment, utensils, bed and bedding etc. The expenditure incurred under the scheme during the last 3 years is as follows:-

Year	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1988-89	289
1989-90	340
1990-91	500

Government through its scheme of Assistance to Organisation for the Disabled Persons is assisting, through grant-in-aid, a number of voluntary organisations running special Schools for Mentally Handicapped Children. Disabled children are also being provided aids and appliances either free or at subsidised rates, based on certain income criteria for the parents, under the Aids and Appliances Scheme of the Government. Spastic children were assisted through Government grants to spastic societies as follows:-

Year	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1988-90	46.94
1989-90	35.43
1090-91	58.04

Government is also implementing a Childhood Disability Project with assistance from UNICEF (on which Rs. 18.46 lakhs was spent in 1991-92 till September, 1991).

(d) Both the Schemes are being continued during the current financial year (1991-92). Under the scheme for the Welfare of Children in Need of Care and Protection, the budget provision for the current financial year is Rs. 885 lakhs whereas for the scheme of Assistance to Organisations for the Disabled Persons the budget provision is Rs. 470 lakhs.

(e) Since 1986-87, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the Prevention and Control of Juvenile Social Maladjustment is in operation for effective implementation of Juvenile Justice Act, 1986. Under this Scheme, the grants are provided to the State Governments for setting up of and upgradation of facilities in children institutions, namely, Observation Homes, Juvenile Homes, Special Homes and after Care Homes, Special Homes and after Care Homes, etc. for neglected and delinquent juveniles. The expenditure on the setting up of institutions is shared on 50:50 basis between the Central and State Governments and when incurred through voluntary organisations on 45:45:10 (in tribal areas on 47.5 : 47.5 : 5) basis. The expenditure incurred during the last three years under the scheme is as follows:-

Year	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1988-89	299
1989-90	360
1990-91	402

A provision of Rs. 600 lakhs has been made during the current financial year."

[English]

Bagliar Hydel Project**Progressive use of Hindi**

4015. SHRI CHETAN P.S.
 CHAUHAN:
 SHRIMATI MAHENDRA
 KUMARI:
 KUMAI DIPAKA CHIKHLIA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) with a view of elevate Hindi to the status of an official language the steps taken by the Government during the year 1990-91 for its progressive use;

(b) whether in some non-Hindi speaking states the measures taken of the progress of Hindi are not adequate; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTR OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFIARS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (c). According to Article 343 (1) of the Constitution, Hindi is the Official Language of the Union. The question of elevating it to the status Official Language, therefore, does not arise. In order to ensure progressive use of Hindi for the various official purposes of the Union, a programme is prepared every year by the Government of India and all the Ministries/Departments/ Officers/Undertakings etc. of the Central Government, located in Hindi as well as in non-Hindi speaking states? Take appropriate action to ensure compliance thereof. An Annual Programme for the Progressive use of Hindi had been prepared for the year 1990-91 also for all the Central Government Offices in Hindi as well as in non-Hindi speaking states.

4016. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bagliar hydel project in J&K is pending clearance with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which the proposed project will be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). The Bagliar Hydro-electric Project in J&K has been techno-economically cleared by the Central Electricity Authority. It has also been cleared from the Environment and Forest angles. The investment decision on its execution in the Central Sector through the National Hydro electric Power Corporation will be taken after availability of resources has been tied-up

Staff Artists of Media as Regular Government Servants

4018. SHRI RABIR RAY: Will the Minister of INFROMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to make staff artists of the two official media viz, AIR and Doordarshan as regular Government servants; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF UNFORMATION AND BROADCASTNG (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS) (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Government have

decided that all Staff Artists/Artists under the 1982 Scheme working in All India Radio and Doordarshan (except Foreign nationals) who were in service on 6th March, 1982, or appointed as such thereafter, will be demand to be Government servants. Such Staff Artists/Artists, instead of being governed by separate conditions of service laid down in the contract and other orders issued in this regard from time to time, shall be governed by normal conditions of service applicable to Civilian Central Government employees.

Foreign Nationals Found Absconding after Expiry of Visa

4019. KUMARI VIMLA VERMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of foreign nationals have been found to be absconding as on date after the expiry of their visa permits and have not yet returned to their countries of origin;

(b) if so, the break-up thereof, nationality-wise;

(c) the break-up of the visa permits issued, State-wise; and

(d) the steps being taken to trace the illegal immigrants and foreign nationals and deport them back?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFIARS AND MINISTRER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There are reports about foreigners absconding after expiry of visas. Most of them are Pakistani or Bangladesh nationals. No authentic data is available in respect of Bangladesh nationals. However, a statement showing the number of absconding Pakistani nationals as on 30th June, 1991 is attached.

(c) Under the visa procedure pertaining to foreigners, visas are not issued State-wise except in the case of Pakistani nationals to whom visas are granted for visiting specific places. The vsas are normally valid for visiting any place in India other than the Restricted and protected Area. As such, it will not be possible to give State-wise information regarding grant of Visa to foreigners.

(d) Instructions have been issued to the State Governments to make vigorous efforts to trace and deport such persons.

STATEMENT

Number of Pakistan Nationals Absconding as on 30-06-1991

Gujarat	16
Andhra Pradesh	31
Bihar	95
Maharashtra	1295
West Bengal	300
Delhi	81
Haryana	1
Karnataka	97
Kerala	93
Madhya Pradesh	263
Orissa	20
Punjab	8
Rajasthan	103
Tamilnadu	21
Uttar Pradesh	575
Total	2999

Coal Supply to Thermal Power Stations

4020. SHRI GEORGE FERNADES: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have lifted the ban on supply of coal to the Thermal Power Stations;

(b) if so, whether all the State Electricity Boards have agreed to pay in advance for Coal Supplies; and

(c) if so, the details of the scheme in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). As per the directions of Ministry of Coal, all power utilities are required to make advance payments for supply of coal from 1st October, 1991. The power utilities have, however, represented against 100% advance payment under the Cash & Carry Scheme due to large scale adjustment in bills required to be carried out on account of short supply of coal, low grade supply of coal etc.

[*Translation*]

Bonus to Employees of Department of Posts, Telegraph & Telephones

4021. SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employees of the Departments of Post (Civil), Telegraph and Telephones have been given 48 day's bonus and the employees of Department of Posts have been given only 31 day's bonus;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether all the above departments are under the same Ministry; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government for removal of this disparity?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Two independent Departments Viz the Department of Telecommunications and the Department of Posts are functioning under the Ministry of Communications. The employees working in the above Departments were paid bonus for 48 days' and 31 days' respectively for the financial year 1990-91.

(b) The bonus is paid on the basis of productivity achieved by its employees during a particular year. The two departments have their separate resources and yardsticks to measure productivity depending upon the nature of service and profitability thereon.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) In view of reply to part (b) the question of removal of disparity does not arise.

[*English*]

Regional Power Tariff Commissions

4022. SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN: KUMARI DEPIKA CHIKHLIA:

Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Five regional power tariff commis-

sions proposed" appearing in the Economic Times dated the October 20, 1991;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which these commissions are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). As per the consensus reached at the Power Ministers' Conference held in September, 1990, there is a proposal to set up five Regional Power Tariff Boards, to work out the charges to be recovered by each utility from consumers within its territory, based on the cost of supply of power at the LT point and make recommendations to the State Govts., who will decide the cost of power to be levied from each group of consumers. It is expected that these Boards will start functioning from early 1992-93.

Arms to Uttar Pradesh to Tackle Terrorism

4023. SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN:
SHRI MANABENDRA SHAH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has asked for sophisticated weapons from the Union Government to tackle growing menace of terrorism in the State;

(b) if so, the broad details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have supplied sophisticated weapons to the State Government as per their requirement; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Government of Uttar Pradesh have asked for some sophisticated weapons to tackle terrorism in the State.

(c) and (d). Some sophisticated weapons have been allocated to the State Government of Uttar Pradesh Keeping in view the availability of sophisticated weapons, requirements of the other State Governments and the Central Police/Para-military forces.

Proposal to Set up High Power Transmission Station at Rourkela

4024. KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to instal a high power T.V. Transmitter Station at Rourkela and Low Power Transmitters at Hemgir and Bonai in the Sundargarh District of the Orissa State; and

(b) if so, the time by which these T.V. Transmitter Stations are likely to be made functional?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b). No, Sir. No such proposals are under the consideration of Government at present.

Spread of Literacy through Door-darshan

4025. SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether spread of literacy is one of the important priorities of the Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the average time made available for that purpose;

(c) whether through a programme named "Chauraha" an effort is being made by the National Literacy Mission to teach reading and writing to the illiterates by delivering five lessons on the Doordarshan every week; and

(d) if so, the details of the other programmes being telecast for this purpose?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMAR GIRIJA VYAS):
(a) and (c). Yes, Sir.

(b) and (d). Although no specific time has been allotted for the telecast of literacy programmes, a large number of programmes on this theme in different formats are being telecast regularly by Doordarshan Kendras.

Policing of Indo-Bhutan Border

4026. SHRI MUKUL BALAKRISHNA WASNIK:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have made an assessment of the number of Bhutanese refugees in Jalpaiguri, Darjeeling and other districts on the Indo-Bhutan border;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the arrangements made for the refugees; and

(d) the measures taken by the Government to strengthen the policing of the Indo-Bhutan border?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (c). About 3000 Bhutanese are reportedly staying in Jalpaiguri and Darjeeling districts of West Bengal on the Indo-Bhutan border. They are staying mainly with their friends and sympathisers.

(d) Indo-Bhutan border is open and special measures like border policing as are taken in other borders, have not been taken.

Bilateral Aid for New Power Projects

4027. SHRI MUKUL BALAKRISHNA WASNIK: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are seeking bilateral aid for new power projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the utilization of the bilateral aid already made available to the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) NTPC's Faridabad Gas Based Power Project has been posed to German Government for financing.

(c) Out of a total bilateral assistance of Rs. 19,357.00 Crores, tied up for power projects in the public sector, Rs. 6,164.89 Crores has been utilised by 31.10.1991.

Refusal to Play National Anthem

4028. KUMARI DIPIKA CHIKHLIA:
DR. RAMESH CHAND
TOMAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Union Government has been drawn to a newsitem appearing in the Organiser of October 27, 1991 regarding refusal to play National Anthem;

(b) if so, the facts of the case;

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to check recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (d). The facts have been called for from the Government of Kerala and will be placed on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Public Call Offices in Uttar Pradesh

4029. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of districts without Public Call Offices in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which these are likely to be provided with telephones?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) All districts in Uttar Pradesh have been provided with Public Call Offices.

(b) and (c). Question does not arise in view of (a) above.

Telephone Connections from Shahdara Exchange, Delhi

4030. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of connections sanctioned from Shahdara, Delhi exchange No. 228 during 1990-91;

(b) whether the said connections have not been provided so far;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). Release Orders (OBs) for a total of 3688 new telephone connections were issued in Shahdara Level 228 Exchange during 1990-91. Of these 357 OBs are pending as on date.

(c) These Work Orders are pending for execution due to the following reasons:

(1) Some of the areas are technically non-feasible, mostly, on account of non-availability of cable pairs.

(2) Some pockets fall under Yamuna Vihar Exchange area for which an Electronic Exchange is likely to be commissioned by June, 1992.

(d) (i) Apart from laying additional cables to make the areas technically feasible, Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited is also providing telephone connections by way of Pair Gain System in these areas.

(ii) There had been a problem regarding availability of land for exchange building in Yamuna Vihar area. After vigorously pursuing the case, a plot of land was made over by DDA on 2nd August, 1991. All out efforts are being made in commissioning new exchange at Yamuna Vihar.

[English]

Canalising Fees Earned by N.F.D.C.

4031. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of canalising fees earned by the National Film Development Corporation by way of import of English films from NRI's during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the canalising fees earned by N.F.D.C. have been spent for the benefit of the cinema industry in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) Canalisation fees earned by National

Film Development Corporation from import of foreign films from Non-Resident Indians for the last three financial years as under:-

Year	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1988-89	26.15
1989-90	41.48
1990-91	41.85

(b) and (c). The income to the Corporation is spent for various schemes under developmental activities of the Corporation for the benefit of Cinema Industry in India such as financing high quality low budget films under various schemes for new comers and established producers, under 100% production of feature films by National Film Development Corporation, providing production and post production infrastructure facilities including dubbing, recording, sub-titling, transfer on video cassettes, hiring of equipments in 16mm production etc.

Installation of Cellular Telephones

4032. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to instal cellular telephones in certain selected cities;

(b) if so, the names of such cities; and

(c) the likely cost involved per connection?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). The proposal is under examination.

(c) Cost will depend upon type of technology selected.

Kuteer Jyoti Yojana in Chandigarh

4033. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kuteer Jyoti Yojana has been started for the poors in Chandigarh Union Territory; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of families covered thereunder?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). Under the Kutir Jyoti Programme, which was launched in 1988-89 as a centrally financed scheme, the task of identifying the beneficiaries was left to the concerned State authorities/Union Territories. The Chandigarh Administration had informed that there were no eligible households in the Union Territory to be covered by the Scheme. The Kutir Jyoti Yojana was, therefore, not implemented in Chandigarh.

New Energy Policy

4034. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:
SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY:

Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to announce a new energy policy shortly;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) whether efforts to reduce the country's dependence on imported petroleum

products and to explore the alternative energy resources, have been made; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). Alternative sources of energy are being used in the country to meet the fuel requirements, to some extent, for household, agriculture, industry etc. These sources have replaced the imported petroleum products and its derivatives to some extent.

Proposal to Import Newsprint From Soviet Union

4035. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:
SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to import newsprint from the Soviet Union on barter basis;

(b) if so, the quantum of newsprint to be imported and the cost thereof;

(c) whether the import of newsprint would ease shortage of newsprint for newspaper industry;

(d) if so, to what extent and at what price the same is proposed to be given to the newspaper industry; and

(e) the details in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRIJA VYAS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 40,000 Mts; the price is yet to be negotiated.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e). Import of 40,000 MTs of newsprint is in order to bridge the supply - demand gap. The sale price would be fixed by the Newsprint Price Fixation Advisory Committee after the purchase is finalised.

Short Supply of Power by SEBs/DVC

4036. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:
SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY:

Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to short supply of power by SEBs/DVC, the export efforts of engineering industries in the country have been affected;

(b) whether the Government propose to introduce drastic changes in the power distribution policy to boost export of engineering goods; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). Industrial production/performance of industries depends upon various factors such as availability of raw material, demand for the product, indus-

trial relations, management efficiency etc. and power shortage is only one of the contributing factors. Power Supply to various categories of consumers falls under the distribution system of the State and is the prerogative of State Govt./SEB. However, various measures being taken to improve the availability of power include expediting commissioning of new generating capacity, implementation of short gestation projects, improving the performance of existent power stations, reduction of T&D losses, implementation of demand management and energy conservation measures and arranging transfer of energy from surplus to deficit areas.

Security of Jawahar Lai Nehru Stadium

4037. SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the security arrangements at the Jawahar Lai Nehru Stadium during the one day international match between South Africa and India was not adequate; and

(b) if, so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to provide adequate security arrangements in such events in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). The Police had deployed 18 companies, including women police, during the one-day International Match between South Africa and India on 14th November, 1991, at Jawahar Lai Nehru Stadium. To prevent bursting of crackers and throwing of fruit skins from the upper stands to the seating area down below, additional force has been decided to be deployed in future.

Foreign Nationals in Jails without Trial

4038. SHRIMATI DILKUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of foreign nationals arrested under Section 14 of Foreign Nationals Act have been lodged in different jails without trial in Meghalaya and Assam; and

(b) if so, the details of such persons as on November 30, 1991, and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). According to the information available as on February 1991, no foreign nationals were lodged in the jails of Meghalaya and Assam under section 14 of the Foreigners Act, 1946.

Harassment to Indians Speaking Nepali Language in North East States

4039. SHRIMATI DILKUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Indian nationals who speak Nepali Language are harassed at checkposts and their movements are curtailed in some of the North Eastern States;

(b) if so, whether Government have received representations from the aggrieved people for removal of such harassment; and

(c) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS-

TRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). The Government have received representation from the organisation of Nepalis alleging harassment of the Nepali Speaking Indian citizens at check posts.

(c) The State Government of Assam have issued instructions to all the Deputy Commissioners/Superintendents of Police to ensure that no innocent persons are harassed at the check gates.

News-Item Captioned "Neglect, Apathy by Civic Bodies"

4040. SHRIRAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Neglect, apathy by civic bodies" appearing in the Indian Express dated November 5, 1991;

(b) if so, the details of the points raised therein; and

(c) the steps the Government propose to take to rectify the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Cases Registered against M.C.D. by Delhi Police

4041. SHRIRAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of cases have

been registered by Delhi Police against Municipal Corporation of Delhi for causing deaths and injuries due to negligence of their officials during the last 12 months;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any case relating to deaths caused due to open manholes in Delhi has also been registered during last six months;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action Government propose to take against those responsible for such lapses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Killings in Punjab

4042. **SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI:**
PROF. ASHOKANANDRAO DESHMUKH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of militants, policemen and citizens killed in Punjab during the last three years;

(b) whether any financial assistance has been given to the next-of-kin of these victims by the Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS-

TRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) According to available information, 4978 civilians, 1,119 police personnel and 4,055 militants have been killed during the last three years. (January 1989 to November 1991)

(b) and (c). The Government of Punjab have formulated a scheme and according to which an ex-gratia grant of Rs. 50,000/- to the next of kin of persons killed in terrorists violence is paid. Widows of the deceased persons are also allowed subsistence allowance of Rs. 1,000/- 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. A compensation up to Rs. one lakh is paid for the loss of property. 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 violence are also extended.

International Institute of Energy Conservation

4043. **SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI:**
SHRIMATI DILKUMARI BHANDARI:
SHRI K. PRADHANI:

Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Institute of Energy Conservation has suggested, for saving of huge amount of electricity, that the electricity boards supply to farmers high energy efficient motors and pumps for irrigation free of cost to replace existing inefficient ones;

(b) whether the Institute has given to understand the electricity boards that if their proposal at (a) above is followed it would pay back the cost to the Boards within three years; and

(c) if so, the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). A paper has been received from the International Institute of Energy Conservation in which potential savings of electricity in the agriculture sector through deployment of efficient pumps complying with the BIS specifications and also by replacing the inefficient pumpsets has been identified. According to this paper the total savings potential would be 11 TWH per year or about 1/3rd of the electricity consumption in electric irrigation pumping.

Government is already aware about the energy saving potential due to replacement of inefficient agriculture pumpsets and has already sponsored a number of schemes for rectification of such pumpsets, to a limited extent, in the country.

Proposal to Broadcast Programmes in Manipuri

4044. SHRI YAJMA SINGH YUMNAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to broadcast news and programmes of entertainment in Manipuri for the benefit of the Manipuri inhabitants in Assam, Tripura, West Bengal and Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND

BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) No, Sir. However, cultural programmes of Manipur are given in national network depicting rich culture in songs and dances for all viewers of national network.

(b) Does not arise.

Setting up of Transposer on Hills Near Gunadala in Vijayawada

4045. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received representations for setting up transposer equipment on the hill near the Gunadala in Vijayawada city, Andhra Pradesh to cover the shadow zones; and

(b) if so, the time by which transposer equipment is likely to be installed to help T.V. viewers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A TV transposer has already been functioning at Gandhi hill in Vijayawada city for strengthening TV service to areas falling under shadow zones. Establishment of another transposer for providing better TV reception to shadow areas caused due to Gunadala hill would depend upon future availability of resources for the purpose.

Newly Set up NPTC

4046. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the newly set up National

Power Transmission Corporation has formulated a scheme to raise Rs. 7,000 crores in foreign exchange during the Eighth Five Year Plan period from external borrowings to finance its projects; and

(b) if so, the extent the NPTC has been able to raise the foreign exchange and what are the projects that are likely to be funded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). Proposals of National Power Transmission Corporation for the Eighth Five Year Plan have not been finalised so far.

Priority to Rural Communications

4047. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to accord priority to rural communications; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount allocated for it, if any?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is proposed to make telephone available practically on demand in the rural areas by the end of 8th Five year Plan (1992-97). Government have planned to provide telephone facility to all Panchayat villages in the country progressively by 31.3.1995. A total outlay of Rs. 6800 crores has been proposed for this work.

Doordarshan Programmes to Neighbouring Countries

4048. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a huge investment plan is being worked out by his Ministry in consultation with the department of telecommunications to build up the infrastructure for extending the reach of Doordarshan programmes to the neighbouring countries;

(b) if so, the main features of the proposed plan; and

(c) the time by which the plan is likely to be implemented?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRIJA VYAS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

S.P.G. Cover to Former Prime Ministers

4049. SHRI SHANKERSINGH VAGHELA: DR. A.K. PATEL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether SPG cover is being provided to former Prime Ministers, S/Shri Morarji Desai, V.P. Singh and Chandra Shekhar;

(b) the details of family members of these former Prime Ministers who are presently being provided SPG cover;

(c) the details of the family members of late Shrimati Indira Gandhi and Shri Rajiv Gandhi, former Prime Ministers who are being provided SPG cover;

(d) whether the family members of late Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, former Prime Minister, are entitled for similar security; and

(e) what would be the additional financial burden to the exchequer, recurring and non-recurring, on account of provision of such security?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (c). Under the provisions of Section 4 (1) (ii) of the SPG Act, the SPG is charged with the responsibility of providing proximate security to any former Prime Minister or to the members of his immediate family for a period of five years from the date on which the former Prime Minister ceased to hold the office of the Prime Minister. According to Section 2 (a) of the Act, 'members of the immediate family' means wife, husband, children and parents'. In accordance with these provisions, SPG cover has been provided to Shri Chandrashekhar, the members of his immediate family and that of late Shri Rajiv Gandhi, Shri V.P. Singh is yet to give his consent to protection by the SPG.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) The anticipated cost of providing such security to former PMs and their families during the current financial year is Rs. 16.89 crores (non-recurring) and Rs. 6.20 crores (recurring) for six months of the year 1991-92.

Special Courts for Crimes against SCs/ STs

4050. SHRIMATI MARAGATHAM CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the State which have since set up their special courts after the passage of SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities Act) 1989 to check atrocities on SCs/STs.

(b) whether the Government propose to take an early action persuading the remaining States to set up such courts; and

(c) if so, the nature thereof and the time by which the courts would be set up in all remaining States?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) to (c). All State Governments and U.T. Administrations, except Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Nagaland, have specified special courts for the trial of offences under the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.

The State Government of Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh have also set up six and three exclusive special courts, respectively.

The State Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Nagaland do not feel it necessary to specify special courts under the Act as there are no incidents of atrocities.

The Act does not extend to Jammu & Kashmir.

Advance given by Doordarshan to Producers

4051. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether several private producers received substantial amount from Doordarshan and the final product did not reach the Doordarshan even after a lapse of long periods;

(b) the number of producers and the amount involved during the last three years; and

(c) the corrective measures taken in this regard and the guidelines issued for this purpose?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRIJA VYAS): (a) to (c). Advancing money to private producers for production of television programmes for Doordarshan is an ongoing process. According to Doordarshan, inordinate delay has occurred only in three cases in the last three years and the amount involved is Rs. 10,80,000.00. Doordarshan has already initiated necessary action to rectify the situation in terms of the agreement signed with the outside producers.

News Item captioned "Rickshaw Union's charge against Police"

4052. SHIRAJNATH SONKARSHASTRI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Rickshaw Union's charge against police" appearing in the Hindu dated September 27, 1991;

(b) whether Government have ascertained the facts about the points raised therein; and

(c) if so, the action taken to redress the grievances of the rickshaw pullers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Coverage of News of various Political Parties

4053. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the various political parties are given due coverage in the news in National Programme on Doordarshan; and

(b) if so, the time given to each political party in news during the last six months?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARIGIRIJA VYAS):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The information is given in the attached statement.

STATEMENT

Details of time given to political parties, party-wise, in the news coverage of Hind and English bulletins on the National Network during June to November, 1992

	<i>Name of the party</i>	<i>Time</i>
1.	Congress (I)	137 MTS. 40 seconds
2.	B.J.P.	85 mts. 37 seconds
3.	Janata Dal	93 mts. 46 seconds

	Name of the party	Time
4.	C.P.I. (M)	39 mts. 50 seconds
5.	C.P.I.	17 mtrs. 57 seconds
6.	S.J.P.	24 mts. 25 seconds
7.	National Front Left Front	41 mts. 05 seconds
8.	Akali Dal	02 mts. 55 seconds
9.	AIADMK	11 mts. 00 seconds
10.	DMK	06 mts. 15 seconds

Increase in Property Tax of Self-Occupied Houses

4054. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Municipal Corporation of Delhi has served notices on house owners of even self-occupied houses under Sec. 126 of the D.M.C. Act, 1957 asking them to file objection to the proposed increase in the property tax by 20 per cent with effect from 1988-89 onwards;

(b) if so, the rationale behind such notices and increasing the property tax with retrospective effect by 20 per cent; and

(c) the steps Government propose to

take to provide relief to the owners of small self-occupied houses from this upward rise of property and other taxes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (c). Consequent to amendment in Delhi Rent Control Act, 1958 from 1.12.88 raising the percentage for calculation of standard rent from 8.25% to 10% of the value of the land and cost of construction, revisions in the rateable values of properties subject to rent control legislation has been proposed. Rateable value in the notices is for the year 1988-89. Tax shall be from 1.12.88. In the year 1991-92 the rate of tax on residential properties has been reduced as under:

RATEABLE VALUE	TAX IN 88-89 TO 90-91	TAX IN 91-92
upto 10,000	14%	12%
10,000 to 20,000	24%	20%
Above 20,000	34%	27%

State Electricity Boards Incurring Losses

4055. SHRI C.P. MUDALAGIRI-YAPPA:
SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA:

Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number and names of State Electricity Boards which are incurring losses for the last several years;
- (b) whether it is a fact that external financial assistance is not available for the State Electricity Boards;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps contemplated by the Government to check the losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Eight SEBs - Bihar, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Punjab, Rajasthan, West Bengal and Assam - have been incurring losses continuously for the last 3 years; even after taking rural electrification subsidy into account.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) State Governments have been urged to improve the working results of Electricity Boards so as to yield the statutory minimum surplus of 3%. They have also been advised to take measures such as equity participation, provision of grants to meet the losses due to supply of power to the agricultural sector, timely revision of tariff, improving the performance of generating stations, reducing T&D losses, fixation of minimum agricultural power tariff of 50 paise/kwh etc.

It is also proposed to set-up five Regional Power Tariff Boards which will make recommendations to the State Govts. regarding fixation of rationalised tariffs.

[Translation]

Mujaffarpur Thermal Power Station

4056. SHRI SHIVA SHARAN SINHA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether target was fixed for generating 660 M.W. power by setting up six units in Mugaffarpur Thermal Power Station, Kanti in North Bihar;
- (b) whether only two units have been set up so far and instead of 220 M.W. only 50 M.W. is being generated;
- (c) if so, by when all the units are likely to be set up and the reasons for generating lesser power therefrom; and
- (d) whether the Government propose to set up a high level committee to enquire into the matter and take appropriate steps to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (d). The Bihar State Electricity Board has proposed to set up the Muzaffarpur Thermal Power Station with ultimate capacity of 970 MW envisaging installation of 2x110 MW under Stage-I, 2x250 MW under Stage-II and 1x250 MW under Stage-III.

The present installed capacity of the Muzaffarpur Thermal Power Station is 220 MW. During the month of November, 1991,

the Mujaffarpur Thermal Power Station generated 47 Million Units of energy against a target of 35 Million Units.

The Project Report for installation of two units of 250 MW each under Stage-II has been examined in the Central Electricity Authority. Based on the appraisal of the information contained in the Project Report, the feasibility of the scheme has been accepted by the CEA. The scheme has been identified for yielding benefits in the 9th Plan. The BSEB has been advised to submit the detailed Project Report with updated cost estimates. The scheme is not in a state of readiness for techno-economic appraisal by the CEA. It could be considered for techno-economic appraisal only after the detailed project feasibility report has been received in the CEA and the essential inputs such as coal linkage, availability of water have been tied up and necessary clearances including clearance from environmental angle have been obtained by the BSEB.

The BSEB has not submitted the project feasibility report for installation of 1x250 MW TPS under Stage-II.

The performance of the station is being continuously monitored by the CEA and various measures taken to improve the generation in the country include renovation and modernisation of old units, assistance to Electricity Boards in undertaking plant betterment programmes, supply of requisite quantity and quality of coal, training of Operation and Maintenance personnel and strengthening of Transmission and Distribution systems.

Anpara Thermal Power Plant

4057. SHRI RAM NIHORE RAI: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the families engaged in agriculture and settled at Sonebhadra district in Uttar Pradesh had been displaced as their plots of land had been taken for the construction of Plant 'A' and 'B' of Anpara Thermal Power Project by the National Thermal Power Corporation;

(b) if so, whether the full compensation has been provided to the said displaced families and whether employment has been provided to one person from each of such families;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor, and

(d) the time by which full compensation and employment to one person of each such family would be provided in the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Telephone Quota for Members of Parliament

4058. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the quota of telephone connections for Members of Parliament;

(b) whether a Member can recommend telephone connections out of his present quota to persons other than those from his constituency on special requests;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir

(b) to (d). A Member of Parliament can make recommendations for sanction of telephone connections on out of turn basis as under:-

Member of Parliament : 10 cases from his/her constituency
(Lok Sabha)

: 5 cases from anywhere in India

Member of Parliament : 10 cases from their respective States
(Rajya Sabha)

: 5 cases from anywhere in India

Gas Based Power Generation in the Cauvery Basin

12.00 hrs.

[Translation]

4058-A. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO. Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to augment gas based power generation in the Cauvery basin; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government has proposed to set up the following gas based power projects in the Cauvery Basin:-

1. Narimanam (2x5 MW=10 MW), Tamil Nadu.

2. Karaikal (3x5 MW + 1x7.5 MW = 22.5 MW) Pondicherry.

3. Pillaiperumalnallur Stage-I (300 MW), Tamil Nadu.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have submitted a motion for breach of privilege against Nav Bharat Times. You would have seen yesterday's copy of this newspaper that there is a huge photograph of Parliament on the upper place of the third page and it is written there, "Navbharat Times in Parliament" and below that it is written "The discussion inside takes place only on the best quality of breed". In my opinion, it is the first time in the history of India when people of all parties have condemned what is going on in this newspaper. An effort is made to sell it on the cost of propriety of the Parliament. The manager of the paper tries to blackmail the dignity of the Members of Parliament.

I want to draw your attention towards Kaul and Shakadhar's rules and procedure "practice and procedure of Parliament". It is written on its page no. 245.

[English]

"Disrespect to the House collectively is the original and fundamental form of breach of privilege...."

[Translation]

It is on page 245 and page 246 continues

[English]

It is a breach of privilege and contempt of the House to make speeches, or to print or publish any libels reflecting on the character or proceedings of the House or its Committees...."

[Translation]

Sir, I want to inform you only that it has happened first time in the history of Parliament. That is why I have submitted a Privilege Motion under rule 222 and I urge upon you to send it straightway to the Committee on Privileges.

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support Shri Paswan's statement. One thing is more that there is National Emblem Act and so is the tradition that any photograph either of Parliament or Legislature should not be used for advertisement. Hon. Sir, it is not a news but an advertisement and T. PUB is also written there which indicates that it is purely an advertisement and it is Breach of Privilege, to publish such an advertisement alongwith the photo of Parliament House. So my request is that it should be sent to the Privileges Committee ...(*Interruptions*)....

[English]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack): If somebody puts your photograph in his company's advertisement, it will be ridiculous.

MR. SPEAKER: That is also not very dignified.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Yes, that is not dignified. That is what I am saying about this advertisement of Parliament House. The management of the newspaper congratulated the I & B Minister for the statement, and says that only high breeds are being discussed inside the House. This is most unfortunate. Therefore, I request you that this matter should be sent straightway to the Privileges Committee.

MR. SPEAKER: Well, I understand the feelings of the hon. Members. I would very carefully look into it and I would try to do justice to the matter.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): I have nothing to do with that advertisement nor that advertisement has been given by my Department.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA (Balasore): The Ibb Power project in Samastipur District, Orissa, the Government is proposing to sell it away. Previously, Government Orissa sold many of the Government projects like Chargechrome factory, sugarcane factory and jute mills. Government is proposing to sell Government projects like this. This matter was raised in the House earlier also. The sale of this factory was in under-valuation. The valuation of the factory was Rs. 350 crores. But it was sold only for Rs. 85 crores and instalments were demanded for Rs. 55 crores within a period of 15 years. Like this other Government projects are going to be sold. There is panic in the minds of the people of Orissa.

I would submit before this House, before the Government and the hon. Members to please intervene in the matter and oblige.

(*Interruptions*)*

MR. SPEAKER: I am not allowing you. Nothing will go no record.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura):

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have just returned from the area where crores of the jute producing farmers live. They are in hard trouble. Last year, cost of jute was Rs. 800-900 per quintal. Today, when the cost of the fertilizers and other things have gone up, and there is 40 percent inflation according to the Government, figures, jute is being sold for Rs. 200-250 per quintal. Though I have not exact figures of jute producers, yet in my opinion it must be in crores. Farmers of Purnia, Madhepura and Saharsa are in hot water. There persons committed suicide. They have gone under heavy debt. The Government and J.C. I. which fixes rates of jute are not paying any attention towards it. Crores of the lives depend on it.

The sugarcane producers are also in the same condition. Farmers of Western Uttar Pradesh came to me yesterday. Though the rate is fixed for Rs. 41 and Rs. 45 per quintal, yet it is being sold for just Rs. 30 per quintal and people are burning their sugarcane in the fields. It means the rates of these two cash crops are very less. Specially sugarcane producers in Uttar Pradesh and jute producers in the whole country are passing an era of disaster. The Government should take action immediately. There is a great hue and cry in this regard, people are committing suicide. I, therefore, urge upon you to direct the Government to do something in this regard because it is a very serious matter.

[English]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Sir, we have given Calling Attention notice on this subject. In the last Session also the Agriculture Minister had said that we are going to finalise

the support price. Till today the Government has not yet fixed the support price and the farmers are facing serious problems and the distress sale is being taken place. (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: Your party Member has highlighted it. You should be satisfied with it.

(Interruptions).

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Sir, last year the price was Rs. 800/- and this year, the price is only Rs. 200/. People are committing suicide. We brought this matter before the Agriculture Minister, but he has not taken any action in this regard. (Interruptions). J.C.I. is not purchasing jute. Since these three States are jute growing States, that is why they are not getting the attention of the Government of India in spite of our repeated request. I hope the Agriculture Minister will take immediate action in this regard for the benefit of the farmers. (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: I am allowing Shri Jaswant Singh. I will allow you later on.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on Friday, the 13th December, while replying to debate on law and order, terrorism, secessionism etc., the hon. Home Minister stated amongst various other things...

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Jaswant Singhji, before you proceed, I must make it clear to you that the hon. Home Minister has written to me saying that he wants to make some corrections.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I appreciate that the Home Minister is coming forward with a clarification. But the fact is that he is coming forward with a clarification is in itself an issue that I wish to raise because the implications are far more than merely a clar-

fication by the hon. Home Minister. The Home Minister stated, if the quote be correct:—

"Fortunately this morning I got the news that they have freed all the hostages. There were six people who had been held as hostages. Unilaterally they have freed all these six people".

Now, whether there are six or twenty four, as I have been informed by my senior colleague, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayeeji, it is a different question altogether. He further stated:

"They have also conveyed to the Government that they are unilaterally prepared to the ceasefire. This is the promise which has been given by the top leadership of the ULFA".

Now, there are some very serious implications of this statement of the Home Minister because he had earlier in the context of the assassination of the late Prime Minister averred that in that Prime Minister's assassination, the CIA had a hand. Now, the implications of the Home Minister's statement - I am not suggesting that he has been deliberately misleading....

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): I have not said 'CIA', I have said 'foreign powers'. Why are you trying to put words into my mouth?

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I am not trying to put anything into the Union Home Minister's mouth. He does it himself.

MR. SPEAKER: He is objecting to your statement that he said that 'CIA' is involved.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: But, he said, 'foreign powers'. I retract 'CIA' and replace it with 'foreign powers'. Certainly so far as putting something into the Home Minister's

mouth is concerned, I do not do it. He puts it himself. I am not suggesting that the Home Minister has been deliberately misleading. Of course, I am seriously alarmed at the implications of all this. In the first instance, there is this obvious incompetence of unacceptable proportion somewhere with very damaging consequences. I am not suggesting where that incompetence is. But, obviously there is some incompetence of totally unacceptable proportion. If this was a misstatement and as the Home Minister has said that he was misadvised, if this was a misstatement on a misadvice, then who misadvised? It raises three further questions, if there was any misadvice.

MR. SPEAKER: You do not know what his statement is going to be?

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: No, Sir. Yet these are all questions that do arise. Will he answer to in his statement because if there was no misadvice, then on what basis, did the Home Minister makes such a categorical statement? I request you then to please examine some of the possible consequences. No one has been released, not a single soul. The release of the detenus is, therefore, now placed in jeopardy. Their lives have been further endangered. Suddenly the expectations of their families were raised. They are being released', the Union Home Minister has said so in Parliament. Consider the agony of those families. I submit that the efficacy of the army's action today in the State of Assam is also compromised by this.

I will also submit that the efficacy and the effectiveness of the law and order machinery in Assam is blunted by the Union Home Minister's statement. I further submit that the statement that has been made in the Parliament was subsequently retracted by implication in Press. It was not retracted here, it was retracted by implication in Press. Suggestions were given to the Press that there has been some kind of misreporting.

So, this has retarded the process of normalisation in Assam and that process of normalisation has received a set back. That is why I submit that a simple correction of the statement is not sufficient. An apology not to Parliament would be an empty-gesture. An inquiry now as to who misadvised the Union Home Minister or who did not misadvise is not a corrective. Let the Government itself reflect very deeply on the competence with which the Union Home Ministry is conducting its affairs when on such an important issue as Assam, it is said: the release has been made of ULFA detenus. This is what the Union Home Minister stated in the Parliament. Had the weekend not intervened, this kind of hiatus, gap would not have taken place for us to raise this issue. So, a simple corrective will not do. The Government has to come forward with a much more comprehensive explanation.

MR. SPEAKER: It seems that there are many a hand raised. So, before anything happened, I would rather ask the Minister to make his statement so that there is no further discussion....

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): I Will raise a very important issue, Sir. Let him reply to both of us. This is regarding the incident that has taken place in Palghat in Kerala connected with this *Ekta Yatra*... (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: No, that is a different issue.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : No, Sir, a young girl has been killed, belonging to the minority community. And this is connected with the *Ekta Yatra* that is taking place. The communal tension is building up. Already violent incidents are taking place. A young girl in Kerala has been killed because of the communal incident that has taken

place. And all this is connected with the *Ekta Yatra*. The saner sections of the people have made an appeal to stop it because it is bound to arouse communal tension as it did in the case of the other *Rath Yatra*. Therefore, I want the Home Minister to tell the House as to what is the position with regard to that and to make a statement because if it is allowed to accelerate or to enlarge the area, then serious consequences will take place. The Home Minister must take serious note of this matter and give full protection to the minority communities and should make a statement immediately.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Panigrahi.....

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: One after the other. I am allowing Mr. Panigrahi...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Not like this. Allow me to conduct the House in my own fashion. I have called Mr. Panigrahi....

(Interruptions)

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri): I seek your indulgence, Sir....

(Interruptions).

MR SPEAKER: Not always indulgence. I cannot conduct the House with indulgence, I have to conduct the House within the rules, I will allow you later on but not now. You cannot force me like this all the time.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity to raise a matter of most immediate public importance. There is a serious situation arising in my constituency over the reported decision of the Orissa Government to sell a thermal plant which is

under construction in public sector with Government of India's assistance and foreign assistance. I had moved from pillar to post four years ago for this project so that the land could be arranged. There was a serious agitation in that area not to give the land. Since it was going to be in the public sector, I explained it to the people and did everything possible, risking my own personal popularity to get the land. It was acquired. There was also fierceful agitation.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Panigrahi, your popularity should not be discussed on the floor of this House.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: When this project is under construction, negotiations are going on here in Delhi by the Chief Minister Orissa with an American firm – the Southern Company – to sell it. (Interruptions) I urge upon the Government not to permit the Chief Minister of Orissa to sell this project. If, in spite of all these, it is sold, I will agitate over the matter. If the sale to the American firm is effected, I make it very clear that there will not a public agitation in the area and I will lead it. I will not allow this firm to enter into that area. This is what is happening to the public sector in the country. (Interruptions). We have done everything that is possible for this project. We risked everything. Money is available for the Pant (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Panigrahi, please.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: It is going out of the way. I do not understand what is happening on Orissa. The Chief Minister earlier sold a chargechrome plant along with two chromite mines and two sugar mills. This is all happening in a clandestine way. We have no objection for the American firm to start a new power project. (Interruptions). I request the Government to stop the

Chief Minister of Orissa from selling this power plant. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Panigrahi, please take your seat. You are crossing the limit. I allowed you not for these things. This House is not to be used for your personal popularity. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I understand. When I give a chance, please do not misuse it.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You made your point. Please sit down. Now Shri Chhedi Paswan.

[Translation]

SHRI CHEDDI PASWAN (Sasaram): Mr. Speaker, Sir, whatever the senior leader Shri Somnath Chatterjee has just now stated about Ekta Yatra...

MR. SPEAKER: No repetition please.

[English]

I call Shri Rongpi

....(Interruptions)...

DR. JAVANTA RONGPI (Autonomous District): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to ..(Interruptions)...

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow one Member to raise one issue.

[Translation]

SHRI CHEDDI PASWAN: I would like to speak on a separate issue. With your permission, I want to draw the attention of the House towards a very sensitive matter. e.g. Samta Sthal of late Babu Jagjivan Ram. He

had been serving this country continuously for thirty years. He had successfully worked in different departments. In Government, his role was no less than a great leader. Shri Rajiv Gandhi had allotted an amount for the construction of Samta Sthal. But no construction work or development work has yet been started there. All Members shed crocodile's tears in this House. Babuji was also a Harijan Member but nothing is being done for him.

I urge upon the House that the Samta Sthal should be constructed immediately.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): It is a very serious matter.

[English]

DR. JAYANTA RONGPI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to enlighten the House on the issue raised by hon. Member Shri Jaswant Singh...

MR. SPEAKER: I am allowing only one Member to speak on one issue. Please sit down. Now Shri Chandrakar.

...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. SPEAKER: What Mr. Rongpi is saying is not going on record. I have allowed Shri Chandrakar.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR (Durg): Madhya Pradesh is facing a fierce famine at this time. Labourers and the poor are migrating from there. They are going to Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Delhi. More than one lakh workers have left Durg in search of work. The Central Government has provided Rs. 20 crore to BJP Government in Madhya Pradesh for

relief works. But thousands of people have started Dharna in front of Collector's Office, since 11th December as relief works have not been started.

12.25 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

Everyday 500 people are being arrested and they have decided to continue it until the relief works are started, there. The same case is with Durg district which is called an advanced district. The agricultural and factory production is decreasing due to non opening of mills. Non-availability of electricity is also causing loss to the production. There is no water due to famine. Tube wells and wells are useless in the absence of electricity. so I request the Central Government that this matter is very serious and keeping it in view, the BJP Government should be asked to undertake the relief works with the amount of 20 crores which has already been given to the Government of Madhya Pradesh.. *(Interruptions)*...

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, when the discussion is going on regarding Madhya Pradesh I would like to inform that relief works are going on while the Central Government is not providing money. I have a letter from the Chief Minister which has been addressed to the hon. Union Agricultural Minister demanding money for relief works, but the Central Government has not provided it; even though the relief works are on progress. ... *(Interruptions)*... As famine has requested the Central Government to provide assistance. The State Government has also invested some amount from its own sources, youths are being employed but Central Government is not providing money. To undertake the relief works speedly and to face that problem of drought, the State

*Not recorded.

Government has demanded Rs. 220 crore. It is wrong to say that the State Government is not undertaking relief works. The fact is that it is making all its efforts.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Ahamed.

...(Interruptions)...

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I may also be permitted an opportunity to speak. As far as the danger from Ekta Yatra is concerned, it is only to communists and Muslim League people only and not to any body else...

[English]

SHRI E. AHAMED: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I may be permitted to say a few words about what honourable Shri Somnath Chatterjee has said here about what happened in Palakkad yesterday. Sir, I am speaking with a heavy heart. An innocent girl of 11 fell to the bullets of the police. Another three teenaged youngsters sustained serious injuries and were admitted in the hospital. If the report of *The Hindu* is correct—I feel it is a correct report—Faizal of 18 years, Niyaz of 19 years and Suhaib of 22 years were injured in police firing and were admitted in the hospital in a serious condition. That is what has happened. It has happened in a State like Kerala which is perhaps the heart of communal harmony, and Kerala always presented a picture of perfect communal harmony and amity. If the Ekta Yatra could create such an aftermath in a State like Kerala, what is going to happen in other parts of India? That is what I ask.

Sir, I urge upon the Government to give protection to the life, honour and property of the members of the minority communities. I always condemned communal riots and the House should also condemn it, whoever engineered it. Sir, on the one hand they say that there should be unity and on the other

hand they are spreading communal venom. Also, on the one side there is indiscriminate police firing and on the other side looting, arson and other incidents against the minorities are going on. Therefore, Sir, this yatra which is spreading communal discord should be stopped and the minorities should be given protection of life, honour and property. (Interruptions).

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzafarpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to request the hon. Minister of Home Affairs who is present in the House. Yesterday, the police maltreated the Tibetan girls and women on the roads of Delhi and due to this misbehaviour of the police, the people over turned the gypsy which caused injuries to 10-12 small girls and they had to be hospitalised. I urge that the action should be taken against those police officers who are associated with this incident and they should be warned that they should not repeat such action in future.

Even though the Supreme Court has pronounced its verdict in this matter, many Tibetan citizens including girls are in jails and police is continuing making arrests. Two judges of Supreme Court have issued a public statement to the effect that a demonstration can be held, if it is non-violent and even if some pictures had been put on fire it was not violation of law. Inspite of this fact police has made arrests. Honourable Minister should apologise for this act before this House, Tomorrow there is a hearing in the Supreme Court on this case. Situations should not be allowed to deteriorate to such a point where we are forced to seek justice from the Supreme Court. Honourable Minister should present his view point. (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I would like to support the view presented by Shri

George Fernandes in the presence of hon. Minister. The Tibetans who were demonstrating peacefully, were beaten up and also the journalists. Rahul Srivastava, a journalist, who was not a demonstrator got fracture in his hand. He told them that he is a journalist and is present there to cover the demonstration for reporting for his newspaper, but even then he was not spared. He is in hospital and is being treated for fracture in his hand. That day also I had stated that security does not mean that you should attack the people and beat the journalists. (Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I had also given notice on this subject. I would like to submit that the displaced people from Punjab have been mal-treated in the same manner and now the Tibetans are also meeting the same fate for the last four days. The photographs of such incidents have been published in the newspapers throughout the country and such incidents adversely affect the image of this country abroad. As Shri George Fernandes has pointed out that it is all being done even after the verdict given by the Supreme Court against it. We would like to know whether there is any other Court above Supreme Court. Therefore, through you, I would like to know from the Hon. Home Minister's to when he would withdraw the authority given to the Police-Department to treat the people at their will? What actions would be taken against the Police officers responsible for mal-treatment. Hon. Minister should explain the reasons for the maltreatment with Tibetans. (Interruptions)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): Mr. Speaker, Sir, about the first part of hon. Member Shri George Fernandes's statement, the information has been received by the Home Ministry, but I have to still discuss with them

because I am not satisfied on certain issues. So, before I am fully satisfied I cannot possibly make a statement here. I will get the information, call the officers and discuss with them. Thereafter, whatever steps are called for, certainly they will be taken and if possible, by this evening or at best tomorrow morning I will try to take necessary action in this matter.

Regarding the Palghat incident also I will get the information from the Chief Minister of Kerala and thereafter I will make a statement.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: You must tell about their release.

.(Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: What are the reasons for not releasing the Tibetans even after the verdict of Supreme Court?

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: This is a matter about which I am unable to make any statement before discussing it with concerned officials... (Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: You will pass the time in the same way tomorrow also. (Interruptions)

SHRI RABI RAY (Kendrapara): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with great anguish I would like to raise question of national importance. Nearly 10-12 days back Shri Mohammad Yunus Salim had initiated a debate relating to Organisation of Islamic Conference during Zero Hour. It had started before the beginning of this Conference. The summit of Organisation of Islamic countries in Senegal has concluded now, but Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, through you, I would

like to draw your attention to that issue. India is not represented in this conference, but the way the whole proceedings of the Summit were conducted and an anti Indian atmosphere was created there through many participating countries was only to malign the image of our country.

I would like to submit that Government should frame its foreign policy keeping in view the interests of the country. Government is not vigilant towards this issue. I would like to draw the attention of the house to India's relationships with two nations firstly in respect of Iran; Our Foreign Minister went on an official visit and held talks with the foreign Minister of that country there. At that time, their foreign Minister's attitude seemed to be positive and supporting Indian viewpoint in respect of Kashmir; but when Heads of the States met in Dakar (Senegal) he spoke clearly against India's interests and our policy regarding Kashmir.

Then, during his official visit to another country, though that country is not against India, and I do not know as to what opinion was expressed by Kuwait, but the representative of that country also spoke against India I don't know as to how Kuwait reacted to that statement, but the representatives of that country too presented their view in favour of concept of plebiscite which is against the interests of India. Whereas, Indian viewpoint is that after the Shimla pact, no question of plebiscite could be raised at any level. The representative of Kuwait Shri Amir Java Al Ahmed Al Sawa clearly spoke in favour of plebiscite.

I would like to raise this question here in this House, because Indian Government has not issued any statement in this regard even after so much has happened. I hold the opinion that the way anti-India feelings were raised in that Summit of Organisation of

Islamic Conference and anti-India atmosphere was created, should not have been done had both the countries, Kuwait and Iran were taken into confidence after apprising them of the situation in Kashmir and India's stand on Kashmir. But, nothing was done in this regard. This is the reason that this atmosphere has been created in that Summit. Many senior Ministers including the Home Minister and the Finance Minister are present in the House and I would like to draw their attention to towards the Summit of organization of Islamic countries as also towards the anti-India atmosphere which was created there particularly those countries who were previously friendly to India are now working against the interests of our country. Therefore, I seek the support of all the members of the House to press upon the Government the need to issue a statement in this regard. I would also like to know as to what measures have been taken by the Government to stop the activities regarding raising of anti-India feelings and creating atmosphere against us. The Government should take steps to counter such an anti-India propaganda.

(*Interruptions.*)

[*English*]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow): Mr. Jaswant Singh has raised an important issue and the House expected the Home Minister to make a statement to clarify the situation. But he is quiet. Why has he not been called to speak?

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI(Gandhinagar): In fact, when Shri. Jaswant Singh was making his point, the Speaker told him, the Home Minister is going to make a correction of his earlier statement made on Friday.

12.40 hrs

[*English*]

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Clarifying the Reply given on 13th December, 1991 to the Discussion under Rule 193 Re. General Deterioration in Law and Order Situation In Various Parts of the Country

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI. S.B. CHAVAN): In reply to discussion on general deterioration in law and order situation in various parts of the country with reference to recent spurt in incidents of terrorism, secessionism and kidnappings, in the Lok Sabha on 13th December, 1991, I had stated that the ULFA had unilaterally freed that morning all the six hostages who were held by them. I would like to take this opportunity to clarify that this statement was based on some misunderstanding. The ULFA have agreed to release the hostages and the modalities are being finalised.

I regret for this kind of misunderstanding. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now I call Shri. Ram Kapse.

SHRI RAM KAPSE (Thane): Sir, In the month of March, 1991 there was a gas leakage in the factory at Bhander, Thane district.

Again there was a gas leakage twice in this month by which the students and teachers of the same school were affected and hospitalised. The very fact that the gas leakage affected the students and teachers of the same school three times in succession clearly shows that the Government had not taken stringent action against the factory responsible for the gas leakage.

I would like to know what steps have been taken by the Government to avoid the recurrence of these unfortunate events.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam): After the Ekta Yatra, communal tension has aggravated in the State of Kerala.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Ramesh Chennithala, this has already been stated by Shri. E. Ahamed.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: This Yatra created trouble and disturbed the peace and tranquility in the State of Kerala, in certain areas of North Malabar especially. One innocent life was lost. Two-three people were hospitalised sustaining serious injuries. I request the BJP leaders to stop the Ekta Yatra and to maintain peace and communal harmony. Kerala is famous for communal harmony and peace. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH (Bikramganj): The Rohtas industrial complex situated in Dalmia City in Bihar State is one of the biggest industrial complexes of the state. Nearly fifteen thousand workers are employed there. This Industrial complex has been lying closed since 1984. This complex was revived in 1989 by an order of the Supreme Court. The V.P. Singh Government released an assistance of Rs. 15 crores and the same amount was contributed by Bihar Government. There are total four units Asbestos, Dalda, Cement and Paper. The biggest unit is paper factory and it has not yet been restarted. The labourers working there are being exploited as they are still being given the pay scales of 1980. The promotions to the employees are being given according to the will of the management violating the orders of judiciary. This has caused discontentment among the labour-class.

*Clarifying reply the given on 13.12.91
to discussion under Rule 193*

Through you, I would like to urge upon the Government to reopen the paper-unit which employe largest number of labourers and the workers should also be paid their wages according to new pay scales. The management should be directed to follow the orders of the court. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota): Rajasthan is a famine hit area. At present it is affected by the famine and drought. It is a tribal dominated area and even then the Central Government has adopted a partial attitude towards it by cutting its quota of wheat. A meeting of Chief Ministers and Agriculture Ministers was held on 23-24 August at Parliament House Annexe on Public Distribution System. The Chief Minister of Rajasthan had said that 410 metric tonne foodgrains, at a rate of 10 kg. per capita should be given to Rajasthan. Even then the Central Government has not taken any step on that. Later on, the Chief Minister of Rajasthan had written continuously two letters for providing at least 200 Metric Tonne wheat. At the end of November, Rajasthan got 75 thousand metric tonne wheat and 4200 metric tonne rice. But unfortunately, the quota for Rajasthan was reduced to 68 thousand metric tonne for wheat and 3800 metric tonne for rice. The quota was reduced at a time when Rajasthan was asking to increase it. This discriminatory attitude is being adopted because there is the Government of opposition. It's quota must be increased in view of the famine condition. I strongly demand that the quota should be increased for famine affected Rajasthan. The Central Government should stop this discrimination, otherwise an agitation may start in Rajasthan.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman and Nicobar Islands): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, recently the Central Government has agreed in principle to provide legislature to Delhi. For that, I would like to greet it but I would like to request the Government

particularly when the hon. Home Minister is present here that the people of Andaman and Nicobar have been demanding to provide legislature for a long. But the democratic rights of small Union Territories are being snatched away. The people are living there peacefully and unitedly. If their demand is not fulfilled, there will be a danger to peace and unity in the islands. The continuous denial of the people's genuine right may cause terrorism. Nobody listens to those who are living peacefully. At last, when nobody listens to them, they take up arms. The Home Minister is present here. He should make a declaration for providing legislature to Andaman and Nicobar and Lakshdweep also alongwith Delhi, otherwise, they will launch an agitation. If nobody listens to us here, then we also will start an agitation here in the House itself.

[*English*]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Sir, I support his demand. I support it not because he wants to become the Chief Minister but because the people of Andaman and Nicobar Islands should get the State Assembly. Shri Manoranjan Bhakta, do not try to utilise your position to become the Chief Minister. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: It is for the people to decide. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have to give chance to every party. I am also expected to give chance to every party. Each party should have its own say.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM SARAN YADAV (Khagaria): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in my Parliamentary Constituency, millions of people are leading an inhuman life, who have been rendered homeless due to erosion caused by views-Kosi and Ganga. I request you to

make immediately arrangements for their rehabilitation so that their standard of living could be improved.

SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI (Robertsganj):

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on 20.09.1991 a gas connection was allotted in my name whose photocopy is with me. I have also given a copy of the same to the hon. Speaker. I was told that the letter was a forged one. In this connection, I have given a notice for breach of privileges also. Are the Members of Parliament also fraud? This is the question of the dignity of the M.P.s. This letter is from Mr. K.K. Chadha, Area Manager of Allahabad. I have given a notice in this connection. The hon. Petroleum Minister has sanctioned 10 L.P.G. Connections in my name at my residence at Mirzapur against my personal M.P. quota ...*(Interruptions)....*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Rai, do not read it out. You only say the gist of it.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI: Thus, the members of this House have been insulted. The copy of the so called forged letter has been given to you. I would like that this matter should be taken as a breach of privileges. It is not my personal matter alone but it relates to the whole House also.... *(Interruptions)....*

KUMARI UMA BHARTI (Khajuraho): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my Parliamentary constituency, falls under the Bundelkhand region. Under the entire Bundelkhand region six districts belong to Utter Pradesh and the remaining six fall under Madhya Pradesh. All the districts are extremely exploited and ignored. During 1980-85, a project named *Brahadeen Irrigation Project* was declared to be launched a number of times for the development of that region. The newspa-

pers also published such reports but till today, it is not known as to what has happened to that project. The development of those parts of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh depends on this project. I request through you to the hon. Irrigation Minister or the representatives of the Government whosoever is present in the House that they should tell me as to when this project was started and what happened to it later on, so that after knowing the facts, the people of that region may do something in this regard.

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of this House and also the Finance Minister, a very serious issue, which is alarming the poor farmers. The poor farmers, many of whom, have taken loans from the Commercial Banks, they are getting notices stating that the interest rate has been increased, As far as I understand, the rules of the policy which have been made, do not affect the loans that were given to the agriculturalists. But without any policy in this case, laid down either by the Reserve Bank of India or by the Government, many of the public banks have given notices to many of the agriculturalists, raising the interest to a very high stage and in a very arbitrary manner. The interest rate has been increased from 12 per cent to about 20 per cent, when the compound interest is taken. I have already brought it to the notice of the Finance Minister also. I would request that immediate steps may be taken to see that the Commercial Banks do not act in a manner*(Interruptions)*. Sir, this is a very important matter. We would like to have a response from the Minister in this case. *(Interruptions)*.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Thomas, you cannot expect the reply from the hon. Minister all of a sudden. He will take notice of it and at a proper time, he will reply to it. It is impossible for any human being to

give an on the spot reply. Have you issued any notice to the Government? If you have not issued any notice to the Government, how do you expect the hon. Minister to reply to it on the spot?

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Sir, I have already given a letter.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That is all right. Zero Hour is an hour where you can ventilate your grievance and the Government will take notice of it. But you cannot expect any reply for it. In only extraordinary circumstances where it is a matter of very great importance, the Minister will come forward and reply to it and not otherwise.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: This is a matter which is affecting not only the poor farmers of Kerala but also the whole of India. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, I have called Shri Madan Lal Khurana to speak.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the people belonging to the hill areas of Uttar Pradesh have been staging a *Dharna* at the Boat Club demanding the formation of Uttaranchal. The Uttar Pradesh Government has passed a resolution and forwarded it to the Central Government but the Central Government has been keeping it pending. The people of that area are demanding that the entire hilly areas should be merged to ensure the development and progress of the region. They are demanding it for a long time and today they are compelled to stage a *Dharna*. Therefore, I request through you that the resolution forwarded to you duly passed by the Uttar Pradesh Government should be implemented immediately and the demand of

Uttaranchal may please be accepted.

SHRI BHUBANESHWAR PRASHAD MEHTA (Hazari bagh): I want to submit through you to the Minister of Energy that all the projects of Damodar Valley Corporation are located in Chhota Nagpur except one in West Bengal, but nobody gets appointment in it from the panel lists of the displaced persons. Its headquarters, is located at Calcutta, and all appointment are made there and later on the appointed persons are sent to Chhota Nagpur. Recently, two months earlier, two hundred people were given appointments... (*Interruptions*)... Out of those, even ten persons do not belong to Chhota Nagpur region and nothing has been done for them who have been deprived of their land... (*Interruptions*)... Therefore, through you, I would like to request the hon. Energy Minister that an enquiry should be made into these appointments, because all the projects Konar, Tilayia, Pacher, and Bokaro etc. are in the Chhota Nagpur but not a single person from these areas gets appointment and I would like to request the hon. Energy Minister that the headquarters of Damodar Valley Corporation, which located in Calcutta should be shifted to Chhota Nagpur.

SHRI MOHAN RAWLE (Bombay South Central): Sir, for the last one month, the people belonging to the ruling party in Maharashtra are enjoying like anything, but the condition of the common men there is very bad. The Prime Minister, who had been the Health Minister earlier, had agreed that the Doctors working under the Maharashtra Government should get the salary at per with their counterparts in the Central Government, but the Maharashtra Government is not giving them the salary at the agreed rates. The Maharashtra Government has received the report of the Saputnikar Committee, but the Government is not implementing the report.

Therefore, I request you to intervene in

**Clarifying reply the given on 13.12.91
to discussion under Rule 193**

this matter and fulfil the demands of the Doctors since the Doctors, who are called students are given appointment on salary basis and the professional tax is deducted from their salary...*(Interruptions)...*

SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA (Chartra): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I submit that the land of the village panchayats named Madipur, Hiranki and Singholi etc. of Delhi is being sold openly. Then Revenue Department of the Delhi Administration had issued a notification in 1988 for consolidation of the land to stop this sale. The consolidation work started but was stopped after some days. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to start the consolidation work so that this unauthorised sale may be stopped.

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH (Mirzapur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the officers of the B.H.E.L. company as well as all the unions functioning there had given a news in the Indian Express. As per news all orders are given by the Government of India for manufacturing turbines and boilers. Whereas in reply to a question as to why the goods which are available in the country, are being imported from abroad for power projects being implemented with the collaboration of foreign companies at a very high cost, the Energy Minister told that the BHEL is not able to meet our demand properly. Who has entered into agreement for foreign collaboration for the construction of Electricity Projects in India and for how long it will continue. How far is it true that the officers of BHEL are saying that the Government is importing goods and we are not receiving orders. The hon. Minister of Power who is present here made a wrong statement in the House that BHEL could not supply items ordered by the Government. While the officers of BHEL and the representatives of Electricity organisations made a contradictory statement that they fully supply the goods as per their demand. We also export the goods to foreign countries. If it is true, why the hon.

Minister made a wrong statement. The House should take action in this regard according to democratic process and the Minister for power should answer it.

[English]

SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS (Jalpaiguri): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that in West Bengal about 56 lakh hectares of land which is about 63 per cent of its geographical area has been brought under cultivation, out of which 9.76 lakh hectares of land is under Canal Irrigation Project. It is, no doubt, a sorry figure in comparison with other States. The five northern districts of West Bengal are totally deprived of Canai Irrigation facilities. With a view to give those facilities to these districts, the Government of West Bengal started the Teesta Irrigation Project with an understanding that the Central Government will bear the lion's share of its expenditure. The State Government has already spent a huge amount of which Central Government's contribution is minimum. The Ministry of Water Resources has recommended this Project as a national Project. So, I urge upon the Government to provide the State Government with adequate financial assistance to complete the Teesta Irrigation Project.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune) : Recently the Central Government—the Department of Environment and Forests – has issued a notification, prohibiting the location of all industries carrying on operations or processes in a belt of one km. on the Konkan area — Murud—Janjira area, District Raigad. We have got two prestigious projects. One is M/s. Mazagaon Docks Limited, a public sector undertaking of the Union Ministry of Defence and the second is M/s. Konkan Shipyard and Engineering Limited, for setting up ship building and ship repair projects. These two are the two big industries which are adversely affected by this notification. These indus-

Clarifying reply the given on 13.12.91
to discussion under Rule 193 re.

Deterioration in Law and Order situation

tries have spent crores and crores of rupees and they have got a potential to employ nearly, 1,000 workers.

The then Chief Secretary Shri Deshmukh and the Additional Chief Secretary of Central Government – under whose Chairmanship, a Committee was constituted – have visited the site and they have cleared it. Yet, this notification is not being withdrawn. I request the Government to withdraw it and it will be very much detrimental to all these industries.

One more point that has to be noted is this. Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, West Bengal, etc. have a substantial coastal line; but no such prohibitory notification banning industrial development has been issued. It is only effective in Ratnagiri-Konkan area. Therefore, through you, Sir, I urge upon the Government to reconsider the matter and withdraw the notification as early as possible.

[Translation]

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA (Nogaur): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, Shri Dau Dayal Joshi, M.P. from Kota constituency raised the issue of famine in Rajasthan. He has demanded that more wheat and rice should be supplied to Rajasthan. For your information, I would like to point out that the distribution system in Rajasthan has come to a standstill. Most of the co-operative societies and panchayats, which have handling the distribution system in the villages have been dissolved, therefore, there is no distribution arrangements in the villages of Rajasthan. Democratic norms are openly being violated there. A huge amount of Rs. 600 crore—*(Interruptions)* I speak occasionally. Let me say. *(Interruptions)* What will you do if you get quota. Will you sell it in black market? *(Interruptions)*

(Jhansi): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, it is a State subject. Can it be raised here? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: All right. It is the State subject. Rule the State according to your own wish, but I am telling the facts. *(Interruptions)* You require more wheat but you do not supply it in the villages at all. There is famine but till now the State Government has not started any relief programme. There are no village panchayats. There is no functioning in the villages. If you go on demanding more and more quota and will do nothing in the State, then I will definitely speak in the House on this issue.

13.05 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Tenth Annual Report of the Minorities Commission etc.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITA RAM KESARI): Mr. Speaker Sir, I beg to lay on the table a copy each of the following papers:

1. (i) A copy of tenth Annual Report (Hindi and English Versions) of the Minority Commission for the period from 1st April 1987 to the 31st March 1988.
- (ii) A copy of an Explanatory Note (Hindi and English Versions) in regard of the above report.
- (iii) A copy of Memorandum (Hindi and English Ver-

sions) of the Action taken on the above report.

2. A statement (Hindi and English Versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library See. No. L.T. 986/91]

Annual Report and Review on the Working of Film and Television Institute of India, Pune for the year 1990-91 etc.

[*English*]

port (Hindi and English versions) of the Children's Film Society, India, New Delhi, for the year 1990-91 along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Children's Film Society, India, New Delhi, for the year 1990-91. [Placed in Library, See. No. L.T. -988/91]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Film and Television Institute of India, Pune, for the year 1990-91.

(2) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Film and Television Institute of India, Pune, for the year 1990-91.

(3) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Film and Television Institute of India, Pune, for the year 1990-91 together with Audit Report thereon. (Placed In Library See. No. L.T. 987/91)

(i) A copy of the Annual Re-

Annual Report of the Centre for Development of Telematics for the year 1989-90

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): On behalf of Shri Rajesh Pilot, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for Development of Telematics for the year 1989-90 along with Audited Accounts. [Placed in Library, See. No. LT-989/91]

Annual Report and Review on the Working of North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Shillong for the Year 1990-91

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NONCONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:

(1) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Lim-

ited, Shilling, for the year 1990-91.

(ii) Annual Report of the North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Limited, Shillong, for the year 1990-91 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library, See. No. LT. 1990/91]

(2) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1990-91.

(ii) Annual Report of the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1990-91 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library, See. No. LT. 991/91]

(3) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Power Finance Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1990-91.

(ii) Annual Report of the Power Finance Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1990-91 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Audi-

(4) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Tehri Hydro Development Corporation Limited, Tehri Garhwal, for the year 1990-91.

(ii) Annual Report of the Tehri Hydro Development Corporation Limited, Tehri Garhwal, for the year 1990-91 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library, See. No. LT. 993/91]

(5) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1990-91.

(ii) Annual Report of the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1990-91 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library, See. No. LT. 994/91]

Notification under Central Reserve Police Force Act, 1949

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS**

AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 18 of the Central Reserve Police Force Act, 1949:

<p>(1) The Central Reserve Police Force (Medical Officers' Cadre) (Amendment) Rules, 1991 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 163 in Gazette of India dated the 16th March, 1991.</p> <p>(2) The Central Reserve Police Force (Amendment) Rules, 1991 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 388 in Gazette of India dated the 6th July, 1991. [Placed in Library, See. No. LT-995/91]</p>	<p>(2) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Hindustan Teleprinters Limited, Madras, for the year 1990-91.</p> <p>(ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Teleprinters Limited, Madras, for the year 1990-91 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library, See. No. LT-996/91]</p>
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Annual Report and Review on the Working of Indian Telephone Industries Ltd. Bangalore for the year 1990-91

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

<p>(1) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Indian Telephone Industries Limited, Bangalore, for the year 1990-91.</p> <p>(ii) Annual Report of the Indian Telephone Industries Limited, Bangalore, for the</p>	<p>13.07 hrs</p>
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MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:-

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 12th December, 1991, agreed without any amendment to the Banking Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 1991, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 2nd December, 1991".

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now we go to the next item—Statement by the Finance Minister.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Hon. Members, we have gone to a different subject.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: This is not fair.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: How can we bring it back?

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I think, it is not fair.

(Interruptions)

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

13.08 hrs.

(i) Management of the Economic crisis

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH): Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to make a brief Statement on the State of the Economy.

Hon'ble Members are aware that when this Government assumed office in the last half of June this year, India faced an economic crisis of unprecedented dimension. International confidence had collapsed and even our Non- Resident Indians were withdrawing deposits from our banks in large volumes. Access to international commercial banks was closed. Our foreign exchange reserves were at all time low. We were close

default, on our obligations to international creditors.

The Government acted promptly by taking corrective steps to restore confidence, re-establish macro-economic stability, and set the country back on the path of sustained growth. I would like to take this opportunity to inform the House of the early results of our efforts and also of the unfinished task that lies ahead.

We have achieved our immediate objective of restoring confidence and dispelling fears of default. We are also beginning to restore macro-economic stability though a great deal more remain to be done in this area.

We must continue with efforts at consolidation of these gains ensure containment of the fiscal deficit to reduce inflation, and restore viability to our balance of payment. We must also continue the reform process in various segments of the economy initiated by the Government as part of our medium term strategy.

Sir, I have elaborated on all these points in the Statement which I now placed this House. The Statement also provides the details of the arrangement we have concluded with the International Monetary Fund, which I had promised to lay before the House.

STATEMENT

Six months ago our Government, under the leadership of Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, assumed office in the midst of an unprecedented economic crisis. Foreign reserves had dwindled to Rs. 2600 crores barely sufficient for two weeks imports. International commercial banks were refusing to extend new credits. Large outflows were taking place from NRI deposits. Industrial growth had turned negative because of a severe imports squeeze and inflation was accelerating. It looked as if we might, for the first time in our history, default on our external payments obligations. Had this

happened, the country's economic and financial system would have faced an unprecedented disruption, leading to widespread unemployment, loss of output and emergence of a higher inflationary spiral.

2. The new Government moved swiftly to the task of pulling the economy back from the brink of disaster and setting it once more on the path of rapid and sustainable growth. This called for immediate action aimed at restoring international confidence, bringing inflation under control and ensuring viability in the balance of payments. It also called for structural reforms aimed at strengthening the growth capability of the economy in the medium term. In the short space of two months we took a number of steps to achieve these objectives.

3. The exchange rate was adjusted in July to a new level which would be credible and would also ensure competitiveness of exports without the need for large export subsidies. This was accompanied by major changes in trade policy strengthening incentives to exporters and moving away from the system of import control through licensing to a system where imports would be more automatically linked to export performance through the mechanism Exim scrips.

4. We moved decisively to reverse the trend of rising fiscal deficits which has plagued our economy for several years. These deficits are the root cause of inflation, and are also responsible for our persistent balance payments deficits. The Budget for 1991-92 reduces the fiscal deficit from 8.4% of GDP in the Revised Estimates for 1990-91 to no more than 6.5% in 1991-92. This was made possible by a substantial efforts at mobilising resources combined with a major effort at expenditure restraint. Export subsidies were abolished, fertiliser subsidy was reduced and defence expenditure was restrained.

5. Monetary policy was also tightened reflecting the urgent need to counter inflationary pressure in the economy.

6. These measures of short term eco-

nomic management were accompanied by far reaching structural reforms in the area of industrial policy aimed at enhancing productivity and strengthening competitiveness in our industrial sector and promoting an employment oriented pattern of industrialisation. The policy towards foreign investment was restructured to attract foreign investment especially in priority areas including critical infrastructure sectors such as power.

7. These measures are expected to restore viability to the balance of payments position in due course but their full effect will not be felt immediately. In the medium term, the new trade and industrial policy will increase the competitiveness of our industry, leading to a much more vigorous export performance, which alone can provide a lasting solution to our balance of payments problem. In the short run however we had no option but to find additional financing to fill the substantial financing gap in our balance of payments. Imports had already been severely squeezed and this had hurt industrial production, exports as well as employment. Without additional financing it would have been necessary to squeeze imports still further. This would undoubtedly have deepened the industrial recession and increased unemployment. It would also have created serious shortages which would have made it impossible to control inflation.

8. In this background Government decided to mobilise additional external financing to provide temporary support to the balance of payments while giving time for macro-management and structural reforms to yield result. The only sources from which substantial additional financial resources could be mobilised were the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, and also bilateral donors especially Japan.

9. The Government negotiated a standby arrangement with the IMF for \$2.2 billion (over a 20 month period). There has been some concern about the conditionalities associated with the standby arrangement

with the IMF. I had assured Honourable Members that I would lay the Letter of Intent sent to the IMF with our request. This letter is annexed to this statement. I hope Honourable Members will be reassured that the contents of the letter are no more than an articulation of our own programme of crisis management and medium term reform, which was presented to Parliament earlier.

10. Our immediate objective was to restore international confidence. I hope all Honorable Members will agree that this has been achieved.

— Foreign exchange reserves have increased from Rs. 2600 crores (\$ 1.3 billion) when we assumed office to over Rs. 8000 crores (\$ 3.1 billion).

— We have also redeemed the RBI gold (\$400 million) which was earlier pledged abroad and the SBI gold (\$ 200 million) which was sold with a repurchase option.

— The net outflow from RBI foreign currency deposits, which was running at the rate of \$335 million per month in April-June has now ceased.

— The arrangements with the IMF and other multilateral institution have sent a message of confidence of the international community. Our access to commercial borrowing is being restored.

— The rise foreign exchange reserves has made it possible to relax the restrictions on imports which had to be imposed by the Reserve Bank of India. This will help exports and industrial production and will also alleviate shortages.

Thus the earlier perception of financial collapse and imminent default has been overcome. Confidence has been restored.

11. With restoration of confidence, at-

tention must now turn to the control of inflation as the primary objective of short term economic management. Inflation was accelerating alarmingly when the Government took office and reached a peak level of 16.7% in August 1991. The rate of inflation has declined somewhat since then to 13.7% by end November. This is still far too high.

12. The key to controlling inflation lies in controlling the Budget deficit. There has been a problem in the first half of the year because the severe import squeeze led to a drop in customs revenues below targets. However customs revenues are expected to pick up in the remaining months of the year as import restrictions are relaxed. Higher collections on excise and income-tax will offset part of the losses. We have also enforced cuts in expenditure to keep it below the Budget figure. We shall not allow additional expenditure through supplementary demands for any but the most urgent and unavoidable cases. We shall take whatever additional measures which may be considered necessary to contain the fiscal deficit this year to 6.5% of GDP. Thus determined efforts will be made to ensure that the fiscal correction envisaged in the Budget will take full effect in the remaining months. This will help in moderating inflation.

13. Government also proposes to use supply management in critical commodities to bring down prices. The Food Corporation of India have been instructed to off load wheat on the open market with a view to dampen prices. The improvement in reserves also enables us to import edible oils to control prices of this key commodity. STC has already been instructed to purchase additional quantities of edible oils. State Government are also being allowed direct import of edible oils for supply to the PDS. The Government will crack down on any unscrupulous elements in the trade who create artificial shortages.

14. As domestic inflation is brought under control, I expect a strong pick up in exports, which is essential for effective management of the balance of payments. Reduction in

inflation will also enable an early relaxation in monetary policy and reduction in interest rates which in turn will help industrial production.

15. Turning to the medium term objective of putting the economy back on a path of rapid growth, the strategy for this will be fully spelt out in the Eighth Plan which is currently being prepared. However, some critical issue are easily identified.

16. The first issue relates to the fiscal deficit. The process of fiscal correction has to be continued further in 1992-93 and beyond if inflation is to be brought under control and the balance of payments stabilised. We should therefore aim to reduce the fiscal deficit to 5% of GDP next year.

17. The burden of achieving this reduction in fiscal deficit will fall heavily on the expenditure side. I had indicated in my Budget Speech that there was an urgent need to restructure and rationalise our tax system. This will definitely yield higher overall buoyancy in tax revenues, but it will not achieve the objective of lower fiscal deficit unless it is accompanied by drastic pruning of Government expenditure.

18. Maintenance of fiscal discipline also means that Plan expenditure cannot depend, as heavily as in the past, on ever-increasing budget support for the Plan. In future the ability to finance Plan expenditure will depend critically upon the internal resources generated by the public sector. This in turn draws attention to the importance of efficiency in the public sector and also of economic pricing. Failure on either front will only mean an erosion of resources and an inability to invest. Nor can the budget afford a continual drain on account of perennially loss making public sector units. Such losses are only preventing us from investing our resources where they are most needed such as in power, in agriculture, rural development, poverty alleviation, education and health, control of environmental degradation and where acute scarcities are already evident.

19. The process of structural reform, initiated this year, represented only a beginning. We have to carry the process further if we want to reap the full benefits. The trade policy reform for example needs to be supplemented by further steps to reduce our custom tariff levels, which are far too high for industrial competitiveness and for promoting a more labour intensive pattern of industrial development. Extensive reforms are also needed in the financial sector so that it continues to be an effective instrument of achieving our social and economic objectives. The Committee on the Financial System, has recently submitted its report on financial sector reform and its recommendations are being considered by the Government. A copy of the report is being laid on the table of the House tomorrow. The present regulations under FERA also need a comprehensive review. We need to have a fresh look at certain restrictive provisions, which may have been appropriate 20 years ago, but which are out of place in todays fast changing conditions governing international business. There is also an urgent need for the reform of capital markets so as to enhance their efficiency and effectiveness for mobilising and allocating national savings. The Government intends to pursue these issues in the months ahead.

20. The decade of the nineties will be a decade of scarce resources both domestically and externally. But we are determined to pursue with renewed vigour the goals of a rapidly expanding economy, a socially just and technologically advanced self-reliant society. However, we can achieve our ambitious developmental goals only if we can adjust effectively to evolving circumstances. Scarcity of resources must be reflected in a premium on efficiency, whether in the public sector or in the private sector. That must be the watchword of economic policy in the years ahead. There must be an all round recognition that a higher standard of living can be ensured only on the basis of rising productivity and there are no short cuts to it. This is the only secure means to generate expanding levels of productive employment which are needed to meet the

requirements of our increasing labour force.

21. Greater efficiency and competitiveness will also help us to deal with scarcity of external resources. It will provide the bases for a successful export effort, which alone can provide a credible guarantee for being able to finance the imports we need without becoming excessively dependent on external assistance. India's economy has tremendous strengths and our agriculture as well as our industry can compete effectively in world markets provided they have the right policy environment and infrastructure support.

22. I am aware that apprehensions have been expressed that the new economic policies may have adverse consequences for labour especially in the public sector, I would like to assure Honourable Members that fears of large scale unemployment and closures resulting from these policies are wholly unfounded. On the contrary, we envisage that these policies will lead to greater dynamism in both the public and the private sectors and a larger growth in total employment. As far as the public sector is concerned, I have no doubt that the total impact of these reforms will be to strengthen the public sector and increase its efficiency. The recent provision enabling the Government to refer sick public sector companies to the BIFR provides an objective method of dealing with sickness including through examination of the scope for rehabilitation. For dealing with problems of patently unviable enterprises, Government propose to establish a National Renewal Fund to provide adequately for compensation and other form of rehabilitation and retraining for workers. Our Government is fully committed to protecting all the legitimate interests of labour and to further strengthening of poverty alleviation programmes. We shall seek to evolve a broad national consensus to deal with the difficult problems of transition to a more dynamic economy.

23. The path of adjustment and reform is not easy. There are many uncertainties in the international economic environment and

there are bound to be difficulties and even temporary set backs on the way. However, these difficulties can be overcome through perseverance and dedication. India's economy has the potential to regain the high rate of growth achieved in the decade of the eighties and even to surpass it provided we take determined steps now to tackle the challenges before us. I seek the support of all Honourable Members in our efforts towards this common goal.

ANNEXURE

New Delhi, India
August 27, 1991

Dear Mr. Camdessus,

The attached Memorandum on Economic Policies sets out the economic program of the Government of India for the period 1991/92-1992/93. In support of this program, the Government requests an 18-months stand-by arrangement in an amount equivalent to SDR 1,656 million. The Government also intends shortly to request an additional purchase under Section V of the decision on the compensatory and contingency financing facility (CCFF) with respect to any remaining excess in oil import costs or shortfall in merchandise and remittance earnings for the shortfall year that ended July 31, 1991. At a later stage, the Government intends to enter into discussions on a comprehensive medium-term structural adjustment program, supported by an arrangement under the extended Fund facility.

The following quarterly performance criteria for 1991/92 are proposed to monitor progress under the program (Table 1): (a) ceilings on the overall borrowing requirement of the Union Government; (b) ceilings on the net domestic assets (NDA) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI); (c) a subceiling on RBI credit to the Union Government; and (d) floors on net official international reserves. Indicative magnitudes of these variables for 1992/93 are also proposed and, at the time of the first review, quarterly perform-

ance criteria for 1992/93 will be established. During the course of the program, the Government will refrain from imposing new or intensifying existing restriction on payments and transfers for current international transactions, or introducing or modifying multiple currency practices, or concluding bilateral payments arrangements with Fund members inconsistent with Article VIII, or imposing new or intensifying existing import restrictions for balance of payments reasons.

Three reviews of the program will be conducted. The conclusion of the first review, which is to be completed by March 31, 1992, will depend, inter alia on the reaching of understandings on the 1992/93 budget, on the establishment of quarterly performance criteria for the remainder of the program period, as well as understandings on: (i) the formulation of a program for tax reform, including concrete measures proposed for the 1992/93 budget and a timetable of action for the medium term; and (ii) the introduction of a detailed tracking system for all categories of expenditures and a system of quarterly expenditure reviews. The second and third reviews of the program will be completed by September 30, 1992 and March 31, 1993, respectively.

The Government of India believes that the policies set forth in the Memorandum are adequate to achieve the objectives of the program, but will take any additional measures appropriate for this purpose. In addition, the Government will consult with the Fund on the adoption of any measures that may be appropriate in accordance with the policies of the Fund on such consultations.

Sincerely yours

Manmohan Singh
Minister of Finance

Attachment

Mr. Michel Camdessus
Managing Director
International Monetary Fund
Washington, D.C. 20431
U.S.A.

Memorandum on Economic Policies for 1991/92-1992/93

1. The new Government that took office on June 21, 1991 inherited an economy in deep crisis. The balance of payments situation was precarious, with reserves at a low level and the weakening of international confidence having resulted in a sharp decline in capital inflows through commercial borrowing and nonresident deposits. Inflation had reached double digits, hurting most the poorer sections of our society; and there were signs that economic growth had begun to slow somewhat as the shortages of imports and political uncertainty began to affect production and investment. The origins of these problems are directly traceable to large and persistent macroeconomic imbalances, most notably the unsustainably large fiscal deficits, and to the low productivity of past investments. The crisis in the Middle East had exacerbated the situation by contributing to a higher oil import bill in 1990/91 and the temporary loss of export markets and remittance earnings.

2. The new Government, recognizing that there was no time to lose, immediately adopted a number of stabilization measures that were designed to restore internal and external confidence. Thus, monetary policy was tightened further through increases in interest rates, the exchange rate of the rupees was adjusted by 18.7 percent, and a major simplification and liberalization of the trade system was announced. It is the Government's intention, as announced in the Budget speech to Parliament on July 24, 1991, to complement these initial measures by a comprehensive program of economic adjustment. The centerpiece of the economic strategy will be a substantial measures by comprehensive program of economic adjustment. The enterprise of the economic strategy will be a substantial fiscal correction in the remainder of the current fiscal year and in 1992/93, to be followed by continued fiscal consolidation thereafter. The reduction in fiscal imbalances will be supported by reforms in economic policy that are essential to impart a new element of dynamism to

growth processes in the economy. The thrust will be to increase the efficiency and international competitiveness of industrial production, to utilize foreign investment and technology to a much greater degree than in the past, to improve the performance and rationalize the scope of the public sector, and to reform and modernize the financial sector so that it can more efficiently serve the needs of the economy. During the inevitable period of transition, it is the Government's firm intention that the poorest sections of society are protected to the maximum extent possible from the cost of adjustment.

3. Key macroeconomic objective (Table 2) will be (i) economic growth in the range of 3-3 1/2 percent in 1991/92 followed by a gradual recovery in 1992/93; (ii) an inflation rate of no more than 9 percent by end-1991/92 and no more than 6 percent by end-1992/93; indeed, the Government will strive for an even more rapid reduction in inflation during the course of 1991/92; and (iii) an easing of the present critical payments situation and a rebuilding of gross international reserves from the extremely low level of about three weeks of imports at end-July to over 1 1/2 months by the end of 1992/93. 1 In particular, there is an urgent need to rebuild foreign exchange reserves from their current critically low level (\$1.3 billion) to about \$2.2 billion by end-1991/92.

4. Taking account of the sizable new investments and related imports that will be needed to support the restructuring of the economy, the external current account is

targeted to decline from about 3-1/2 per cent of GDP in 1990/91 to about 2-1/2 percent of GDP in 1991/92 and 1992/93. 2 In order to provide room for an expansion in private investment to take advantage of the new opportunities created by the structural reforms, and to allow for a likely temporary decline in the private savings ratio, the reduction in the public sector deficit, which will initially be brought about by a reduction in the fiscal deficit of the Central Government, will be larger than the adjustment in the external current account.

Fiscal Policy

5. Our medium-term objectives is to progressively reduce the overall public sector deficit 3 from an estimated 12-1/2 percent of GDP in 1990/91 to about 7 percent of GDP in the mid-1990s, a level that we judge to be consistent with external viability and the goal of ensuring adequate private sector resources to respond dynamically to the opportunities created by the structural reforms. In line with this objective, we aim to reduce the Union Government deficit 4 to 6.5 percent of GDP in 1991/92 and 5 percent in 1992/93, which will include a substantial decline in Union Government transfers to the rest of the public sector, most notably to central public enterprises.

6. The interim budget presented to Parliament in March 1991 aimed for a deficit of about 6.5 percent of GDP but a number of the measures needed to attain this target were not formulated. Consequently, the

- 1 According to the IMF definition, i.e. including SDR holdings and with gold valued at SDR 35 per ounce.
- 2 These targets refer to the IMF definition of the external current account. According to the official Indian definition, the external current account would decline from 2.5 percent of GDP in 1990/91 to about 2.1 percent in 1991/92 and 2.0 percent in 1992/93
- 3 Defined to include the Union Government, the Oil Coordination Committee (O.C.C.), State Union Territories and internal and extrabudgetary resources of central and state enterprises for financing their capital expenditure.
- 4 Including the balance in the accounts of the Oil Coordination Committee.

postponement of the regular budget has made fiscal adjustment in 1991/92 even more difficult because almost four months of the financial year have elapsed without a comprehensive fiscal correction effort. The required adjustment is about 2-1/2 percentage points of GDP. We expect a swing from deficit to surplus in the accounts of the Oil Coordination Committee as a result of higher domestic petroleum prices to contribute about 0.4 percentage points of GDP. About half of the remaining adjustment was to be achieved by lowering expenditures and about half from higher tax and nontax revenues.

7. Total expenditures and net lending are targeted at a little over 19 percent of GDP in 1991/92—a decline of about one percentage point. The bulk of the savings are to be achieved from lower expenditures on subsidies, moderation in defense spending, cuts in transfer to public enterprises, and restraint on the current and capital spending. Cash export subsidies on new shipments were eliminated with effect from July 3, 1991; fertilizer prices were raised by 30 percent in August (with special arrangements to cushion the impact on small and marginal farmers); the subsidy on sugar was eliminated by raising the issue prices under the public distribution system by about 16 percent; and subsidies on foodgrains will be held broadly unchanged as a share of GDP. In all, these measures will reduce the major subsidy payments from 1.9 percent of GDP in 1990/91 to 1.5 percent of GDP in 1991/92; on a full-year basis, the savings will be considerably greater (about 1 per cent of GDP). Budgetary support to central public enterprises is budgeted to decline from 1.5 percent of GDP in 1990/91 to 1.2 percent of GDP in 1991/92. Two considerations will guide our approach to expenditure policy. First, no area of government spending should be exempt from scrutiny in the effort to achieve fiscal correction. Second, the benefits of the recent exchange rate adjustment should not be eroded by inflation. At the level of the departments, no additional budgetary provision has been made for cost-of-living increase ("dearness allowance"); any increase will have to be

financed from savings on departments' other expenditures.

8. During the remainder of the financial year, there will be no net additions to expenditures through supplementary appropriations, other than those supported by matching savings or additional receipts. Beyond this, we plan to have strengthened expenditure monitoring and control procedures in place by the time the 1992/93 budget is presented to Parliament.

9. Total revenue as a share of GDP is targeted to rise by over one percentage point (to about 12-1/2 percent) in 1991/92. Additional tax measures with an estimated gross revenue yield equivalent to 0.5 percent of GDP have been adopted in the 1991/92 budget. Important new measures include a 5 percentage point increase in the corporate tax rate; a reduction in generous depreciation allowances that have tended to encourage capital intensive methods of production; a tax on the gross interest receipts of banks; and increases in excise duties, especially for consumer durables and other products that are purchased primarily by the affluent sections of society. At the same time, we have taken some initial steps to rationalize the structure of import tariffs and to broaden the base and strengthen the collection of direct taxes. The ad valorem rate of basic plus auxiliary customs duties has been reduced to a maximum of 150 percent; many of the increases in auxiliary customs duties introduced in December 1990 have been partially or fully rolled back; and rates of import duty on general capital goods and their components have been reduced by 5 percentage points (to a range of 65-80 percent). To strengthen tax collection, the System of deduction at source is being extended to cover interest income, commissions, and withdrawals from the National Savings Scheme; and a major loophole in the wealth tax has been plugged. With regard to nontax receipts, Rs. 25 billion (0.4 percent of GDP) will be generated from the planned sale to mutual funds of shares in a number of public enterprises (paragraph 30).

10. In order to ensure that the objective of reducing the fiscal deficit of the Central Government to 6.5 percent of GDP in 1991/92 is achieved, notwithstanding any unanticipated adverse developments during the course of the year, the Government intends to take additional measures, on both the revenue and expenditure sides, resulting in an estimated adjustment of Rs. 20 billion (0.3 percent of GDP). These additional measures will be implemented in stages, in the light of budgetary developments, and will be in place by December 31, 1991. The nature of the additional measures will be in keeping with the Government's policy of achieving a sustainable fiscal deficit reduction.

11. Our target for reducing the fiscal deficit of the Union Government to 5 percent GDP in 1992/93 is an ambitious one, but we are determined to take all possible measures to achieve this objective. Reduction of the fiscal deficit would yield desired results only when the method of bringing about such reduction is in harmony with reforms in economic policy and economic management. We intend, therefore, to formulate policy proposals in a number of areas. We intend to initiate a process of comprehensive tax reform with the object of broadening the base of taxation, reducing levels of and dispersion in import duties, improving compliance and modernizing the entire system of tax administration. We will take a fresh look at the whole area of expenditure, and no major category should be exempt from scrutiny. Particular emphasis would be given to transfers and loans to public enterprises. The aim is to tighten their budget constraint and improve their efficiency and viability. We hope that norms of fiscal discipline being set by the Central Government would find acceptance by the State Government as well. There is need for further rationalization and reduction of subsidies. Our aim should be to move to a more objective system of administered prices, as indicated in paragraph 16, that takes into account world market developments and domestic supply conditions.

We would have a major thrust for a more efficient expenditure control system. With this end in view, a thorough review of the existing system will be undertaken to remove existing deficiencies and to significantly strengthen its effectiveness. Thus, fiscal adjustment in 1992/93 will not only be of substantial magnitude, but will also be anchored to measures and policies that would have a sustainable impact on future fiscal consolidation.

12. In consonance with the fiscal consolidation of the Union Government, it is our hope that the State Governments will move in a similar direction to correct their fiscal imbalances. We will encourage them to take steps to improve their fiscal performance and streamline the working of their enterprises. In particular, renewed efforts will be made to address the financial difficulties of the State Electricity Board through improved efficiency and a rationalized tariff structure. This would also enable them to ensure prompt payment of dues to central public sector undertakings, especially the power generation companies. Our overall strategy for the central public enterprises is outlined in paragraph 29. As a result of these efforts to improve efficiency and profitability, we expect the internal resource generation of the central public sector enterprises to improve significantly in 1991/92. This will permit a reduction in budget support even while their capital spending is expected to increase. The aggregate deficit of all central public enterprises is projected to fall from 3 1/2 percent of GDP in 1990/91 to 3 percent in 1991/92. As part of our endeavor to introduce a hard budget constraint for the enterprises, no increase in budget support¹ during 1991-92 beyond the budget figures will be considered, barring exceptional circumstances where matching savings would be found.

Monetary policy

13. A restrictive monetary policy will be pursued in order to reduce inflationary pres-

¹ Net of the impact of exchange adjustments on the rupee value of aid receipts.

sures and support the targeted balance of payments improvement. Such a policy, in conjunction with the lowering of the public sector's claims on resources, is both an essential corollary of exchange rate stability and the only way to achieve a lasting reduction in interest rates. Monetary policy has already been tightened considerably during 1991. Thus, in April a number of interest rates were increased, the incremental non-food credit-deposit ratio was lowered, and an additional 10 percent cash reserve requirement was imposed on increases in deposits. A further across-the-board increase of one percentage point in deposit interest rates was implemented in July, and the minimum loan rate for nonpreferred credits was also raised from 17 percent to 18 1/2 percent. For 1991/92, broad money (M3) growth of 13 percent has been targeted, consistent with the output and inflation targets. Taking account of the impact of the new incremental cash reserve requirement, reserve money has been targeted to rise by 5 1/2 percent. A further slowdown in the growth of broad and reserve money (to 11-12 percent) will be sought in 1992/93. The monetary program for 1991/92 specifies quarterly ceilings on the net domestic assets (NDA) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) as well as on net RBI credit to the Union Government (Table 1). The projected NDA levels are consistent with a targeted improvement of about \$ 1 billion in gross official foreign exchange reserves between end-June 1991 and end-March 1992. Quarterly floors for net official international reserves in 1991/92 have also been established.

14. In implementing monetary and credit policies, the RBI uses both indirect, market-oriented mechanisms that operate through their effect on reserve money growth and commercial bank liquidity as well as the existing instruments that influence more directly the overall magnitude and composition of credit growth. In line with the overall thrust of financial sector liberalization, described in paragraph 32, the RBI intends to rely increasingly on indirect policy instru-

ments. Therefore, interest rate policy will be used flexibly to manage the balance of payments and to achieve the desired deceleration in inflation. In particular, the RBI will act decisively to tighten monetary policy should net official international reserves fall below the targeted floors.

Pricing policies

15. With a view to reducing budgetary subsidies and promoting a more flexible price structure, the Government recently announced increases in a number of administered prices including for important inputs (petroleum products and fertilizer); for services (such as railway fares); and for agricultural commodities (such as sugar). Beyond this, our pricing policies will aim at imparting greater flexibility in all areas, and public enterprises will be given greater freedom in setting prices according to market forces—a step that will need to be coordinated with the phasing of trade liberalization and the promotion of increased domestic competition. Detailed plans will be announced at the time of the first review.

16. Average domestic petroleum prices were increased by a cumulative 38 percent in 1990 and were not lowered again as world market prices fell in early 1991. Further price changes were announced at the time of the presentation of the 1991/92 Budget to parliament: a 20 percent increase for motor spirit (gasoline), aviation fuel, and LPG for nonindustrial use; no change for diesel; a 10 percent reduction for kerosene for nonindustrial uses; and a 10 percent increase for all other petroleum products. The reduction in kerosene prices reflects the importance of this item in the consumption basket of the poor and the Government's determination to cushion the impact of the adjustment process on this segment of Indian society. On a weighted average basis, the price change amounts to a 7 percent price increase and are sufficient to ensure that, at prevailing world market prices, total oil-related fiscal receipts,¹ will not be reduced as a result of the recent

1 Accruing to the Union budget and the Oil Coordination Committee.

exchange rate action. The accounts of the Oil Coordination Committee are now projected to record a small surplus. In line with the general policy described in paragraph 15, the Government intends to evolve a system for the pricing of petroleum products that provides for periodic adjustments in the light of developments in the world market and domestic supply conditions.

External policies

17. An exchange rate policy that safeguards competitiveness is a crucial element of our economic program. Shortly after the new Government assumed office, the RBI adjusted downward in two steps the value of the rupee by 18.7 percent against the U.S. dollar in order to improve the international competitiveness of exports and to bring about a more orderly compression of imports. This adjustment will help check the flight of capital, encourage the repatriation of outstanding export receipts and remittances, and thereby help to stabilize the balance of payments. Following this realignment of the rate, the Government intends to hold the nominal effective exchange rate stable by relying primarily on monetary and fiscal policy to maintain competitiveness and ensure the balance of payments objectives.

18. The Government's stabilization and import compression measures are expected to reduce the external current account deficit to 2.7 percent of GDP in 1991/92.² Import volumes would decline by about 5 percent, while export earnings are expected to gradually resume the growth that was interrupted in 1990/91, in reflection of the improvement in competitiveness, the resumption of exports to the Middle East, and better demand

conditions in industrial countries. The capital account, however, is expected to deteriorate substantially in 1991/92 because of the curtailment in access to commercial capital markets and the outflow of nonresident deposits and short-term capital that took place during the first quarter of the fiscal year. As a result, despite the improvement in the current account, an exceptional financing need of about \$ 4 billion is expected for 1991/92.³ Part of this amount (\$ 870 million) has already been covered from various sources, including the recent CCFF drawing from the Fund, and exceptional assistance already disbursed by multilateral and bilateral creditors. The remainder of about \$3 billion is expected to be covered by a further CCFF drawing, purchases under the standby arrangement, and by additional financing from multilateral and bilateral sources, including a Structural Adjustment Loan and two sector loans from the World Bank as well as additional quick-disbursing support from the Asian Development Bank and bilateral donors. A meeting of the aid donor's consortium is scheduled for mid-September.

19. The current account deficit is expected to remain broadly unchanged in 1992/93, at 2.6 percent of GDP. Export growth is projected to continue its recovery (with an 11 percent volume increase) as a result of improved competitiveness and a further pickup of demand in world markets. However, imports are also expected to rise significantly (by about 7 percent in volume terms) from the low level of 1991/92 as the special import compression measures are removed. The capital account is expected to register a significant improvement (from a surplus of \$2.8 billion in 1991/92 to about \$4.4 billion in 1992/93) as a result of a

2 To 2.1 percent of GDP according to the official Indian definition.

3 The size of the remaining compensable amount under the CCFF, and hence the size of the requested purchase, are larger than anticipated at the time of the discussion on the program (SDR 468.9 million compared with an earlier estimate of SDR 314.4 million). Under the program, the difference, amounting to \$220 million, has been added to the targeted gross reserve accumulation, with a corresponding increase in total exceptional financing.

moderate reversal of the previous year's net outflow of nonresident deposits, some increase in normal net aid disbursements, and a reversal in net short-term flows. Given the need for a further restoration in official reserves, there would still be a need for exceptional financing from the Fund and other multilateral and bilateral creditors, but we estimate that the need (about \$2.8 billion) would be considerably smaller than in the current year. A further sizable adjustment in the external current account will be needed over the medium term. The pace at which India's external viability can be restored would depend, however, on how quickly access to normal commercial borrowing can be resumed. In this respect, the Government envisages that, in 1993/94-1994/95, covering the external financing gaps would continue to require some additional assistance from multilateral sources, including the Fund, as well as access to financing from official bilateral and commercial sources. We also expect a significant expansion in foreign direct investment inflows as a result of the new policy measures discussed in paragraph 25. Our aim is to eliminate the need for exceptional financing by the mid-1990s.

20. The targeted buildup in gross official reserves to about 1 1/4 months of imports at end 1991/92 and a little over 1 1/2 months of imports at end 1992/93 would still leave reserves at a low level in comparison with earlier years. Hence, India's external position will remain vulnerable to adverse shocks or to any unexpected slippages. Therefore, the government will act quickly and decisively to correct any shortfall from the targeted path for reserve increase through a further tightening of monetary policy. The Government intends to pursue prudent debt management policies, and higher-than-anticipated commercial borrowings will be used for an additional rebuilding of reserves. Specifically, any unanticipated borrowing from commercial markets by the public sector will be matched by a corresponding increases in the floors for net official international reserves.

Social policies

21. The Government is aware that the process of macroeconomic adjustment is bound to be painful. All sections of the community have to make sacrifices to preserve our economic independence and to restore the health of the economy. Our endeavour would be to minimize the burden of adjustment on the poor. We are committed to adjustment with a human face; therefore, a steadfast adherence to the objective of poverty alleviation is an integral part of our conception of the adjustment process. We expect the structural reforms that have been initiated to generate long-lasting benefits in the reduction of poverty by promoting greatly increased employment opportunities. In the interim, any adjustment process that widened social and economic disparities would, in our view, be self-defeating. With this principle in mind, the Government has provided in the 1991/92 budget for higher outlays on elementary education, rural drinking water supply, assistance to small and marginal farmers, programs for women and children, programs for the welfare of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes and other weaker sections of the society, as well as for increased spending on infrastructure and employment-creation projects in the rural areas.

22. India continues to have a deep commitment to environmental conservation, drawn both from her ethos and traditions as well as her experience in the last two decades. We share the global concern for adverse environmental changes induced by economic and technological activities. Our commitments and concerns are reflected in our present and projected policies and legislation relating to air and water pollution control, forestry, and to conservation of natural resources, including wasteland and water resource development. We shall endeavour to obtain a greater quantum of peoples' involvement and association of non-government organizations in their implementation. The objective will be to attain ecologically sound and sustainable development.

Structural policies

23. Our adjustment strategy is predicated upon a comprehensive program of structural reforms that are designed to promote faster economic growth. The broad thrust of these reforms as well as the initial concrete policy measures are described below. In the areas of industrial deregulation, trade policy, public enterprises, and aspects of financial sector reforms, we expect that policy changes already introduced, combined with further action to implement and strengthen policy reform, would also form the basis for World bank support in the context of a structural adjustment loan.

24. While over the years a well-diversified industrial structure was established, barriers to entry and limits on growth in the size of firms led to a proliferation of licensing arrangements and an increase in the degree of monopoly. There was inadequate emphasis on reduction of costs, upgradation of technology, and improvement of quality standards. With a view to fostering increased competition between the firms in the domestic market so that there are adequate incentives for raising productivity and reducing costs, a major deregulation of the domestic industrial sector was introduced in the Industrial Policy announced on July 24, 1991. The thrust of the new policy is to enable entrepreneurs to take investment decisions based on their own commercial judgement with a greatly reduced regulatory role of Government. These measures are complementary to those taken in the areas of trade policy, exchange rate management, fiscal policy, and financial sector reforms.

The first stage of the reform was announced in July and includes the following key measures:

(i) industrial licensing has been abolished for all projects except for a list of 18 industries related to security, strategic, or environmental concerns and certain items of luxury consumption that have a high

proportion of imported inputs. The exemption from licensing also applies to the expansion of existing units. Notifications spelling out the new procedures were issued on August 2.

- (ii) The Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices (M RTP) Act will now be applied in a manner which eliminates the need to seek prior governmental approval for expansion of present undertakings and establishment of new undertakings by large companies. the change also apply to merger, amalgamation, and takeover. these changes will be introduced with immediate effect through appropriate administrative notifications under the Act.
- (iii) The system of phased manufacturing programs, which required the progressive reduction in the import content of certain projects over time, has been discontinued for all new projects.
- (iv) Industrial location policies have been streamlined so that only the 23 cities with a population of over 1 million (within a radius of 25 kilometers) will be subject to industrial location rules. furthermore, these rules will not apply for specified non-polluting industries or in already designated industrial zones.
- (v) The set of activities hence forth reserved for the public sector is now much narrower than before, and there will be no bar to the remaining reserved areas being opened up to the private sector selectively.

Beyond this, it is the Government's intention to review the prior approval requirements that still exist for capital goods imports, with the aim of rapidly reducing their scope. As a first step, all capital goods imports where foreign exchange availability for the imported equipment is assured through foreign equity have now been given automatic clearance. Effective April 1, 1992, imported capital goods that represent less than 25 percent of a project's total plant and equipment costs will also be given automatic approval, up to a value of Rs. 20 million (about \$800,000). The government expects further liberalization during the course of 1992/93.

25. In conjunction with industrial deregulation, the Government intends to provide greatly increased opportunities for foreign investment. Such investment would bring the attendant advantages of technology transfer, marketing expertise, and the introduction of modern managerial technique as well as promoting a much-needed shift in the composition of external private capital inflows towards equity and away from debt-creating flows. In addition, restrictions on technology agreements will be relaxed. With these broad objectives in mind, the following steps have already been announced.

- (i) Automatic approval will be given for direct foreign investment up to 51 percent foreign equity ownership in a wide range of approved industries. Previously, all foreign investment was subject to approval, and foreign equity participation was generally limited to 40 percent.
- (ii) Other foreign equity proposals will continue to need prior clearance, but procedures will be streamlined and made more transparent. A special empowered Board will be established to negotiate with large international firms that would provide

access to high technology and world markets.

- (iii) Automatic permission will be given for foreign technology agreements in the list of industries referred to in item (i) for royalty payments of up to 5 percent of domestic sales or 8 percent of export sales or for lump-sum payments of up to Rs. 10 million (about \$400,000). Automatic approval for all other royalty payments will also be given if the projects can generate internally the foreign exchange required. All other payments will continue to require approval under existing procedures.

The necessary changes in the application of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (FERA) will be introduced by end-October through administrative notifications. It is our intention to explore further options for attracting foreign direct investment and technology.

26. As part of our strategy to promote the international integration of our economy, it is necessary to phase out the excessive and often indiscriminate protection provided to industry which has weekend the incentive to develop a vibrant export sector. An important element of this strategy will be a transition from a regime of quantitative restriction to a price-based system. Our medium-term objective is to progressively eliminate licenses and quantitative restrictions, especially for capital goods and raw materials, so that these items could be increasingly placed on open general license. The shift is proposed to be achieved over a period of three to five years. A high-level committee will work out the modality of achieving this transition, keeping in mind the balance of payments opposition, in order to provide Indian industry with an appropriate environment to develop international competitiveness. Based on the Committee's recommendations, we will formulate policy proposals by

the time of the 1992/93 budget. (See also paragraph 34).

27. The first step in rationalizing the trade regime was implemented in July. Cash export subsidies were eliminated at the time of the exchange rate adjustment, and an expanded system of import entitlements, linked to export earnings, has replaced a large part of the administered licensing of imports. The new entitlements, called EXIM scrip, are generally provided at a rate of 30 percent of gross export earnings (with special arrangements for gems, jewelry, and a few other industries), and are freely tradeable; the premium on the scrip, set in the market, represent a further incentive for exporters and a means of allocating imports according to market forces. The arrangement is intended as a transitional one that will serve as a vehicle for further trade liberalization through expansion of import entitlements in the next several years, and it is our intention to administer the system in a manner that prepares Indian industry for a more uniform set of incentives.

28. In addition to the trade reform measures already taken, the Government plans additional action along the following lines:-

- (i) Greater transparency will be introduced into the trade regime through the adoption, from September, 1, 1991, of a harmonized system of customs classification.
- (ii) A high priority will be earliest possible elimination of the temporary exchange restrictions imposed earlier in the year in response to the foreign exchange crisis—including the limitations on the availability of foreign exchange for capital goods imports, the prior approval by the RBI for certain foreign exchange transaction exceeding specified amounts, and the high cash margin re-

correction to reply 460
to SQ No. 694 dt. 5.9.91

quirements (ranging up to 200 percent) on letters of credit. The first priority will be to eliminate the restrictions that affect exporters. Recently, the RBI has reduced the cash margins on imports by certain exporters and has also relaxed prior approval requirements for exporters. A timetable for eliminating any remaining restrictions will be discussed at the time of the first review.

- (iii) Over the years, number of import and export items had to be exclusively channelled ("canalized") through specified public sector agencies. It has now been decided to reduce sharply the scope of this public sector monopoly, including most export items and a significant number of import items. The Government recognized that there is a strong case for freeing trade in more items, especially imports of raw materials. Therefore, additional items will be progressively decanalized; for this purpose, a further review of the remaining items will be made in March 1992 and a suitable decision taken with effect from April 1, 1992.
- (iv) Actual user requirements, which require that imports be undertaken by the final users, have already been relaxed as a result of the EXIM scrip scheme. Proposals for the removal of the remaining requirements will be formulated.
- (v) The 1991-92 Budget began the process of tariff reform, with a reduction in peak tariff rates to a maximum of 150 percent (from as much as 300 percent or more) and a moder-

site across-the-board reduction in tariffs on capital goods imports. A more broad-based effort to streamline and reduce tariff rates will be proposed in the 1992-93 budget.

29. The public enterprise sector has not generated internal surpluses on a large enough scale and, because of its inadequate exposure to competition, has contributed to a high-cost structure. To address these problems, the Government has decided to adopt a new approach, key elements of which will be: (1) the existing portfolio of public investments will be reviewed with a greater sense of realism to avoid areas where social considerations are not paramount or where the private sector would be more efficient; (2) enterprises in areas where continued public sector involvement is judged appropriate will be provided a much greater degree of managerial autonomy; (3) budgetary transfers to public enterprises will be progressively reduced; (4) to provide further market discipline for public enterprise, competition from the private sector will be encouraged and part of the equity in selected enterprises will be disinvested; and (5) chronically sick public enterprise will not be allowed continue incurring heavy losses

30. Several important measures initiating the new strategy have already been taken. (1) The number of industries reserved for the public sector has been reduced from 17 to 18. Even in these areas, private sector participation will be allowed selectively. Thus, joint ventures with foreign companies in oil exploration and production are now possible. (2) public enterprises that are chronically sick and unlikely to be turned around will be referred to the board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) for rationalization. We expect to have the new procedures in place by end-December 1991. A safety net will be created to protect in interests of workers. (3) The existing system of monitoring enterprises through Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) will be strengthened, with primary emphasis on profitability

and the rate of return on capital. (4) Up to 20 percent of government equity in selected public sector enterprises will be disinvested through mutual funds. The objective is that the mutual funds would seek a listing for the shares on the stock market and would have the freedom to dispose of them after a specified time period. Additional sales are expected in 1992-93, by which time proposals for encouraging broader disinvestment options could also be developed.

31. Appropriate exit policies are needed to capture the efficiency gains from policy reform and, at the same time, it is imperative that workers should be protected from the adverse impact of the adjustment process to the maximum extent feasible. Keeping in view the need for a rapid improvement in the efficiency of the economic system and of preserving social cohesion, so vital for ensuring political and social acceptability of the adjustment process effort is under way to formulate a policy that would facilitate the process of industrial re-structuring, including a suitable framework for reducing barriers to exit. This process will take some time since it will be essential to build the political consensus necessary for ensuring durability of policy reform. We expect that specific policies in this area will be formulated by the time of the submission of the 1992-93 budget to Parliament. An important component of these policies is the establishment of a National Renewal Fund (NRF) introduced in the 1991-92 budget. The NRF will provide a social safety net to protect workers from the adverse consequences of adjustment and technical transformation, most importantly through the provision of retraining so that they are in a position to remain productive participants in economic activity. We visualize the NRF also being supported by contributions from the States and the private sector. It is also intended to strengthen the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), which was established in 1987 to recommend action—rehabilitation, merger, or exit—for private sector firms with negative net worth and meeting certain eligibility requirements; in addition, its scope will be widened to include public sector units.

32. Far as the financial system has come in terms of market widening and deepening, there remain a number of structural rigidities—notably related to interest rates and the allocation of credit—that have contributed to inefficient financial intermediation. Important measures have been taken recently to address these problems, particularly on the side of liberalizing interest rates. Thus, bank lending rates on larger loans have been set free, the short-term money market has been allowed to function without hindrance, interest ceilings on loans by term-leading institutions have been abolished, and all restrictions on private debentures interest rates have been eliminated. These steps, implying an elimination of controls at the short and long end of the maturity spectrum, have made for a considerably more flexible structure of interest rates. While the process of interest rate liberalization will be continued over the next 18 months, the Government will focus attention on three other key priorities; promoting a more market-oriented allocation of credit, implementing policies to further the development of capital markets, and enhancing the soundness of the banking system. The recently constituted Committee on the Financial System (Narasimhan Committee) will formulate detailed recommendations in these areas. In addition, the Committee has been requested to make recommendations relating to banks and term-leading financial institution specifically on (a) their organizational structure, (b) composition and adequacy of the capital structure, and (c) supervisory arrangements. The Committee has been asked to submit its proposals by November 15, and it is the intention of the Government to spell out a timetable for implementation by the time of the first review. Beyond this, as the process of fiscal consolidation takes hold, bank profitability can be expected to improve, thus setting the stage for the extension of interest rate liberalization to bank deposits as well as for a phased reduction, beginning in 1992-93, in the statutory liquidity requirement, under which banks must

presently hold selected government and other public sector securities against 38 1/2 percent of their deposits.

33. To continue the process of developing more competitive capital markets, the Government has decided to promote the development of private sector and joint-venture mutual funds; and a comprehensive set of policies and guidelines that will apply equally to both public and private sector mutual funds is being developed. The government also intends to introduce legislation in the forthcoming winter session of Parliament that would allow the Securities and Exchange Board of India to function as an autonomous body with full statutory powers to regulate equity markets. Two expert committees have also been established to examine the question of trading reforms and institutional improvement of the stock exchanges.

34. In order to make the tax system elastic, broaden the base of taxation, reduce its dependence on customs revenue, and simplify the existing procedures, the Government intends to implement a major tax reform over the next few years. The major emphasis will be on increasing the share of revenue from direct taxes, so that resources are raised from those most able to pay; rationalizing domestic indirect taxes including further expansion in the existing MODVAT system; and reducing the level and dispersion of import tariffs. The time available for the new Government before presenting the 1991-92 budget was simply not enough to formulate basic structural changes, but several measures were adopted consistent with our medium-term strategy. Thus, peak import tariffs were reduced and major efforts were made to strengthen tax compliance, including a much increased role for deduction of tax at source. Beyond this, the Government will appoint a committee of experts to prepare a study advising how best our agenda of tax reform will can be pursued. The first steps of the tax reform will be introduced in the 1992-93 budget.

Table 1. India: Performance Criteria for Domestic and Financial Policies in 1991-92 and Indicative Targets for 1992-93

	Pre. Actual End-July	Performance Criteria, 1991-92 End-Oct. 1991	Indicative Targets- End-Dec. 1991	Indicative Targets- End-Mar. 1992	1992-93 End March 1993
(In billions of rupees)					
Domestic sector (ceilings)					
Overall borrowing requirement of the Union Government ¹	1602	275	305	3903	3254
Net domestic assets (NDA) of the RBI ²	818.7	865.6	899.1	943.5	1,048
Of which: Net credit to Union Government	973.4	987.6	987.6	955.6	1,018
(In millions of U.S. dollars)					
External sector (floor)					
Net Official international reserves ³	-1,131	-943	-1,156	-1,195	-703
(In billions of rupees)					
Memorandum item:					
Indicative target (ceiling) for bank credit to general Government ⁴	1,535	1,564	1,564	1,551	1,675

1. Cumulative from March 31 of the previous financial year.
2. End-June Figure.
3. The ceiling for end-March 1992 will be raised (lowered) by the excess (shortfall) of the OCC surplus from Rs. 8 billion.
4. Including projected OCC surplus.
5. The ceilings will be adjusted for (i) unexpected valuation effects arising from changes in exchange rates and the price of gold; (ii) changes in reserve requirements; and (iii) changes in the net international reserve floor arising from factors described in footnote 6 below.
6. The floors will be adjusted upward (downward) to the extent that gross commercial borrowing by or guaranteed by the public sector (medium and long-term borrowing from commercial banks plus bond issues to foreigners plus any change in the short-term external debt of the State Bank of India) plus exceptional financing exceeds (falls short of) \$590 million for the period August 1—October 31, 1991, \$840 million for the period August 1—December 31, 1991, and \$1,484 Million for the period August 1, 1991—March 31, 1992. However, the downward adjustments in the floors will be limited to no more than \$300 million by October 31, 1991, \$2000 million by December 31, 1991, and \$400 million by March 31, 1992. The floors will also be adjusted upward (downward) by any increase (decrease) in foreign exchange deposits held by the RBI with the State Bank of India from the level of \$600 million.
7. General Government comprises the Union Government, the States, and Union

Table 2. India: Key Macroeconomic Objectives, 1991-92—1992-93

(In percent unless otherwise indicated)

	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
	Est.	Program	
Real GDP growth	5	3-3 1/2	4
Inflation (end-period)	12.1	9	6
Overall public sector deficit/GDP	12.5	10.0	8.5
Union Government deficit/GDP	9.0	6.5	5.0
Broad money growth	15.3	13.0	11-12
Reserve money growth	13.1	15.51	11-12
External current account/GDP	3.4	2.7	2.6
Gross official reserves (in months of imports) ¹	1.3	1.3	1.7
Official foreign exchange reserves (in billions of U.S. dollars)	2.2	2.2	3.2

1. Excluding the impact of the incremental cash reserve ratio, reserve money growth would be 13 percent.
2. According to the IMF definition, i.e., including SDR holdings and gold valued at SDR 35 per ounce.

(II) Correcting reply to Starred Question No. 694 dated 5.9.1991 re: Implementation Assam Accord

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): During the supplementaries asked in the Lok Sabha in answer to Starred Question NO. 694 on 5.9.1991, regarding the implementation of Assam Accord, Shri Sharad Dighe, Member of this House had asked in a supplementary about the delay in actual commencement of work on the approved projects for setting up an IIT and an oil refinery in Assam. With regard to the IIT, I had in answer inadvertently said:-

"Sir, the Hon. Member has mentioned

two points which are very important. The IIT was approved by the Central Government. But the location has to be determined in consultation with the State Government and the State Government has to find out where it has to be located. That is the reason why the delay is caused in the actual implementation of the IIT. Land has to be located. Then only we will be able to proceed further. It has to be acquired. So, location has to be determined, then acquisition of land and so on and so forth."

The above reply given by me may kindly be substituted by the following:-

"There has been delay in actual implementation of the works connected with

IIT because the land at the site initially selected for it with the approval of the State Government could not be made available and the State Government could not be made available and the State Government requested for changing the location of the IIT. An alternative site has since been selected and finalised. The State Government has to transfer the land for the IIT after which further progress will be possible."

In the above context, I would like to mention that before the matter regarding inadvertent error in the reply could be sorted out, the Lok Sabha had been adjourned *sine-die* and hence this correcting Statement is being laid on the Table of the House in the Winter Session of 1991.

CUSTOMS (AMENDMENT) BILL*

13.11 hrs.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): On behalf of Shri Manmohan Singh, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Customs Act, 1962.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Customs Act, 1962."

The motion was adopted

SHIR RAMESHWAR THAKUR: I introduce the Bill.

13.12 hrs.

MONOPOLIES AND RESTRICTIVE TRADE PRACTICES (AMENDMENT) BILL*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. VIJAYA BHASKARA REDDY): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend to Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969 and the Companies Act, 1956.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969 and the Companies Act, 1956."

The motion was adopted.

"

SHRI K. VIJAYA BHASKARA REDDY: I introduce the Bill.

13.13 hrs.

MONOPOLIES AND RESTRICTIVE TRADE PRACTICES (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 1991

Explanatory Statement Giving Reasons for Immediate Legislation by Ordinance

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): I beg to lay on the Table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) giving reasons for immedi-

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, part II, section 2, Dated 16.12.1991.

** Introduced with the Recommendation of the President

ate legislation by the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices (Amendment) Ordinance, 1991.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Why was this statement not made earlier? This House is taken for granted. Is this how the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs functioning? (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): He has taken appropriate steps.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: What appropriate steps after the Bill is introduced (*Interruptions*)

13.14 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (SEVENTY-FOURTH) (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(*Insertion of New Articles 239 AA and 239 AB*)

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

..

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: I introduce the Bill.

13.14 1/2 hrs.

GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY BILL*

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to supplement the provisions of the Constitution relating to the Legislative Assembly and a Council of Ministers for the National Capital Territory and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to supplement the provisions of the Constitution relating to the Legislative Assembly and a Council of Ministers for the National Capital Territory and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: I introduce the Bill. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA (Almora): Mr. Deputy Speakers, Sir, when a bill providing statehood to Delhi is being introduced, why no bill is being introduced to provide statehood to Uttarakhand.

SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal): I also support this demand.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We shall now adjourn for Lunch and meet again at 2.15 PM.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, part II, section 2, Dated 16.12.1991.

** Introduced with the Recommendation of the President

13.15 hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till fifteen minutes past Fourteen of the clock.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Twenty one minutes past Fourteen of the Clock

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(I) **Need to Provide Half for Koyna Express at Takari, Sangli District, Maharashtra**

[English]

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN (Karad): There has been a long standing demand from the people of Takari, Tal, Walva, District Sangli in my Constituency for a halt of the Koyna Express at Takari Station, a south Central Railway. Takari is an important and centrally located railway station for the people of Walva, Khanapur and Tasgaon Tehasils of South Sangli. So, having a halt there will be very convenient for them. Therefore, I request the Minister for Railways to kindly provide a halt for the Koyna Express at Takari.

(II) **Need to Bring about Development in Western Region of Orissa by setting up an autonomous regional development council**

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): It is an irony of fate that the Western region of Orissa which is endowed with enormous natural resources and which has a rich culture, remains backward and undeveloped. Resentment among the people on account of such neglect of this area by authorities is mounting up and is threatening the solidarity of the State. What is, therefore, urgently needed is the development of this region through an autonomous regional development council for the area with proper emphasis on formulation of plan at the dis-

trict level and its implementation generally by the Zilla Parishads.

(III) **Need to Check the Acute Power shortage in Maharashtra especially in Western and Northern parts of the state.**

DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR (Nasik): There is acute shortage of Power in Maharashtra, especially in West and North Maharashtra. The farmers are facing many problem because of this power shortage. Even their water pump sets cannot work continuously for more than two hours. This will lead to low production of foodgrains. besides, many power generation units there, are not functioning for want of coal. I would, therefore, urge upon the Government to ensure uninterrupted power generation in these units and encourage Hydro-Electric generation projects like Ghatghar Project in Tehsil Akola, District Nagar in the State of Maharashtra.

(iv) **Need to Declare Policy of Government Regarding Khadi and Village Industries and lift ban on filling vacancies therein.**

SHRI RAM NAIK: (Bombay North): Kadhi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) was established after our country's independence to promote village industries which have a large potential for rural employment. The Government have recently changed the industrial policy which is going to have far-reaching effect on big industries and medium and small scale industries. The trade, commerce and banking policies are also being changed. In this perspective, the future of Khadi and Village industries needs to be considered.

To the original list of 26 village industries, in addition to Khadi, wool and silk, 67 more industries were added in 1987 by amending the Act. However, the employment pattern in KVIC has not been changed to match the addition of industries. More-

[Sh. Ram Naik]

over, there has been a total ban on employment in the KVIC also, resulting in 1307 posts remaining vacant out of the total sanctioned strength of 6,767. Nearly, 1000 present employees will retire in 1992, which will create a big administrative vacuum in the KVIC organisation.

In view of this situation, I urge upon the Prime Minister who is holding the Industry portfolio, to make a statement on the policy of the KVIC as well as on withdrawing the ban on filling the vacancies.

(v) **Need to set up Industrial unit in public/Joint Sector In Saharsa (Bihar)**

[Translation]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Saharsa): Mr. Speaker Sir, Saharsa district of Bihar is one of the most backward areas. There are a large number of educated unemployed in the area. There is no Government or semi-Government factory in Saharsa. So there is widespread resentment among the people. In view of its backwardness, installation of a Government or a semi-government factory is essential in this district of North Bihar. Unemployment of this area can only be removed through industries and happiness can be brought to the people.

So, I request the Central Government that for all round development of Saharsa, at least one Government and one semi-government factory must be set up here, so that the people of this backward area may be benefited and the problem of unemployment can be solved to some extent.

[English]

(vi) **Need to Extend broad gauge line from New Alipurduar to Alipurduar junction in West Bengal**

SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS (Jalpaig-

uri): Alipurduar Railway junction which was once treated as life centre of the N.E. Railway is now in shambles. As the broad gauge line did not touch this junction, this station has been deserted. There were important departments like Loco running shed, Division Office, Carriage department. About five thousand workers used to work there. All this helped the area to be converted into an important railway town and a busy business centre. This junction is surrounded by many resourceful areas, such as tea gardens, forests, store of dolomite in Jayanti etc. A large number of people would earn their livelihood from this business centre. Considering the economy, social condition and other avenues, I urge upon the Government to extend the broad gauge line of railway from New Alipurduar to Alipurduar Junction.

(vii) **Need to expedite Construction of proposed New Airport at Bangalore - Bellary Road.**

SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI (Bellary): In April, 1991, representatives of a Committee of the Ministry of Civil Aviation had come to Bangalore and had inspected land on Bangalore-Bellary road to identify a proper site for establishing a new airport. It is to be upgraded without much delay. It is necessary that steps are taken early in the matter and the new airport at this new location is constructed quickly. It is also necessary that new airport gets the status of International Airport so that Bangalore could be directly connected with the places outside the country.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to expedite construction of proposed new airport at Bangalore-Bellary road giving it status of International Airport.

(viii) **Need to declare Ajmer district, Rajasthan as an Industrially backward area**

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer):

Mr. Speaker Sir, since independence there has not been proper industrial development of district Ajmer. Due to mechanisation in Railway Carriage and Loco factories the number of labourers is continuously decreasing. Ajmer district has not been declared as industrially backward area due to these factories only. Ajmer is surrounded by Arawali hills and due to continuous drought and less productivity of agriculture, the people have to face the problem of bread and butter. Thousands of youths have become of unemployed. Lakhhs of rural youths as well as urban unemployed have to go to the different parts of the country in search of bread.

Therefore, I request the Central Government that Ajmer should be declared as an industrially backward district and large, medium and small scale industries should be set up there by establishing an Industrial Development Centres in different cities.

14.30 hrs

**SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR
GRANTS (GENERAL) 1991-92**

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up discussion and voting on Supplementary Demands for Grants (General), 1991-92 for which one and a half hour has been recommended. Motion moved:-

"That the respective supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st day of March, 1992 in respect of the following demands entered in the second column thereof.

Demand Nos. 1, 5, 6, 15, 42, 60, 67, 82, 83, 85 and 93"

Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 1991-92 submitted to the Vote of Lok Sabha

No.	Name of Demand	Amount of Demands for Grants submitted to the vote of the House	
		1	2
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs
<i>Ministry of Agriculture</i>			
1.	Agriculture	1,00,000	1,00,000
<i>Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers</i>			
5.	Department of Chemical and Petrochemicals		5,88,00,000
6.	Department of Fertilizers	2,50,00,00,000	
<i>Ministry of Communications</i>			
15.	Telecommunication Services		1,00,000

No.	Name of Demand	Amount of Demands for Grants submitted to the vote of the House	
		1	2
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
<i>Ministry of Home Affairs</i>			
42.	Ministry of Home Affairs	1,00,000	
<i>Ministry of Mines</i>			
60.	Ministry of Mines	18,00,00,000	
<i>Ministry of Power and Non-Conventional Energy Sources</i>			
67.	Department of Power		1,00,000
<i>Ministry of Welfare</i>			
82.	Ministry of Welfare		25,00,00,000
<i>Department of Atomic Energy</i>			
83.	Atomic Energy		1,00,000
<i>Department of Electronics</i>			
85.	Department of Electronics	1,00,000	
<i>Union Territories without Legislature</i>			
93.	Delhi	2,00,000	
	Total	268,05,00,000	30,92,00,000

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava has talked cut motions in the Demands for grants. He may move his cut motions.

He is absent.

Next is Dr Ramesh Chandra Tomar.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMESH CHAND TOMAR

(Hapur): Mr. Deputy Speaker sir, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on supplementary Demands for Grants. I rise here to oppose these demands. Though I have not given any no cut motion on these demands yet I rise here to oppose it.

First of all, I want to draw your attention on the agriculture. Agriculture has an important place in our country. It is not only connected to the people of this country but also

to the people of the whole world. 80% of our population lives in villages, which is directly linked to agriculture alone and earn their livelihood through hard work. But I am sorry to state that every Government gave a long assurance for the development of farmers but not Government has ever tried to realise even their problems.

Mr. Speaker Sir, farmers are backbone of our economy. The development of country is not possible without the development of agriculture. We should pay attention to the development of farmers and to the problems related to agriculture, because the Government has not thought about, the basic problems of the farmers. The Government has not been able to develop such measures as may prevent excessive rains, drought, hail-storms etc. as it has developed anti-biotics, vaccine and injection for many diseases. No attention has been paid to solve these problems permanently. I urge upon the Government to take firm action to give relief to the farmers so that may be able to get rid of these diseases permanently. The Government should also take some measures to remove the problems which are being faced by the farmers in production of sugarcane, onion, potato, rice etc. I would like to demand from the Government that all these crops should be insured and in case of damage to these crops, the farmers should be compensated through insurance.

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, in this country agriculture mainly depends on the availability of fertilisers, electricity and water. The farmer should get the prices of their products according to their cost. As the Government fixed the prices of wheat, sugarcane, rice every year and these things are bought on the same price. Similarly the Government should fix the prices of each crop the farmer and should arrange to sell it on the fixed price.

A discussion is going on for a long time that the agriculture should be given the status of industry. But no action has yet been taken in this direction. I demand from the Govern-

ment that the agriculture should immediately be given the status of industry.

Sir, now I want to express my views on the demands for Grants of the Ministry of Home Affairs. Terrorism is spreading all over the country. The Government should make all possible efforts to bring this problem under control. In this respect the demands for grants are not sufficient. Earlier this problem is limited to Assam, Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir only but no Uttar Pradesh is also affected by the terrorism and this problem is continuously increasing in Uttar Pradesh. The Terai region of Uttar Pradesh has now come in the grip of this problem. To curb the menace of terrorism the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh had made a demand to provide forty C.R.P.F. battalions but the Central Government did not fulfil this demand. Demand for providing modern weapons to eliminate terrorism was made but the Central Government did not pay any attention to this aspect. keeping in view the problem of terrorism which is increasingly growing in Uttar Pradesh and the massacre of human lives by terrorists which has become a daily feature, I urge the Government to provide forty C.R.P.F. battalions and modern weapons to contain this menace of terrorism prevailing in Uttar Pradesh. Sir, as far as Chemicals and fertilizers are concerned, I would like to point out that the outcome of the ceiling on subsidy imposed by the Government has brought twenty two factories on the verge of closure. Sixteen factories have already closed down and six are on the brink of closure. We would not be able to cope up with the demand of fertilizers in future. We may benefit to the tune of Rs. twelve and a half crore but on the account of the closure of these units fertilizers worth Rs. one hundred and eight crore would have to be imported and twenty two thousand people will be rendered unemployed. These fertilizer units which are situated in Uttar Pradesh have been adversely affected due to the ceiling on subsidy imposed by the Government because they are facing transportation problem and have to incur more expenditure. As such, I urge the Government to withdraw the ceiling on subsidy.

[Sh. Ramesh Chand Tomar]

Funds have been demanded by the Telecommunication Department also. Sir, in this context, I would like to point out that funds are demanded to provide better services, but the Telecommunication Department is proposing to curtail some of the amenities. As such I do not support these demands.

Sir, my Constituency Ghaziabad is an integral part of the capital. Recently a notice by the Delhi Mahanagar Telephones Corporation Ltd. To delink Ghaziabad from Delhi Mahanagar Corporation was published in 'The Hindustan Times' dated 21.11.91. At present Delhi-Ghaziabad connection comes under the category of local telephone, but the proposal to delink it and make it an S.T.D. connection is very unfair. This should not be done and I oppose this move. In the industrial field Ghaziabad is progressing by leaps and bounds. In Ghaziabad 25,000 thousand telephone subscribers have direct and regular trade links with the people of Delhi. If this is done these people will face a lot of inconvenience. Therefore, I urge the Government not to delink Ghaziabad from Mahanagar Telephone Corporation, instead the telephone service should be improved.

Once again, I urge the Government to make arrangements to provide fertilizers at cheaper rates and ensure regular supply so that the rate of agricultural production does not decrease. The crops of the farmers should be insured and agricultural sector should be at par with industries. Twenty two units of Uttar Pradesh which produce Super Phosphate should be saved from closure. To curb the problem of terrorism the Central Government should extend maximum assistance to Uttar Pradesh and it should also provide maximum funds to the earthquake victims.

I hereby reiterate my demands and conclude.

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deo-

arh): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for expenditure of the Union Government brought forward by the hon. Finance Minister.

This is the first Supplementary Demands for Grants of this Government. When an occasion arises about the Government's expenditure on certain unforeseen items which could not be contemplated at the time of formation of the Budget, presentation of the Budget, for such items, for such expenditure, the Government have to come before the House for Supplementary Demands for Grants and consequently also for the necessary Appropriation Bill.

All the items that are provided here for expenditure, many of them are really unforeseen, could not be foreseen at that time. And therefore, there cannot be any objection to Supplementary Demands for Grants being brought forward. But, there are, at the same time, some other items which could have been taken care of in the original Budget itself. Of course, there are other considerations like the quantum, etc. Which could not be ascertained.

I will give you one instance of the public sector units. The Government have been thinking right from the beginning to bring possible the sick units back to the rail, to restore them to their proper health; inspite of that, where it is not possible some unpleasant decisions will have to be taken; that means additional expenditure even for bringing them back to the rail, to their proper health; for everything funds are necessary but probably could not be determined, anticipated in proper perspective the expenditure for it. Therefore, I do support, by and large, all the items that have come in the Supplementary Demands for Grants.

Again, we have to look at the general economic situation of our country obtaining now in the background of what it was at the time of the presentation of the Budget, a few months earlier, that is the July, and that too also at the time of formation of this Govern-

ment that became to office. In June, what was the economic situation? Without any exaggeration, I would say that it was really grim at that point of them. Even our hon. Finance Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, while making a statement here, was referring to it; we were in a humiliating condition; we were not in a position to comply with our obligations, minimum obligations to pay interest on foreign debt and all other things; what would have been the situation; we would have been black-listed; we would have any place in the comity of nations. Therefore, the Government have taken a number of steps, appreciable steps, welcome measures. And when the situation naturally was grim, some of the decision had to be unpleasant ones; everything cannot be palatable; everything cannot be very pleasant.

The situation was very difficult and we had to take a hard decision to pledge our gold. We are very fond of our gold, we attach some sanctity, prestige and national honour to gold. I would congratulate the Union Government for the efficient management of the economy and during these few months we have been able to improve, remarkably our economy.

Our foreign exchange reserve position has improved. From a very very low figure of Rs. 2677 crores on 1st June, it has now increased, as on the 3rd December, to Rs. 7242 crores. Again, we have been assured that it will cross the Rs. 10,000 crores mark by the end of this month, that is, in only two weeks from now. It is really a creditable achievement for the Government of India. The attempts made and the measures taken by them have paid dividends. It is heartening to know that the gold has been redeemed in entirety.

As regards the direct taxes there has been improvement in the first half-year ending September. There has been an increase of more than 45 per cent in the collection of direct taxes. In the field of indirect taxes the increase has been by 8.22 per cent.

While there has been improvement in

the collections of direct and indirect taxes, the collection of customs duties has been far from satisfactory. There has been a difficulty, or a rider, about the customs duty, because of the import restrictions. If the collection of customs duty also increases appreciably, that would have a positive effect on the total situation in regard to the fiscal deficit.

The Government have come out openly and imposed a 5 per cent cut in Government expenditure. It is a welcome step. I would say that, if that is possible, without adversely affecting the developmental activities, this cut may be increased further. All wasteful and avoidable expenditure should be cut. Under this head the Government proposes to save about Rs. 1,000 crores, which, if it materialised and even if the customs collections continue to be unsatisfactory, may enable the Government to manage the fiscal deficit on expected lines.

These are the good things done by the Government, for which the Government should be congratulated. But I am pained to observe that although a lot of measures had been taken in the price front, that had not borne fruit, that had not produced the desired result. In spite of successive three years' good harvest, inflation could not be controlled, and in this area, stringent action is needed and is called for. An assurance was given by the Government by the hon. Finance Minister, to this august House that by the end of this financial year, the inflation rate will of course be limited to one digit figure, that means nine per cent maximum. I have some reservations about achieving this target keeping in view and the prices are behaving, the prices are rising.

After the harvest in the first phase of the winter season, prices generally income down to some extent. Thought in this year the inflation rate went up to 16 per cent at a point of time, it came down to 13 per cent and again it has slightly gone up and touched the figure of 14 per cent.

We had announced new Industrial Pol-

[Sh. Sribalav Panigrahi]

icy and Economic Policy. Judging the situation all around, not only in India but outside India, these changes are the need of the hour and they are welcome. We had liberalised our policies. The trade and commerce and the merchants are very happy about it. But they simply becoming happy will not do. They will have to be disciplined. We had come across news items about our hon. Finance Minister's going to different cities, trade centres, talking to the traders, wholesale merchants, to bring down the prices of the oilseeds, oil and something like that. But it is high time for taking action, I would say. How long can we go on? We need not placate anybody, be it merchants, trade and commerce or anybody. In spite of many steps having been taken, prices do not register appreciable fall. Many good things had been done. As I told, our prestige, which was at stake because of depletion of foreign exchange reserves, has been restored. Therefore, the IMF and the World Bank have come forward to help us by advancing loans to us. At the same time, every common man in this country, the middle class men in this country, are very much concerned and are very much upset with the increasing price trend.

Not only the Government of India but the State Governments should also take initiative in this regard. Today the political situation is such that different States are being governed, being administered, by the State Governments belonging to different political parties. The public distribution system is in the hands of the State. This has to be ruthlessly streamlined. No loophole should be there.

As far as Orissa is concerned, I would say that it has been politicised. The ruling party MLAs appoint Whomsoever they want as wholesalers, retailers, etc. merrily and whatever they want, that is being materialised. So there should not be political considerations. PDS should be streamlined.

In this Demand Rs. 250 crores have

been allocated for fertiliser subsidy. This was debated earlier in this House and then Government announced full concession to the poor and marginal farmers. Now in the field, what is happening? Now like sugar dual pricing policy has been introduced. But again the implementation machinery lies in the hands of State Governments. Although in accounts this money will go to somebody else, the benefits do not go to the poor and marginal farmers. Due thought should be given to this aspect so that the farmers really get the benefit of this scheme.

We have got some indigenous fertiliser plants. We have to lay emphasis on indigenous production of fertiliser. I do not understand the logic behind the attempt to close down some public sector fertiliser plants-Ramagundam in Andhra Pradesh and Talchar in Orissa. They are coal-based plants. They are sick. Tahwar Committee and other Committees have suggested some reformatory measures to be undertaken. But that was never done. Now the capital investment is there. If the technology is changed and they are converted into gas-based plants they will behave well. We have the experience of Neyveli Lignite. Since it did not behave well, they changed it into gas-based fertilizer Plant.

So far as Talchar Plant is concerned, it is linked with the heavy water plant. So raw material goes from this fertilizer plant to the Heavy Water Plant. You know heavy water is needed for our defence preparedness and it is a very rare commodity.

15.00 hrs.

Therefore, I would request the Government of India to take all these things into consideration and as a special case consider this and see that these two fertiliser plants, that is, Ramagundam and Talcher are revitalised and restructured. They are not closed down on any account.

About the public Sector Undertakings, I am ashamed, I am constrained to observe that some people take it as a pride to close

down the public sector units. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's memory is associated with this, who was the founding father of Indian democracy. The concept of mixed economy was his brain child. We have to put in all efforts to see that the public sector units are not closed down. Earlier there was no seriousness with regard to work in public sector undertakings. For saying 'Sarkar Ka Mal - Dariya Mein Dal' was very much practised in public sectors. Because of mismanagement and deficiency in the Management, there are several public sector undertakings which are suffering and which have developed sickness. The monograph that has been brought out on the performance states, I think in respect of every public sector undertaking is not correct. The bureaucrats, who are responsible in respect of certain public sector undertakings, have prepared. The status paper without taking into consideration the technical advice, the experts' advice. I think we should not place one hundred per cent reliance on that status paper. Every unit should be discussed with the trade union, with the experts, with the representatives of that area before taking a final decision. I know it is a horrifying figure when we come to know about the accumulated losses of the public sector undertakings which is about Rs. 12,000 crores. Our economy cannot bear this loss.

Again, out of this, about 83 or so are the sick private sector units which the Government have taken over. They had taken over to safeguard the interests of labour. It happened ten years or five years before. Now, the situation has been reversed. About three lakh employees will be thrown out of employment. We are, of course, going to see that their interests are protected.

15.03 hrs

[SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA in the chair]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Pantgarhiji, please conclude.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: There-

fore, I would request the Government and the Finance Ministry to have an objective assessment of the performance of the public sector undertakings, about their health, about their prospects etc.

With these words, I support the Supplementary Demands for Grants and also request the Government to take further effective steps to bring down the prices.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzafarpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is obvious that I am going to oppose it. There are a few reasons being it. If we go through the demands put forth by the Government it may be observed that there is a demand concerning the increase in subsidy in the price of fertilizer and most of them pertain to the payment of arrears to the staff as per the ruling given by some courts. The Finance Minister is present here in this connection. Perhaps he has come with these demands or some more demands for funds in view of retrenchment of staff under the pretext of voluntary retirement. All the three aspects are inter related. Whether it is the question of fertilizers, payment to staff on the basis of the judgements delivered by courts or the demand of fund for the retrenchment of staff under the garb of voluntary retirement. All these policies formulated by this Government cannot be supported by us.

At the outset, we would like to take the issue of fertilizer. Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the middle of last month while I was in my constituency I came across a person called Harnarayan Prasad living in Kurabani Thana. He is an MA, L.L.B. but since he is unemployed he sells fertilizer in his small shop. I was in his shop for a short while. I asked him about the effect of the Government's announcement of rise in the price of fertilizer on the farmers. There are small farmers in my constituency and they cannot afford to purchase fertilizers in tonnes or truck loads. They go to the fertilizer shops and buy in quintals or kilos. Harnarayan Prasad pointed out that the subsidy given to the small farm-

[Sh. George Fernandes]

ers has not benefited them in real terms. On the other hand the prices of fertilizers has shot up by 30 per cent. The reasons behind it is that for getting this subsidy the farmers have to sing a number of documents and take clearance from several Government offices. For a small quantity of fertilizer the farmers are not prepared to go to Government offices a number of times for two or three days. The result of this policy was that instead of improving the condition of the farmers it has deteriorated their condition. He also pointed out that by the month of November 500 tonnes of fertilizer was expected to be sold from his shop but because of price hike there was 25 per cent cut in the sales and also because of drought the total sales was just 150 tonnes in a year.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the policy formulated by the Government is faulty and will put the farmers in distress and will also adversely affect the production of fertilizers. This is very clear. This year in Bihar there will be a shortfall of 25 per cent in the production of foodgrains. I am only talking about kharif crops. Rabi crops have been sown and I don't think that the production of Rabi crops sown in Bihar will be affected. As far as kharif crop is concerned the Government has admitted that there may be a shortfall of 25 per cent. One reason behind it is that you brought in food policy under which prices were increased by the bureaucracy and this affected the small farmers. Mr. Chairman, Sir, therefore, I want to point out that we do not support the policy of the Government. This pertains to the issue of fertilizer and the question of supporting does not arise at all. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am now keeping the documents before you. Let us start with the first demand. Demand No. 5

[English]

Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals;

* A supplementary grant is sought for providing a loan of Rs. 88 lakhs to

Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. to enable them to pay arrears to their staff as per directions of the Supreme court."

[Translation]

This happens in every Ministry. I was in the Railway Ministry for a few days. The same process was followed there also. I tried to contain it and eliminated it at every place. Orders to withdraw the cases which had been filed in the courts were issued. But this Government is patronising some advocates. Please pardon me because many advocates are present in his House but the Government has patronised some advocates (Interruptions) I have experienced this in person but I shall not discuss it here right now because top advocates are present here. Let us have a look at the relationship between the advocates and the Government of or bureaucrats and the advocates in the light of the present day situation then we see that corruption has become an international menace and the Government have certified it. As against it the employees are pressurised everywhere. You snatch the job of a persons and he spends his life moving from one court to the other the finally to the Supreme Court. You are aware of the situation of I.D.P.L. Rs. 88 lakhs have been given to the staff.

[English]

As arrears as a result of the decision of the Supreme Court. I want to know about this before you seek the Vote on this Demand.

[Translation]

This case was in the court for years together. How many lakhs had the employees spent on this case. This Ministry gave away lakhs of rupees to its employees and finally they lost in the Supreme Court. But before going to Supreme Court they had to go to several other courts and return empty handed and an effort was made to prevent them from going to lower courts. This malady does not exist only in Petroleum Minis-

try, I have observed it in Railway Ministry as well.

[English]

In the Ministry of Defence an additional requirement for Rs. one lakh - the demand is for Rs. one lakh - is made for meeting the expenditure on salaries of Defence Accounts Department in satisfaction of a Court's judgement.

[Translation]

I believe the Government has spent Rs. 5 lakhs so that the employees do not get one lakh rupees. Finally, there is wastage of the time of Government Officials, expenses on them and expenses on lawyers and courts, expenses on paper and documents and Rs. one lakh are paid by the Government at last.

[English]

In the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare the Supplementary Appropriation is required for making payment of Rs. one lakh to an employee of National Medical Library in satisfaction of a Court's order. In the Department of Art and Culture, the Supplementary Appropriation is sought to recoup an advance of Rs. 26,860 obtained from the Consolidated Fund of India for making payment for satisfaction of a Court decree.

In the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting the Supplementary Appropriation is required to meet the additional expenditure arising out of a Court decree.

[Translation]

The policy of present Government is to foster the lawyers and spend cores of rupees on them every year and strengthen such a relationship, and spoil the lives of the employee and their families. If the Government demands money for such deeds it should not be given to it. That is my clear opinion about it. There is no Ministry where provision has not been made for voluntary retirement.

[English]

A supplementary Grant of Rs. 5 crores in the Department of Chemicals and Fertilisers is also sought for implementation of Voluntary Retirement Scheme.

[Translation]

How cleverly the Government is coming forward. The hon. Finance Minister has given a statement in the House this morning that there is no question of closure. It was said in Kuala Lumpur that we will close these because I.M.F. is there. In the jugglery of words it was said that services of nobody would be terminated. Finance Minister is coming forward with a demand of Rs. 5 crores to oust the employees of the Department of Chemicals Under Voluntary Retirement Scheme.

[English]

Department of Fertilisers

A token supplementary is also sought for providing assistance to Hindustan Fertiliser Corporation (Rs. 1.5. crores) and Fertiliser Corporation of India (Rs. 4.30 crores) for implementing the Voluntary Retirement Scheme."

[Translation]

Here is another matter of Rs. 5 cores 80 lakh. They have demanded Rs. 10 crores for the Ministry of Mines, on account of Voluntary Retirement Scheme.

[English]

The Ministry of Mines

"An additional provision of Rs. 10.00 cores is required to meet payment on account of voluntary retirement scheme."

This is on page 11 of the Supplementary Grants.

[Sh. George Fernandes]

[Translation]

Is there any demand for which we can support the Government? Annexure-I of the document may be seen. On the one hand the Government seeks grants for some particular purpose at the time of presenting the budget but later on the funds are utilised somewhere else just by a mere trick. It is evident from Annexure - I.

[English]

Annexure - I

"Statement showing additional investments in and loans to Public Sector Undertakings and other institutions reported in pursuance of the recommendations made by the Public Accounts Committee in their Seventh Report."

[Translation]

Public Accounts Committee has submitted a Report. If the money allotted for one work is utilised somewhere else and if it comes under such and such amount, the Government should place the statement before the Parliament. It has been done as an additional requirement.

[English]

Page 17 of the Supplementary Demands, Annexure - I;

"Item (7) Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation Ltd- Short term loan to meet working capital requirements and implementation of voluntary Retirement Scheme.

Item (8) National Industrial Development Corporation Ltd-Additional Investment/loans : Rs. 10 lakhs -short-term loans for implementation of Voluntary Retirement Scheme. Ministry of Steel: (1) Bird'Group of Companies - Rs. 50

lakhs-Short term loan for implementation of Voluntary Retirement Scheme."

[Translation]

It is very clear. The Government has presented it in the form of Supplementary Demands. Rs. 250 crores have been shown for Fertiliser Corporation. But the intention of the Government is clear in two matters. One is about the attempts of spoiling the lives of the employees and secondly evolving a separate via-media for voluntary retirement scheme. The House would be informed that there is no such situation but practically the functioning would be in such a manner. We cannot support it in any case. I would like to mention a few words about Bihar and Muzaffarpur. In the current session and the previous session, not one but many members demand that the money to be given to Bihar as royalty for coal should be given to them in a proper way. This type of attitude adopted towards Bihar in the matters of financial assistance should not take place any further. Bihar is passing through a severe crisis. the policy adopted by the Government during the last forty years, and the manner in which allocation of funds in Five Years Plans was necessary has never been done. The people of Bihar are very much worried today. It is the responsibility of the Central Government to provide special assistance to Bihar. We wish the Finance Minister would make efforts to formulate a solid scheme for Bihar. All of us are aware of the demands put forth by the people of Bihar. Such a situation is being developed there which is of explosive and frightening nature. Therefore, I would draw the attention of the Government to take steps to remove the crisis through which Bihar is passing these days.

Alongwith that I would draw the attention of the Government to the problem of Kala-azar. Hon. Health Minister is not present here. he went to Bihar twice before the current session started to show the people there that nothing has been done by the State Government to prevent Kala-azar. He also managed to show that the Central Government is ready to do something but no

action has been taken. Announcements are made. It is all for making political capital but practically allocation of funds for solving the problem of Kala-azar not materialise. I wish the Finance Minister to consider this point with his colleague.

Finally, I would conclude my speech with a demand concerning my area with regard to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. A television Centre (Doordarshan Kendra) has been constructed in Muzaffarpur. It was completed one and a half year ago. It should be inaugurated. I do not know what is the reason behind the refusal to do so by the Government at New Delhi. I have been writing letters to the hon. Minister of the last five months and I have asked question in this regard in the house also. But there is no reply from the hon. Minister and the Kendra is not functioning. The people there are not only unhappy but are angry too and do not know as to when the Kendra would start functioning. I would like to know from the Government as to what problem is there in inaugurating the Television Centre (Doordarshan Kendra) at Muzaffarpur, after all it is the task of the government of India

With these words, I vehemently oppose these supplementary demands.

[English]

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT (Rajapur): Madam Chairman, I rise to support the Supplementary Demands and at the outset, I would like to congratulate the hon. Finance Minister for having pulled this country out of the deep morass in which it has fallen due to 14 months of mismanagement. It reminds me one thing which I told the electorate during elections. At that time I told one thing rather simplistically that if the people of India do not bring the Congress Party in power, India is going to be bankrupt and they will have to pay Rs. 100/- for one kilogram of sugar for which they are paying Rs. 10/- now. That is what has happened and it is clearly evident from the economic situation which is prevailing today. We inherited a foreign

exchange reserve of Rs. 2,600 crores and today it has crossed Rs. 8,000 crores.

The other thing is, the previous Government had to keep the gold in foreign bank. We had released that and redeemed the national honour. If we see all these things, it is very clear that this Government is going firmly and surely towards economic stability of this country and definitely we have a better future in front of us. However, there are major problems still persisting. The July Budget was the first Budget probably after many years which made a significant attempt to reduce the fiscal deficit from 8.5 per cent to 6.5 per cent. It was the first attempt; hitherto, I do not think any Government in the last two years have been serious on this at all and this, itself, is a major departure in fiscal policy. However, I know the conditions prevailing in the country may not permit us to bring down the fiscal deficit to 6.5 per cent. But we will land somewhere at 7.2 or 7.4 per cent of the G.D.P. If we want to reduce the fiscal deficit, then the first step the Government will have to take is keeping a check on inflation, reducing inflation. This problem is persisting throughout the country but the most affected are staying in rural areas away from rail-head, where the infrastructure facilities are not existing, are worst hit. For example, we have got Dara, edible oil which is mainly for the urban sector whereas in the rural side, we do not see the sign of it. We will have to do something about it because the cost of inflation has not to be borne by the poorest of the poor but it has to be distributed and the poorest of the poor have to be protected and the Government will have to take firm steps and measures to ensure this. Otherwise, the life of the people who are staying in rural areas is getting difficult day by day.

Another thing which I would like to focus the Government's attention is basically the agricultural sector. Here, the additional grant demanded is just Rs. 0.02 crores for this year, which I feel is grossly insufficient and it also shows the neglect of the agricultural sector and the neglect of the rural sector which is evident today. I would like to focus

[Sh. Sudhir Sawant]

Government's attention on a point which I have been raising since the last Session. That is the debt relief scheme of 1990.

I would not go into the merits to the debt relief scheme because it destroyed the banking structure. But the scheme was implemented. If the scheme is implemented, then it has to be equitably implemented. I feel, the debt relief scheme of 1990 violates article 14 of the Constitution because it is grossly unequal and the benefits have gone to only those farmers who are living in progressive agricultural sector and the farmers in backward areas, in hilly areas have suffered because of this particular scheme.

I would illustrate how it has happened. In the debt relief scheme, there is one condition. The eligibility of the farmers will be determined by the *Annewari* system. What is this *Annewari* system? Does it relate to land holdings of the farmer? It does not. *Annewari* system is a system adopted by some State, not all States, to determine the crop product of that particular year. If the crop produce falls below 50 per cent of the *annawari* determined, then the farmer is eligible for debt relief.

I would like to compare two kinds of farmers. One is the farmers in progressive area growing sugarcane; another is the farmers in rural backward areas, hilly areas growing paddy. First of all, they can raise only one crop because it is rain-fed agriculture whereas in the irrigated land, if the sugarcane falls below 50 per cent, he is eligible for debt relief. The farmer who grows paddy is not eligible for debt relief if his crop crosses 50 per cent of the production. The income of a farmer growing sugarcane, even if it falls below 50 per cent, will be definitely higher than that of a farmer who grows paddy whose crop may be 100 per cent. That is why, this particular *annewari* system is inequitable, because it does not relate to the land holdings. For example, a farmer who is holding 10 acres of land and another farmer holding one acre of land, both are put in the

same scale. So, you have equated the unequal. That is why, I insist that it violates article 14 of the Constitution. I do not think it will stand the test of law.

The second factor is regional imbalance. *Annewari* system itself is not prevailing in all the States. Where the *annewari* system is not prevalent, you are determining the crop pattern by the discretion of the officials and the bureaucrats. What mistake has the farmer committed who is living in a State where there is *Annewari* system? We have to go into this and I would request the Government to take note of this and eliminate this condition required for determining non-wilful defaulters.

Next I would like to come to marketing facilities. In the rural and backward areas and in hilly areas, there is absolutely no marketing facility. The marginal and the small farmer has to depend on the middlemen and, in doing so, the entire produce and labour goes into the pockets of the middlemen and hence we have to allocate certain resources for developing marketing facilities at each tehsil level and then only can we do some justice to the farmers.

The other point is of the crop insurance. The existing scheme of crop insurance is totally inadequate. It does not cater for those conditions where the crop is damaged which is beyond the reach of the farmer. It is not the fault of the farmer. When we can have insurance for each and every aspect of life, why cannot have we a comprehensive crop insurance scheme for the farmers? Then you have a method of determining, a district as a unit. You have to take village as a limit. For example, this year itself, there was rain at the tehsil headquarters. There was no rain in ten villages. But there was no drought declared. It is because they determine the rainfall from the tehsil headquarters. If the rainfall is not there in villages, nobody is bothered. Hence, you will have to go back to the village as a unit, and take every particular aspect of damage to the crop into its cover. For this purpose, we will have to decentralise insurance policy schemes through coopera-

tives. The second point is we must attempt to try for re-insurance if required in foreign market through the GIC. We must develop a comprehensive crop insurance scheme.

Coming to the fertiliser subsidy, much has been said about small and marginal farmers and about big farmers. I do not know who are big farmers because I have never seen any. Specially, if you go to Maharashtra, it is difficult to find a person who is holding more than ten acres of land. What are you equating? You can say that a farmer is small or big. This is a wrong concept. Why don't you lay this emphasis on the industrialists or the capitalists? We do not know who is a small and who is a big capitalist. But we call farmers as small and big. This dual policy of giving subsidy has proved to be a total failure because the small and marginal farmer has to run to Patwari and to the tahsildar for every small thing and we have sent these small farmers into the clutches of the bureaucracy and we have to do something about it and remove the farmer from the clutches of the bureaucracy where he is involved.

As regards coastal areas, in India all the planning has been done with normally the plains and plateau in view because the political power accrues from there. The coastal areas have been totally neglected. In the coastal areas, the conditions are basically different from the other areas. For example, the Konkan belt of Maharashtra. It has got 50% of rainfall of Maharashtra, but there is drinking water problem. There is soil problem. The soil is different. You cannot build a small dam there. You have to develop new technology to build these dams. For over 40 years, you have not done this. That is why, I would request the Government to create a separate Department, probably in the Agriculture Ministry, to look after the demands of the coastal areas.

I will now come to Defence expenditure. I am deeply concerned with this subject.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up.

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Defence expenditure has been treated as a holy cow. In the last Session also, I said the same thing. We have not addressed ourselves to the realities. We do not look at the realities. Let me state one thing here that an higher Defence Budget does mean security. What is of essence is that we require a small force but with a strike capability to ensure our security. We do not need a large force to ensure our security. Today, there is tremendous wastage in Defence. I would like to say that there are 50,000 orderlies in the Army today. Of the 10 lakhs Armed Forces, 50,000 are working as orderlies. If you go to the quarters of senior officers in Delhi, you will see that they are working there. They are supposed to be soldiers. They are supposed to be fighting on the borders of this country. But they are here. They lose all their soldierly qualities if they are to do such type of jobs which are never authorised. They are never authorised in the Government's Budget or any where. Therefore, 50,000 soldiers are working as orderlies or waiters in the Army Messes and other places. This is just an example.

Madam, in the Army Mess of a battalion, only two officers dine or one officer dines. But the staff there will be at least 15-25. So, 25 people will be there at the Mess because it is a tradition. What has happened is that we have inherited the British structure of our Armed Forces since Independence. We have not attempted to look at it in an overall perspective; we have not attempted to re-structure and re-orient the whole thing.

Secondly, the senior officers like the Chiefs are there and they are having grip on the bureaucracy. If you want to do any type of reform in the Defence structure, you are totally prevented because there is a vested interest sitting in the bureaucracy which do not permit you to do any reform.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Sudhir Sawant, since your time is up, I must really ask you to curtail these details.

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: I will just cover up this part of Defence.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: He will criticise and support also.

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: What is to be criticised has to be criticised. (*Interruptions*)

Coming to Defence, it is a serious subject. We talk about the Armed Forces of 10 lakhs. At the same time, you have raised the National Rashtriya Rifles. I do not know for what you have created that. You could have increased a battalion of Infantry instead of raising a separate force. Separate force entails a separate headquarters, separate staff, a separate administration etc. So, likewise you are going in for spending more money instead of creating an elite and small force.

Take the National Security Guard. You started this force for some particular purpose, to operate against the terrorists. Now, this force has increased manyfold. With that, the efficiency of that force has come down. Hence, creating new forces is not an answer to our problems. The answer is efficiency, security and having a good intelligence unit. If you want to tackle terrorist operation as well as ensure national security, you should have such things.

Coming to Public Sector, I would like to state only one thing. There is a lot of debate about the Public Sector, the Private Sector and privatisation. About one thing, I am very confident. If you take the record of CCI, till 1988 it was going in loss. When you changed the management is started showing profit. So, the point to be borne in mind is if you give autonomy to the Public Sector Undertakings, if you remove them from the shackles of the bureaucracy, the Public Sector will perform well. If you have proper control, proper administration and management, they will perform. But if you do not want them to perform, how can they perform? They cannot perform anything. Privatisation is not the answer at all. I will give you just one example of Western Maharashtra. About 20 years ago, Western Maharashtra was a backward area. No private industry went there. There was no public sector undertaking which went

there. But that area prospered. Why? It was because of only one reason: Cooperative movement. We must look at an alternative. We must look at the alternative to improve. People came forward, they worked together and developed that area through the cooperative movement. So, I feel that the answer to rural India, the answer to the economic progress of this country, is cooperative movement on which we are not laying much emphasis. Therefore, I would request that Government and all of us must lay much emphasis on that. We are talking about the overall conditions that are prevailing in the country. Our Government is taking firm steps to see that the country attains economic stability. I repose my confidence in this Government. While curtailing my speech, I once again support the Supplementary Demands for Grants.

[Translation]

DR. GUNVANT RAMBHAI SARODE (Jalgaon): I would like to express my views about the supplementary demands in the House. Everybody knows that India is predominantly an agricultural country and 80% of its population depends on agriculture. In spite of it the agriculture policy of the Government of India is urban oriented. It should be inclined towards villages and agriculturists. What is the indication of its improvement. Only then we will consider it a right policy when no youth or labourer will have to go to cities to find means of earning or to sustain his life.

This morning there was a hue and cry in the House about the water dispute. Irrigation facility is very important for agriculture. Big schemes have not been completed till now. Crores of rupees have been invested on irrigation projects, but these are not completed till now. If we construct small bunds the irrigation facilities would be available to everybody. The policy should be such that maximum water is made available, for which new techniques like Sprinkle or Drip irrigation should be evolved. Now-a-days we are able to irrigate upto 35% and if we are able to make arrangements of sprinkler and drip

irrigation there is possibility of 60-70 per cent irrigation. We can export our agricultural produce also in large quantity. In this case also no policy has been framed till now. Sugar-cane is one of the examples. We can export the surplus quantity of sugar after domestic consumption. This item is produced by the Farmers. Inflation and prices have shot up so much that the farmers do not get remunerative price for their produce. Even though the price of sugar has shot up yet the farmers are not getting remunerative price for sugarcane. Even if the price of sugarcane is raised marginally, the farmer would produce more and export more.

There is glut of onions in Maharashtra but its price has slumped. The farmer is consequently suffering huge losses. The need of the hour is to ensure maximum export from our country.

Banana which is produced in abundance in Maharashtra could also be exported and we could get a lot of foreign exchange, but there is no arrangement for exporting it. Similarly, mangoes can also be exported. Besides, there are many other items which can be exported and through which we can earn lot of foreign exchange. We are not getting foreign exchange because we have a lot of shortcomings in our agricultural policy.

The farmers are not getting remunerative prices for cotton produced in Maharashtra. The price of cotton in Maharashtra ranges from Rs. 600 to Rs. 800 whereas in Madhya Pradesh it ranges between Rs. 1200 to Rs. 1300. The farmers are suffering because of agricultural policy. We can earn lot of foreign exchange through agriculture. We can export lot of fish as we have a long coast line on both sides of our country. But no attention has ever been paid in this direction. There are other products also like poultry. We can get lot of foreign exchange through its export.

Now, I would like to mention a point about fertilisers. It is not proper to withdraw subsidy on fertilisers. The price of fertilisers should

be uniform everywhere. Just now an hon. Member said that in Bihar there would be fall in foodgrain production by 25 per cent. I also think that in Maharashtra because of high price of fertilisers during the sowing season of kharif and rabi crops there would be fall in agricultural production by 25 per cent. We should formulate a policy for farmers, irrespective of whether he is a small, marginal or big farmer, wherein he could get agricultural inputs at a uniform price. I think there is no small or big farmer. In fact, this dual policy system has encouraged corruption. Therefore, I would like to submit that no policy should have two patterns but should be based on a uniform pattern. Instead of cutting the subsidy on fertilisers by 30 per cent instantly, had the Government cut it in phased manner by 10 per cent every year, the condition of farmers which is causing grave concern would not have been so bad and the agricultural production would not have received a setback.

I would like to submit one point about family planning. We have lot of resources in the country and we may progress to any extent, but we will never be self reliant unless we take effective steps to check growth of our population. Personally I think there should be some sort of a compulsion in family planning. Only then would we be able to check population explosion in the country. We can provide all the facilities to the population only if this is done. We should label every individual or organisation which opposes this more as anti social and anti-national because even after 42 years of Independence we have not been able to achieve prosperity and happiness. If the population continues to grow like this, we would not be able to achieve anything and that is a matter of grave concern.

[English]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): Madam Chairperson, I oppose the Supplementary Demands for Grants mainly due to the reason that the Government has come to this House after a few months to seek Grants for the payment of their own sin — one is to satisfy the judgment of the High Court or

[Sh. Hannan Mollah]

Supreme Court and the other is for the payment of VRS Scheme. As Shri Fernandes has explained it, I am not going into the details.

These two things decide the direction. Due to their policy, they are making the public sector units sick. After some time, they will lay it on the death-bed from the sick bed. And now they are coming to the House for some Grants for paying the coffin. Therefore, this policy - this direction - is against the working class and against the employees. So, I oppose the Grants which they are seeking now. They are now seeking additional Grants for 14 or 15 Ministries.

During the time of Budget, they have made certain assurances and without assessing those assurances and their result, nobody can support this Grants. The main problem before the people of the country is the acute situation of rise in prices. During the time of elections, they have promised that they would reduce the prices within hundred days. Later on, their spokesman explained to the Press that they could not understand the implications of it, at that time. That is the Congress party; they can never understand the implications. They take a decision. But to which disaster it would lead to, they cannot understand. When the disaster comes, they understand it and also confuse. This is the situation.

About the price situation, they said that they would expand the public distribution system. But what is the achievement? One meeting was held by the Prime Minister. The States, which are having the network of public distribution system and which are trying to supply the essential commodities to the people, are not assisted with regular supplies. And those States are regularly coming to the Central Government for ensuring regular supply of foodgrains. They are also demanding that more essential commodities be added to the public distribution system. But the speed with which the Government is moving does not satisfy the

people. The people are suffering because of its failure to strengthen the public distribution system.

They also promised that they would monitor the supply and check the hoarders. Actually, they allowed those persons, who are looting the people, to operate freely in the market. Now there is a serious problem about the supply of edible oil. There is panic in the country, especially in the capital. Now our Finance Minister with folded hands is requesting the businessmen. In Gujarat, we found in the Press, that he is appealing to them to curtail the price. In the meantime, the blackmarketeers and hoarders have started concealing their stocks. The people are in trouble. Actually, there is no political will. Now they are talking that within six months, they will try to reduce the prices. But by which magic, we do not know.

The prices are going up continuously since they came to power in this country. Every week, we have seen that the consumer price index is going up since they took over. There is not a single week since June when the price has been reduced. This is the situation on the price front. This is creating a problem. This is also escalating the cost of implementation of the projects. The common people are suffering. The Government is suffering. The public sector will suffer. The whole nation will suffer because of their wrong policies.

We have seen our BJP friends are also criticising. They supported the budget. They said, "It is our budget which they are implementing." So, they supported it. But within a few months, because of the growing unrest among the people, they are now opposing it. This is the situation they have created. The impact of their economic policies is also creating a serious damage for our country.

You know their policy of privatisation of public sector units. It has posed a serious threat to the jobs of lakhs of employees. We have come across a status paper prepared by the Government in which they have said that 58 public sector units are in a serious

situation. Because of their policy, they are on sick bed. They are now trying to send them to the death bed. Out of them, 18 are in West Bengal. They are also located in many other States.

16.00 hrs.

We know that most of the big units in West Bengal survive due to the orders from the Railways but for the last several years, the Railways fail to book their orders to those big units. Thus, due to lack of orders, they are suffering. We are seeing how big public sector units like BHEL are suffering due to shortage of order. So, this is another problem which the policy of the Government has created.

Next comes the question of unemployment. They are saying that because of their policy, employment will go up. If the factories continue to shut their doors, then it will create more unemployment. The people who had some sort of employment in such factories will now become unemployed due to closure of factories. Thus unemployment will grow up. New unemployed people will be coming to the job market. This is a serious situation. Their policy will fail to create new job opportunities. At least public sector can create some jobs whereas private sector will totally fail in it. So, the policy of the Government will create further problem to the unemployed people of this country.

The policy of the Government is creating another problem for the State Governments. They are continuously attacking the resources of the State Governments. For the last forty years, they had been snatching the resources of the State Governments. At the same time, they are talking of mobilising the resources. When the State Government finds out some new source of income, and the Central Government finds that they are getting some income suddenly, they snatch the State's resources one after another. The State Governments suffering because of lack of resources. Without resources, their plans will not get completed. Thus, they will not be able to develop their States. The

Government is having an anti-State Government attitude continuously.

One of the resources of the State Government was from the small savings. 75 per cent of the small savings goes to the State Governments as long. As the Central Government or the Planning Commission is not sanctioning more funds to the State Governments, the State Governments try to find out their own resources. But earlier the small savings interest rate was higher than other bank rates and mutual funds. The State Governments try their best to mobilise their resources or mop up funds from their own State and face their financial problems. Madam, you will be surprised to know that West Bengal Government finds years back earned only Rs. 300 crores through small savings. Due to resource crunch, they went to the people to mobilise them and inspire them to deposit their savings in the small savings institutions and it rose to more than Rs. 1000 crores, that is, more than three folds. Now the Government has suddenly increased the interest rate of Banks and other market funds by 1.5 per cent to 2 per cent our the interest rate of small savings due to which serious problem has arisen. Because of their wrong economic policy, they are creating problems for themselves and others also.

Major funds have been sought for the Department of Fertilisers. This Ministry has promised that the marginal and small farmers will get cheaper fertilisers. But still 50 per cent of the States in the country are not implementing the decision. What is their role? Why did the Government promise the poor and middle level peasants that they would get cheaper fertilizers? I wonder how many people had been able to get fertilizers at cheaper rates as promised by you. We have already heard that it is going to affect the agricultural production this year. All this is due to the wrong policies of the Government, due to their failure to implement what they promised. They declared that they would introduce dual prices and they would ensure supplies. We do not know how far it has been implemented. Because of the pricing policy,

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you will be surprised to know that the single super-phosphate units are adversely affected. There are 85 units in the country. The Government has imposed a ceiling on the price and subsidy and because of that these super-phosphate units are facing a serious crisis. Already 15 units have been closed. One such unit is in Bankura in West Bengal. About 40,000 workers are employed in these units. In Uttar Pradesh also, more than 10 units have been closed. In many other States, more and more units will be closed if the Government does not change the policy immediately.

Madam, you know the situation in the Haldia Fertilizer Corporation. Rs. 470 crore have already been spent and 2,500 people are employed in this unit. But this premier institution which has got an installed capacity of 3.5 TPA is in a sorry state. After 12 years of its completion, it is still not commissioned and it is not working. Now the Government is planning to wind it up. They say that there is no hope for this unit. This is the attitude of the Government towards the public sector. They first make the unit sick and later they kill it. There are so many other units such as this one.

The Government has asked for grants for other Ministries as well, for example, the Ministry of Agriculture. I would like to draw the attention of the Minister of Agriculture. They are seeking funds for the construction of some training centres. There is a veterinary research centre at Calcutta for the Eastern Zone. We came to know that the file in this connection is moving here in the Centre and that they are planning to shift the Research Centre from Calcutta to some other State, to Bhubaneswar or some other place. A large number of agricultural people in the Eastern Zone are benefiting from this research centre. But instead of strengthening the research centre there, they are planning to shift it from West Bengal to elsewhere. I demand that the Government should abandon their planning in this respect and

they should see to it that the research centre stays in Calcutta only.

Madam, these are the policies of the Government because of which we cannot support the demand for supplementary grants. Hence I oppose it.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM SARAN YADAV (Khagaria): Sir, I rise to oppose the Supplementary Demands for Grants which the Government has brought forward. I oppose it primarily because nothing is done in the Budget for the poor and they are forgotten. The dual policy in respect of fertilisers is meant for the exploitation of the poor. The Government says that it has helped in Government says that it has helped in generating employment. When the people approach to get a certificate, they are harassed and they have to run from pillar to post. They have to grease the palms of some officials. They have to grease the palms of some officials. This dual policy is not only breeding corruption but the country is also not going to benefit much. Ours is a country where 80 per cent of the people live in villages and they are not getting any type of facility. The price of fertilizer in my area is Rs. 250 per bag but even at that price it is not available. The farmers are getting ruined in khagaria. They had raised the crop after toiling hard but because of non availability of fertilisers the crop is getting destroyed. Khagaria Parliamentary Constituency which is adjacent to Nepal border has to face the fury of floods every year from rives originating in Nepal. The Government has done nothing to rehabilitate the people who had been affected by soil erosion due to floods in Ganga and Kosi rivers for the last thirty years. They are living a miserable life. Lakhs of people are homeless there. Necessary arrangements must be made for their rehabilitation. If land is acquired for constructing a national highway or railway line nobody approaches the high court or the supreme court, but if land is acquired for rehabilitation the landlords file a writ petition and get stay order. The people are living a life of animals there. They have to face immense hardships

for their families. The Government should formulate a policy so that they could get justice. I would like to submit that there should be a legislation that if land is acquired for rehabilitation, the landlord should have no right to approach a High Court or Supreme Court. Only then can we think of the welfare of poor. Every year the floods from rivers in Nepal ravage our area. Whenever there is foreign invasion be it on Bihar, Bengal or Kerala it is the responsibility of the Central Government to defend the borders. But no attention is being paid by Government when the flood waters of Nepal play havoc in Bihar. This is also a type of foreign invasion. Lakhs of acres of land is getting barren because of soil erosion by kosi river. Lakhs of people have got homeless and the soil erosion is at its peak. The rivers of Nepal are causing havoc. I therefore, demand that effective measures must be taken to check soil erosion so that the people may be prosperous and happy. Soil erosion has ruined the people and they have been rendered homeless. Their land has become barren and they do not have enough to eat. How will the people survive if the situation continues like this. This problem has completely ruined the people.

The train running between Delhi and Howrah passes via Muzaffarpur, Gorakhpur and Barauni. But there is no train which passes via Barauni and khagaria to Calcutta. I therefore, demand through you from the Railway authorities to divert all trains going to Howrah via Barauni to via Katihar and khararia. In the Bhagalpur sub-division of khagaria Parliamentary constituency Bananas are cultivated. The farmers do not have any facility to transport the Bananas to Calcutta.

We have milk in abundance in our area as people rear milch cattle. Lot of milk can be easily sent from this area to Calcutta which would benefit the consumers there.

I would like to demand from the Government to make arrangements for rehabilitation of people and the train to Howrah should pass via Barauni, Khagaria and Katihar.

Besides, efforts must be made to give relief to the people who have been badly affected by floods and soil erosion. The policy in respect of fertilisers should be made more lucid so that the problems of people at block level could be resolved.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I also rise to oppose the Supplementary Demands for Grants. I feel that this was not the time when such supplementary Demands for Grants should have been made. The financial crisis that the country is facing today is not hidden from anybody, not even from the Congressmen. They too must be hard pressed because of rising prices. If they are not affected directly at least *Bhabiji* (wife of hon. Minister) would bear me out that prices are shooting up everyday.

Congress had promised in its manifesto that they would roll back the prices within 100 days of its rule, but prices could not be rolled back. The people are disappointed. Even a person drawing Rs. 5000 as salary wishes that the guests who have come to stay for a few days should leave early, though he may insist them to stay somemore just to show off. That is the situation today. The Government has not been able to contain prices. The State Governments have even been deprived of the benefits of Unit Trust of India units which they used spend on developmental purposes. The State Governments have been maimed financially. The Central Government has virtually snatched the financial resources of State Governments. I am saying this particularly in the context of Rajasthan. The State Government employees were expecting exemption in income tax ceiling but we don't know why it was not done? The Finance Minister did not raise the ceiling limit and as a result even a hawker has come within the Income tax ceiling limit. I think this is one of the reasons for rising prices.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, when the discussion on subsidy on fertilisers was held, almost all the hon. Members requested the hon. Minister to raise the subsidy and he had assured

[Sh. Girdhari Lal Bhargava]

that some help would be provided, but the condition of farmers is slowly deteriorating and is going from bad to worse. No attention is being paid to agriculture and Rural Development. In these supplementary Demands a lions' share has been earmarked for those who would be retiring from service. Doesn't that mean that the Government would be making provision for forcibly retiring the persons from employment. When a provision has been made in the Budget for this, would the hon. Minister kindly tell us what is his opinion about the Public Sector?

Mr. Chairman, Sir, today terrorism is on the increase in almost every part of the country. There is no check on it. Two three days back, when I had got an opportunity to speak on this, I had submitted that Senior Congress leaders in Rajasthan which included the former Chief Ministers also—had organised youngmen and some other people and they marched in procession with naked swords in their hands chanting that they would not allow BJP Government to continue in any State.....(Interruptions).

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: The former Chief Minister of Rajasthan was carrying a naked sword in his hand...*(Interruptions)*....

SHRI AYUB KHAN (Jhunjhunu): Are you talking of swords?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down, you have already spoken....

SHRI AYUB KHAN: There is famine like situation in Rajasthan. The BJP Government is not providing any relief. This Government cannot run there. It should be dismissed...*(Interruptions)*....

SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI (Robertsganj): The sword of tongue should be used.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Madam Chairman, I had presented three photographs as an evidence on the Table of the House. I think that if the followers of

Gandhiji, who used to change the Government through ballot, try to change it through bullet, it would have far reaching consequences. Fortunately, you are in power and the Government has not changed but if you want to lose power, we are prepared to take up the reins. You should not ask for State through sword because you are in minority. Had you been in majority you could have dictated things. Your Government is on crutches. We are supporting it and therefore, I think that this House should condemn it outrightly. Not only this terrorism should be contained at every cost.

Madam, the Government could not contain inflation. It is gradually taking over the various sources of income of the State Government. Later on, this will prove to be a handicap for the State Governments making them completely dependent on the centre. As I understand it, our country has a federal structure and the centre owes its existence to States and not vice versa. So I request for greater autonomy to States. The States should also be made more self-reliant. Further, I request the hon. Minister to make a statement on the exemption limit of Income tax. Rajasthan has 5% of the country's total population and gets 1% of the available drinking water. There is no rainfall in the area and there is no other arrangement for the supply of water. *(Interruptions)* I am saying something of interest to you. Famine has struck the area, wells have dried up and the water level has gone down. So I want to say that...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AYUB KHAN: Ask your Government to start relief works over there.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: That is what I am also demanding. You were angry when the matter of the sword was brought up. At least now you should support me. I am requesting the Central Government to provide some assistance to the State Government, so I would like you to join me.

The funds were not sanctioned and the wheat quota for Rajasthan has also been

reduced. Wheat is of vital importance. Rice is not available at all.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: May I ask you to address the Chair? Then there would be no interruptions.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Sir, I am addressing you. I feel disturbed because they are continuously glaring at me. They should not keep looking at me. I am looking towards you while speaking. The rice and wheat quota for Rajasthan should not have been reduced. Instead the quota should have been raised. Even Palmolein is not available there. It is strange that a consumer in Delhi gets 1 Kg. of sugar whereas a consumer in Jaipur gets 425 grams of the same. Does the Government think that the people of Rajasthan are suffering from Diabetes? (Interruptions) Why this discrimination? So, I request that wheat, palmolein, sugar and kerosene oil quotas for Rajasthan be increased. Sir, Rajasthan has five gas agencies. In Jaipur one lakh people have registered for gas connections and recently the hon. Petroleum Minister announced that more registrations be accepted. So now the number of registrations has risen to two lakhs. I am only talking of registrations whereas 5500 gas connections are released in Jaipur every year. This means that a person who submits his application now, will get his connection after 40 years. This is the state of affairs. I think this calls for an increase in the quota for gas connections for Jaipur. M.Ps are often requested for gas connections and we have to give false recommendations at times.

The hydroelectric projects of Rajasthan get 1% of water from outside. Rajasthan has the world-famous Thar desert and it is the land of Maharana Pratap, Bhama Shah and Meera. Songs in their praise are sing everywhere.

[RAO RAM SINGH in the Chair]

16.29 hrs.

We have never lacked in courage, worship an charity, but why are we being discriminated. One of our M.Ps who has retired from the armed forces and was a valiant warrior always gives very forceful speeches in Parliament. Just like the force of the earthquake in U.P. Fortunately, there are several Union Ministers who belong to Rajasthan holding key portfolios. (Interruptions) Yes, you too, because you have a connection with Meera but when there are four Ministers from Rajasthan in the cabinet we expect them to do something for Rajasthan. Shri Shiv Charan Mathur, Shri Nathu Ram Mirdha and Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha are quite capable people. Previously Shri Buta Singh was also there and Shri Balram Jakhar is the Agriculture Minister. I think when the hon. Prime Minister expands the cabinet he should induct all Congress M.Ps from Rajasthan so that issues related to the State are given due importance.

Rajasthan has a glorious history in every respect. I am sure that you will pay due attention to development in Rajasthan.

Sir, like hydel projects there were many proposals for power projects in Rajasthan, but these proposals are pending at the centre on some pretext or the other. Does the Government want to make things difficult for Rajasthan. I request that proposals for power projects in Rajasthan be cleared without further delay. I fail to understand why there is delay in clearance.

Rajasthan, the State of valiant people on the country's border. It is adjacent to Delhi but it is discriminated against. I would like that there is no discrimination in future. (Interruptions) You do not favour us. If you wanted to favour us, you should have reduced Delhi's quota. You can sacrifice a part of your quota for our sake. While giving the reply the hon. Minister should clarify the steps being taken for improvement of railways in Rajasthan. Development of railways has begun in Rajasthan as broad-gauge lines are being constructed there. Earlier

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Shri George Fernandes had given some funds for laying a broad-gauge line from Sawai Madhopur to Jaipur. We want Jaipur to be linked to Delhi and Ahmedabad. Jaipur was the only capital in the country which did not have a broad-gauge link. Besides, there is a shortage of water and electricity over there. The Centre is sitting over the proposals for hydel projects in the State. There is a famine in Rajasthan and the Government is taking control of the sources of revenue in Rajasthan. What does the Centre want? Does it want to tarnish the image of the B.J.P. Government in Rajasthan? The State Chief Minister, Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhwat has proposals for a pensioner's scheme, development schemes, schemes for the poor, waiver of loans upto Rs. 10,000 and drinking water schemes. The State cabinet is working towards the all-round development of Rajasthan under the leadership of the Chief Minister Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhwat. There are many Congress M.Ps from Rajasthan, but they are constrained to keep silent. But they have supported me off the record. On behalf of all the 25 M.Ps of Rajasthan I request that water, electricity and ration be supplied in adequate quantity to Rajasthan. The railways in the State should also be developed. I hope you will take this matter seriously.

This Government is failing on all fronts as inflation is growing and there is no income tax relief and anarchy is spreading everywhere. With these words, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

SHRI BHUBANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA(Hazaribagh): Sir, while opposing the Supplementary Demands for Grants I would like to say that the Central Government has adopted an attitude of gross neglect towards Bihar. The facilities provided to Bihar are not enough. The Centre is neglecting the Santhal Parganas area of Chhota Nagpur where there are large deposits of coal and mica, forests, Bokaro and Hatia steel plants, and dams and thermal power stations of the Damodar Valley Corporation. I would like to

submit that in recent times factories have come up in Chhota Nagpur and Santhal Pargana. Construction of dams has caused displacement of 14 percent of population of Chhota Nagpur and Santhal Pargana. Persons who were displaced, following setting up of new factories, construction dams and land acquisition by Damodar Valley Corporation, have neither been paid compensation nor provided alternative employment. Villages which were displaced totally, have not been rehabilitated. Whole of the Chhot Nagpur has been totally neglected so far as irrigation facilities are concerned. Arrangements for irrigation of just 3 per cent land have been made. Tribals inhabit the area in large numbers. Though the area is rich in minerals and forests, yet the people in large numbers have migrated to Bengal, Haryana, Delhi and Punjab in search of employment. The Centre and the State both get lakhs of rupees as revenue from Chhotanagpur and Santhal Pargana. People talk of welfare of tribals and the centre often expresses its concern for Harijans, but the tribals face a lot of hardship in getting anything done. Tribals are such a neglected lot that some of the tribes like Ho, Bihar and Pahadiah have sharply decreased because of diseases. The Government has not paid any attention towards this aspect. That is why demand for Jharkhand is gaining momentum. People of the region think that without the creation of Jharkhand their problems will not be solved nor will they be able to get employment. Headquarters of Damodar Valley Corporation are in Calcutta, but the area of its activities is Chhotanagpur. Most of the coal mines are in Chhotanagpur, but the head-quarters are located in Calcutta. Almost all the production takes place in Chhotanagpur in Bihar, but the headquarters are located elsewhere outside the state. This is the saga of neglect of Bihar.

I would like to submit that construction of Radio Station in Hazaribagh is complete and is awaiting formal inauguration. Television transmission facility is also not available in Hazaribagh. North Karimpura Super Thermal Power Station at Hazaribagh was to be taken up during the Seventh Five Year Plan,

but till date the Government has not taken it up. I am happy to note that technical clearance has now been given by the Government and it will be taken up during the Eighth Five Year Plan. Unfortunately, the Department of Environment of the Government of India is creating hindrances with the result that the North Karmpura Super Thermal Power Plant is not coming up. The Government must grant permission for construction of Power Station at Tandwa in Hazaribagh and include it in the Eighth Five Year Plan.

The demand to link Hazaribagh by rail has all along been opposed by the Government on the pretext of lack of resources. When I was a student of fifth standard our first Prime Minister, late Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, paid a visit to Hazaribagh. On his visit, he made it clear that Hazaribagh will be linked by rail, because of its richness in mineral wealth. This was reiterated by both Shrimati Indira Gandhi and Shri Rajiv Gandhi. All the hon. Ministers of Railways, whether it was Shri Jagjivan Ram or Shri Kedar Pandey, promised to link Harazaibagh by rail. But, till date, it has not been done on the excuse that the Government is facing shortage of funds. This area is surrounded on three sides - West, East and South - by hundreds of small and big factories. In North, mica mines are located. Even then, loss is cited as an excuse. Tribal areas of the region are badly neglected. The Government should take up the work relating to linking of Hazaribagh by rail immediately.

Besides, health facilities are non-existent in the area. I drew the attention of the hon. Minister towards this issue during the Question Hour and Zero Hour. Most of the people living in hills are suffering from diseases and many have died even, because of sickness. Only a few are left now. Their population will further recede and in the times to come many a tribe will extinct. Therefore, health facilities may be provided in the tribal areas.

Congress in its election manifesto stated that within 100 days prices will be rolled back to the level which prevailed during the re-

gime of Shri Rajiv Gandhi. But, what is the state of prices at present? Prices have doubled or trebled. When the next budget comes prices will rise by four times. Promise of the Government to roll back prices is quite hollow and the prices have not come down. Common man is suffering in the process. Weaker sections, middle class and Government employees have largely suffered. Within 15-20 days, whole of their earnings get exhausted.

Law and order situation is also bad. Congress (I) promised to solve Punjab, Assam and Kashmir issues. Opposition parties again and again demanded convening of all party meetings for evolving solutions acceptable to all, but the Congress (I) has not bothered to call all party meetings for the same. There is no justification for the Government to come up with the Supplementary Demands for Grants.

The present Government is attacking the public sector on the plea that it is running in loss. Does the private sector never run in loss? About two lakh industrial units are closed, out of which one lakh and eighty two thousand are in private sector and only eighteen thousand are in public sector. Private sector enjoys complete freedom to close the industries but the public sector cannot do this. The present Government wants public sector to be incapacitated. Earlier too, while speaking on the industrial policy, I had suggested that the Government should tighten their hold over bureaucracy and check corruption in order to mitigate the losses suffered by the public sector. But this Government is not at all ready to do so. They plainly say that all those industries which suffer losses will either be closed or handed over to private sector. But this action of the Government would render lakhs of labourers working in public sector jobless. Rather the Government may have to step down on this conrt. This Government is following a policy which is anti-people and anti-labourers. Those who are in power do not want to safeguard the unity and integrity of the country. Therefore, I oppose the Supplementary Demand for grants.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for providing me an opportunity to express my views against the Supplementary Grants. Annual Budget is going to be presented within the next two months; a Budget was passed two months ago; and presenting Supplementary Demands in between the period of presenting these two budgets shows nothing but sheer financial indiscipline and lack of control on the part of the Government. The Government made an announcement to withdraw the subsidy of Rs. 4000 crore on fertilizers; 30 per cent increase was effected in the prices of fertilizers. The hon. Minister announced amidst applause that the subsidy was going to be released again particularly for the benefit of the marginal and small farmers. It will relieve about 75 per cent of the farmers from the extra burden they were likely to suffer. With these Supplementary Demands the hypocritic attitude and false assurances made by the Government to people have been exposed. Farmers were deprived of about Rs. 4000 crore and were given grants of Supplementary Demands for a sum of Rs. 250 crore only have been presented. It proves that only a small section of farmers in the country and not the common farmer has derived the benefits of the subsidy.

My submission is that there has been a gradual increase in the prices of food-grains only because such a trend has developed in the country. Kharif crops were damaged this year, monsoon was not good. The hon. Minister of Finance had assured that the prices of food grains will be automatically start coming down by the end of October. However, the reality is that there has been an increase of about .04 per cent in the prices of essential commodities in November itself contrary to what they hoped and expected. The only reason for it is that an impression of permanent scarcity of foodgrains has been created. All the time there is an impression that there is the scarcity of foodgrains. The only reason for this scarcity is that 30 per cent of the total investment in agriculture is made in the form

of fertilizers and there is exorbitant increase in the prices of fertilisers. On the other hand, the exemption is of the order of Rs. 250 crore only. As per the circular issued by the Government of India and circulated in particular areas, relief has been given only on urea and not on Di Phosphate and Super Phosphate. Nor has it been provided to the retailers rather the benefit of the exemption is likely to accrue to those farmers only from whom poor farmers purchase fertilizers on credit. This will further push them under debt. Therefore, my submission to the Government is that if they had given an assurance to provide relief in the form of grants they must take measures to check the prices of fertilizers in general terms. Relief in this form will not be of any benefit to the common farmers.

Secondly, I would like to submit that the Government have sanctioned about Rs. 4.5 crore for Fertiliser Corporation of India and Rs. 1.50 crore for Hindustan Fertiliser Corporation under Voluntary Retirement Scheme. What is this? I consider it as Forced Retirement Scheme and not voluntary retirement scheme. The Gorakhpur Fertilizer Unit has been closed for the last one and a half year and about four thousand labourers are likely to be retrenched. That is a unit of the Fertilizer Corporation of India. That is just one unit. The Government says that they propose to sanction Rs. 4.5 crore to Fertilisers Corporation of India to enable them to grant relief to employees under voluntary retirement scheme. I fear that the amount is being spent on the wages of over 50 lakh labourers of the Gorakhpur Fertilizer Unit who have been laid off for the last one and a half year. More than Rs. 50 lakh are being borne as expenditure on power supply and an equal amount to pay wages to the labourers without work. Not less than about Rs. 13 crore per annum are being spent unnecessarily on them by the Government but no proposal is there to reopen the unit. I would like to have an assurance from the hon. Minister that the demand for a sum of RS. 4.5 crore for the Fertilisers Corporation will be utilized to reopen the Gorakhpur Fertiliser Unit and not to retrench the labourers working in this unit.

Thirdly, they have demanded some units of the National Thermal Power Corporation to take into their hands. Recently, we read a news item in the newspapers that the Government's National Thermal Power Corporation propose to take the Unchahar Unit in Uttar Pradesh into its hands. The Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board is running the loss of about Rs. 3500 crore and no Corporation in the State at present is in a condition to run any unit. The Central Government says that it is ready to pay all the dues to be paid by the State Government to take the Unchahar Thermal Power unit in its hands. I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that the Government should adopt similar liberal attitude with regard to Anapara Scheme and Obra Thermal Power Project and the Thermal Power Corporation should take all the three units of Uttar Pradesh into its hands and run them.

At the same time we have not yet received the draft of the Eighth Five Year Plan. The Situation has been becoming grave due to the regional imbalances... All those areas, where Government have not invested much, have been becoming the centres of ULFA or terrorists as the frustration is increasing due to unemployment which responsible for giving rise to violence and similar tendencies. I would like to submit that besides voting the Supplementary Demands, the Government should pay attention to the problems of these areas. Because the Planning Commission which had been providing financial facilities and aid to the States under Gadgil formula, will not be in a position to implement the schemes and to fulfil the requirements of densely populated States. Therefore, so far as the implementation of Eighth Five Year Plan is concerned, the Government should think over making investment in backward areas. instead of making investment in the areas which have been the centres of political activities or in the places from where the representatives of legislative Assemblies or Parliament have been elected for the last 40-44 years.

I would also like to submit that at the time the hon. Minister of Finance announced

an increase in the prices of fertilizers, an assurance was given that this price-hike would be compensated by increasing the support price. However, I regret to say that this Government paid no attention to provide any relief to the surarcane growess in the form of support price. Hence, my submission is that the Government should take measures to increase the support price so that the financial condition of the farmers may improve. With these words I conclude.

[English]

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMINAM (Inner Manipur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to oppose this Demand for Supplementary Grants 1991-92 as I consider it my duty to oppose it. It is because the policy of this Government is to make poor still poorer and the rich still richer. This is the policy of this new Government.

I oppose this Demand because there is no proposal in it, for establishing an agricultural university in Manipur, although the hon. Minister of Agriculture university in Manipur, although the hon. Minister of Agriculture has assured this House that an Agricultural University will be set up in Manipur. There are vast lands available in Manipur for cultivation of sunflowers etc. But the Government is not promoting this agro-industry there in Manipur and there is no proposal with them for this purpose.

Even in the field of telecommunications, although there are proposals for providing new lines and establishment of exchanges in Manipur, actually nothing is being done and at the same time they are ineffective. There is the requirement of STD facility in the districts of Manipur.

Since the time is short, I want to be brief. There is no proposal with this Government for checking the rise in the prices of the essential commodities although the buying capacity of the poor people has not been increased. The poor are suffering greatly in this country. That is why I am opposing this Supplementary Demand.

[Sh. Yaima Singh Yumnam]

Sir, I rise mainly to mention that I oppose these Demands for Grants particularly because there is no proposal with the Government for recognising Manipuri as a national language, although there has been demand for it since a long time. All the hon. Members in this House belonging to the Opposition are agreeable to it, they are agitating for the recognition of this Manipuri language as the national language. So, Sir, through you I urge particularly upon the hon. Members belonging to the Congress I Party for supporting the recognition of this language. Otherwise we are guiding the people of this State towards disintegration. The people there are very much offended because at the time of the merger of this State with the Indian Union, there was an understanding that this language must be given recognition as a national language. But, Sir, this assurance has not been kept up. So, the people are offended. They are not happy at the moment. So, from the floor of this House I urge upon the Government to amend the Constitution so that Manipuri is included as a language in the Eighth Schedule.

Secondly, Sir, there is a proposal for shifting the Assam Rifles from Kangla Fort, which is a sacred place in Manipur, to some other place. There is a request and there is a demand from the people for it and the State Government agreed to it. So, I urge upon the Government, through this House, to take effective steps so that the Assam Rifles can be shifted from the Kangla Fort to the new site.

Lastly, Sir, I would like to say the the Government at the Centre and the Congress Party instead of trying to ensure the redressal of grievances of the people, are trying to destabilise the non-Congress Governments in the North-Eastern States, say, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Manipur. In Manipur, what happened? The Congress I Party engineered the defections of M.L.As. from the United Legislature Front so that the Government there is toppled. There Members of the U.L.F. have been kidnapped and

kept in the house of the leader of the CLP and they are now confined in Jiribam so that the Congress I may become the Ruling Party there. In Manipur these are the things which I do not appreciate. So, I am bringing this to the notice of this House through you and I want that the Government should take effective steps so that such things are not encouraged.

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL VERMA (Dhanduka): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak. With regard to the Supplementary Demands presented by the Government, as my other friends have already submitted, the present Government lacks for sightedness. Has the Government been able to provide the benefits of what is being produced and spent to the common masses? Mr. Chairman, Sir, not only this, whatever measures are being taken by the Government are adversely affecting the common people, workers and farmers

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to make submission with regard to Gujarat.

17.00 hrs.

Gujarat has been hit by drought due to which farmers are in a great difficulty. But neither the Central Government nor Gujarat Government has shown any interest in helping the farmers in this regard. As a result, people are in a great difficulty.

Edible oil in Gujarat has completely disappeared. People have to buy it at the cost of Rs. 48 per kg. How can those who earn Rs. 10/- per day, manage to buy edible oil at the rate of Rs. 48 per kg? Oil is there in the market but the Government and the capitalists are hand in glove. The result is that the farmers are in trouble. They have not been able to get the actual price of their produce. Farmers are being fleeced there.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the same time, Dhanduka, the place to which I belong, has

so far been deprived of STD facility. An old telephone machinery has been functioning in Bhavnagar district due to which telephones are mostly out of order and even then people have to pay the bills. Machinery for providing 5000 connections is there and technical exports are also there. But they say that new telephone lines will be laid only when new machinery will be made available. But the Government has failed to provide the facility which can benefit about 5000 people. Machinery is not being utilised.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the same time no gas agency is there in Butad, Gadhada or Dhanduka due to which people face great difficulty. Surplus gas worth crores of rupees in being burnt but people in that area are in trouble as gas connections have not been given to them. The Government have not been paying attention to it. Gujarat is in a deplorable condition. Mills are closed; as a result the labourers who have been rendered unemployed find no alternative than to commit suicide by jumping into the Kakaria pond. Poor families find it difficult to send their children to schools. Life has become very hard there. People have not been able to get the benefits of the measures taken by the Government so far. Representatives, who were elected in the Parliamentary elections, had promised to get the 25 mills of Ahmedabad, which have been closed for a long time, reopened but they all forgot to fulfil the promises once they are elected. Thus the situation in that region is extremely deplorable.

I oppose the Supplementary Demands and urge the Central Government to help the State to improve the deteriorating situation.

[English]

SHRI SOBHNADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to oppose the proposal for approval of the Supplementary Demands. In this proposal, the Minister has proposed Rs. 250-crores for approval regarding fertilizers, as supplementary grants. I would like to draw the attention of the Government, through

you, that Rs. 400 crores had already been earmarked in the Finance Minister's earlier proposals towards subsidy for the small and marginal farmers for whom the price hike does not apply. Most of the small farmers are not going to utilise this opportunity because they have to go to Tehsil office to get a certificate that he is a small farmer and without greasing the palms of somebody in that office, nobody can get certificate as a small farmer. Even if a person belongs to Scheduled Caste, it is difficult to get a certificate from them without giving some money there. After taking the certificate, the farmer has to go to the Agriculture Department and only after that he will get some money. He will hardly get Rs. 20/- or Rs. 30/-. Most of the small farmers are not in a position to get this money. So, out of Rs. 400 crores which had been already earmarked, most of the money is going to remain with the Government. Therefore, there is no necessity for this supplementary grant of Rs. 250/- crores. I had told earlier itself that it is not practically possible to have dual pricing policy in respect of fertilisers, selling at one price to the small farmers and selling at some other price to the other farmers. Who is the other farmer? It may be one per cent or 2 per cent of the total farmers who may be having 80 acres of wet land or 40 acres of dry land. But most of the farmers are middle level farmers. My suggestion to the Government is, do not stand on false prestige. Kindly do away with the dual pricing policy and introduce rational uniform price structure.

You are proposing to give Rs. 250 crores to the industrialists for their inefficient operation of the plants where as you do not have that sympathy towards the farmers who are facing all natural calamities, who have to work day and night. The farmer has to face snake bites when he goes to the field to put on the electric motor or diesel pump set. Sometimes the farmers lose their lives also. But you do not have sympathy for them. You are going to help the industrialists who are showing wrong calculations to you, who are already getting a lot of benefits. My senior colleague, Shri George Fernandes has said on the floor of the House how those fertilizer

[Sh. Sobhanadreeswara Rao Vadde]

plants are cheating the exchequer, cheating the Government. They are able to corner several thousand crores of rupees. So, please reconsider this dual policy.

There is a public sector fertilizer plant at Ramagundam. By the side of that plant, there is coal production and on the other side NTPC is having its power plant. But you will be surprised to know that necessary power is not given to that fertilizer factory; necessary coal is not given to the factory. Because of this, the plant has to be closed for many days incurring so much of losses and loss of fertiliser production. If such mistakes are corrected, I think, you will be able to help the farmers and you will be able to give fertilisers at reasonable price to the farmers.

Another suggestion is in the chemicals and petrol chemicals sector. I do not know why the Government is keeping quiet when so much wastage is going on. There is a gas pipeline from Kovvuru to Narsapur of the ONGC. A lot of gas is being wasted. Many a time, the pipeline is getting leakages; sometimes the pipeline is broken, as a result of which the people nearby are suffering. Most of the precious gas is going out. The gas-based power plant at Vijayswaran in Andhra Pradesh has been shut down because of the leakage of gas pipeline and interruption in the supply of gas. Please take necessary precaution so that such leakages are plugged. Please take necessary steps to avoid wastage of gas and utilise it in a better way.

I would like to mention one point to the Minister of Agriculture. He was telling the other day that there was national agriculture policy and the Government was very eager to implement it. Our veteran kisan leader, Shri Nathu Ram Mirdha as chairman of the National commission on Agriculture recommended long ago for setting up of Krishi Vigyan Kendras in every district by 1985. Today you are able to start only about 100 KVks. How can the agricultural research will pass on to the farmers so that they can implement it in full and give better production

and produce more agriculture commodities to cater to the needs of the vast millions? My suggestion to the Government is, be sincere in your efforts, be sincere in your action and take necessary steps. Do not put the burden unnecessarily on the people of this country.

There is a possibility for a lot of saving the amount already granted in the previous Budget. So, I oppose the Supplementary Demands for Grants.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will ask the hon. Minister to make his reply.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PATER G. MARBANIANG (Shillong): Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Government to this problem.

MR. CHAIRMAN (Rao Ram Singh): I will allow you only two minutes.

SHRI PETER G. MARBANIANG: Many trees are dying of disease in the South Eastern sector of the Bangladesh border. In the South east of Khasi and Jaintia Hills, Meghalaya bordering Bangladesh, one lakh aracanut trees (betel nut) died of disease. I made a special mention of this by making a statement under 377 in the house but till today no reply came from the Ministry of Agriculture. Is this the way we run the country? That is why, I feel that the hon. Minister who is here should do something and send some experts to go to Meghalaya and they should identify the disease. More trees are dying.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What trees are they?

SHRI PETER G. MARBANIANG: They are supari trees (Aracanut).

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. I think that this is a very important point which Shri Peter G. Marbaniang has raised. Now I would request the hon. Minister to make his reply.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): Hon. Chairman, Sir,

I am grateful to the hon. Members who have participated in this discussion on Supplementary Demands. They have made valuable comments and suggestions and I have taken note of their suggestions.

This hon. House is aware that the Budget for the current year was presented in July, 1991 and it envisaged a budgetary deficit of Rs. 7,719 crores and a fiscal deficit of Rs. 37,727 crores. The hon. Finance Minister in his Budget speech has drawn attention to the crisis of the fiscal system and the concern of Government to contain the deficit. Towards this end, we have taken a number of measures. We have advised Ministries that they should absorb the liability on account of additional DA from within their sanctioned Budget provision. We have also imposed a cut of 5 per cent on the provisions so that certain unavoidable and other post-Budget Commitments can be met without increasing the Budget deficit or the fiscal deficit.

Great care has been taken in formulating the present batch of Supplementary Demands. Ministries who have sought Supplementary Demands for additional expenditure which have been included in this batch of Supplementary Demands have, by and large, identified savings in their budgets to meet the additional commitments. In only three cases amounting to Rs. 254.22 crores, Ministries concerned could not locate savings. These will, however, be met out of the savings identified in the Government's Budget as a whole. These include Rs. 250 crores for fertiliser subsidy following the modifications made in the increases in fertiliser prices originally announced in the Budget. Thus, even though the gross supplementary demands included in this batch are for a total of Rs. 304.13 crores, these will not involve any net additional cash outgo.

Among the various items for which provisions have been included in the present batch of Supplementary Demands, I would like to highlight the provision of Rs. 25 crores for establishment of a corporation for welfare of backward classes which was announced

in the Finance Minister's Budget speech. Another major post-budget commitment is the decision to provide fertiliser to small and marginal farmers at revised prices. This scheme is expected to cost around Rs. 405 crores in the current year. Pending a final assessment, the amounts required by the various State Governments for this purpose are being released by the Department of Agriculture by temporary reappropriations from within their sanctioned budget and Supplementary Demand to the extent needed will be brought up before Parliament later in the financial year.

The present batch of supplementary demands includes Rs. 27 lakhs for providing fertilizer subsidy to small and marginal farmers in the Union Territory of Delhi under this Scheme.

As the supplementary demands are for urgent and unavoidable items of expenditure which are fully matched by corresponding savings, I am sure that this hon. House would vote the demands.

The points raised by the hon. Members pertaining to other Ministries and Department will be forwarded to the concerned Ministries and Department for furnishing suitable replies direct to the hon. Members.

The points raised in respect of the Ministry of Finance would be replied by our Ministry.

With these words, I request this hon. House to pass the demands.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 1991-92 to vote.

The question is:

That the respective supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper to be granted to the President defray the charges that will come in course of

payment during the year ending 31st day of March, 1992 in respect of the following demands entered in the second column thereof.

Demands Nos. 1,5,6,7,15,42,60,67,82, 83, 85 and 93."

The motion was adopted

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 1991-92 are passed.

17.16 hrs.

APPROPRIATION (NO.5) BILL, 1991*

[English]

THE MINISTER FOR STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1991-92.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1991-92.

The motion was adopted.

..

SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE: I introduce the Bill.

...

SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1991-92, be taken into consideration."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1991-92, 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 and 3 stand part of the Bill.

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Schedule stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted

The Schedule was 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.

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary Part II, Section 2, dated 14.12.1991.

**Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

***Moved with the recommendation of the President.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula the Long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shall we take up the next item? What is the decision of the Basis Advisory Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE ND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): May I request the House to take up the discussion on the economic situation since that is the understanding today? It is already 5.20 p.m. We were originally planning to take it up at 5 O'Clock. If we take it up now, this discussion can continue till tomorrow and tomorrow the Finance Minister could reply in the evening. Thereafter, the discussion on Uttarkashi would be taken up.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shall we take it that a time of four hours is allotted?

(Interruptions)

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM: The simple thing was that the discussion on economic situation was slated for today. If it is not taken up today, we will not

be able to complete it. *(Interruptions)*. Of course, we will take up the Family Courts (Amendment) Bill also. No body is saying that we are not going to do the Family Courts (Amendment) Bill. It is coming up for discussion. But the general feeling in the Business Advisory Committee was that we should take up the discussion on the economic situation. Your party insisted on that. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack): Sir, the Finance Minister is not here.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaw): This may be taken up tomorrow. The Finance Minister is to present. He should have been here.

[English]

SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM: Sir, if they are going to talk in different languages at the BAC and in the House, I do not mind. If that is how they are going to honour... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I take it that four hours were allotted for the discussion under Rule 193. Shri Potdukhe, the hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance is here.

(Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzafarpur): Sir, I am sorry that the Minister of Finance is not here. He should be present in the House. He has laid a statement on the Table of the House, this morning and that statement is before us. There are important issues.

17.21 hrs.

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in the country, etc. 540

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Present Economic Situation in the Country with Reference to the Steep rise in Prices of Essential Commodities in recent months, Deficit Financing, the Foreign Exchange Crisis and the Conditionalties Sought to be Imposed by the International Monetary Fund

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I take it that it is the pleasure of the House that we take up now discussion under Rule 193 on the economic situation. I have been informed that four hours have been allotted for this discussion. I will call out the names.

Shri Lal K. Advani ... Not present

Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee ... Not present

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW JUSTIC AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): May I make a suggestion.

Both the movers, unfortunately, never expected that this will be taken up. There are other names in the list...

MR. CHAIRMAN: We will go through the names.

Shri Atal Bihari Vajpeyya ... Not present

Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava ... Present

Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava, I think, you have taken the major share of the House in the afternoon.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA

(Jaipur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have got the opportunity to discuss the issues regarding the hike in the prices of essential commodity during the last few months, deficit economic system, foreign exchange crisis and the present economic situation of the country in the light of the conditions laid down by International Monetary Fund.

The economic situation of the country is critical. The prices are going sky-high and the commitment made by the Government to eliminate price-rise within hundred days has not been fulfilled. As a result the country is in great distress. Many members will express their views on this subject but right now I would request Shri Jaswant Singh to express his views on this issue.

[English,]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I just want to have one clarification. Till what time are we sitting today?

MR. CHAIRMAN: At present, we are sitting till 6 o'clock. If it is the pleasure of the House to extend the sitting of the House, then we will take up that at that particular point of time. When we come to that hurdle, we will take it up.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Sir, in fact, I consider this as a very important discussion that the House is taking up. It is part of the parliamentary demand that in accordance with the convenience of the time available to the Parliament, it is being taken up towards the end of the day. But that quite often is what the Parliament dictates so far as the discussions go. I would like to welcome this opportunity to discuss the economic situation, to examine the statement which is very comprehensive. We welcome the hon. the Finance Minister's statement in this regard.

I submit that six months or less than six months is possible too short a time to carry out any kind of assessment of the economic situation particularly when very major macro economic reforms have been set in motion. Also for me to be able to comment intelligi-

gently on the Finance Minister's statement is a task that I take up with great trepidation. I am not an economist either by training or persuasion and therefore when this aspect is added on to the fact that we are commenting on the state of the economy in a period of less than six months of the effects of those major efforts having been set in motion, I don't know whether I will be able to do justice to the task.

There are however some early indicators and some early thoughts that I would like to share with the hon. Finance Minister. We have consistently said and it requires no reiteration that we have lent our support to the basic direction of the troika of measures taken by this Government. I call it troika because there are three measures undertaken in regard to fiscal policy, in regard to trade and in regard to industrial policy, reforms which we in the BJP have consistently held were long overdue. I find some poetic justice in the fact that the Nehruvian legacies are finally to be abandoned by the Congress party itself and in the adoption of these three measures the troika measures of reforms, there is the most definitive condemnation of the policies for the last forty years that we could have possibly expected.

At this juncture it is necessary for me to share some early reactions with the hon. Finance Minister and those reactions are in the form of worries, thoughts and suggestion. I don't know whether the economy has been able to actually digest the measures that we have adopted or has the economy failed. Have we failed to digest these measures? What we are witnessing today, are they merely hiccups in the process of a very major reform or are there possible a deeper Malaise I will come to the elaboration of this point in a little while.

I am very acutely conscious of the import of the pregnant phrase that the hon. Finance Minister has used in his statement while talking about unfinished tasks the lie ahead; also about a great deal more remains to be done in the realm of macro economic stability and in the field of macro economic

growth; I have gone through this with as much care as time permitted me between the announcement of this debate and now because there are very many pages and a great deal of information. I have attempted to absorb as much I could. We would like to know from the hon. Finance Minister what is this unfinished task that he talks of that lies ahead and what is that great deal more that remains to be done in the realm of a growth-related stability of the macro economy.

I have three great worries and I did start by saying that I am not sure about them because I am not competent to judge this, I don't also have access to information, I don't have access to day-to-day monitoring of the economy and I don't have the expertise that the hon. Finance Minister has in this field. But there are three great worries. I don't know whether they are merely hiccups or an indication of a deeper malaise. These three worries are on the front of prices, on the front of the value of the rupee, considering the fact that we have devalued it twice and taking into account the fact that despite these devaluation, the Hava rates in the free market are 25 to 30 per cent higher than the twice devalued rupee. That it troubles me.

The third worry is on account of certain shortfalls in receipts, particularly in customs. There is a fourth worry which has subsequently come in is in the supply management. In the supply management, having brought about attempt to control inflation through the management of fiscal deficits, there are basically no one can find fault with that. Statistically also, the hon. Finance Minister has said that from somewhere around 17 to 18 per cent, the Whole-sale Price Index-not the Consumer Price Index-has possibly come down to around 13 1/2 to 14 per cent. This is a decline and since this is a statistical reality, you cannot deny it. But, if the object or the aim is to control inflation through the management of fiscal deficits, then, I would ask these: Are you satisfied with the manner in which the prices are behaving? Secondly, are you satisfied with the supply management of such commodi-

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ties, as occasionally vanish from the market? I do not wanted to repeat the whole debate on the question of edible oils. But, edible oils are items of very great importance.

If I might submit to the hon. Finance Minister, so far as India is concerned, I do not believe that there is any other country in the world which relies so wholly and totally on edible oils which are only vegetable in origin. Every other country in the world relies on animal fat. It is only India and 850 million who are dependent on edible oils which are made only from vegetable oils. Therefore, the problems of edible oils is unique to India. We have not been able to address ourselves meaningfully to solve this problem for the last 40 years. There is a point, but that is altogether a separate point. I give the example of the edible oils question, only to emphasise that along with the management of inflation, equally vital is the question of supply management of commodities. If not all, certainly 350 million Indians that live below the poverty line are entirely dependent on the supply management through the public distribution system. These 350 million people are a very large percentage of the total humanity. That is why, I emphasise this as a worry.

I do know of the very sincere efforts and the very honest efforts that the hon. Finance Minister made in regard to the question of edible oils. But, it is a worry, that soon after he makes the efforts, the edible oils go out of the market.

The Government, I am afraid, has to take the responsibility for this if it runs the public distribution system. If it is the Government, as it is, then, it has to take the responsibility for such hiccups when they occur. I would therefore, request the hon. Finance Minister, to settle our worries and to inform us about our worries on the price front, on the front of value of the rupee, on the front of customs shortfall and on supply management of essential commodities. This may not

be part of the macro economic reforms also. But, you have to take care of the micro reforms; otherwise the human suffering will be attendant upon the macro reforms. Human suffering is in the realm of 350 to 500 million people and it cannot just be brushed aside. I would submit to the hon. Minister that in what he has come forward with what the Government has come forward with there is still great very tentativeness. The measures that the Government has come forward with in the mannered of this troika are really and largely a fire-fighting operation. I submit that. Therefore, this attempt to raise a new edifice, as it were, of the totally of our macroeconomic planning to my way of thinking, has in it just now an unfinished agenda. I submit to the hon. Minister some suggestions about this unfinished agenda. The hon. Minister has himself used pharases to the effects: 'unfinished task', 'great deal more needed to be done', continue with the reform process. I welcome all these. But greater definition in detail is necessary of this remaining unfinished task. What is this great deal more that needs to be done? And in what fashion and manner, will you continue with the reform process?

I recognise also that the hon. Minister has informed us that the report of the Committee, that he has set up, is going to be laid on the Table of the House tomorrow perhaps. We would be better informed after we are able to study that report. But nevertheless perhaps the hon. Minister could also inform us. But so far as my way of thinking goes in this unfinished agenda, there are three or four points which I will put for your consideration. I do not think, a total reform of the tax system books any more delay. I recognise that you have appointed a committee to yet again go into this whole question of taxes-both direct and indirect. I also know that before this sessions started, there were announcements from the Government's side that two major tax reform Bills were going to be presented during the course of this session itself. The Government has not come forward with those tax reform Bills possibly because the Committee has not yet submitted its reports. We will accept the fact

that you want to await the Committee's report rather than coming up with piecemeal tax reform Bills. But please let us know, is the total reform of the taxation system a part of this unfinished agenda.

I accept that the hon. Finance Minister has himself stated about the irrelevance of continuing with the Foreign Exchange Regulations Act in the form in which it exists today. It is a measure that is 20 years old. In 20 years, the world has moved beyond recognition. We would like to know when is it that you wish to set this FERA right. This FERA is a great wrong and you will not be able to achieve -I have said this earlier-what you have set yourself upon achieving unless these stumbling blocks, that are there in your pathway, are also simultaneously eliminated. And in like fashion, unless you simultaneously reform the total working and the work ethos of the Reserve Bank of India.

I would like to quote for yourself and then make a point. It is a very brief quotation. But it is a very fine phrase. I commend this phrase to the attention of the House: 'Scarcity of resources must be reflected in a premium on efficiency whether in the public sector or in the private sector'. I chose to use this phrase to point out that there is in this phrase a great lacuna. It is not good saying that this is unquestionable. You cannot attempt such a major initiative without having the required efficiency and in implementation. But it is not good enough, Sir, to limit yourself to the requirement of this efficiency only in the field of public or private sector. What about the great strain on expenditure? What about proliferation of bureaucracy? Unless bureaucracy is also imbued with the same zeal of efficiency and with the same burning desire to get this economy moving in this very great country, to my mind, this sentence will remain incomplete. Therefore, if you are to content yourself merely by saying that you need efficiency both in the public sector and the private sector and you leave this entire edifice, this undergrowth and uncontrollable weeds of bureaucracy, we will not achieve what we have ourselves set out doing.

I feel that there is one other very great shortcoming in this very major adventure on which the country is now embarked. I had occasion to privately mention to the hon. Finance Minister about this shortcoming. That shortcoming is in the realm of absence of harmony and coordination between what the Union Government is attempting to do and what the various State Government are doing. I recognise that my party has the responsibility and is steering four States of the Union. In a like fashion, other States of the Union have chosen parties of different political persuasion. With great humility and with some perplexity I may say that I do not know how we will address ourselves to this task. I think the rights and prerogative of the States are sacrosanct. The States cannot be made captives or subjects or the Union Government and yet, if at the level of implementation, the State Government were not to act in harmony with the overall broad thrust of what the Union Government is attempting to do merely by legislating here, merely by debating it in Parliament, we will not achieve what we have set out to do. Sir, I submit that this Parliament, the Union of India and all the very many States comprise of each village and unless the States of the Union recognise what you are doing and become partners in the process of the reforms that we have set in motion, we will not achieve what we have set out to do. And we will not have them as partners unless the process of consolation, the process of a larger consensus of where we are headed and how we are getting is discussed.

I will give just one example. On a different occasion, we will be discussing the public sector units. A very detailed memorandum has already been circulated to Members of Parliament on the state of the public sector units. There is no knowledge about the state of the public sector units run by the various State Governments and I submit that I had an occasion to point out this earlier that that too is public money and that too is causing a great deal of drag on the Indian economy. If we content ourselves merely with addressing the public sector units of the Union Government and feel that those run by the

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various State Government as units of only those States Government and if they are not simultaneously tackled, I do not know how this very major adventure on which this Government and this country is now embarked will be faced and how we will succeed in this endeavour. I commend the great courage of the hon. Finance Minister. I do not know how he is able to sleep at nights. I do not make these remarks facetiously because it is a very heavy burden that he carries. Of course, we wish him to succeed. We do not want him to fail because if he fails, I do not know where will me arrive.

I also do not know whether you have addressed yourselves to some of these aspects. I have no time to elaborate on those aspects. I find this a great lacuna in the totality of the reform process that has been set in motion and I would beg of the Finance Minister to inform us what he is doing in this regard.

I have one other worry. There is an elaboration here in the letter that has been sent to the ILF of the social policy of this Government and the emphasis that this Government lays on the simultaneous and attendant social policy to this economic reform Package. I focus only on the aspect of the national renewal policy. If my information be correct, the national renewal policy has entailed the taking of 500 million dollar loan. What has troubled us is that the social reform policy about which the Government has spelt out and to which I will come in a minute, is just one part of it. The national renewal policy for which you have sought 500 million dollar loan is another aspect related only to public sector enterprises, state industrial corporations, etc. How will you employ these 500 million dollars and in the employment of these 500 million dollars, is there a content of a social policy? I refer particularly to the aspect of those worries which persuaded some of my friends and I had occasion even then to say so. Some venerable labour leaders who have spent their lifetime in the field of labour expressed their fears on this.

I cannot even begin to match their concern about labour interests. Their concern is passionate; their concern is just. They are justified when they talk about the possible consequences in the realm of labour-labour being rendered unusable and surplus. In this national renewal policy, national renewal funds, what are the details? How are you going to address yourself when the reform begins to make its impact felt on state-owned enterprises? How will you employ this 500 million dollar loan?

So far as the International Monetary Fund is concerned, what is often spoken about, are the conditionalities explicit or not-explicit and hidden. I am not going to labour that point. I work on the basis that if the nation is brought to this state of having to borrow, it is like a private individual having to borrow, going to a bank. If today I were to go to a bank and ask for funds for whatever purpose I want, it is more than possible that the bank manager will decline to give me funds, not finding me a good risk. Even if he makes the mistake to lend me the money, he would ask from me, "What is it you give me as security for my money?" In that sense, IMF will place condition upon any borrower. It will place condition and I accept what the hon. Finance Minister has given us as the document sent by this Government to the IMF. But this is a debate by itself. I have not the time to go into the question of IMF conditionalities. I do not work on the basis that as distinguished an Indian as the honourable the Finance Minister is, he is holding his charge only to sell India to the IMF. I do not believe that India is a country that can easily be sold to anyone, whether it is the World Bank or it is the IMF, or it is the United States of America or it is the KGB or the Soviet Union. It is not a country that can be sold; leave alone singly, leave alone even collectively, no power on the earth has the ability to buy India out. I am not here to debate the nationalism of the Hon. Finance Minister but there are worries and those worries can be set at nought only by a total candour and to be as explicit as possible in this matter. But there are two other connected worries. I have seen this often in the

times that I have been in this Parliament. We have had occasions, from the days of late Shrimati Gandhi, of borrowing from these international agencies. Every time I had made this point. You will borrow this money, be it 'x' billion dollars or 'x' million dollars, if three years from now this money is spent and what we had set out to achieve with this money is not achieved, are you going back to the IMF or the World Bank? And, with sickening regularity we have gone back. I would submit to the hon. Finance Minister that in this there is one great shortcoming and the one great area of doubt that I have is about the profligacy of expenditure when it comes to the Government itself. I do not think that this Government, and with due regard both personal and professional for the hon. Finance Minister, this Finance Minister can succeed in curtailing this elephantine, uncontrollable expenditure of this bureaucracy, that is India. The bureaucracy, that is India, is not merely an expenditure it is also like the weeds that are clogging up the free flow of water. It is some kind of clogging of veins and arteries of India. Unless you address yourself there, we will not cut down expenditure, we will not achieve efficiency.

I will conclude with just one thought which I shared with the hon. Finance Minister earlier in a different context. Until yesterday we were told that the economic gods that we are to worship are the Gods of centralised planning. It is almost a sacrilege even to utter about them. For the last two years we have been told that now the God that we have to worship is free market economy. I do not mean it personally at all, Sir, but I treat all economist with great suspicion. I have seen the god of centralised planning perish. I am also not sure in my mind that the God of free market in the economy is the God in which we will find all answers and it is the panacea that we are looking for and it is the God that will provide salvation to India. I would be happy if the hon. Finance Minister share his thoughts on that subject.

I submit again that the 315 million Indians who live below the poverty line do require State intervention but they require State

intervention from a State intervention from a State that is just, from a State that is caring, from a State that is compassionate and above all from a State that is honest and a State that is able to efficiently deliver what is required to be delivered to those 315 million Indians. I am also not so sure that for those 315 million Indians these reforms, welcome as they are, will serve the purpose of lifting them-however fudged the figures of lifting them up are from that absolute tethering of poverty.

Sir, I am grateful to you for the time that you have given me to speak. thank you, Sir.

17.55 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tenth Report

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): I beg to present the Tenth Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

17.56 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Present Economic Situation in the country with reference to the Steep rise in Prices of Essential Commodities in recent months, deficit Financing, the foreign exchange crisis and the Conditionnalities Sought to be Imposed by the International monetary fund -Contd.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Since, we have got

some time, I will call another speaker, Shri Debi Prasad Pal. Let him start and tomorrow, he may continue.

DR. DEBIPROSAD PAL (Calcutta North West): It will be more convenient, if you allow me to start tomorrow.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You may make your introductory remarks and continue tomorrow.

DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, while speaking on the economic situation, we have got to consider the position in the year 1991.

In the year 1991, when we are considering the economic situation of the country, we shall have divide it into two major parts.

When the year 1991 started, it was state of economic confusion, it was a state of frustration in our economy. We find in the earlier period which ended in June, 1991, the economic position of the country was reduced to such a position that even in the international world, our creditworthiness was completely at its lowest ebb. The price situation in the country exceeded the two digits. The price level increased up to 13.4 per cent, although in the earlier periods, it never exceeded the one digit. This was the position when the present Government took up the administration. When our foreign exchange reserves dwindled to only Rs. 2600 crore and it could hardly meet our

Balance of Payment position for even two weeks in the international world, our credit worthiness was not accepted. So, this was the position of our Balance of Payment situation.

Our Rupee was not acceptable to the internationale world at their face value. The position is this that even the industrial production was at its lowst ebb, even though in the agricultural sector, there had been three good monsoons. So, it increased. But in the industrial sector, the development was not even 4 per cent compared to the earlier period of 7 per cent to 8 per cent.

In this state of affairs, the economy was reduced to such a position at that time when the present Government took up the administration. (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do I take it that it is the pleasure of the House to extend the time of the House in order to listen to a very interesting speech by Mr. Debi Prosad Pal?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBER: No.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Debi Prosad Pal, you can continue tomorrow. The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow at 11 A.M.

18.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, December 17, 1991/Agrahayana 26, 1913 (Saka).