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57.	23-06-98	The Tamil Nadu Recognised Private Schools Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 1998.
58.	23-06-98	The Tamil Nadu Universities Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1998.
59.	24-06-98	The Tamil Nadu Land Reforms (Fixation of Ceiling of Land) Amendment Bill, 1998.
60.	25-06-98	The Tamil Nadu Forest (Amendment) Bill, 1998.
61.	29-06-98	The Tamil Nadu Land Reforms (Fixation of Ceiling of Land) Amendment Bill, 1998.
62.	29-06-98	The Indian Stamp (Tamil Nadu Amendment) Bill, 1998.
63.	29-06-98	The Karnataka Co-operative Societies (Second Amendment) Bill, 1997.
64.	29-06-98	The Indian Penal Code (Orissa Amendment) Bill, 1998.
65.	02-07-98	The Tamil Nadu Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Second Amendment) Bill, 1998.
66.	02-07-98	The Tamil Nadu Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Amendment) Bill, 1998.
67.	02-07-98	The Indian Criminal Law Amendment (Tamil Nadu Amendment) Bill, 1998.
68.	03-07-98	The Madhya Pradesh Right to Information Bill, 1998.
69.	06-07-98	The Indian Electricity (Tamil Nadu Amendment) Bill, 1998.
70.	07-07-98	The Karnataka Souharda Sahakari Bill, 1997.
71.	10-07-98	The Karnataka Inland Fisheries (Conservation, Development and Regulation) Bill, 1996.

Reports from National Commission for Safai Karamcharis

6009. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT :
SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of reports received by the Government from the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis during the last three years;

(b) the details of salient points suggested by the Commission;

(c) the action taken by the Government so far in this regard;

(d) the details of the scavengers liberated and rehabilitated since inception of the schemes by the Government; and

(e) the reasons for slow progress in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) One

(b) and (c) Under Section 12 of the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis' Act, 1993 the Report alongwith Action Taken Memorandum are to be laid on the Table of the House. Hence till the Report is laid on the Table of the House as provided under Section 12 of the above stated Act the details of salient points and action taken thereon cannot be revealed.

(d) Out of the total 5,77,228 scavengers identified 1,11,205 scavengers have been trained in other vocations and 2,62,421 have been rehabilitated.

(e) The response from targetted beneficiaries had not been upto the expectations. To increase the pace, efforts have been made to implement the National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers and their dependents more vigorously.

Expenditure on Medicines in Tihar Jail

6010. SHRI M.R. CHAUDHARI :
SHRI JANARDAN PRASAD MISRA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a huge expenditure is made on food items and medicines in Tihar Jail during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof:

(c) whether the Government propose to conduct any inquiry into the excess expenditure on medicines;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) The requisite information is given as under:

Year	Exp. on Dietary items (in Rs.)	Exp. on Medicines (in Rs.)
1995-96	2,43,18,223	3,26,76,364
1996-97	3,22,99,301	2,42,36,993
1997-98	3,37,28,404	1,35,29,686

(c) to (e) A Committee constituted in December, 1995 to look into the management of medicines in Central Jail, Tihar had pointed out certain alleged irregularities relating, inter-alia, to procurement, stocking and issue of medicines. The investigation of this case was entrusted to the CBI. In the meantime, the Jail authorities have, on the basis of the recommendations made by the said Committee, issued detailed guidelines for procurement, stocking and issue of the medicines in the hospital and dispensaries of the Central Jail, Tihar.

Charging of Security from consumers

6011. SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Rs. 900/- is charged as security per cylinder from the consumers;

(b) the amount of security deposited by consumers so far with the Indian Oil and Bharat Petroleum Companies; and

(c) the mode of use of this amount by the companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) An amount of Rs. 900 per cylinder and Rs. 100 per regulator is taken as security deposit by the oil companies for new connections and additional cylinder. However, for North Eastern Region rate of security deposit is Rs. 500 per cylinder and Rs. 50 per regulator.

(b) The amount of security deposit collected by Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) and Bharat

Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (BPCL) up to 31.3.98 are as under :

	Rs./Crore
IOC	1691.76
BPCL	882.74

(c) The deposit is taken by the oil companies as security against LPG equipment loaned to the customer and is refundable as and when the equipment is surrendered. The deposit is utilised to maintain adequate inventory of LPG equipments in usable condition at all times so as to service the customer's requirements. On an average 1.5 cylinder per customer is required to be maintained by the oil companies for servicing their requirements.

Foreign Visits by IOC Officials

6012. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :

SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH :

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

(a) the number of foreign visits of the officials of Indian Oil Corporation Limited during the last one year;

(b) the purpose of the said visits and the foreign exchange spent thereon;

(c) whether the said visits were essential; and

(d) if so, the losses incurred on the said visits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) During the year 1997-98, 324 officials of the Indian Oil Corporation visited various foreign countries for the following purposes:

(i) In connection with finalisation of terms and conditions of contracts with foreign countries/firms for import of crude oil and various finished petroleum products and also to arrange finances from foreign markets for such imports on behalf of Government of India.

(ii) To carry out pre and post inspection/witnessing tests per the provisions in contracts executed with foreign companies for import of equipments and machinery etc. for the Corporation's plants and projects.

(iii) To explore business opportunities available in various countries in the field