

(e) the likely impact on the popularity of the AIR music services in regional languages with the entry of star music radio services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) Government does not maintain details about channels being launched in foreign countries.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Curtailment of Expenditure

2384. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the economy measures taken to curtail the expenditure in his Ministry; and

(b) the money saved so far as a result thereof during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND HOLDING ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) In order to minimise the administrative (Non-Plan) expenditure several austerity measures have been taken in the Ministry. The details of these measures are as under:

1. Restriction in fuel consumption.
2. Pooling of Staff Car.
3. Restriction of STD facility below the rank of Joint Secretary.
4. Restriction on purchase of News Papers/ Magazines etc.
5. Reduction in expenditure on refreshments.
8. Restriction on OTA, TA, DA and foreign travels etc.
7. One post of Director in the Ministry was surrendered as part of the economy measure.

As a result of these measures, the following savings have been achieved during the last three years:—

(Rs. in crores)

1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
0.21	0.23	0.17

Import of Natural Gas

2385. SHRI BHUBANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to import natural gas;

(b) If so, the quantum of gas proposed to be imported, country-wise;

(c) whether the imported gas is proposed to be

made available to Bihar,

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the States where this imported gas is proposed to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b) An Agreement on Principal Terms has been signed with Oman for the import of 56.6 MMSCMD of natural gas.

(c) to (e) The Statewise utilisation of the imported gas will depend upon the techno-economic factors of transportation and utilisation of gas.

[English]

New Oil Reserves

2386. SHRI SUBRATA MUKHERJEE:
SHRI ANIL BASU.
SHRI AJAY MUKHOPADHYAY:
SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to accelerate drilling programme all over India to quickly discover new oil reserves; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As part of the Accelerated Programme for exploration, both ONGC and OIL would take up additional drilling activities.

[Translation]

Welfare of Scavengers

2387. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:
SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI:
SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI:
SHRI DWARAKA NATH DAS:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the success achieved under the schemes for the welfare of scavengers in the country so far, State/UT-wise;

(b) the details of financial assistance provided by the Union Government for the implementation of these schemes during 1993-94 and 1994-95, State/UT-wise;

(c) the specific measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government for the economic and educational development of scavengers and to create employment opportunities for them;

(d) whether the Government propose to set up a Safai Karamchari Finance Development Board on the lines of the National Scheduled Castes and Scheduled

Tribes Finance and Development Corporation for the benefit of scavengers;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) Number of scavengers rehabilitated and the total No. of students covered under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Pre-matric Scholarship to Children of parents engaged in unclean occupations including scavengers in statement I and II are enclosed.

(b) Statement III is enclosed.

(c) The objective of the National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers and their dependents is to provide alternative, dignified and viable trade/occupations to each Scavenger and dependents of the scavengers during the VIIIth Five Year Plan. Monitoring Committees at the Central/State/District levels have been set up to evaluate the implementation of the scheme. The Plan outlay for 1994-95 for the scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation is Rs. 73.00 crores. Rs. 13.80 crore has been released to the State Government. National Commission for Safai Karamcharis has been set up with effect from August 12, 1994. The Commission will study and recommend measures for socio-economic development of the Safai Karamcharis. The object of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Pre-Matric Scholarship to the children of those engaged in unclean occupations is to provide financial assistance to enable the children of scavengers, tonners, flayers and sweepers who have traditional link with scavenging, to pursue pre-matric education. Instructions have been issued to the State Governments and UTs to earmark 10% of the Special Central Assistance for formulation of special schemes for the benefit of persons engaged in unclean occupations including scavengers. The Ministry of Welfare also releases grant-in-aid to Voluntary Organisations. These Organisations conduct training programmes for skill development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Persons belonging to the scavenging community also benefit from those programmes.

(d) to (f) The National Scheduled Caste Finance Development Corporation and State Scheduled Caste Finances Schemes for the economic development of Scheduled Castes including scavengers. NSFDC is also deeply involved in the implementation of the National Scheme for Liberation and Rehabilitation of the Scavengers while State SCDCs are implementing this prestigious programme at ground level. The newly set up National Commission for Safai Karamcharis is to monitor the progress of the Scheme.

STATEMENT-I

Number of Beneficiaries

S.No.	Name of State	National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers and their dependents & Conversion of dry latrines	Pre-matric Scholarship for those engaged in Unclean Occupations. (1990-91 to 1993-94)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6488	21,290
2.	Assam	477	3,085
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—
4.	Bihar	4382	25,156
5.	Goa	—	—
6.	Gujarat	1596	21,958
7.	Haryana	1295	25,274
8.	Himachal Pradesh	565	3,106
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	—
10.	Karnataka	107	3,463
11.	Kerala	116	4,291
12.	Madhya Pradesh	23182	1,15,366
13.	Maharashtra	7741	11,456
14.	Manipur	—	—
15.	Meghalaya	—	—
16.	Mizoram	—	—
17.	Nagaland	—	—
18.	Orissa	2492	3,309
19.	Rajasthan	3315	27,885
20.	Punjab	4438	26,441
21.	Sikkim	—	—
22.	Tamil Nadu	2611	11,903
23.	Tripura	—	8,861
24.	Uttar Pradesh	21767	53,029
25.	West Bengal	72	2,549
26.	A & N Island	50	150
27.	Chandigarh	—	—
28.	D & N Haveli	—	—
29.	Daman & Diu	—	—
30.	Delhi	701	4,793
31.	Lakshdweep	—	—
32.	Pondicherry	304	—
Total;		81,699	3,73,367

STATEMENT-II

Centrally sponsored Scheme of Pre-matric Scholarships for the children of those engaged in Unclean Occupations

Year	Budget Allocation (Rs. in crores)	Central Assistance Released (Rs. in crores)	Number of Awards
1980-81	0.15	0.14	4,001
1981-82	1.65	0.49	4,180
1982-83	1.65	0.29	5,600
1983-84	1.65	0.46	6,820

Year	Budget Allocation (Rs. in crores)	Central Assistance Released (Rs. in crores)	Number of Awards
1984-85	1.65	0.39	7,726
1985-86	2.50	0.25	9,286
1986-87	1.82	0.13	8,948
1987-88	1.00	0.72	11,427
1988-89	1.00	0.53	13,500
1989-90	1.00	0.38	15,063
1990-91	3.00	0.23	14,262
1991-92	4.00	4.00	90,912
1992-93	11.00	6,3867	99,254
1993-94	14.00	5.6124884	1,68,939 (anticipated)

STATEMENT III

Funds released during the years 1993-94 and 1994-95
(Rs. in crores)

S.No	State/UT	Libration and Rehabilitation of Scavengers		Pre-matric scholarships for children of those engaged in unclean occupations	
		Funds released during		Funds released during	
		1993-94	1994-95 (so far)	1993-94	1994-95 (so far)
1	Andhra Pradesh	4.59	—	0.84	0.22
2	Assam	—	—	—	—
3	Bihar	—	—	0.66	0.22
4	Gujarat	2.00	—	0.15	0.05
5	Haryana	7.14	—	0.15	0.15
6	Himachal Pradesh	—	—	0.044	0.035
7	J & K	—	—	—	—
8	Karnataka	—	—	0.019	0.005
9	Kerala	—	—	0.019	—
10	Madhya Pradesh	12.26	13.80	1.69	0.57
11	Maharashtra	3.78	—	0.20	0.30
12	Orissa	1.19	—	0.06	0.02
13	Punjab	—	—	0.33	—
14	Rajasthan	2.27	—	0.30	0.38
15	Sikkim	—	—	—	0.006
16	Tamil Nadu	—	—	0.27	0.57
17	Tripura	—	—	0.12	0.12
18	Uttar Pradesh	37.63	—	0.80	0.80
19	West Bengal	—	—	0.03	0.01
20	A&N Island	—	—	0.004	0.001
21	Delhi	—	—	0.13	0.045
22	Pondicherry	—	—	—	—
23	Nagaland	0.11	—	—	—
	Total	70.97	13.80	5.616	3.50

21.

Supply of Sub-standard Coal

2388. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) The number of complaints received regarding supply of sub-standard coal by the THE coal India

Limited to the consumers of Gujarat during 1993-94 and 1994-95 till date;

(b) the number of complaints redressed/resolved during this period;

(c) the amount of compensation paid during the said period; and

(d) the action taken against the erring personnel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND HOLDING ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) According to information furnished by Coal India Ltd. (CIL) the year-wise number of complaints with specific details regarding supply of sub-standard coal, received from the consumers of Gujarat are as follows:—

Year	Number of complaints
1993-94	56
1994-95* (Provisional) (Upto October, 94)	36

(b) CIL have informed that all the complaints are examined on merits and wherever grade slippages are established, the consumer is charged only for the actual grade of supply.

(c) According to Coal India Ltd., supply of coal and its payment by the major consuming sectors such as power plants, cement, fertilizers etc. are regulated by joint sampling arrangements with these sectors. Bills are raised accordingly and wherever applicable, debit notes are issued for adjustments.

(d) Coal being heterogenous material mined from the earth's crust, deviation in quality cannot be fully ruled out, though numerous measures have been taken/are being taken to arrest slippages of grades. However, on receipt of complaints from the consumers including from the consumers from Gujarat, enquiries are made and appropriate action taken accordingly for ensuring the quality of coal supplies. Action against individuals is also taken wherever warranted.

[English]

Exploration of Oil

2389. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have invited global tenders for exploration work of the coastal area of oil-fields of Gujarat recently;

(b) if so, the details and the countries who have responded;

(c) whether any decision has been taken in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b) The blocks in coastal areas of Gujarat offered for oil exploration under the Fourth, Fifth,