

LOK SABHA DEBATES **(English Version)**

Third Session
(Eleventh Lok Sabha)



(Vol. VII contains Nos. 11 to 20)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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Corrigenda to Lok Sabha Debates

(English Version)

....

Monday, December 16, 1996/Agrahayana 25, 1916 (Saka)

<u>Col/Line</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Read</u>
16/27	After Sir, <u>add</u> 'I'	
16/20	could be	could he
16/25	no	not
17/20 (from below)	Sh. Shivraj Singh Chauhan	Shri Shivraj Singh
84/2	Shri Prem Singh Chandumajra	Prof. Prem Singh Chandumajra
204/5 (from below)	Sh. Dhanush Kodi Athithan R.	Shri R. Dhanushkodi- Athithan
208/17(from below)	Delete "(Tindivanam)"	
221/21	Shri Vijay Kumar Goel	Sri Vijay Goel
225/23 230/24	Shri Sushma Swaraj	Shrimati Sushma Swaraj
239/28 240/4	Delete "Re"	
252/4	After it <u>add</u> "is"	
313/1	Delete "19.00 hrs."	
313/5	Mr. Chairman (Smt. Geeta Mukherjee)	Mr. Chairman

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Monday, December 16, 1996/Agrahayana 25,
1918 (Saka)

(The Lok Sabha met at Four Minutes Past
Eleven of the Clock)

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : Sir, it was promised to us that the statement of the Commerce Minister in the Singapore Conference would be given to us. Nothing has been sent to us at our home. Today, on our seats we find here only the Draft of the Singapore Ministerial Declaration... (Interruptions) The papers about which we mentioned in our speeches on that day are not here... (Interruptions) Unless the papers are here, how do we discuss it?... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA (Padrauna) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given notice to suspend the Question Hour. The Government of Uttar Pradesh has fixed the prices of sugarcane at the rate of Rs.72 per quintal. The Allahabad High Court has given a stay when the Mill Association appealed before it... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You give the notice. I will see.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA : It is an important issue. The High Court has ordered that the State Government has no right to fix the prices of sugarcane ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Okey, you give the notice, I will see.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA : We have given a notice to suspend the Question Hours. The plight of the farmers in UP is very miserable. Whatever prices of sugarcane are fixed by the Government, have to be paid to the farmers... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : How can we participate in the discussion without all those papers?

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly) : Sir, you had assured us that by Saturday evening we would get all the papers.

SHRI SAT MAHAJAN (Kangra) : Sir, the Leader of the House is not here. The Prime Minister is not here.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : When I first came to the House, I saw on my table a Statement of the Minister along with the Declaration. Those papers have ultimately been withdrawn from the table. This problem will be solved if those papers are made available to us.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Why is it that no Statement is here?

MR. SPEAKER : The Government's stand will be there in the Statement. I will see that these are made available to the Members.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : We wanted to have the authenticated speeches made by our members there. Why they cannot be made available to us?

MR. SPEAKER : I will see to it.

SHRI SAT MAHAJAN : Where is the Leader of the House or the Prime Minister? Who is going to answer it?

MR. SPEAKER : Today is the Twenty Fifth Liberation Day of Bangladesh.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : You may speak in Bengali, Sir.

11.05 hrs.

COMMEMORATION OF TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF LIBERATION DAY OF BANGLADESH

[English]

*MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, today is the Twenty Fifth Liberation Day of Bangladesh. Today we are reminded of the historic event of the joint action by the Bangladesh freedom fighters and the Indian Armed Forces which resulted in the emergence of an independent sovereign state of Bangladesh. The services rendered by our Army, Navy, Air Force and the Border Security Force during this event were truly consistent with their great traditions. The people of India will always recoil with great pride and gratitude the sacrifice of those who had laid down their lives.

Respect for territorial integrity and sovereignty, peaceful co-existence and non-alignment, adherence to democratic values and human rights are the basic tenets which both countries profess and practise. It is indeed this common ground which guides the friendly and good neighbourly relations between the two countries.

I am sure, the House will join me in commemorating the event on this day of its silver jubilee and in conveying its greetings to the people, Parliament and Government of Bangladesh.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : What is your ruling on this?

MR. SPEAKER : Since it is coming up at four o'clock, after the Question Hour I will ask the Government to give all the material.

* Translation of the Speech originally delivered in Bengali.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO (Mukundapuram) : Sir, the prisoners of war are languishing in Pakistan jails. When they are celebrating this victory day - when Parliament is commemorating this occasion - I would like to bring to your notice that more than 40 prisoners of war have been captured by the Pakistani Army. What is happening now? Even today...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the plight of sugarcane growers in UP is miserable. The Mills are going to be closed and the farmers are going on strike. The Matter should be considered urgently.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I think that is enough for today.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA : Hon. Speaker, Sir, I am fed up giving notice again and again...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have promised you that I will look into your notice.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Capacity of Dams and Reservoirs

*341. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the capacity of dams and

reservoirs constructed in the country from the year 1991 till October 1996 alongwith the irrigation capacity generated as a result thereof, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) the position regarding the clearance of the proposal for construction of the Narmada Sagar Dam on Narmada river as National project and financial and other assistance sought therefore and the reasons for delay in the clearance of the project; and

(c) the schedule fixed for its completion and the steps being taken to complete it expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (c). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) As per information available, the details of the capacity of the dams and reservoirs constructed in the country through major and medium projects from the year 1991-92 onwards alongwith the irrigation potential created as a result thereof, State-wise and Year-wise, are given in Annexure-I and Annexure-II respectively.

(b) and (c). The Narmada Sagar Project was accorded investment clearance by the Planning Commission on 6.9.1989 for Rs. 1993.67 crores. There is no proposal to construct Narmada Sagar Project as National Project. However, with a view to expedite the completion of the project, Central assistance of Rs.50.00 crores has been earmarked for the project under the "Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme" during the year 1996-97 and the first instalment of Rs.25.00 crores has already been released. The project is expected to be completed by 2010 A.D.

ANNEXURE-I

Details of Capacity of Dams and Reservoirs created through Major and Medium Projects

S.No.	State/UTs	Live Storage capacity created (in million cubic metres) during				
		1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1.	Gujarat	239	221	185	237	-
2.	Karnataka	1062	494	1546	960	-
3.	Madhya Pradesh	983	1086	691	323	-
4.	Maharashtra	1057	505	-	506	-
5.	Orissa	352	-	363	97	-
6.	Rajasthan	-	113	398	139	-
7.	Tripura	-	312	-	-	-

ANNEXURE-II

Irrigation Potential Created through Major & Medium Irrigation Project

S.No.	State/UTs	Potential created (in thousands hectares) during				
		1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95 (anticapted)	1995-96 (anticapted)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2.00	6.35	9.49	98.04	120.80
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-
3.	Assam	30.00	5.55	9.55	10.50	9.00
4.	Bihar	-	4.00	23.00	33.00	50.00
5.	Goa	-	-	-	0.53	0.96
6.	Gujarat	22.00	29.18	19.57	28.34	33.00
7.	Haryana	8.00	12.00	18.00	8.00	10.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	-	0.21	0.24	0.25	0.26
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	-	14.10	0.30	0.50	0.40
10.	Karnataka	42.00	44.04	69.99	83.17	99.85
11.	Kerala	-	12.89	13.30	61.32	63.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	72.00	70.00	60.00	72.00	74.40
13.	Maharashtra	8.00	46.39	60.00	60.00	50.00
14.	Manipur	-	2.80	3.00	5.70	10.00
15.	Meghalaya	-	-	-	-	-
16.	Mizoram	-	-	-	-	-
17.	Nagaland	-	-	-	-	-
18.	Orissa	41.00	17.56	12.79	18.56	44.14
19.	Punjab	9.00	14.70	21.20	27.52	37.30
20.	Rajasthan	33.00	44.36	58.87	67.37	66.67
21.	Sikkim	-	-	-	-	-
22.	Tamil Nadu	-	-	1.62	0.58	2.18
23.	Tripura	-	-	-	-	-
24.	Uttar Pradesh	55.00	54.00	62.00	54.00	53.36
25.	West Bengal	94.00	9.08	29.00	41.38	47.43
Total (States)		374.00	387.21	471.92	670.76	772.75
Union Territories		7.00	0.13	1.16	1.00	1.00
Grand Total		381.00	387.34	473.08	671.76	773.75

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA : Hon. Speaker, Sir, we are all worried about irrigation schemes and use of water resources. But the thing is that the Planning Commission has sanctioned a sum of Rs.1993.67 crores on 6 September, 1989 for Narmada Sagar Project in Madhya Pradesh. A sum of Rs.50 crore was sanctioned from the Central Government under "Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme" during the year 1996-97. But only a sum of Rs.25 crore have been made available to it. Financial help of Rs.25 crore is nothing keeping in view this huge schemes. It is a matter of concern. Since hydro-power is a cheap resource for irrigation and to meet the acute shortage of electricity, I, therefore,

would like to know through you, Sir, that an assistance of Rs.25 crore for irrigation is very meagre for such an important scheme which we call as Accelerated Scheme. I, therefore, request that more funds be provided to complete this project by treating it as a National Project.

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : The Central Government has not plans to declare any irrigation project as National Project. It is a State matter. Secondly, out of this sum of Rs.50 crore sanctioned under "Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme", half of its amount of Rs.25 crore have been released for Madhya

Pradesh. A sum equal to the sum given to the State Government by the Central Government has to be invested by the State Government. So like this, the sum of Rs 50 crore become Rs.100 crore. So presently if they start working with Rs.25 crore it will become Rs.50 crore and the second instalment would be released after spending the earlier amount.

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA : Hon. Speaker, Sir, this has been told as to how this sum of Rs.50 crore is to be adjusted. But it is a fact that no funds are available to create irrigation facilities in Madhya Pradesh and if these funds are made available by the Government it would certainly lead to more generation of electricity. As per the Narmada Water Distribution accord 182.5 acre feet water has been allotted for the benefit of Madhya Pradesh. But if the water is not used it would be treated as a national loss. So, my point is that other schemes are also dependent on this - Narmada - Shipra link Yojana is dependent on this, Narmada Choti Kali Sindh Link Yojana is dependent on this, Narmada Bari Kali Sindh Link Yojana is dependent on this. So, this is a basic scheme and with a view to complete this scheme and with a view to benefit irrigation, it is bound to be a matter of major concern. Hence, I wish to ask the hon. Minister through you whether they are going to frame any policy at the national level with regard to water resources and if so, what are its main features, this is my question.

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the ensuing 9th Five Year Plan also funds would be provided to the State Government on the same line and for them the schemes involving expenditure of more than Rs. 1000 crore the amount has been provided keeping in view the request made by the State Government and matching the amount to be spent by the State themselves. But if still shortage is there and the State Government writes that they have to spend more than it can be considered.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Hon. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the Minister, through you, that Chandigarh has no river its own and no river passes through Chandigarh and the Central Government has been approached by the Chandigarh Administration a number of times in writing that a Dam should be constructed over river Ghagar which passes near Chandigarh to meet the requirement of drinking water and irrigation in Chandigarh so that both these problems of drinking and irrigation of this region can be solved. I would like to know from consideration and if so, the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : It does not come under my purview so separate notice is required to be given.

[English]

SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL : The hon. Minister has laid a statement on the floor of the House giving

details of the irrigation potential created State-wise in major and minor irrigation projects I request to the Honourable Minister that the water be available for the purpose of agriculture, for drinking purposes and for power purposes as indicated in the statement.

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : Speaker Sir, as we have reflected in our statement, it is position from 1991 to 1995 which includes everything irrigation, power and potable water.

[English]

Panel of Expert Engineers

+

*345. SHRI I.D. SWAMI :

SHRI PINAKI MISRA :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was a proposal to constitute a panel of expert engineers to propose a plan to inter-connect all rivers in the country and utilise the waters judiciously and the avert recurring flood fury in the country,

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the time by which such a panel is likely to be constituted;

(d) the time by which the panel is expected to render its recommendations; and

(e) the other measures taken by the National Water Development Agency for inter-linking of rivers to prevent floods and optimise the irrigation potential of the rivers?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (e). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A National Commission has been set up by the Ministry of Water Resources vide O.M. dt.13.9.1996 and subsequent modification dt. 25.10.1996 & 22.11.1996.

The composition of the Commission is as follows:-

1. Chairman

Initially Shri G.V.K. Rao was appointed as Chairman vide O.M.NO.2/11/96-BM/645-661 dt.13.9.1996. However, he resigned. Thereafter Shri C.H. Hanumantha Rao was appointed as the Chairman vide O.M. of even no. dt. 22.11.1996. He too has expressed his inability to accept the offer of appointment. Action

is being taken to appoint a new Chariman expeditiously.

2. Dr. S.R. Hashim : Vice-Chairman
Member,
Planning Commission
3. Shri V. Ramachandran : Member
Ex-Chief Secretary
Govt. of Kerala,
Trivandrum.
4. Dr. V.S. Vyas (Economist) : Member
Director,
Institute of Development
Studies, 8-B Jhalana
Institutional Area,
Jaipur-302 004
5. Dr. D.N. Tewari, : Member
Ex-Chancellor,
F.R.I. (Deemed University)
Dehradun (UP).
6. Shri S. Prakash, : Member
Ex-Engineer-in-Chief,
Delhi Water Supply &
Sewage Disposal
Undertaking.
7. Shri C.C. Patel : Member
Ex-Secretary (WR)
Govt. of India
8. Dr. Bharat Singh : Member
Vice-Chancellor (Retd.)
Government of M.P.
9. Shri S.P. Caprihan : Member
Engineer-in-Chief (Retd.)
Government of M.P.
10. Director General, : Member Secretary
National Water Develop-
ment Agency (NWDA)
New Delhi.

2. The terms of reference of the Commission are as under :

- (i) To prepare an integrated Water Plan for development of water resources for Drinking, Irrigation, Industrial, Flood Control and Other uses;
- (ii) To suggest modalities for transfer of surplus water to water-deficit basin by inter-linking of rivers for achieving the above objectives;
- (iii) To identify important On-going Projects as well as New Project which should be completed on priority basis together with phasing;
- (iv) Identify a technological and interdisciplinary research plan for the water sector with a view to maximise the benefits;

(v) To suggest physical and financial resources generation strategies for the water sector;

(vi) Any other related issue.

There is a provision to co-opt other experts in the Commission.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Commission is likely to complete its work in 2 years time.

(e) The National Water Development Agency (NWDA) have identified 36 water - transfer links (17 under Peninsular Component & 19 under Himalayan Component) to transfer water from water surplus basins to water deficit basins. Pre-feasibility studies for all the links have been completed. Feasibility reports have been completed in respect of 3 links under the Peninsular component.

[Translation]

SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the written reply shows that from the initial stage this Commission is headless. The Government has not been able to appoint its Chairman. A Chairman was appointed but he resigned. Another person was contacted but he too expressed his disapproval. I want to know, through you, Sir, the time by which search for a Chairman would be completed and the Commission would start functioning?

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : This is a very important schemes for which an expert and well experienced person would have to be searched. Generally, an aged and well experienced persons is appointed as its Chairman. Former Chairman have expressed its inability on health grounds. The other man has also refused 3-4 days ago. Search for a new Chairman is going on.

SHRI PINAKI MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as the hon. Minister has stated - The National Water Development Agency has identified 36 water transfer links (17 under the Peninsular Component and 19 under the Himalayan Component)

[Translation]

and out of these Peninsular Component links feasibility reports of three is complete. I want to know the names of these Peninsular Component links. The second part of my supplementary is that out of 17 Peninsular component and 36 water transfer links, which you just mentioned, the name of Orissa State does not appear anywhere. If Orissa has also been included, what are the rivers of the State. This is my first supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER : No, You can ask only one supplementary. You are not aware of the rules. Your name appears at serial No. 2. Therefore, you can ask only one question.

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, since this Commission has not started functioning properly, the Ministry of Water Resources has been working of its

own. There are three links - one is Bentwa link, second is Amba-Achankovi Vayappar and the third is Thermal power Narmada link. Feasibility Reports in respect of these has been completed. Work is continuing on the other links. This programme has started 2-3 months ago. Therefore, the whole work cannot be completed in haste. I am not in a position to state whether name of Orissa is there or not.

[English]

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : Sir,

MR. SPEAKER : I cannot expect a small supplementary from a big man!

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARATI : Mr Speaker, Sir, Ken Project has been just referred to. It is a very big project which is under discussion for many years. This project is to be executed in my constituency. Every year 5 to 10 lakhs people of Dalit community migrate to Delhi in search of work because they are not able to earn their livings in their area. This project will solve the problem of small farmers of this area and these people will not have to come here. Therefore, I want to know from the Minister the latest position of this project and the time by which it is likely to be approved?

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, at this juncture, I am unable to tell anything as the feasibility report have not yet been prepared. As soon as this Commission starts functioning this project would be sanctioned.

[English]

SHRI SANAT MEHTA : The hon. Minister has kindly informed me that out of three links, one link is to transfer the water of south of Narmada river in the Sardar Sarovar Project. Already much progress has been made as far as the work of main canal of the Sardar Sarovar Project is concerned.

I want to know from the Hon. Minister whether he will see to it that the work of transfer of water of the river of South of Narmada is also completed so that these two jobs can be completed simultaneously and advantage of water resources can be derived.

[Translation]

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is an advice and it will be considered.

[English]

SHRI SANAT MEHTA : I want to know whether they are going to synchronise these two jobs or not.

[Translation]

No one is giving any advice. Your work is going on. I want to know whether they are going to synchronise or not. There is no question of advice.

[English]

Sir, I seek your protection. I want a definite reply whether these two jobs will be synchronised or not.

[Translation]

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the whole it is an advice in the form of a question. Even then the Ministry would expedite it.

[English]

SHRI ISHWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are considering inter-linkage of our river system in the country. But there are reports in the Press that China is planning to reverse the flow of the Brahmaputra by 180 degrees into China. If this happens, then entire Assam and some of the North-Eastern States are going to be completely annihilated. I would like to know from the Government whether they are aware of a plan of this kind and if so what steps they propose to take with the Chinese Government. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether according to our experts and engineers such a reverse flow would be technically feasible and whether all those aspects have been gone into by the Government.

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : This supplementary does not concern to original question. Therefore, I feel that a separate question should be asked in this regard.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Q.No. 347.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Sir, there is no Minister of External Affairs.

MR. SPEAKER : Where is the Minister for External Affairs?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK : Mr. Speaker Sir, My question is whether the minister had given you in writing about his absence. If not and he is not present...(Interruptions)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : Sir, I have been told that the Minister is very busy.

MR. SPEAKER : He cannot be busy otherwise when he has a Question in Parliament. Either he has to inform the House or entrust his work to somebody else.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Mr. Speaker Sir, the minister should have been present...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RAM NAIK : Sir, he has not informed you and also wasted the time of the House. This is an affront on the House and to you, Sir...(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, nothing could be more important than the House. He should have written to you about his difficulties. I request that he may be summoned immediately...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. NARAYAN PANDEY : Mr. Speaker Sir, this is a very important matter. The Minister is not here ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Sir, you should give a ruling.

MR. SPEAKER : What ruling can the Chair give? It is unfortunate. However busy a Minister might be, I think his parliamentary duty is the utmost important duty. The Minister should have been here.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have no information at all.

(Interruption)

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this matter is not to be taken so lightly. I think during the last 30 or 34 years of parliamentary life, this is the first time that I am having this experience that not only the Minister is not present but nobody from the Government is also not ready to reply even on this behalf. This is something which is unexpected and against all norms of parliamentary behaviour. It seems that the Government is guilty of dereliction of duty to this House. It is a very serious matter and Mr. Speaker, you should take this matter in that seriousness and the Government should be admonished for this lapse. This is the minimum that is expected and as long as the Minister is not there, there is no rule that you can postpone the Question, unless and until you use your own authority to protect the Government. Otherwise there is no excuse ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I do not think the Chair can protect the Government in such a situation.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, it is a matter of privilege for the House...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM NAIK : Sir, the Minister should know the seriousness of the situation. You must adjourn the House till the Minister comes. Even the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is not here and you have no information at all ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I think you have all expressed your feelings.

SHRI RAM NAIK : Sir, you have no option but to adjourn the House. Somebody must go to the Minister and inform him to come over here. Only then, can the House continue...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I do not think so.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Sir, there is a rule for suspension of Question Hour but there is no rule for suspending a particular question if the Minister remains absent. So, it becomes a matter of privilege and the Minister has committed a breach of privilege. Therefore, necessary steps should be taken...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Barnala.

(Interruptions)

SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA : Sir, it is a very serious matter. Not only is the Minister not present here but the leader of the House is also not present here...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I think, it is very unfortunate. I think, the Government should take a serious note of it.

(Interruptions)

SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA : Sir, till the Minister comes to the House, you adjourn the House. That is my suggestion...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Sir, it is also affecting the dignity of the Chair because you have not been informed by the Minister, who is bound to give an intimation to you. The Minister did not even authorise some other Minister to reply. It is a matter of breach of privilege and the Minister must be summoned here...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I think, the House has expressed its feeling very clearly. I am inclined to agree with the former Prime Minister, Shri Chandra Shekhar. Even in my career as a Member of Parliament in this House - this is my fifth term - I have not seen such a situation like this when a Minister was absent. Normally, that does not happen. I think, the Minister should have informed the Chair or entrusted some other Minister to do his work in case he is busy elsewhere. I think, the Government should take a very serious note of the feeling of the House.

We will go to the next Question, No. 348 - Shri Ram Kirpal Yadav

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NAIK : Sir, even after your observation, there is no expression of regret from the Government. Somebody should have got up and said, 'we are sorry'. There is not even an expression of regret...*(Interruptions)* The Government is not even bothered to express regret ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Would anybody from Government side like to say something?

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Sir, somebody from the Government side must tell as to what has happened...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK : This Government is irresponsible. This Government has no sensitivity. This Government ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Biju Patnaik wants to say something.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : Sir, you adjourn the House for ten minutes so that the hon. Minister can come to the House ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Do you know where the Minister is?

(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, the hon. Minister of External Affairs has gone to attend the "Victory Day of Bangladesh" and he is on his way to attend the House. He will come here by 12 Noon. The Question may be postponed to be replied before 12 Noon ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The leader of the House is here. No, no, I share your sentiments. Let us hear him. Shri Lodha, let us hear the Leader of the House.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Sir, Censor Motion should be moved against the Government. The Government should be censored ... (Interruptions)

SHRI SHIV RAJ SINGH : I want to say here ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Let us hear the Leader of the House. Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RASA SINGH RAWAT : He has insulted the House. The Minister should tender an apology ... (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as a leader of the House, I apologise for this. But in this there was not such intention of the Government ... (Interruptions) Please listen to me ... (Interruptions)

[English]

What more do they want after the apology? ... (Interruptions). The Minister is coming within ten minutes ... (Interruptions)

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Parliament cannot be treated like this where the Government have no respect to the business of the House ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : It is correct that today is Victory Day. This day is celebrated through out the country. All the three wings of our Forces have gathered in the stadium. Hon. President and few Ministers were also there. But it does not mean that the Ministers who are to give a reply in the House should also go there. A number of Ministers were not here and we understand that they were busy. Had Mr. Gujral not gone there, we could have understood but he could have assigned this responsibility to somebody else. Government should have apologised for the absence of that Ministers. I do not know, Mr. Speaker Sir, whether you have received any information or not ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : It came just now.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : This is wrong. This is a serious issue and the feeling of the Members can be understood. Mr. Gujral has reached. He should apologise.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : Sir, truly apologise to you and to the hon. House. I was stuck in the *Vijay Divas* parade. So, I hope my hon. friends will understand that ... (Interruptions)

SOME HON. MEMBERS : No, no ... (Interruptions)

AN HON. MEMBER : Why could be not inform the Speaker? ... (Interruptions)

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, if *Vijay Divas* parade was so important, why was the House not adjourned till 12 noon and why were the Members of Parliament not asked to be present there? They are as equally patriotic as the Ministers are or as the leader of the opposition is. No other person was invited ... (Interruptions). No, I was not invited. If I would have been invited, I would have been present there. I was not invited and I was not informed also. Let me be very clear because the impression should not go outside that after having been invited, I did not present myself in that function. If that was such an important function, at least the Members should have been informed that every Minister was attending that function. And whatever may be, there is no other function in the country which is more important than the proceedings of this House because this is the supreme body and not even one where the President is attending. So, I think this cannot be as excuse with the Government and the Government deserves total admonition by the House any by the Chair. No such excuse should have been there.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, no other business can be more important than the duty to be present here when the Minister is required to answer the question. I wish the hon. Minister had not referred to that. An unconditional apology should be given to the House. Although I had the privilege of being invited, I do not know why he has not got the invitation. But since you had announced that you would make a reference to that in the House, I thought it was my duty as a leader of my party to be present here when the hon. Speaker would make an announcement so that our involvement is also expressed. The hon. Minister should have decided that the House was more important. The time was fixed at 10 A.M. Nobody could be present here by 11 A.M. when such an event was taking place. If there was an error of judgement, it has been an unfortunate error of judgement. There should have been no occasion to make such an error. Therefore, in future the Government as a whole should convey their unconditional apology and do not give any explanation. The minister made a mistake and he should say that he owes an apology to the House.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Sir, I entirely endorse what my hon. friends has said. I have said and I repeat it again that I tender an apology to this House and to you, Sir, for this slip on my part...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER : I think it is enough. I would like to join the House that no reasons can be a valid reason for the absence of a Minister in the House. I think the Government will keep it in mind in future. Shri Gujral has apologised, the question can now be put

[Translation]

Agreements with France

*347. **SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN :**
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the areas in which bilateral agreements are being made with France in regard to Science, technology, trade and other related subjects;

(b) whether any new areas have been identified for mutual collaboration; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) A bilateral agreement on cooperation in Science and Technology has been in existence from July 1978. A revised agreement for the Avoidance of Double Taxation was signed in 1992. A Bilateral investment Protection Agreement was initialled in July 1995. A Financial Protocol was signed in January 1996. MOUs or Protocols are in existence on cooperation in specific sector including mines, coal, agriculture, energy,

ocean, Science and technology, petrochemicals, fertilizers, drugs, environment, water management, and railways

(b) and (c). Economic co-operation with France is developing satisfactorily. Trade and industry in both countries are active in exploring new areas of co-operation. Their efforts have the support of both Governments.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, France is one of the biggest investors of the world. During last few years foreign investment have increased in our country but the French investments have decreased. In 1991, the French investment was 3.7 percent of the total investment but now it has reduced to 0.48 percent. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what are the reasons for decreasing the investment of France in our country besides the fact that in 1995 the then Prime Minister, Shri Narasimha Rao visited France alongwith a delegation of high officers and business men? Besides that, a talk was going on with the French Government on an agreement to prevent the trafficking of drugs and psychotroic substance. So I would like to know from the hon. Minister, Whether such agreement has been signed and if so, the details thereof?

[English]

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Sir, I am sorry that I did not really grasp the pith of the question. Is my hon. friend asking me whether we have a special agreement with France regarding some spices or something?

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH : Mr. Speaker Sir, with a view to check terrorism and the trafficking of drugs and psychotroic substances a talk was going on with the French Government. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether such agreement has been signed and if so the detail thereof?

[English]

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : No, Sir, for the time being there is no such agreement.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, India requires more investments in such fields in which France has acquired expertise such as the fields of electricity, transport, communication, roads and urban services etc. So, I would like to know the efforts being made by the Government to have more investments of France in these sectors? Besides that, India has also been exporting many traditional good such as cosmetic, leather goods, textile etc. to France for many years. So I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what steps are being taken by the Government to increase the exports of such traditional Indian goods?

[English]

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Sir, so far as the imports and exports are concerned and what textiles we are exporting and what we are importing etc., I would request my hon. friend to direct his question to the Ministry of Commerce. They will be able to give him the answer.

So far as the investments are concerned, France has been investing more in this country and the investments have increased. There is no doubt about that. So far as the judicial matters are concerned, these were taken up for negotiation. But they have not been concluded as yet.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH : Sir, the investments of France has decreased to a great extent during last some years. In 1991 it was 3 percent but it has gone down in 1995. So I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to why this investments have decreased.

[English]

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Sir, the investments have increased. I may not be in a position to tell just now, straightway whether the trade has gone down or gone up. If my hon. friend wishes that I should respond to it, he may kindly give me a separate notice. So far as the investments of France in this country are concerned, they have increased.

MR. SPEAKER : Question No. 351 - Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal - Absent.

Shri George Fernandes - He is here.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Sir, where is the Minister of Human Resource Development? There is a question for him. What is happening?... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Even the Minister of Human Resource Development is not here ! Fortunately, the Members were not present.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DHANUSKODI ATHITHAN R.) : Sir, I am here.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, the Minister of State is here. I am sorry. Shri George Fernandes may ask the question.

Diversion of Brahmaputra

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*351. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES :

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been

drawn to the news-item captioned "China's 'explosive' designs on Brahmaputra" which appeared in the "Economic Times" dated November 18, 1996;

(b) if so, the fact of the matter reported therein and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government have taken up this matter with China;

(d) if so, the response of China thereto;

(e) whether the Government have studied the implications of Chinese project on the lives and environment of North-Eastern States; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken in pursuance thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The news report entitled "China's 'explosive' Design on Brahmaputra" carried by the "Economic Times" dated 18 November, 1996 is based on the article in the June, 1996 issue of the Scientific American (a US journal). This article quotes a US expert, belonging to an NGO, that Chinese engineers may have prepared a concept paper of using peaceful nuclear explosions (PNEs) for a project to build a 20 kilometre channel through a mountain range for diverting water of Brahmaputra river.

China subsequently, revised its position on PNEs. It announced a moratorium on the conduct of nuclear explosions on 29th July, 1996, and signed the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) on 24 September, 1996, which prohibits PNEs and provides for a review on the utility of the PNEs after 10 years, if there is a consensus among the States Parties of the CTBT.

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

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this article appeared in the Scientific American Journal in June, 1996, so, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether our Government have since taken up this matter with the Chinese Government or not. Recently our Prime Minister met his Chinese counterpart and Chinese President was also here on a state visit. Recently our Prime Minister visited Rome in connection with a conference of food but there he made some other commitments to his Chinese counterpart. Sir, this matter is related to our future and our security. So I would like to ask whether Indian Government have taken up this matter with the Chinese Government after this matter appeared in the journal?

[English]

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Sir, my hon. friend has raised three issues in one question. One question is about our policy regarding Tibet. I think the policy of India regarding Tibet is known. Therefore, the question of our

taking it up again did not arise because they did not take it up with us. Therefore, the situation stands where it is was.

So far as the issue of diversion of the Brahmaputra is concerned, we do not have and we did not have any reliable information on the basis of which Government to Government talks could be taken place.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the reply of the hon. Minister is disturbing me. This article appeared in June, 1996. Even after asking question about it by two members, was it enquired into by the Government? This Scientific American Journal is available in American Embassy and later on an Indian Newspaper wrote about this article but even then the Government of India did not take up this matter with China so I condemn this Government for its inactiveness.

Now, the hon. Minister has said from his own side that since China is signatory to CTBT she cannot conduct nuclear explosion, so I would like to know whether China would give up itself efforts to change the course of Brahmaputra by constructing 20 k.m. long channel by some other means? How the Government has become assured without taking up this matter with China?

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Sir, my hon. friend is a highly accomplished person and he has full knowledge, but he also knows that certain issues are discussed in some non-official, academic or even intellectual seminars sometimes. Now, it is not possible for a Government or any Government for that matter not only ours, that, if some thing happens in some seminar somewhere and somebody reports, they should take it up on a bilateral basis. I repeat that we do not have and we did not have any reliable information on the basis of which I or the Government of India could have taken up this issue.

When I am at it, let me also tell my friend that when the President of China came here, we have taken up all other issues which were of concern and interest to us.

SHRI G.G. SWELL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister has just said that during the Chinese President's visit to this country he had taken up all the issues concerning us. Now, this subject of the visit of the Chinese President is yet to be discussed in this House. I would like to know whether this particular issue of the diversion of the Brahmaputra was also taken up with him.

We are talking about CTBT. I would also like to know whether this diversion of the Brahmaputra can be done by other explosive rather than nuclear explosive and whether he has studied about the kind adverse affects that this kind of thing is going to have not only on the North Indian States, but also on the whole of the country.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Sir, I agree with my hon. friend that it is this which is going to happen, it would be of great concern to us and there is no doubt about that. But we do not

have - I repeat, we do not have - any reliable information or information on the basis of which I could take up this issue with China that this is going to happen. We do not have information on this issue.

SHRI G.G. SWELL : Sir, my question was whether this diversion can take place by other explosive rather than nuclear explosives.

MR. SPEAKER : I think only scientists can say that.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Sir, whether it can take place by other explosives etc. these are all conjectures. There is no reliable information that there is any Chinese programme on this.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJAPAYEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister of External Affairs has said that they have taken up all the issues which were of concern and interest with Chinese leaders, so I would like to know whether issues regarding Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh were taken up with them? If so, the outcome thereof.

[English]

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Sir, if I understood correctly, my hon. friend has asked me whether we talked about Arunachal Pradesh or not. Am I right? what was the second point?

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJAPAYEE : Second point is about Sikkim.

[English]

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Sir, I would take up Sikkim first. In my talks with the Foreign Minister of China, I did take up the matter of Sikkim and the impression that I got was - and I want to share that with my hon. friends here - that there is a move in China towards accepting our contention. I would not say that they have agreed. But I would not say that their position is as rigid as it was in the past. I am hoping that some more worthwhile results would emerge when the officials meet now, in the coming days.

So far as our other areas are concerned, one point we should kindly keep in mind is, when we are discussing the borders, our side of border implies that this area is ours; not only implies, so far as India is concerned, this is ours. There is no doubt about that and we are not discussing it. We are only discussing where the border will be and once that is denied and agreed, then, of course, all things fall in place.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister's reply may be factually correct, from his side of view, but it will send a very wrong message to Assam and to North Eastern States. He said that he had no occasion to discuss this issue with China because he did not have any confirmed news. I agree,

but it is high time to take it up with them. Otherwise, it will be too late. The Assam Press, the newspapers and the lobby which is with China, they are all telling that it is coming. So, it is enough for the Minister to take up with the Chinese Ambassador here. Otherwise, it may be too late, because this act of China will create a very serious geographical and other changes in the whole of Assam because the Brahmaputra runs from Arunachal Pradesh up to Guwahati and then it runs over other places. The Minister should not take it as an issue where he does not have any confirmed news. We know that our sources of getting confirmed news is also very poor. So, I would request the Minister to take care of that and not to stand on prestige or be afraid of asking. There is nothing wrong. In diplomacy, we can always ask whether it is correct or not. If it is correct, the Minister should take some action and should not leave it at that stage. This is my point of view.

MR. SPEAKER : This is only a point of view. I do not think there is any question here and I do not think you have to reply.

MR. SPEAKER : Qn. No.352 - Shri G. Venkat Swamy
Absent.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Rabies Control Programme

*342. SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Deaths due to rabies on the rise" as reported in *Statesman* dated November 4, 1996;

(b) if so, whether in the absence of comprehensive rabies control programme, the mortality rate, has been increasing;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to formulate any policy to check deaths due to rabies, and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no reliable data to indicate that the mortality rate due to rabies has been increasing. As a rabies control measure, the State Governments in the normal course are procuring their requirements of rabies vaccines from various vaccine production centres.

(c) and (d). Recently, a decision has been taken to start sensitising public representatives, the media and the public about the need for compulsory licensing of dogs, supported by vaccinations and the reduction of the stray dog population in a humane manner as adopted in other countries. The effort is to involve all states in the exercise. The production of anti-rabies vaccine has also been reviewed recently and efforts have been intensified to produce tissue culture based vaccines within the country.

Guidelines for Private Sector

*343. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have issued any fresh guidelines to attract private sector investment for developing ports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the response of the private sector companies to Government's invitation in this regard; and

(d) the total expenditure incurred so far on modernisation and development of ports in the country?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government has issued clear and transparent guidelines for private sector participation in ports in the following areas :-

(1) Leasing out existing assets of the port.

(2) Construction/Creation of additional assets, such as:-

(i) Construction and operation of container terminals.

(ii) Construction and operation of bulk, break bulk, multipurpose and specialised cargo berths.

(iii) Warehousing, Container Freight Stations, Storage facilities and tank farms.

(iv) Craning/Handling Equipment.

(v) Setting up of captive power plants.

(vi) Dry docking and ship repair facilities.

(3) Leasing of equipment for port handling and leasing of floating crafts from the private sector.

- (4) Pilotage.
- (5) Captive facilities for port based industries. The salient features of the guidelines are as under :-

- (i) The existing legislative framework permits private sector participation in ports.
- (ii) Ports will continue to discharge their regulatory role under Major Port Trusts Act, 1963 and will continue to fix the ceiling of tariffs until an independent Regulatory Authority to fix and revise Port tariffs is established. Ports will also take steps to frame regulations consistent with the guidelines in order to enable private sector participation.
- (iii) In identified projects to be put out on tender on BOT basis, the feasibility report will be made at the expense of the port, the cost of which will be subsequently recovered from the successful tenderer.
- (iv) BOT model will be generally used for private sector participation with the assets reverting free to the port after concession period. Evaluation will be made on the basis of criteria laid down clearly in the tender document and will on the basis of maximum realisation to the port using NPV analysis.
- (v) The concession period would be decided upon by the respective Port Trusts in each case with the maximum period not exceeding thirty years.
- (vi) The Port will give no guarantee either for financial return or for the traffic which can be expected.
- (vii) The tariff will be revised suitably by the competent Authority as & when it is justified on the basis of rise in wages, operational costs, inflation etc.
- (viii) Private Sector participation will be on the basis of open competitive bidding.
- (ix) The criteria for evaluation in taking on lease equipments/port crafts by Port Trust, and for pilotage will be the least cost to the ports.
- (x) There will be no adverse affect on port labour. No retrenchment will be done without the concurrence of labour and only in accordance with Industrial Disputes Act and relevant labour laws of the country.
- (xi) There will be total transparency in inviting bids following the two cover system.
- (xii) Under certain conditions, Captive facilities would be allowed to Port based industries.

(c) The fresh Guidelines have been issued very recently. Future tenders for private sector participation would be based on these and response of Private Sector can be judged only in due course.

(d) During the 8th Five Year Plan (1992-97) an amount of about Rs.1436 crores has been spent for modernisation and development of Major Ports upto October, 1996.

Height of Sardar Sarovar Dam

*344. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state .

(a) whether it is a fact that the review committee for the Narmada Control Authority has taken a decision to rise the height of the Sardar Sarovar Dam to 110 m during the current financial year;

(b) whether State of Madhya Pradesh has also been taken into confidence in this regard; and

(c) if so, details thereof and the details regarding the clearance of all the compensation cases pending with the State Government of Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (c). The 7th meeting of Review Committee for Narmada Control Authority was held on 13.11.96 to consider, inter-alia, the construction programme of Sardar Sarovar Dam for the year 1996-97. It was attended by the Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, Chief Minister of Gujarat, Irrigation Minister of Maharashtra (representing Chief Minister) and Home Minister of Rajasthan (Representing Chief Minister) and concerned officials of the Central Ministries and States. It was decided therein that the height of Sardar Sarovar Dam be raised upto EL 110 metres in the spillway portion during 1996-97. In the meantime Resettlement & Rehabilitation measures for the balance affected persons of Madhya Pradesh upto EL 81.5 m would be completed by Gujarat. Madhya Pradesh has agreed to extend all help and cooperation in this regard. After review of the implementation of Resettlement & Rehabilitation measures at EL 81.5 m, similar reviews will be undertaken for every 5 metre height of the dam jointly by the concerned Resettlement & Rehabilitation sub-group and Environment sub-groups comprising representatives of States also so that the construction work could progress *pari passu* with the implementation of Resettlement & Rehabilitation measures in a manner that they are completed in terms of actual shifting of All Project Affected Persons by 31st May, 1997.

At the present dam height EL 81.5 metre, 692 families have been affected in Madhya Pradesh. The compensation for properties getting under submergence of the dam are paid by the states concerned from where the displaced family originates. Out of 692 Project Affected Families (PAFs) at the dam

height EL 81.5 metre. 155 Project Affected Families are still to be paid compensation by the Govt. of Madhya Pradesh.

Trauma Centre for Delhi

*346. SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a trauma care centre was sanctioned and cleared by Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for Delhi in 1984;

(b) if so, whether it has been set up and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government are aware of the fact that a high percentage of accident victims cannot be saved for lack of trauma care facilities; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (d). A project for establishing a Centralized Accident and Trauma Service for Delhi was approved by the Expenditure Finance Committee with a financial outlay of about Rs.16 crores in 1984. However, due to various factors including the issue of funding, the project could not be implemented till date. Keeping in view the high percentage of accident victims in Delhi, a project for setting up a Trauma Centre in Delhi has been posed in October, 1996 to the Department of Economic Affairs for possible Japanese assistance.

Medical Facilities

*348. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been made by the Government to know the deficiencies in the rural urban ratio of the number of hospitals and bed strength, and to identify the constraints in the primary health and surgical care in the rural areas with the increase in population;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b). As per the data available, the rural-urban ratio of hospitals and beds in the country as on 1.1.1993 is approximately 1:2 (4310 Hospitals in rural areas and 9382 hospitals in urban areas) and 1:4 (122109 beds in rural and 474094 beds in urban) respectively.

In the rural areas, primary health care is provided through a network of 1,32,285 Sub-Centres, 21,802 Primary Health Centres 2,401 Community Health Centres. There are approximately 1,09,010 observation beds in Primary Health Centres (at the rate of 4-6 beds) and 72030 indoor beds (at the rate of 30 beds per CHC).

Constraints as they have been identified through facility gap surveys conducted periodically in delivery of primary health care pertain to the gaps in provision of basic infrastructure, manpower availability, adequacy of drugs and availability of blood.

(c) Government of India has negotiated an International Development Assistance funded project from World Bank or the State of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Punjab and West Bengal. The project includes, in its phase-I and phase-II, a total of 674 district hospitals, area hospital, community hospitals to be taken up for renovation/extension etc.

State Governments are regularly advised to fill vacancies at CHCs and PHCs and to provide essential drugs, equipment and to maintain the buildings and equipments provided in this infrastructure.

Under Blood Safety component of the National AIDS Control Programme, Government have modernised 815 public sector blood banks by providing minimum basic equipment and cash assistance towards blood banks, test reagents and replacement of disposable & Glass Wares. 154 Zonal Blood Testing Centres have been set up with linkages provided to blood banks to augment the total requirement of blood in the country.

Medical Assistance to A.P.

*349. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from Andhra Pradesh Government regarding medical help to the cyclone affected people, keeping in view the apprehension of spread of epidemic like Cholera, Malaria etc.; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action being taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b). The Calamity Relief Fund available for expenditure to be incurred inter-alia on relief and rehabilitation has been released to the State of Andhra Pradesh. Fund for ways and means have also been provided.

The Crisis Management Group held meetings on 11th and 15th November, 1996 in which the State Government indicated that they had adequate stock of medicines for relief measures.

However, a memorandum seeking Central Assistance was received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh on 19.11.96. For damage to public health infrastructure including hospitals/PHC buildings and for expenditure for water treatment, sanitation, essential medicines etc., the State Government had sought an assistance of Rs.23.20 crores.

On receipt of the memorandum the Central team visited Andhra Pradesh from 27th November to 1st December, 1996. The recommendations of the inter-ministerial group on the central team's report are now to be considered by the National Calamity Relief Committee.

Funds to Universities

*350. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR :

SHRI R.L.P. VERMA :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of fund allocated to the universities during each of the last three years and so far, State-wise;

(b) whether the grants are inadequate, keeping in view the ever increasing number of students in these Universities and colleges affiliated to them;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to provide more funds to these universities;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to open any Central University in Karnataka and in backward areas of Southern Bihar;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) A statement is enclosed.

(b) to (d). Central Universities are established by Acts of Parliament and their maintenance and development expenditure is met by the Central Government through UGC. State Universities are set up by Acts of State Legislatures and their maintenance and development expenditure is met by respective State Governments. UGC provide only development grants to the eligible State Universities and Colleges, as per the prescribed norms, and that too, only for a part of their requirements. It is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments/agencies to provide reasonable level of Plan and Non-Plan grants to the universities/colleges established by them. UGC has liberalised scale of plan assistance to the universities in the 8th Plan. Non-Plan grants provided by the Government to UGC for disbursement to universities have also been steadily increasing over the years.

(e) No. Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) National Policy on Education-1986, as modified in 1992, provides that, in view of the need to effect an all round improvement in the institutions, it is proposed that, in the near future, the main emphasis will be on the consolidation of, and expansion of facilities in, the existing institutions. Programme of Action-1992 for implementation of the Policy states that, given the necessity to arrest the declining trend in the flow of Plan funds from UGC to State Universities and Colleges, the severe constraint of resources and the need to provide adequate infrastructure in newer Central Universities, the Government should exercise restraint in setting up more central Universities.

STATEMENT

Statement showing the Grant paid to Universities during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96

(Rs. in lakhs)

States	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Andhra Pradesh	2966.08	2911.59	3448.55
Delhi	7465.76	5024.98	9372.64
Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	16.50
Assam	167.67	623.09	919.28
Bihar	924.89	1031.66	1142.85
Haryana	109.11	232.43	211.25
Gujarat	688.93	926.68	919.89
Goa	37.69	59.21	30.80
Himachal Pradesh	48.68	102.13	54.48
Jammu & Kashmir	78.80	217.95	139.28
Karnataka	707.33	753.73	698.97
Kerala	318.54	387.63	252.93
Manipur	52.84	44.55	92.76
Meghalaya	1687.12	1653.10	1785.24
Madhya Pradesh	414.74	708.49	608.71
Maharashtra	1047.65	989.71	1392.69
Orissa	139.25	385.20	256.98
Punjab	484.10	486.24	615.05
Pondicherry	661.76	537.91	784.30
Rajasthan	418.56	263.19	556.03
Tamilnadu	1087.30	1404.44	1586.64
Tripura	11.54	29.48	22.43
Uttar Pradesh	14037.87	15261.92	20841.21
West Bengal	2490.86	5703.56	2907.00
Nagaland		90.05	668.25

Depletion of Ground Water

*352. SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have conducted any survey about the rapidly depleting level of ground water in the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of such survey done in the States, with State-wise breakup; and

(c) the remedial steps taken to arrest the decline of the ground water level in these States during the last two years and the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Long term observations of ground water level by the Central Ground Water Boards have shown gradual decline in the level of ground water in some pockets of various States as per details given at Statement.

(c) The steps taken by the Union Government to prevent decline in the level of ground water include :

- (i) Circulation of A Model Bill to all the States/ Union Territories to enable them to enact suitable Legislation for regulation and control of ground water development.
- (ii) Formulation of a Centrally Sponsored Scheme to assist the State Governments in artificial recharge of ground water. The Scheme is at consultation stage.
- (iii) Circulation of a Manual on artificial recharge of ground water to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend in ground water levels.
- (iv) Implementation of Central Sector Scheme or recharge of ground water by Central Ground Water Board in Maharashtra, Karnataka, NCT of Delhi and Union Territory of Chandigarh in co-ordination with concerned State Governments.

STATEMENT

List of districts with pockets where fall in Ground Water levels is more than 4 metres and 2 to 4 metres on long term basis (1980-93) Pre-monsoon situation.

State	District with fall more than 4 metres	District with fall 2 to 4 metres
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh		Medak, Rangareddy, Hyderabad.

1	2	3
Punjab	Amritsar, Jalandhar, Firozpur, Ludhiana, Faridkot, Fatehgarh, Sangrur, Patiala, Kapurthala.	Gurdaspur, Hoshiarpur
Haryana	Kurukshetra, Kaithal, Karnal, Panipat, Gurgaon, Mahendragarh, Rewari	Sonapat, Hissar, Jind, Faridabad, Rohtak
Uttar Pradesh	Gonda, Farukhabad, Lucknow, Kanpur, Fatehpur, Allahabad, Banda, Nainital, Bulandsahar, Agra, Mathura, Lalitpur.	Mujaffarnagar, Bijnor, Moradabad, Badaun, Etah, Etawah, Barabanki, Rai-Bareilly, Azamgarh, Saharanpur, Rampur
West Bengal	Midnapur	Murshidabad, West Dinazpur, Maca, Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri, Bankura, Purulia.
Orissa	Mayurbhanj	Keonjar, Cuttak, Dhenkanal, Ganjam, Koraput.
Rajasthan	Nagaur, Bikaner, Jaipur, Tonk, Sawaimadhopur, Dausa, Alwar, Sikar, Pali, Dholpur, Jaisalmar, Sirohi, Jalore, Jodhpur	Ajmer, Churu, Udaipur, Dungarpur.
Madhya Pradesh	Ujjain, Dewas, Shahjahanpur, Dhar, Sagar, Bilaspur, Raipur, Sarguja, Guna, Narsinghpur	Sehore, Betul, Chhindwara, Balaghat, Mandla, Jabalpur, Dhamod, Durg, Rajnandgaon, Bastar, Sidhi, Dewas, Datia, Bhind, Morena, Gwalior, Shivpur, Rajgarh, Seoni.
Karnataka	Bijapur, Belgaum, Uttara Kannada, Dharwar, Bellari, Shimoga, Bangalore, Mandya, Mysore, Kolar, Gulberga	Tumkur, Bidar, Dakshin Kannada.
Tamil Nadu	Salem, South Arcot, Chengalanga, Coimbatore, Madurai, Tanjavur, Pudukkottai, Kamraj, Thirunaganar	Dharmapuri, North Arcot, Periyar, Kottabamman

Kala-Azar

*353. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA :
SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons died of Kala-Azar in various States during 1996;

(b) the States, where this disease has taken an epidemic form;

(c) whether the Government have adopted any action plan to combat this epidemic;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether several deaths are taking places due to Kala-Azar every year; and

(f) if so, the concrete steps taken by the Government to prevent the recurrence of this disease in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b). As per reports received from the concerned State, 538 deaths due to Kala-azar occurred in Bihar and 10 deaths in West Bengal in 1996 upto September. Kala-azar is endemic in Bihar and West Bengal.

In the State of Bihar, incidence of the disease had shown a declining trend in 1994 and 1995 compared to 1992 and 1993. However, in 1996 there has been an increase in incidence as well as deaths particularly in the districts of Darbhanga, Samastipur and Madhubani in the State of Bihar. There has also been an increased of cases in West Bengal.

(c) to (f). In order to maintain the declining trend of the disease, the Central Government has been providing insecticide (DDT) and anti-Kala-azar drugs to the States for undertaking spray operations and rendering effective treatment under the Centrally Sponsored Kala-azar Control Programme. The operational cost is required to be borne by the State Governments. Implementation of the programme being primarily the responsibility of the State Governments, the State of Bihar has been repeatedly asked to implement the Programme effectively from time to time. Central teams were deputed to the State to guide the State health Authorities. An Expert Team was constituted in May, 1996 for assessment of Kala-azar situation in Bihar and West Bengal and suggest remedial measures to contain the disease, which has been completed.

As a long term measure, preparation of a Contingency Plan for vector borne diseases including kala-azar has been taken up for being provided to the State Governments highlighting endemic areas and specific location requiring attention from the point of view of prevention, spraying during transmission period and treatment.

[Translation]

Development of Indian System of Medicine

*354. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to develop Ayurvedic, Homoeopathy, Naturopathy and other indigenous systems of medicine in the country;

(b) the details of the colleges and Ayurvedic, Homoeopathic and Naturopathy systems of Medicine in the country, State-wise;

(c) whether funds have been provided by the World Health Organisation and other foreign organisations for developing such systems of medicine in India;

(d) whether Union Government propose to help voluntary organisations and private institutions for developing such systems of medicine and educational institutions in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) The Government have set up a new Department of Indian System of Medicine and Homoeopathy in March 1995 for the development and promotion of these systems including Yoga & naturopathy in the country. Details are as follows :-

- (i) Strengthening of Indian System of Medicine and Homoeopathy Educational Institutions; Assistance is given for upgradation of facilities in educational institutions of Indian System of Medicine and Homoeopathy.
- (ii) Standardisation of Indian System of Medicine and Homoeopathy Drugs, strengthening of Drug Control in Indian System of Medicine and setting up of Laboratory facilities for the testing of Indian System of Medicine & Homoeopathy Drugs.
- (iii) Re-orientation training to in-service Teachers, Physicans and Researchers.
- (iv) Development and cultivations of Medicinal plants used in Indian System of Medicine and Homoeopathy medicines.
- (v) Strengthening and Establishment of premier institutes in these Systems of Medicine such as National Institute of Ayurveda, Jaipur, National Institute of Homoeopathy, Calcutta, Institutes of Post-Graduate Training and research in Ayurveda, Jamnagar, Rashtriya Ayurveda Vidhyapeeth, Delhi; National Institute of Unani Medicine, Bangalore and National Institute of Naturopathy, Pune
- (vi) Research in Indian Systems of Medicine & Homoeopathy is supported through various Central Councils of Research in Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani, Homoeopathy, Yoga and Naturopathy.

(b) Details of Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani, Homoeopathy and Naturopathy colleges is as per Statement-I.

(c) World Health Organisation has been providing modest assistance for organising seminars, workshops and procurement of some equipment.

(d) and (e). The Union Government has been assisting voluntary organisations and Private Institutes. Details are as per Statement-II.

STATEMENT-I

State-wise list of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy Colleges Including Naturopathy

	Ayurved	Unani	Siddha	Homoeo	Naturopathy
Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	1	-
Andhra Pradesh	4	2	-	4	1 \$
Assam	1	-	-	3	-
Bihar	9	4	-	20*	-
Delhi	1	2	-	2	-
Gujarat	9	-	-	10	-
Haryana	4	-	-	-	-
Jammu & Kashmir	-	2	-	-	-
Himachal Pradesh	1	-	-	-	-
Karnataka	13	2	-	8	1 \$
Kerala	5	-	-	5*	-
Madhya Pradesh	7	1	-	8	-
Maharashtra	36	6	-	38*	-
Orissa	4	-	-	5	-
Punjab	4	-	-	5	-
Rajasthan	5	2	-	3	-
Tamil Nadu	3	1	2	3	-
Uttar Pradesh	10	7	-	10	-
West Bengal	1	1	-	13	-
Goa	1	-	-	-	-
Chandigarh	-	-	-	1	-
Total :	118	30	2	139**	2

* For 19 colleges in Bihar, 1 college in Kerala and 9 colleges in Maharashtra affiliation of University is not known.

** 12 Homoeopathy colleges out of 139 conduct PG courses.

\$ These two colleges are approved only by the State Governments of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh respectively.

Statewise list of Ayurved, Unani, & Siddha Colleges Imparting Post-Graduate Education

S.No	Name of States	Ayurved	Unani	Siddha
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1	1	-
2.	Assam	-	-	-
3.	Bihar	1	-	-
4.	Delhi	-	1	-
5.	Gujarat	2	-	-
6.	Haryana	-	-	-
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	-
8.	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-
9.	Karnataka	7	-	-
10.	Kerala	1	-	-
11.	Madhya Pradesh	2	-	-
12.	Mahrarashtra	15	-	-
13.	Orissa	1	-	-

1	2	3	4	5
14.	Punjab	1	-	-
15.	Rajasthan	2	-	-
16.	Tamil Nadu	-	-	1
17.	Uttar Pradesh	4	1	-
18.	West Bengal	1	-	-
19.	Goa	-	-	-
		38	03	01

STATEMENT-II

The details of schemes regarding assisting Voluntary Organisations and Private institutions are :-

1. Scheme for Grant-in-Aid for improving and strengthening of Under Graduate Colleges of ISM&H
2. Scheme for Grant-in-Aid for re-orientation training programme.

3. Schemes for Grant-in-Aid for upgradation of PG ISM Colleges.
4. Scheme for Grant-in-Aid for upgradation of PG Homoeo Colleges.
5. *Central Council for Research in Yoga and Naturopathy (CCRYN)*
 - (i) Setting up of Yoga/Naturopathy Treatment-cum-Propagation Centres and Patient care Centres.
 - (ii) For running one year Diploma Course in Yoga and Naturopathy.
 - (iii) Research Schemes.
 - (iv) For conducting Workshop/Seminars/Conferences in Yoga and Naturopathy.
6. *Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy (CCRH)*
 - (i) August Nursing Home, Kerala.
 - (ii) Amla Cancer Reserch Institute, Kerala.
7. *Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Sidha (CCRAS)*
 - (i) Special Research Project in Ayurveda by Dhootapaeshwar Maharashtra.

- (ii) Qushadi Nirman and their clinical tribals for treatment of Cancer in Andhra Pradesh.
- (iii) Research in Tribal Medicine in Orissa.

Irrigation Projects in U.P.

*355. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the Irrigation projects in Uttar Pradesh on which work is going on alongwith the estimated cost thereof, separately;

(b) the time by which the construction work of these projects is likely to be completed;

(c) whether the Government propose to modernise all the irrigation projects in Uttar Pradesh;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (c). A statement is enclosed.

STATEMENT

Details of Ongoing/Completed Major, Medium and Term Irrigation Projects during VIII Plan in Uttar Pradesh.

S.No.	Name of Projects	Latest Estimated Cost	Likely date of Completion
1	2	3	4
A Major Project			
1.	Urmil Dam	23.91	Completed in 93-94
2.	Gandak Canal	158.77	Completed in 94-95
3.	Mondha Dam	138.00	To complete in 96-97
4.	Bewar Feeder	50.50	To complete in 96-97
5.	Chitradurga	35.70	To complete in 96-97
6.	Madhya Ganga Canal	543.96	Beyond 8th Plan
7.	Sarda Sahayak Proj.	1250.00	Beyond 8th Plan
8.	Saryu Nahar Proj.	1256.00	Beyond 8th Plan
9.	Eastern Ganga Canal	579.00	Beyond 8th Plan
10.	Sone Pump Canal	72.85	Beyond 8th Plan
11.	Gyanpur Pump Canal	136.80	Beyond 8th Plan
12.	Lakhwar Vyasi Dam	480.00	Beyond 8th Plan
13.	Jamrani Dam	280.00	Beyond 8th Plan
14.	Rajghat Dam (UP Share)	133.08	Beyond 8th Plan
	Rajghat Canal (UP)	129.24	Beyond 8th Plan
15.	Bansagar Dam (UP Share)	234.00	Beyond 8th Plan
	Bansagar Canal (UP)	268.00	Beyond 8th Plan
	Bansagar Canal (MP)	26.92	Beyond 8th Plan

1	2	3	4
16.	Tehri Dam (UP Share)	581.58	Beyond 8th Plan
17.	Kanhar Irrigation	174.27	Beyond 8th Plan
18.	Chambal Lift Irri.	60.63	Beyond 8th Plan
19.	Jarauli Pump Canal	35.00	Beyond 8th Plan
20.	Kishau Dam	498.14	Beyond 8th Plan
B. Medium Project			
1.	Providing Kharif Channels in Hindon Krishni Doab	29.72	Beyond 8th Plan
2.	Guntanala Dam	22.15	To complete in 96-97
3.	Pathrai Dam	38.38	To complete in 96-97
C. Extension, Renovation and Modernisation Projects			
1.	I/C of Zamina P.C.	42.82	Completed in 92-93
2.	Rev. Kawano P.C.	21.02	Completed in 92-93
3.	Re. Mod. of Ken Canal	5.53	Completed in 93-94
4.	I/C of Narinpur P.C.	61.50	Completed in 95-96
5.	Raising Maja Dam	52.18	To completed in 96-97
6.	Rev. Tols Pump Canal	35.19	To completed in 96-97
7.	Mod. of Ghaghar Canal	36.96	To completed in 96-97
8.	Mod. of Arga Canal	51.53	Beyond 8th Plan
9.	Upper Ganga Irri. Mod.	725.40	Beyond 8th Plan
10.	Lining of Channels	48.78	Beyond 8th Plan
11.	Mod. of Lachura H/W	60.00	Beyond 8th Plan
12.	New Tajewala Barrage	25.00	Beyond 8th Plan

Note :

I/C	=	Increasing capacity	Mod.	=	Modernisation
Rev.	=	Revised	H/W	=	Head Works
P.C.	=	Pump Canal	Irri.	=	Irrigation
Re. Mod.	=	Remodelling			

(e) Under the new scheme of Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme, launched by Central Government, Central loan assistance of an amount of Rs.67.00 crores has been approved for 1996-97 and Rs.33.5 crores have been released for the following projects of Uttar Pradesh :-

		(Rs. in crores)	
S.No.	Name of the Project	Amount of Central Loan assistance 1996-97	Approved Released
1	2	3	4

Major Projects

1.	Sarda Sahayak (III Plan)	20	10
2.	Sarya Nahar (V Plan)	18	9
3.	Upper Ganga including Madhya Ganga	20	10

1	2	3	4
4.	Rajghat	6	3
Medium Project :			
1.	Guntanala Band	2	1
2.	Providing Kharif channel in Hindon Krishni Doab	1	0.5
		67	33.50

[English]

Height of Periyar Dam

*356. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Technical Committee of Experts appointed by Government of Kerala has given its

recommendations with regard to raising the height of the Periyar Dam

(b) if so, the details of recommendations;

(c) whether any study has been made regarding the causes for the breach in the forebay Dam Periyar in Tamil Nadu; and

(d) if so, the details of findings and total loss caused by the breach?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Expert Committee appointed by the Government of Kerala to study the entire aspects relating to the rising of the storage level of the Mulla Periyar Dam has recommended that it is not prudent and advisable to increase the storage Level of the dam to elevation of 152 ft. from elevation of 136 ft.

(c) No information has been received by the Ministry of Water Resources or the Central Water Commission (CWC) about breach in the forebay of Mulla Periyar Dam and no study has been conducted on this issue by the team of CWC.

(d) Does not arise.

Waste Disposal

*357. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether incineration is not perfect to solve the problem of waste produced by hospitals in the country, particularly in the capital;

(b) whether a Seminar was held recently in Delhi to find ways to solve this problem; and

(c) if so, the policy adopted for waste disposal and the guidelines issued to all the hospitals in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Incineration is one of the methods available for disposal of Hospital waste. Alternative System of disposal is adopted for hospital waste that cannot be incinerated such as shredding, auto-cleaning etc.

(b) Several Seminars have been held in Delhi to discuss various aspect of hospital waste management. Recently, a national Symposium on Medical Waste Management was held on the 27-28th September, 1996, at All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi.

(c) The Ministry of Environment and Forests had notified draft Bio-Medical Wastes (Management & Handling) Rules, 1995 on 24.4.1995 for eliciting opinion/objections of the public and concerned agencies likely to be affected. These draft rules, inter-alia, provide that every hospital, nursing home, clinic having more than 30 beds or catering to more than thousand patients per

months should install an incinerator in its premises and all bio-medical wastes which are not incinerable should be pre-treated, disinfected and disposed of in an environmentally sound manner. The Supreme Court in its order dated 7.5.1996 directed that incinerator or any other equally effective alternative should be installed in all hospitals/nursing homes with more than 50 beds in Delhi.

The Central Pollution Control Board has circulated guidelines for waste disposal and has laid down standards for incinerators.

National Council for Development of Urdu

*358. SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the composition of the National Council for Development of Urdu;

(b) the achievement of the Council since its inception; and

(c) the programme of action and funds allocated for the year 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) to (c). The composition of the National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language is as follow :-

Chairman : Minister for Human Resource Development

Vice Chairman : Shri Raj Bahadur Gaur

Members :

1. Shri Rajeinder Malhotra
2. Dr. Narinder Luther
3. Prof. Jagan Nath Azad
4. Dr. (Ms) Laiq Salah
5. Ms. Jeelani Banu
6. Sh. L.K. Gulati
7. Prof. Malakzada Manzoor Ahmed
8. Dr. Gopi Chand Narang
9. Prof. Abdul Mughni
10. Prof. Nizamuddin S. Gorekar
11. Sh. Shahid Siddiqui
12. Sh. Abdul Faiz Sahar
13. Sh. Kashmiri Lal Zakir
14. Ms. Salma Siddique
15. Sh. A.S. Malihabadi
16. Sh. Mustaba Hussain
17. Prof. Mohd. Zaman Azurda
18. Syed Manzoor Ahmed
19. Shri Syed Azam Hussain

20. Prof. (Ms) Sayeda Saiyeden

21. Prof. S.M.H. Rizvi

22. Sh. S.G.A. Naqvi

Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities (or) his representative Joint Secretary (Languages), Deptt. of Education.

Financial Adviser, M/O H.R.D.

Chairman, Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology, New Delhi.

Director, Central Instt. of Indian Languages, Mysore.

Director, Central Hindi Directorate, New Delhi.

Director, Kendriya Hindi Shikshan Mandal, Agra.

Director, National Council for Educational Research & Training, New Delhi.

Sh. D.P. Sharma, Joint Secreary and Legal Adviser, M/O Law.

Since its inception on 1.4.1996 the National Council for promotion of Urdu Language has made the following achievements:-

Published the following :-

- (a) English-Urdu Dictionary - 3rd Volume
- (b) Urdu Encyclopaedia - 1st Volume
- (c) Wazahati Kitabiat - Vol. III

The following have been sent to press for preparation :-

- (a) English-Urdu Dictionary - Vol. II & IV
- (b) Urdu Encyclopaedia - Vol. II

A five days terminology seminar on Agriculture has been held and finalised 600 terms. Examinations/Interviews were supervised in 100 calligraphy training centres and typing/ shorthand centres. Besides, one Book exhibition was held at Hyderabad.

The Programme of action for the year 1996-97 is as follows:-

- (i) Urdu Encyclopaedia 2 volumes
- (ii) English Urdu Dictionary in 3 volumes
- (iii) Glossaries (English-Urdu) - 3 volumes
- (iv) Titles - 15
- (v) Establishment Calligraphy Training Centres - 2
- (vi) Examinations/Interviews in 48 centres
- (vii) Book Exhibition - 4
- (viii) Seminar - 1
- (ix) Sale of books - 6 lakhs

The funds allocated for the National Council for promotion of Urdu Language for the year 1996-97 is Rs.100 lakhs.

Decontrolled Medicines

*359. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a list of decontrolled medicines has been prepared for monitoring their cost by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which success has been achieved by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (c). No such list has been prepared. However, studies are conducted on the price trend of medicines through monitoring of the wholesale price index of drugs and market surveillance to guard against abnormal price increase.

Heart Disease

*360. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :
SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been considerable increase in the number of persons, who die from heart disease in the country;

(b) the average rate of persons who die from heart disease every years;

(c) the ratio of persons died due to heart attack in comparison with other countries;

(d) whether the Government propose to make the treatment of heart disease cheaper so that the poor patients suffering from heart disease could be saved; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and other measures - preventive as well as curative being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (c). Data on heart diseases in the country as a whole is not available, as such deaths are not notifiable by cause. However, the Report of Registrar General of India on Cause of Death Survey (Rural) 1993 indicates that 13.8% of deaths are due to diseases or circulatory system which includes most of the cardio vascular disease. The comparison of ratio of persons died due to heart attack with other countries is as per statement.

(d) and (e). There is no such proposal. A Pilot Project on Control of Cardio Vascular Disease has been initiated by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare in five States, namely Delhi, Haryana, Assam, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh. This project has the objectives of

providing primary prevention by information, education and communications on lifestyle management of risk factors and also by secondary prevention through early diagnosis and treatment of these diseases.

STATEMENT

Ratio of persons estimated to have died due to heart attack in the year 1990 in our country in comparison to other countries

	Total Deaths (In Thou- sands)	Deaths due to IHD (In Thou- sands)	Ratio
World	49,971	5147	0.1029
Developed Countries	10,883	2678	0.2460
Developing regions	39,088	2469	0.0631
Established major Economies	7,121.2	1561.6	0.2192
Formerly Socialist Countries of Europe	3,761	1116.3	0.2967
Sub Saharan Africa	7,937	109.1	0.0137
Latin America	2,992	269.1	0.0899
Middle East	4,384	276.6	0.0631
Other Asian countries	5,519	589.2	0.1067
China	8,895	441.8	0.0496
India	9,371	783.2	0.0835

Source : Compiled from paper entitled "Global and regional cause of death patterns in 1990" by Murray and Lopez in WHO Bulletin, Volume 72, No. 3, 1994.

Negligence of Doctors

3285. SHRI G.M. KUNTURKAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Medical Council of India has conducted any inquiry against the death case of young boy at Sir Gangaram Hospital;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Medical Council of India (MCI) on receipt of a complaint from Shri B.S. Makhhol regarding the death of his son due to negligence of doctors at Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, New Delhi conducted an inquiry against the concerned doctors and found that there was a prima-facie case which merited follow-up action. The MCI has requested the concerned State Medical Councils, i.e. Punjab State

Medical Council and the Haryana State Medical Council to take appropriate action.

(c) Action is required to be taken by the State Medical Councils which have been constituted under the respective State Legislative Act. The MCI has made the inquiry and sent the report to the State Medical Councils for taking appropriate action against the erring doctors.

Western Express Highway

3286. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to construct New National Way called Western Express Highway from Vadodra to Mumbai; and

(b) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). The proposal is in conceptual stage and it is too early to give any detail.

State Councils for Child Welfare

3287. SHRI A SAMPATH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of that certain State Councils for Child Welfare are not functioning properly;

(b) whether the complaints have received on the irregularities on the functioning of the Kerala State Council for Child Welfare;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the measures or actions have been taken so far?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMALI) : (a) and (b). No, Sir.

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

Setting up of Ayurvedic Medicine Manufacturing Unit

3288. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have considered the proposal of the Kerala Government to set up an Ayurvedic Medicine Manufacturing Unit by HARIGIRIFED in Kerala under the N.C.D.C. sponsored Scheme which costs Rs. 110.50 lakhs;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether the Union Government propose to direct the N.C.D.C. for speedy disposal of this venture aimed at the welfare of SC/ST Community?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) The NCDC during March 1996 received a proposal from Govt. of Kerala alongwith a feasibility project report for setting up of an Ayurvedic Medicine Manufacturing Unit by the Kerala State Federation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Development Cooperatives Ltd., at an estimated cost of Rs. 110 lakhs.

(b) The project, for setting up of an Ayurvedic Manufacturing Unit involving a block cost of Rs.110.42 lakhs, is proposed to be implemented by the Kerala State Federation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The feasibility report submitted alongwith the proposal has been examined. The NCDC has informed the State Govt. that the report has not covered some of the vital aspects of the terms of reference while a few points have been inadequately covered. The list of points which were required to be covered as per the terms of reference prescribed by NCDC, have been communicated to the State Govt.

(c) Further Action on the proposal submitted by the State Govt. shall be taken by NCDC only after receipt of requisite modification in the report covering the agreed terms of reference.

[Translation]

Steamer Service between Calcutta & Silchar

3289. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to start steamer service between Calcutta and Silchar; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). There already exists riverine cargo transport service between Calcutta and Karimganj/Badarpur through Bangladesh. This route is open to traffic for the period May-mid November every year and is closed for rest of the year due to non-availability of adequate draft. The stretch between Badarpur and Silchar in the river Barak is not navigable at present, as experienced by Central India Water Transport Corporation Ltd. There is no proposal for commencement of service between Calcutta and Silchar.

Admission in Navyug Schools

3290. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any quota for the children of the employees of New Delhi Municipal Council for admission in the Navyug Schools in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the number of such students in Navyug School in Laxmibai Nagar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) According to the information furnished by the New Delhi Municipal Council there is no quota for wards of NDMC employees for admission to Navyug Schools in Delhi.

(b) Does not arise.

Appointment of Principals in Colleges of Delhi

3291. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Union Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "panel mein nam nahin tha phir bhi niyukta kar diya pracharaya ne" appearing in the daily 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated October 27, 1996;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A factual report on the allegations made in the news-items has been called for from the University and any further action in the matter would be possible after the same is received.

Treatment to Retired Officers & Jawans of Air Force

3292. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to make available treatment for heart diseases and Cancer free of cost by the courtesy of Air-men Wives Welfare Association to the retired officers and Jawans of Air Force and their family members;

(b) if so, the detail thereof and the amount proposed to be spent by the Union Government for the said work and the time by hospital for the purpose is likely to be set up;

(c) whether Government propose to set up any such hospital for the retired officers and jawans of Army and navy and their family members; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (d). Air force have set up a Super Speciality Veteran Hospital at

Subroto Park, New Delhi, from their Welfare and non-Public Funds. At present, this is an enterprises outside Government purview. A request has, however, also been received for financial assistance of Rs.6.00 crores from the National Defence Fund for this Hospital.

2. The Super Speciality Veteran Hospital will have 54 beds and it will provide specialised treatment for Cardiac, Renal, Orthopaedics and Malignant Diseases. The hospital is primarily meant for retired Indian Air Force personnel and their families. Surplus beds if available will be offered to retired personnel of Army and Navy.

3. At present, the Army and Navy have no proposal for setting up of hospitals for ex-servicemen. The ex-Servicemen of the three Services and their families are provided medical facilities in Service hospitals except for psychiatric treatment, cancer treatment, kidney transplantation and coronary bypass surgery. For the treatment of these ailments financial assistance is provided under the Group Insurance schemes of the Armed Forces. Under the Group Insurance scheme, an amount of Rs.1.00 lakh is paid for heart treatment, Rs.75,000/- for Cancer treatment, Rs.1.00 lakh for Renal transplant and Rs.75,000/- for hip and knee joint replacement. Those ex-servicemen who are not covered under the medical insurance schemes, are provided financial assistance upto 60% of total expenditure on treatment of serious diseases, e.g., by-pass surgery, angiography, kidney renal transplant, cancer, coronary artery surgery, etc., by the Kendriya Board.

[English]

IIM in Kerala and Madhya Pradesh

3293. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had decided to set up Indian Institute of Management in Kerala and Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether the decision in each case was taken together;

(c) if so, when;

(d) whether Kerala has been asked to deposit Rs.17 crores and Madhya Pradesh Rs. 5 crores for the purpose; and

(e) if so, the reasons for discrimination in the matter of the amount of deposit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (e) The Government of India had approved setting up of two new India Institutes of Management in Calicut (Kerala) and Indore (Madhya Pradesh) in the year 1995

with a total cost of Rs. 43.10 crore for each institute. The State Government of Kerala offered to bear 40% of the initial cost and land free of cost while the State Government of Madhya Pradesh agreed to provide financial assistance of Rs. 5.00 crore and land free of cost.

Lease Agreement for Dry Dock

3294. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether CPT had leased any dry dock to M/s. Chokhani Shipyard (Bengal Ltd.) in a clandestine manner;

(b) whether Chokhani Limited is a defaulter of huge sums to CPT; and

(c) if so, the action that has been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No. Sir, Calcutta Port Trust had leased out N.S. Dry Docks-I and II with adjacent land to M/s. Chokhani Shipyard (Bengal) Ltd. for a period of 30 years w.e.f. from 1.9.1994 by inviting Tenders.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As per the Memorandum of Understanding signed between Calcutta Port Trust (CPT) and Chokhani Shipyard (Bengal) Ltd (CSBL), a notice was issued to the party to clear the outstanding dues before 1.3.96. Since CSBL failed to clear the outstanding dues, CPT resumed the above two Dry Docks on 1.3.1996.

World Bank Loan for Roads and Bridges

3295. SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of loans and advances taken from the World Bank, Asian Development Bank and other International financial institutions during the last three years for construction and improvement/repair of new National Highways/bridges;

(b) whether the total loan amount was spent on the related projects; and

(c) if not, the details of the diversion of such loans and advances alongwith reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Details are enclosed as per Statement.

(b) Since the projects under these loans/grant are still in progress, the total loan/grant amount is yet to be spent.

(c) Expenditure incurred on the projects are reimbursed by respective lending agencies and hence, diversion of each loans and grant, does not arise.

STATEMENT

(a) Details of loans and grant-in-aid signed with the World Bank, Asian Development Bank and other international financial institutions during the last three years for construction and improvement/repair of National Highways/bridges are as under :

International institution	Amount of loan	Date of signing	Project
1. World Bank	Nil	-	-
2. Asian Development Bank	US\$ 245 million	March 1995	National Highway projects in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Haryana, Rajasthan and West Bengal. (about 332 kms)
3. Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund, Japan	Japanese Yen 10037 million	Jan, 1994	Construction of Yamuna bridge of Naini near Allahabad on NH 27 in Uttar Pradesh.
4. -do-	Japanese Yen 11360 million	Jan, 1994	Four laning of Chilkalarupet Vijayawada section of NH 5 in Andhra Pradesh.
5. -do-	Japanese Yen 5836 million	Feb, 1995	Four laning of Ghaziabad-Hapur section including Hapur bypass on NH 24 in Uttar Pradesh.
6. -do-	Japanese Yen 4827 million	Feb, 1995	Four laning of Jagatpur-Chandikhol section of NH 5 in Orissa.
7. Japan International Cooperation Agency (grant-in-aid)	Japanese Yen 2830 million	Jan, 1995 and Sept, 1995	Construction of Second Nizamuddin Bridge across river Yamuna in Delhi on NH 24.

Strengthening of Hospitals

3296. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken certain measures to reduce the pressure on Government Hospitals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the expenditure likely to be borne by Government in this regard;

(d) whether any steps have been taken to strengthen the Government hospitals and improve their functioning; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Certain private hospitals functioning in Delhi and its adjoining areas have been recognised for providing specialised treatment and diagnostic procedures to CGHS beneficiaries.

(c) The quantum of the expenditure to be incurred cannot be anticipated at this stage.

(d) and (e). A number of measures have been taken to upgrade the facilities in Central Government hospitals by providing new equipments for diagnostics and therapeutics, supplying essential and life saving drugs and improving patient conveniences. Further, there are already committees set up by the Ministry of Health for looking into specialised problems of the individual hospitals and their requirements and functioning is also reviewed periodically and concrete action instituted where called for. The functioning of the hospitals under the Government of NCT of Delhi is periodically reviewed by that Government and appropriate measures are undertaken wherever necessary.

[Translation]

Protection of Monuments

3297. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have taken some

steps for the protection of the monuments situated in Gujarat particularly in tribal and backward areas:

(b) if so, the names of those ancient monuments situated in Gujarat particularly in the tribal and backward areas which have been selected by the Union Government for providing grants; and

(c) the projectrise amount spent on these monuments during the last year?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) Conservation and maintenance of monuments are taken up as per their actual requirement.

(b) List of centrally protected monuments in Gujarat enclosed, as Statement-I.

(c) Statement enclosed as Statement-II.

STATEMENT-I

List of Centrally Protected Monuments and Sites in Gujarat

S.No.	Locality	Name of monument/site
1	2	3
Gandhinagar District		
1.	Adalaj	Step well with inscription
Ahmedabad District		
2.	Ahmedabad	Achyut Bibi's Masjid and tomb
3.	-do-	Ahmed Shah's mosque
4.	-do-	Astodia Gate
5.	-do-	Azam Khan's Palace
6.	-do-	Ahmedshah's tomb
7.	-do-	Baba Lului's masjid
8.	-do-	Bhadra Tomar
9.	-do-	Bibiji's Masjid at Rajpur
10.	-do-	Brick minars on Railway Station platform
11.	-do-	Dada Harir's Mosque and tomb
12.	-do-	Dada Harir's well
13.	-do-	Darya Khan's tomb
14.	-do-	Dastur Khan's masjid
15.	-do-	Delhi Gate
16.	-do-	Haibat Khan's Masjid
17.	-do-	Inlet to Kankaria tank
18.	-do-	Jami Masjid
19.	-do-	Malik Alam's mosque
20.	-do-	Mata Bhawani's well
21.	-do-	Muhafiz Khan's mosque

1	2	3
22.	Ahmedabad	Nawab Sardar Khan's Roza with its compound
23.	-do-	Panchkuwa Gate
24.	-do-	Queen's in Sarangour
25.	-do-	Qutub Shah's mosque
26.	-do-	Raipur Gate
27.	-do-	Rani Rupawati's mosque in Mirzapur
28.	-do-	Rani Sipri's mosque and tomb
29.	-do-	Sayyid Usman's mosque and tomb
30.	-do-	Shah Alam's tomb with all surrounding buildings in the group
31.	-do-	Shah Khupai masjid
32.	-do-	Shahpur or Kaji Muhammed Chisti's masjid
33.	-do-	Sidi Bashir's minars and tomb
34.	-do-	Sidi Sayyid-masjid
35.	-do-	Teen Darwaza
36.	-do-	Three Gates
37.	-do-	Tomb of Mir Abu Turab
38.	-do-	Tomb near Queen's mosque in Sarangour
39.	-do-	Tomb of the Queens of Ahmedshah
40.	-do-	Dariapur Gate
41.	-do-	Kalupur Gate
42.	-do-	Prembhai Gate
43.	-do-	Sarangpur Gate
44.	Batva	Tombs
45.	Dholka	Jami Masjid
46.	-do-	Khan Masjid
47.	-do-	Khan tank with its sluice
48.	-do-	Malav tank
49.	-do-	Mosque of Balal Khan Ghazi
50.	-do-	Ruined building near the Tanka Masjid
51.	Isanpur	Jethabhai's step well
52.	-do-	Small stone mosque
53.	Makarba	Great mosque
54.	-do-	Great tank, palace and harem
55.	-do-	Pavilion before the tomb of Sheikh Ahmed Khata Gojj Baksh
56.	-do-	Rauzas of Baya Alisar and Bava Ganj Baksh

1	2	3
57.	Makarba	Tomb of Bibi Rajbar
58.	-do-	Tomb of Muhammad Begarah
59.	-do-	Tomb of Sheikh Ahmed Khata Ganj Baksh
60.	Mandal	Jami Masjid
61.	-do-	Kazi Masjid
62.	-do-	Sayyid Masjid
63.	Paldi Kochrah	Small stone mosque
64.	Ranpur	Masjid of Rajusha Pir
65.	Vasna	Rauza of Assam Khan and Moazzam Khan
66.	Viramgam	Mans ur talav and Shrines.
Amreli District		
67.	Amreli	Ancient site known as Gohilwad Timbo
68.	Mul Dwarka	Ranchodrai temple and Kusheswar Mahadev temple
69.	Padarsinga	Walls of Kashivisvanath temple having frescoes on them
70.	Venivadar	Ancient site
Baroda District		
71.	Amarapura	Microlithic site
72.	Baroda	Frescoes on the walls of Tambakar Wada
73.	-do-	Historic site
74.	Dabhoi	Baroda Bhagol (Gate) and the adjoining construction
75.	-do-	Bara Bhagal with the adjoining construction
76.	Dabhoi	Mahudi (Champaneri) Bhagol (Gate) and the adjoining construction.
77.	-do-	Nandodi Gate with the adjoining construction
78.	-do-	Saptamukhi Vav in Dabhoi tank
79.	Danteswar	Hajira
80.	Karvan	Ancient site
81.	-do-	Gateway or Tarana
Bhavnagar District		
82.	Sihor	Ancient mound 1 1/2 miles from the Brahma Kund
83.	-do-	Darbargadh
84.	Talaja	Jain temples
85.	-do-	Talaja Caves

1	2	3
86.	Vallabhipur	Ancient mound
Broach District		
87.	Baroch	Jami Masjid
Jamnagar District		
88.	Ba-radia	Ram Lakshman Temple excluding Mahaprabhuji's baithak
89.	Dhinki	Gadhi and Shrine.
90.	Dhrasanvel	Magdehru temple
91.	Dwarka	Kshtrapa inscribed stone in the Public Library compound
92.	-do-	Rukamini temple
93.	Cop	Gop temple
94.	Lowrali	Gokeshwar Mahadev temple
95.	Nave Dhrewar	Kalika Mata temple
96.	Pindara	Durvasa Rishi's Ashram and its site
97.	Vasai	Junagadhi temple
98.	-do-	Kankeshwar Mahadev temple and other temples
99.	Dwarika	Dwarkadhish group of temples
99A.	-do-	Ancient site known as Sandhyapur
99B.	Goruj	Ancient Site.
Junagadh District		
100.	Intwa	Ancient mound
101.	Junagadh	Ashokan Pock
102.	-do-	Caves
103.	Mangrol	Jami Masjid, Rahimat Masjid and Ravelt Masjid
104.	Niyani	Old Parsvanath temple
105.	Porbandar	House where Mahatma Gandhi was born
Kaira Districts		
106.	Barsad	Step well
107.	Cambay	Jami Masjid
108.	Mehmadabad	Bhamaria wall
109.	Sarnal	Temple of Gakteswara
110.	Sajali	Tomb of Mubarak Sayyid.
111.	-do-	Tombs of Saif-ud-din and Nizam-ud-din.
Kutch District		
112.	Bhuj	Tomb of Rao Lakha Chatri
113.	Kotai	Siva temple

1	2	3
Mehsana District		
114.	Anavada and Sa malpati	Sahasralinga Talao
115.	Asoda	Jasmalnathji Mahadev temple
116.	Dolmal	Limboji Mata temple
117.	Khandosan	Hingloji Mata temple
118.	-do-	Sabha Mandap and two ancient shrines near Hingloji Mata temple
119.	Modhera	Sun temple, Sun tank, kund and carved stones with images, temples and underground cell
120.	Palodar	Malai Mata temple
121.	Patan	Gate of Khan Sarovar
122.	-do-	Rani Vav
123.	-do-	Sheikh Farid Dargah and Rauza
124.	Piludara	Sitala Mata temple
125.	-do-	Torana of Surya temple
126.	Ruhavi	Nilakantheswar Mahadev temple
127.	Sander	Two small shrines near Sanderi Mata temple
128.	Sidhpur	Jama Masjid
129.	-do-	Ruins of Rudra Mahalaya
130.	Sunak	Nilakantheswara Mahadev temple
131.	-do-	Sivai Mata temple
132.	Vadnagar	Ajapal Kund
133.	-do-	Inscription of Arjun Bari Gate
134.	-do-	Torana
135.	Vijapur	Vijapur Kund
Panch Mahala District		
136.	Bavka	Old ruined temple of Mahadev
137.	Champaner	Bawa Man's mosque
138.	-do-	Cenotoph of Kevda Masjid
139.	-do-	Cenotoph of Nagina Masjid
140.	-do-	Citadel walls
141.	-do-	City gate near Kasbin Talao
142.	-do-	City Walls at the S.E. corner of the citadel going up the hill
143.	-do-	East and South Bhadra Gates
144.	-do-	Gate No. 1 on Pavagadh hill (with two gateways)
145.	-do-	Gate No.2 (with three gateways)

1	2	3
146.	Champaner	Gate No. 3
147.	-do-	Gate No. 4 with big bastion with cells in the interior
148.	-do-	Gate No. 5 near machi
149.	-do-	Gate No. 6
150.	-do-	Gate No. 7 near Iron bridge
151.	-do-	Gate No. 8 (Tarapur Gate)
152.	-do-	Helical stepped well
153.	-do-	Jami Masjid
154.	-do-	Kabutarkhana pavilion on the north bank of wada Talao near Khajuri Masjid
155.	-do-	Kamani Masjid
156.	-do-	Kavda Masjid
157.	-do-	Lili-Gumbaz-ki-Masjid
158.	-do-	Makai Kothar
159.	-do-	Mandvi or Custom House
160.	-do-	Mint above gate No. 4
161.	-do-	Nagina Masjid
162.	-do-	Navlakha Kothar
163.	-do-	Palace of Patai Rawal with tanks
164.	-do-	Sakar Khan's Dargah
165.	-do-	Sat Manjil between gate Nos. 4 and 5 with steps right upto bastion on top.
166.	-do-	Shaher-ki-Masjid
167.	-do-	The Fort of Pavagadh and the ruined Hindu and Jain temples on the top of Pavagadh hill
168.	-do-	Step well north of Jami Masjid
169.	-do-	Three cells inside the citadel wall between Shaher (Baraki) Masjid and the local Fund Dharmasala
170.	-do-	Tomb with a big dome in the centre and four small corner dome son way to Khajuri masjid near Wada Talao
171.	-do-	Walls of Fort on top
172.	Desar	Rudra Mala
173.	Dohad	Ancient site (Chhaba Talao) Survey No. 1.
174.	Halol	Ek-Minar-ki-Masjid
175.	-do-	Panck-Mahuda-ki-Masjid
176.	-do-	Tomb near Panch Mahuda-ki-Masjid
177.	-do-	Tomb of Sikandar shah

1	2	3
178	Kankanpur	Temple of Mahadev
179	Rattanpur	Old temple with sculptured screen
Rajkot District		
180	Dhank	Dhank Caves
Sabarkantha District		
181	Prantij	Tomb of Sikander Shah
182	Khed & Rado (Raisinghpur)	Group of temples at Khed and Ruda (Raisinghpur)
Surat District		
183	Kamrej	Ancient site
184	Surat	Dargah known as Khwaja Dawa Saheb's Roza
185	-do-	Old Armenian tombs
186	-do-	Old English and Dutch tomb
187	-do-	Tomb of Khwaja Safar Sulemani
188	Vyara	Fateh Burj
Surendranagar District		
189	Anandpur	Ananteshwar Temple
190	Halvad	Darbargadh
191	Rangpur	Ancient mound
192	Sejakpur	Ancient mound
193	-do-	Navlakha temple
194	Than	Sun temple
195	Wadhwan	Ranak Devi's temple
Kuda District		
196	Nadiad	Vithalbhavi Haveli

STATEMENT-II

Statement showing the details of Expenditure incurred on the Monuments under Special Repairs and Maintenance

S.No.	Name of Monument/Site	Amount (Rs.)
1	2	3
1.	Repairs to Teen Darwaja, Ahmedabad	2,19,611/-
2.	Repairs to Group of Monuments, Sarkhej	2,31,692/-
3.	-do- Jami Masjid at Ahmedabad	1,98,261/-
4.	-do- Documentation of Dwarkadhish temple of Dwarka	62,817/-

1	2	3
5.	Repair to Veni Madhav Temple, Dwarka	50,019/-
6.	-do- Gokeswar Mahadev Temple, Lowrali	1,35,959/-
7.	-do- Group of Temples (Sikhara) at Dwarka	3,91,350/-
8.	-do- Galteswar Mahadev Temple, Sarnal	2,17,857/-
9.	-do- Fort Wall on Hill (Near Attack Gate), Pavagadh	1,87,823/-
10.	-do- Jami Masjid (Chainlink) Pavagadh	2,16,342/-
11.	-do- Rani Ki Vav at Patan	12,28,590/-
12.	-do- Shaikh Farid Tomb, Patan	85,061/-
13.	-do- Sahastralinga Tank (Inlet Channel) at Patan	1,49,496/-
14.	-do- Ashokan Rock Edict, Junagadh	1,03,078/-
15.	-do- Citadel Wall (S. Side) Pavagadh	1,77,998/-
16.	-do- Jami Masjid (Structural) Pavagadh	1,81,014/-
17.	-do- Halol Gate (Burj No. 5) Pavagadh	1,84,329/-
18.	-do- Rao Lakha Chhatri at Bhuj (Wire Fencing)	1,95,393/-
19.	-do- Astodia Gate at Ahmedabad	22,760/-
20.	-do- Qutub Shah Mosque, Ahmedabad	1,32,205/-
21.	-do- World Heritage Celebrations at Modhera	10,000/-
22.	-do- to Old English Tomo at Surat	61,580/-
23.	-do- to providing and construction of Pathway to Jami Masjid, Pavagadh	4,230/-
24.	-do- to Surya Kund at Modhera	1,52,728/-
25.	-do- to Nandodi Gate, Dabhoi	49,873/-
26.	-do- to Bhadra Gate and Tower at Ahmedabad	16,849/-
27.	-do- to Ancient Site at Kayavarohan (Chainlink Fencing)	2,47,333/-

[English]

Defence Land to Barrackpore Municipality

3298. SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Barrackpore Municipality have made representation to the Government to hand-over the defence land at Anandapuri, Barrackpore to the Municipality for Children Park and construction of connecting road to Barrackpore Station;

(b) if so, whether several Members of Parliament have also represented this case to the Government;

(c) if so, the reasons for the delay to hand-over the land to the Barrackpore Municipality;

(d) whether the Government propose to issue necessary instructions to the Eastern Command to hand-over this land to the above Municipality; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). As the land is ~~required~~ for meetings Defence requirements, it ~~would not be possible~~ to release the land to Barrackpore Municipality.

(e) Question does not arise.

Opening of KVs

3299. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG :

SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government for opening of Kendriya Vadyalayas in Rayasada in Orissa and in Daltanganj of Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (c). A proposal for opening of a Kendriya Vidyalaya was received which does not fulfil the required norms. No proposal has been received for Daltanganj.

Performance of IITs

3300. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the performance of Indian Institute of Technology (IITs) during the past five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have formulated plans for expansion/upgradation of technical educational facilities at IITs and other technical education institutes in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether World Bank/International financial aid has been provided for setting up technical institutions/upgradation of technical institutions;

(f) if so, the progress achieved under these projects State-wise and particularly in Maharashtra; and

(g) the details of ongoing projects proposed for financial assistance from International agencies and present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) and (b). The Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) are Institutes of National Importance established under the Institutes of Technology Act, 1961 as amended from time to time and are governed by the respective Boards of Governors and other statutory authorities as provided in the Act. A central body called the Council of IITs oversees the functioning of the IITs and gives directions as per the Act. No formal review for all the IITs together has been conducted during the past 5 years.

(c) and (d). Expansion/upgradation of technical education facilities in the country is a continuous process and is taken care of by the Council for Technical Education (AICTE) in terms of entire technical education system in the country and also the respective State Governments as well as Scientific and R & D organisations. This includes introduction of new courses, programmes, R & D activities and modernising the infrastructural facilities as per the changing needs.

(e) to (g). There is a major World Bank assisted project with a total cost of Rs. 1650 crore including the World Bank assistance from IDA Credit of US \$ 517 million for improving the overall quality of technician education in the country particularly with regard to capacity expansion, quality improvement and efficiency improvement. The Project also covers polytechnics in the State of Maharashtra alongwith 18 other States and Union Territories. The overall progress under the Project has been commended by the various World Bank Mission.

Health Care

3301. SHRI HARADHAN ROY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are spending very little amount of health care in each State and Union Territory;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the per capita public expenditure incurred on health care/medicines/disease prevention in each State and Union Territory;

(d) the per capita spending (in terms of constant 1980-81 prices) on public health - State-wise and Union Territory-wise during the last three years, year-wise;

(e) whether there is any proposal to increase the present into;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) the total expenditure borne by the Government as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b). The state Government spending on health is about 3-4% of their total plan expenditure.

(c) and (d). The per capita Government expenditure on health at current prices for the period 1991-92 to 1993-94 is given in the Statement. This is exclusive of

expenditure on Family Welfare. The per capita expenditure on public health at constant 1980-81 prices is not available.

(e) to (g). For finalisation of the Ninth Five Year Plan, several Working Groups have been set up by the Planning Commission. Further details will be known after the finalisation of Ninth Five Year Plan.

STATEMENT

Per Capita Government Expenditure on Health for the years 1991-92 to 1993-94 at Current Prices

S.No.	State/ UT	Total Expenditure : Health (Rs. lacs)			Population in lacs as on 1st October			Per capita expenditure (in Rs.)		
		1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1991	1992	1993	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
1.	Andhra Pra.	25524	33245	38973	672.18	684.33	696.37	38	49	56
2.	Arunachal Pra.	1939	2202	2395	8.77	8.99	9.21	221	245	260
3.	Assam	10616	12041	14183	227.05	232.11	237.21	47	52	60
4.	Bihar	26844	27759	30311	875.06	894.69	914.47	31	31	33
5.	Goa	2480	2823	3156	11.83	12.07	12.3	210	234	257
6.	Gujarat	21530	21758	26898	417.57	425.22	432.82	52	51	62
7.	Haryana	6734	7890	8163	166.83	170.59	174.31	40	46	47
8.	Himachal Pra.	7228	7881	8758	52.28	53.28	54.29	138	148	161
9.	J and K	12522	13649	13914	78.2	79.97	81.78	160	171	170
10.	Karnataka	23654	30328	27192	454.06	461.32	468.43	52	66	58
11.	Kerala	20644	23893	28326	293.42	297.6	301.77	70	80	94
12.	M.P.	26110	26953	33496	669.87	683.72	697.51	39	39	48
13.	Maharashtra	42735	49930	54401	798.43	814.25	830.4	54	61	66
14.	Manipur	2197	2299	2407	18.62	19.06	19.05	118	121	123
15.	Meghalaya	2537	3160	3396	1799	18.4	18.83	141	172	180
16.	Mizoram	1633	2007	2387	7.02	7.25	7.47	233	277	320
17.	Nagaland	3358	3120	4185	12.32	12.71	15.12	273	245	319
18.	Orissa	13252	13352	14410	320.06	326.06	332.08	41	41	43
19.	Punjab	18246	18888	20432	204.67	207.81	210.87	89	91	97
20.	Rajasthan	22172	26871	27638	445.73	455.5	465.24	50	59	59
21.	Sikkim	1260	1520	2290	4.14	4.28	4.41	304	355	519
22.	T. Nadu	42945	47157	51092	561.96	567.67	573.26	76	83	89
23.	Tripura	3325	3063	3316	27.94	28.50	29.25	119	107	113
24.	U.P.	46906	59982	62582	1405.94	1431.45	1456.91	33	42	43
25.	W.B.	42218	43354	45042	687.66	699.63	711.75	61	62	63
26.	Delhi			13003			103.13			126
27.	Pondicherry	2032	2106	2570	8.17	8.34	8.51	249	253	302
28.	Centre*	58159	74869	73184						
Total		488800	562100	618100	8557.03	8718.43	8879.2	57	64	70

Source : 1. National Accounts Statistics

2. Registrar General's Office for Population

Note : Expenditure on health does not include Medical and Health expenditure on defence services.
includes UT's without legislature.

Port Based Captive Power Projects by Private Sector

3302. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to issue guidelines to encourage the setting up of port based captive power projects by private sector;

(b) if so, whether these guidelines are a part of the scheme relating to privatisation of port development;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which these are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (d). Government has issued fresh guidelines for private sector participation in port sector projects. This includes private sector participation in setting up of captive power plants. Following are the guidelines for setting up the captive power plants through private sector :

- (i) The need for the project will be assessed by the Port.
- (ii) Guidelines of Ministry of Power and other authorities like Central Electricity Authority/ State Electricity Board etc. have to be followed and clearance, if any, obtained.
- (iii) Open tenders will be invited with the stipulation that modern machinery/technology will be installed and in new condition.
- (iv) Bids will be invited based on two-cover system consisting of technical of technical and financial bids. Financial bids of only those bidders will be opened who have been technically qualified;
- (v) The private sector participation would be on BOT basis with a licence period to be decided by the Port Trust in each case with a maximum period not exceeding 30 years (including construction period) after which the facility will revert back to Port free of cost.
- (vi) The tariff for the electricity sold to the Port would be fixed by the Port Trust in terms of the tender. It should in any case not be more than the State Electricity Board tariff applicable to the Port.
- (vii) The Port may charge an upfront fee and lease rent for the land for the Captive Power Plant at market rates. The basis of financial evaluation will be the lowest tariff quoted for sale of electricity to the Port.
- (viii) Environmental Clearance and other statutory clearances will be obtained by the Port Trust.

(ix) The electricity requirement of the Port should be fully met and thereafter the entrepreneur may be permitted to sell its surplus power.

(x) Specified level of supply of power to the Port will be maintained by the BOT developer, failing which penalties should be imposed.

Future tenders would be based on the above guidelines.

Cobalt Therapy Unit

3303. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any representation from Kerala Government regarding Central assistance for setting up of Cobalt Tele-Therapy unit and Radio Therapy facility in Medical College, Thrissur, Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The proposal for financial assistance is to be placed before the Standing Committee on Radiotherapy Development Programme.

Linking of Technical/Engineering Colleges to NICNRT

3304. SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the All India Council of Technical Education and National Information Centre have launched a joint project for linking all the technical/ engineering colleges in the country to NICNRT and World wide;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time schedule for implementation;

(c) the details of engineering colleges and number of students to be covered under the scheme, State-wise and for Maharashtra State in particular; and

(d) the details of investment proposed for the current year in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (d). Though All India Council for Technical

Education (AICTE) is exploring possibilities for establishing a network through National Information Centre (NIC) in order to inter connect around 450 institutions in the country which are imparting education in engineering/technology, including institutions of national importance like IITs, IISc., Bangalore, Technical Universities, Government and Private Colleges, the details have not yet been finalised.

All India Council of Physical Education and Sports Sciences

3305. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the present status of the long pending act of 1944 to create an All India Council of Physical Education and Sports Sciences (AICPESS) in order to monitor uniformly updated sports science and physical education in the country;

(b) whether this Act, is being put on the agenda of the current Session of Parliament;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the manner in which we are planning to make sports as an integral part of our general education at school and that of higher education colleges and Physical Education teachers to schools in the desired student teacher ratio nor is there any provision of required number of periods in the time table?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DHANUSHKODI ATHITHAN R.) : (a) to (c). A draft bill for the All India Council for Physical Education has been circulated to all concerned Ministries/Departments, State Governments/Union Territories administrations and all other agencies for comments. The views and opinions called for have been received excepting from some State Governments/Union Territories administrations. It is proposed to introduce the Bill before Parliament only after obtaining comments from the remaining State Governments/UT Administrations.

(d) The K.P. Singh Deo Committee on Physical Education and Sports constituted by the Govt. of India has recommended the integration of Physical Education and Sports with educational curriculum in schools as a part of the learning process. The Govt. of India has accepted the recommendations of the Committee and requested the State Governments to implement these recommendations. The Committee has also recommended assigning 40 minutes a day to Physical Education and Sports in Schools and imparting Physical Education training to teachers through pre service and in-service courses.

[Translation]

Ring Road in Agra, U.P.

3306. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to construct Ring Road in Agra to save Taj from vehicular pollution;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The proposals are at conceptual stage.

Medicinal Shrubs

3307. SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether medicinal shrubs are not available all over India due to the cutting of forests on large scale;

(b) the efforts made by the Ministry to get the shrubs; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b). Some medicinal shrubs are not available in required quantity due to deforestation and extensive exploitation. The Government have initiated various schemes for conservation and propagation of such medicinal plants.

(c) Does not arise.

Pace Makers

3308. SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of hospitals in the country where the facility of fixing of 'Pace Makers' on the body of heart patients is available;

(b) the number of patients, who are in need of 'Pace Makers' annually in the country alongwith the details of number of patients who can avail of the said facilities each year;

(c) the estimated cost of single 'Pace Maker';

(d) whether it cost too much and is not available easily, because it is not being manufactured in the country; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and steps being taken for manufacturing of the 'Pace Maker' in the country itself?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) This facility is available at most of the major hospitals.

(b) No such data is available.

(c) to (e). The cost of the Pace Maker ranges from Rs. 25,000/- to Rs. 1,25,000/- depending upon the type of the device. These are easily available in the country. A type of pace maker is now being manufactured in India.

Research Scholars of IITs

3309. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Professors and Research scholars of I.I.Ts are sent to the various countries for research and teaching work;

(b) whether financial assistance is provided to the teachers of colleges and Universities in rural areas for research and higher teaching jobs; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (c). There is no scheme under which financial assistance is provided to the teachers of colleges and universities in Rural areas for research and higher teaching jobs.

[English]

Germany on Kashmir Issue

3310. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether German Defence Minister during his visit to New Delhi called on Pakistan and India to resolve the Kashmir issue under the Shimla Agreement;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Pakistan has responded to this call; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the official discussions which the German Defence Minister held during his visit the Kashmir issue was not raised. However, in a press conference, he called upon India and Pakistan to resolve the Kashmir issue on the basis of the Simla Agreement.

(c) There has been no comment from the Government of Pakistan.

(d) Question does not arise.

New N.H. in Assam

3311. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to State :

(a) whether the Government of Assam has submitted any new projects to construct new National Highways during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present status of these schemes and funds approved therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (d). During the last 3 years, 3 proposals were received from the State of Assam for declaration of State roads into National Highways. However, due to meagre allocation of funds during the 8th Five Year Plan, it has not been possible to agree to any of the proposal.

[Translation]

P.G.I. Hospital, Chandigarh

3312. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the Constitution P.G.I. Chandigarh has presented its annual report for the year 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(b) if so, whether one doctor in department of cardiology has been shown on leave on page 59 of the annual report of 1993-94 which he had availed for further researches and his coming back from the leave has been shown on page 45 of the annual report 1994-95 and his scientific achievements on page 46 to 47;

(c) if so, the reasons for which he has been deprived of annual increment and promotion which has due to him during 1995; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). One Assistant Professor in the Department of Cardiology proceeded on leave in anticipation of the approval of the Competent Authority. Since the leave was unauthorised, disciplinary action was initiated against him under Rule 14 of the C.C.S. (CCA) Rules 1965. On the basis of the enquiry report a penalty was imposed upon him, duly approved by the competent authority.

As a result of the above penalty this doctor was not given his annual increment and promotion in 1995.

[English]

Teachers Training College, Silchar

3313. SHRI DWARAKA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that construction work at Teachers' Training College (Govt. B.Ed. College) Silchar, distt. Cachar of Assam has yet to be taken up by the State P.W.D. Assam for which there has been a Central grant; and

(b) if so, the reasons of such inordinate delay in construction work at the aforesaid college?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Colleges in West Bengal

3314. PROF. JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the grant provided to the colleges in West Bengal by the University Grants Commission under different heads during 1995-96 and 1996-97, college-wise and head-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

By-pass in Andhra Pradesh

3315. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that there is a proposal for construction of "major bypass road" at Nellore in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of length, estimated cost and number of bridges proposed to be constructed on the bypass; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to commence the work with duration by which the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c). The construction of Nellore bypass (18 kms. length), including bridges thereon, is being taken up under Build, Operate and Transfer scheme. The proposals received from the entrepreneurs are under examination and it is too early to indicate the date for commencement of work.

[Translation]

Murhad Irrigation Project

3316. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the Hamid Nagar Pun Pun Murhad irrigation project of Pun Pun river, which is pending since 1952;

(b) if so, the details and reasons for its pendency;

(c) whether one lakh twenty thousand acres of land of Nalanda, Gaya, Jehanabad, Aurangabad districts is estimated to be irrigated on the completion of this project, and lakhs of farmers will be benefited therefrom, and

(d) the time by which the above project will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) A Project Report on "Pun-Pun Morhar Dhardha Irrigation Scheme (Bihar)" first received in Central Water Commission in April, 1981 for Techno-Economic Appraisal.

(b) This project has been pending for want of compliance by the State Government on the comments of various Central Scrutinising Agencies.

(c) 1,42,964 acres of land in the erstwhile districts of Patna and Gaya in Bihar are proposed to be irrigated by this Project.

(d) Though there is prescribed time limit for clearance of Project, the clearance depends upon how soon the State Government complies with the comments of various Central Scrutinising Agencies. Completion of the project depends upon the priority attached to it by the State Government.

[English]

Sainik Samachar

3317. DR. ARVIND SHARMA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the printers of Sainik Samachar submit the paper account alongwith the bills which is settled by Sainik Samachar;

(b) whether Sainik Samachar did not settle the paper account;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the number of paper reams required by printers to complete the issues of different languages from December 1995 to March 1996;

(e) the steps taken by the Government to get those issues completed for despatch to subscribers;

(f) whether contract to print the Sainik Samachar is being given to new printers without concluding the old contract; and

(g) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (g). Under the previous contract which had expired on 30th April, 1996 the printers of Sainik Samachar were required to submit the paper account alongwith the bills, which was then reconciled by the Sainik Samachar. Since the printers, even whilst having an existing backlog of paper available with them, have not been printing the Sainik Samachar on schedule, resulting in a backlog of unpublished issues, there did not appear to be much point in printing issues which had become obsolete and lost their time value. The old contract has been duly concluded on its expiry.

Serious Diseases

3318. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of people suffering from cancer, heart ailment, T.B., goitre, diabetes, mental disorder and other serious diseases separately;

(b) the total number of handicapped people in the country; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) On the basis of various survey and studies conducted, it is estimated that about 6.7 lakhs new cases of cancer occur every year. There are about 40 million cases of Cardiovascular diseases, there are about 14 million people suffering from active T.B., nearly 167 million people are considered to be at risk of developing iodine deficiency disorders of whom about 54 million have goitre, there are about 16 million diabetes mellitus patients and about 9.2 million cases of mental disorder in the country.

(b) It is estimated that there would be about 16.2 million disabled persons in the country.

(c) The Govt. of India have initiated Health Programmes for control of cancer, T.B., iodine deficiency disorders and mental disorders.

Training for Inland Navigators

3319. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of existing training centres and facilities being provided for training personnel engaged in inland navigation;

(b) whether there is any Central Training Institute for advanced level training of senior managerial as well as supervisory personnel engaged in inland navigation; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Training centres for imparting training to crew of inland vessels exist at (i) Chandbali (Orissa) (ii) Goa, and (iii) Guwahati. These institutes are managed by the respective State Govts. using their own resources and competency certificates are issued to trained personnel in selected categories.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Assistance to States for Education

3320. SHRI JAYSINH CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have provided financial assistance to the States for primary, secondary and university education during 1996-97;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to enhance the financial assistance being provided in the said field to the States; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) and (b). The Central Government provides financial assistance to the States/Union Territories for implementing various Centrally Sponsored NPE (National Policy on Education) Schemes such as Operation Blackboard, Non-Formal Education, Teacher Education, Vocationalisation of Secondary Education, Science Education etc. The State-wise details of the financial assistance provided to the States/Union Territories for primary and secondary education during 1996-97 are given at Statement. Information in respect of University Sector is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d). The Government is committed to increase allocation on Education. The goal has been to set apart 6% of the GDP (Gross Domestic Product) for education by the last year of Ninth Five Year Plan i.e. 2001-02. With increased allocation for education, the funds available with the States/UTs for Education will also increase.

STATEMENT

State/Union Territory	(Rs. in lakhs)
1. Arunachal Pradesh	65.72
2. Assam	1185.13
3. Bihar	3469.66
4. Goa	24.39
5. Haryana	115.99
6. Himachal Pradesh	320.75
7. Jammu and Kashmir	19.45
8. Karnataka	966.47
9. Madhya Pradesh	1575.44
10. Maharashtra	2697.90
11. Manipur	131.82
12. Meghalaya	868.58
13. Mizoram	19.44
14. Nagaland	35.65
15. Orissa	4901.68
16. Punjab	446.00
17. Rajasthan	1369.61
18. Tamilnadu	2.67
19. Tripura	20.05
20. Uttar Pradesh	3244.74
21. Chandigarh	24.68
22. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	4.55
23. Daman and Diu	4.65
24. Delhi	171.18

[English]

Operation Black Board

3321. SHRI DINSHA PATEL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) when was the Operation Black Board Scheme launched and with what objectives;

(b) the allocation made to Gujarat under Operation Black Board during the 8th Five Year Plan; and

(c) the extent of success achieved in implementation of the Scheme and the number of class rooms have been constructed under the Scheme in Gujarat during the period, District-wise, separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):

(a) The scheme of Operation Blackboard launched in 1987-88 is a major initiative to provide facilities in primary schools, by providing two all weather class rooms with separate toilet facilities for boys and girls,

a set of teaching learning materials and an additional teacher for single teacher schools.

(b) A sum of Rs. 29.28 Crores has been allocated to Government of Gujarat under Operation Blackboard scheme during 8th Five Year Plan.

(c) Achievements in Gujarat under Operation Blackboard are as follows :

(i) 3569 class rooms have been constructed.

(ii) 2374 additional teachers have been provided in single teacher primary schools.

(iii) 12393 primary schools have been provided Teaching Learning Materials.

The scheme has also been extended to upper primary schools.

Vallar Padam International Container Terminal

3322. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request from Kerala for setting up of Vallar Padam International Container at Cochin;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c). Demands have been raised to contract a modern container terminal at Vallarpadam at Cochin Port which can be used as transshipment port. Cochin Port has been asked to update the feasibility report for the purpose.

Illegal Occupation of Defence Land in Amritsar

3323. SHRI MAJOR SINGH UBOKE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large chunk of the Defence land at Gobindgarh Fort in Amritsar has been usurped by local inhabitants;

(b) whether some people are still extending their occupation on such lands and are also selling it or letting it out to others for construction of houses and shops;

(c) the total area around and belonging to Gobindgarh Fort Amritsar, under illegal occupation; and

(d) the future policy of the Government in regard to these occupations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (c). Approximately, 48.05 acres of Defence land is under encroachment by the private parties in the Gobindgarh

Fort Area of Amritsar. Cases of selling or letting out encroached land to others have not come to the knowledge of the Ministry of Defence.

(d) The future policy in regard to these occupations in being worked out in consultation with DGDE, Army Headquarters and the State Government.

[Translation]

His Holiness Dalai Lama's Political Activities

3324. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA :
DR. VALLABH BHAI KATHIRIA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Bharath Se Dalai lama Ko Gathividhi Ki Ijazath nahi" that appeared in Hindi daily "Hindustan" dated November 18, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether the Prime Minister had given any assurance to Chinese Premier during this visit to Rome in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (d). Prime Minister met the Chinese Premier Li Peng in Rome on 16 November, 1996. During their discussions which covered a number of Subject, Prime Minister informed the Chinese Premier that the position of the Government of India on Tibet and His Holiness, the Dalai Lama, remain unchanged.

[English]

ICDEOL, Shimla

3325. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether an International Centre for Distance Education and Open Learning is being run under the aegis of Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla;

(b) whether students have to pay exorbitant amount for completion of the formalities even for that which are not of their interest; and

(c) if so, the action, the Government propose to take to ameliorate the entire working of the ICDEOL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of Sabha.

Epidemic Diseases

3326. SHRI B. DHARMA BIKSHAM : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of epidemics hunted Delhi during the last three years;

(b) the number of deaths due to Plague; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken to prevent the recurrence of these disease in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Outbreaks of epidemic diseases in Delhi which have been investigated during 1994-96 are as under :

	1994	1995	1996
Acute G.E. including Cholera.		2	-
Jaundice	1	3	3
Viral Fever	1	-	-
Dengue	-	-	1
Chicken Pox	1	-	-
Plague	1	-	-
Malaria	1	-	1

(b) One death due to Plague was reported in Delhi during 1994.

(c) Necessary assistance in the form of investigation, understanding the spread of the disease and laboratory support were provided. A National Apical Advisory Committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Union Health Secretary to formulate a nation-wide disease surveillance network. The action points envisaged under the disease surveillance scheme are collection and flow of information, strengthening of laboratory diagnostic services, networking of centres and continuous monitoring of disease prevalence.

Employment for Burma Repatriate

3327. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that Burma Repatriate having valid documents and duly sponsored by Employment Exchange for Group 'C' & 'D' posts in the Rajendra Memorial Research Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi are being discriminated against for employment; and

(b) if so, the corrective measures Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) According to the information furnished by the ICMR, there has been no such case of discrimination in Rajendra Memorial Research Institute of Medical Sciences which is located at Patna. The only Burma Repatriate in the Institute, who had worked earlier on daily wage basis in different capacities, was appointed as Peon on *ad hoc* basis recently on production of bonafide certificate of his being a Burma Repatriate.

(b) Does not arise.

Accidents on NHs

3328. SHRI VIJAY PATEL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of accidents that have taken place on the National Highways during 1995-96;

(b) the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to control the situation?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Grabbing of Defence Land in Meerut Cantonment

3329. SHRI HARIVANSH SAHAJ : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether defence land worth several crores in Meerut Cantonment has been transferred through sale deeds and mutation carried out in favour of land mafias for construction of commercial complexes in violation of all rules and policy of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Questions does not arise.

[Translation]

Bridge Over Yamuna River

3330. PROF. OMPAL SINGH NIDAR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme is under consideration for the construction of bridge over Yamuna river in Ferozabad district at Shanker Ghat in Uttar Pradesh, during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details therefor and the action taken so far in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) There is no proposal to construct the bridge in question during the Eighth Five Year Plan under any of the Centrally sponsored Schemes.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Device for Heart Patients

3331. SHRI BHIMRAO VISHNUJI BADADE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the American administration have prepared a device for the heart patients which saves the patients from the heart attacks by giving electric shock to the heart;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether Government propose to import the device for the heart patients on "Experimental basis";

(c) if so, the time by which this facility is likely to be provided to the patients in the country; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A device called Implantable cardioverter Defibrillator has been used at a few hospitals in the country for treatment of problems regarding cardia rhythm. There is no proposal to use this device on "experimental basis".

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

Drip/Sprinkle System

3332. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to the concessions and incentives being given for drip/sprinkle system a number of companies have entered into joint ventures with foreign companies and these companies are selling their machines in the name of foreign collaboration;

(b) the number of indigenous companies which are manufacturing such machines themselves and number of companies which are selling foreign made machines;

(c) the names of agencies responsible for the pricing and quality of these machines; and

(d) the points taken into consideration at the time of pricing of there machines and the steps taken by the Government to check inflow of low quality parts?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWER MISHRA) : (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Non-Availability of Medicines

3333. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any shortage of necessary medicines in emergency department of Lala Lajpat Rai Hospital, Kanpur (U.P.);

(b) if so, the detail thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to provide medicines in time and in adequate quantity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Defence Budget

3334. DR. G.R. SARODE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item published in 'India Today' dated October 15, 1996 that fifty percent of the defence budget is spent on the salary; and

(b) if so, the decision of the Government regarding increasing allocation for the modernisation of the defence department?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) and (b). The position of expenditure on Pay and Allowances during last 3 years is given as under :

(Rs.in Crores)

Year	Total Defence Expenditure	Pay and Allowances	Percentage of Defence Budget
1994-95	23245.26	7688.65	33.08
1995-96 (RE)	26879.00	9023.65	33.57
1996-97 (BE)	27798.47	9063.68	32.60

Government is committed to the modernisation and upkeep the Armed Forces. The fund requirements for defence are drawn up in consultation with all concerned wings and services, having due regard to obligatory and committed expenditures, requirements for maintenance, and the needs of modernisation. The aggregate requirements are then projected to the Ministry of Finance for allocation of Funds. The latter Ministry takes due note of the needs of modernisation while making the overall allocation.

[English]

Implementation of Land Boundary Agreement

3335. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any amendment to the Constitution of India is required in terms of Article 3 of the constitution, in regard to implementation of the land boundary agreement with Pakistan/Bangladesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the amendment bill is likely to be brought before the Parliament in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As a part of the legal procedure required for the implementation of India - Bangladesh Land Boundary Agreement, 1974 a consolidated constitutional amendment is necessary to modify the relevant State boundaries under Article 3 of the Constitution incorporating the areas acquired/ceded to Bangladesh.

(c) The demarcation of about 41 kms. of Indo-Bangladesh land boundary is yet to be completed. Legal advice given to the Government has suggested that in the absence of a fully demarcated boundary, it is not possible to arrange enabling legislation and the requisite amendment to the constitution. The Government propose to complete the task of demarcation of the boundary with Bangladesh with the cooperation of the concerned State Governments.

Irrigation Facilities in Orissa

3336. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :
SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the sources through which irrigation facilities are provided in Orissa;

(b) the break up of irrigation potentials in that State;

(c) whether steps have been taken to increase irrigation facilities in that State;

(d) if so, the total drought prone areas in that State likely to get irrigation facilities by the end of 8th Plan; and

(e) the projections made for 9th Plan?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Irrigation facilities are provided in Orissa through Major and Medium irrigation projects and minor (ground water and surface water) irrigation schemes.

(b) The break up of irrigation potential created in Orissa through different sources is as under :

Source	Irrigation Potential Created (in thousand hectares)	
	From Pre-plan era to the end of 1991-92	During 1992-96 (anticipated)
Major & Medium Irrigation Projects	1400.00	93.05
Minor Irrigation Schemes		
(i) Surface water	635.77	68.55
(ii) Ground water	609.61	73.47
Total	2654.38	235.07

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Ongoing Eighth Plan Projects of Orissa, namely Upper Indrawati and Upper Jonk, envisage creation of irrigation potential of 218 thousand hectares and 16 thousand hectares respectively which will benefit drought prone areas also.

(e) Ninth Five Year Plan targets and outlays are yet to be finalised by the Planning Commission.

Adulteration in Cooking Oils

3337 PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made any toxicological evaluation of the various kinds of cheap cooking oils being marketed in the country to know the contents of impurities causing health hazards;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to check the adulteration in the cooking oils?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b). Survey carried out by the field offices of Dte. of Vanaspati Vegetable Oils and Fats under the Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution on quality of edible oils collected from retail shops from various centres of the country have not revealed presence of any impurities causing health hazards.

(c) Standards of edible oils have been prescribed under provisions of Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 and Rules, 1955. The Food Health Authorities of States/UTs enforcing the provisions of PFA Act & Rules have been urged to keep a strict vigil on the quality of edible oils marketed in the country.

Irrigation Capacity

3338. SHRI PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the target of generating irrigation capacity of all the Five Year Plans started in the country till now was fixed at 86.99 m. hectare;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard;

(c) the expenditure incurred by the Government to achieve this target during Seventh Plan and Eighth Plan so far; and

(d) the estimated irrigation capacity generated after implementing all the Five Year Plans and the projected additional irrigation capacity during the Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The expenditure incurred by the Government to achieve this target during the Seventh Five Year Plan and during the first four years of Eighth Five Year Plan are as under :

Plan Period	Expenditure (in Rs. crores) on creation of irrigation potential
During VII Plan	14225.64
During Annual Plans (1990-92)	7139.63
<i>During VIII Plan (1992-97)</i>	
1992-94	8805.62
1994-96	1242.54 (anticipated)

(d) The estimated cumulative irrigation potential (capacity) likely to be generated at the end of the Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97) is 74.29 million hectares excluding potential created during pre-plan era. The targets and outlays for the Ninth Five Year Plan are yet to be finalised by the Planning Commission.

N.H. in Tamil Nadu

3339. SHRI K. KANDASAMY : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have accorded approval to construct National Highway in Rajaji district, Namakal town in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the time by which this work is likely to be executed; and

(c) the reasons for delay in undertaking the said work?

THE MINISTER, OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c). Perhaps the hon'ble Member is referring to the construction of Namakal Bypass in Tamil Nadu. An estimate of Rs. 83.11 Lakh for land acquisition of this Bypass has been sanctioned in Nov. 92. The land acquisition is in progress and is likely to be completed March. 97.

Due to paucity of funds it has not been possible to take up the work in the VIII. Plan. However the State PWD has been asked to take up the work on Build, Operate and Transfer basis.

[Translation]

Ram Sagar Dam Project

3340. SHRI MANHARAN LAL PANDEY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether applications were received on 25th October, 1996 for the implementation of the rules of Narmada Sagar meant for compensation and rehabilitation of the displaced persons of Ban Sagar Dam project of Madhya Pradesh being shared by Uttar Pradesh and Bihar also;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon;

(c) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh have ordered to Ramnagar and other villages falling under submerged area to vacate in January 1997;

(d) if so, whether the Union Government would provide protection/rehabilitation to the affected persons and other required compensation/facilities; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b). Government of Madhya Pradesh have received the applications for compensation and rehabilitation of the displaced persons of Bansagar dam Project of the lines of Narmada Dam project. These applications are under consideration of the Government of Madhya Pradesh.

(c) No, Sir.

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

Mohane Water Reservoir Project

3341. SHRI DHIRENDRA AGARWAL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a draft of pending Mohane Water Reservoir Project Mohan-Pur Barachatti division of Gaya District in Bihar had been sent to Bihar Government for amendment according to the fixed guidelines in June

1988 by Central Water Commission after conducting its technical economic evaluation;

(b) if so, whether the said draft has been received back from Bihar Government after necessary amendments;

(c) if so, when the same was received; and

(d) if not, the efforts being made by the Government to get back that draft from the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The State Government was requested by Central Water Commission to modify the project report and submit after incorporating compliance to their comments.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Central Water Commission conducts review meetings periodically for sorting out outstanding issues in respect of such projects.

[English]

CGHS Facility

3342. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether medical services being provided to the Central Government employees and VIPs in the CGHS dispensaries, New Delhi have deteriorated;

(b) whether beneficiaries who come for treatment are turned away by some doctors to their junior colleagues;

(c) whether complaints have been received from beneficiaries against the doctors since last year; and

(d) if so, the action taken to motivate doctors to examine patients willingly and not to turn them away under one pretext or the other?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) No, Sir, Medical services provided by CGHS have not deteriorated. It is a constant endeavour of CGHS to improve the services being provided by it. Lately, several initiatives like recognition of private hospitals under CGHS to give beneficiaries access to medical facilities of their choice, rationalization of rates of reimbursement for major medical procedures/artificial appliances, simplification of procedure for reference to referral etc. have been taken towards this end.

(b) to (d). No such complaints have been received. Rather, the CGHS beneficiaries can choose any of the doctors present in the dispensary on a particular day for consultation.

Incharges of dispensaries are directed to lay emphasis on courtesy and a human approach in dealing with patients.

Enquiry Report in Gangotri

3343. KUMARI UMA BHARTI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards a news item captioned as "Gangotri Ki Khandit Pratima Ganga Ki Hai Hi Nahin" appearing in *Nav Bharat Times* dated September 8, 1996;

(b) whether the enquiry report has been submitted to the Government in this regard; and

(c) if so, the recommendations made therein?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMALI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the report of District Magistrate, Uttarkashi, no image has been broken.

(c) Question does not arise.

[Translation]

Chairman of CWC

3344. SHRI SUKH LAL KUSHWAHA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the norms followed for making appointment of the Chairman of Central Water Commission and the reasons for delay in making the appointment;

(b) the qualification and experience of the present acting chairman of the CWC;

(c) whether the Government propose to appoint him as permanent chairman of the CWC keeping in view the important tasks performed by him; and

(d) if so, the time by which the appointment is likely to be made permanent?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) The appointment of Chairman, Central Water Commission, is made on the basis of provisions contained in Central Water Engineering (Group A) Service Rules as amended from time to time. At present Central Water Engineering (Group A) Service Rules, 1995 are in force and, according to these Rules appointment to the post of Chairman, Central Water Commission, is made by promotion failing which by transfer on deputation basis. Central Water Engineering (Group A) Service Rules, 1982 was superseded by Central Water Engineering (Group A) Service Rules, 1995 in November, 1995 and there were some changes in recruitment provisions. In view of the changed position, appointment to the post of Chairman, Central Water Commission was under consultation with Union Public Service Commission and Ministry of Law and is now under consideration of the Government.

(b) The educational qualification of the present acting Chairman, Central Water Commission is B.E. (Hons.) (Roorkee), M.Sc. (London) and DIC (London). He has experience of about 34 years in water resources sector.

(c) There is no proposal at present to appoint the present acting Chairman as permanent Chairman, Central Water Commission.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Engineering Courses in Indian Languages

3345. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the places, where courses in engineering are being conducted in Indian languages;

(b) whether the Government propose to start educational courses at all levels in Indian Languages throughout the country; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (c). The National Policy on Education and the Programme of Action (POA) 1992 advocates use of modern Indian languages as medium of instruction progressively at all levels. The schools and technical institutions function within the academic control/supervision of the respective Boards of Secondary Education and the University respectively which work autonomously in academic matters. It is for these academic bodies to gradually effect switch over in the medium of instruction. The Central Government does not have any specific scheme to effect change in the medium of instruction.

Congestion of Drainage System in Delhi

3346. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the growing congestion of drainage system in Delhi;

(b) whether the increasing congestion has led to water logging and flood in Delhi;

(c) if so, the areas of Delhi, mainly affected due to the drainage congestion;

(d) the main reasons for the drainage congestion; and

(e) the steps taken to solve the drainage congestion problem?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) The unauthorised colonies of Delhi are mainly affected due to the drainage congestion. The blockage of drains and overflow during excessive rains have also affected some of the urban areas.

(d) The main reasons for drainage congestion are excessive growth of unauthorised pockets and colonies, low lying areas without adequate drainage facilities, frequent checking of the local drains due to dumping of garbage by residents, silting of existing drains and inadequate outfalls.

(e) Annual desilting of the drains, remodelling of drains for increased discharges and construction of new trunk drains such as supplementary Drain and Jahangirpuri Outfall Drain have been taken up by Government of NCT of Delhi to solve the drainage congestion problem.

Setting up of Stroke Unit

3347. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal for setting up of 16 beds "Stroke Unit" to treat cerebro-vascular disorders at NIMHANS, Bangalore under the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the estimated cost of the proposed unit; and

(c) whether the Government will give assistance if major Government Hospitals in Karnataka come forward to set up "Stroke Units"?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) There is a proposal for setting up of 16 beds "Stroke Unit" to treat Cerebro-vascular disorders at NIMHANS.

(b) The estimated cost would be Rs.1.51 crore including building, equipments and staff.

(c) Presently there is no scheme for providing this sort of assistance.

[Translation]

Child Prostitution

3348. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :

SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH :

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that Child prostitution is increasing constantly in the country;

(b) the number of child prostitution cases that have come to light till 1995;

(c) whether any scheme is being prepared or any steps are being taken by the Government to check child prostitution;

(d) whether Government have prepared scheme to provide them employment or to provide some other measures for self-employment; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) No, Sir. There are no reliable statistics available about the number of child prostitutes

(b) Total number of cases of buying/selling of girls for prostitution reported in 1995 are as under :

Selling : 16 : Buying : 18

(c) Apart from stricter enforcement of the existing provisions of the following laws :

(i) The Indian Penal Code;

(ii) The Immoral Traffic Prevention Act; and

(iii) The Juvenile Justice Act

the Government has referred to the Law Commission certain amendments in the major criminal laws to tackle sexual abuse of children, recommended by the National Commission for Women.

The Government has also set up a Central Advisory Committee for an ongoing review and recommendations of both legal and non-legal approaches to the rescue and rehabilitation of children in prostitution. In addition, the Government is attempting to bring about an overall improvement in the status of children, especially girl children, through better education, health care and empowerment of women.

(d) and (e). Schemes for employment and income generation like Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Jawahar Rojgar Yojana (JRY), Support to Training and Employment Programme (STEP), Setting up of Employment-cum-Income Generating Units for Women (NORAD), Socio-Economic Programme (SEP), Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK), Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM) and Development of Women and Children in Rural Area (DWCR) are implemented especially in high supply areas of prostitutes and for rehabilitation of rescued prostitutes.

Gandhi's Letters

3349. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any tip of 450 unpublished letters written by Mahatma Gandhi during his last days;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to procure them and preserve them in National Museum;

(c) if so, the amount likely to be required for the purpose;

(d) the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) to (e) : It came to the notice of the Government that Shri V.Kalyanam, a stenographer of Mahatma Gandhi during the period 1944-48, was trying to put to auction certain autograph papers/letters of Mahatma Gandhi, through Phillips International Auctioneers & Vendors, London. Contact was accordingly made with Shri Kalyanam, Indian High Commission in London and Navajivan Trust, Ahmedabad to devise and undertake steps to prevent the auction.

A suit was filed by the Navajivan Trust in the High Court of Judicature at Madras seeking injunction against the auction of Mahatma Gandhi papers. The High Court issued interim injunction restraining the respondents/defendants or any one claiming or acting under them from in any manner dealing with or parting with the possession of Gandhiji's papers pending the disposal of the suit. The court like-wise gave an interim injunction against infringement of the Copyrights of Navajivan Trust.

Taking note of the claim of Navajivan Trust on the papers, the Auctioneers decided to call off the auction which was due to be held on 14th November, 1996. The papers have since been handed over by the Auctioneers to the Indian High Commissioner in London for being returned to the Navajivan Trust, Ahmedabad.

Integrated Water Management

3350. SHRIMATI KAMAL RANI :

DR. RAM LAKHAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a scheme of Integrated Water Management in the ravines of Chambal and Yamuna river and in Jalaun and Hamirpur districts with the Collaboration of Indo-German Bionatural is under the consideration of the Union Government;

(b) if so, the time by which Union Government propose to sanction this scheme;

(c) whether ravines of Ghatampur Parliamentary Constituency and Yamuna river have also been included in this scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which these ravines are likely to be included under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e). Do to arise.

[English]

Involvement of Security Forces in Smuggling

3351. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether security forces in Bihar have been found involved in smuggling;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the preventive steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to part (a).

(c) Appropriate instructions exist in this regard and deterrent action is taken against service personnel if they are found indulging in such activities.

[Translation]

New Bridges in Maharashtra

3352. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the schemes regarding the construction of new bridges on the National Highways in Maharashtra, lying pending for clearance with the Union Government for the last three years; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) There are no cases of bridge projects lying pending for the last three years for clearance.

(b) Does not arise.

Primary Health Centres in U.P.

3353. SHRI ILIYAS AZMI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Primary Health Centres in Uttar Pradesh, which do not have compounders and nurses;

(b) the total requirement of compounders and nurses in the State;

(c) whether the Government are considering to recruit the required staff;

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

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b). As per the information available with the Government, the position in respect of Compounders and Nurses in U.P. in Primary Health Centres and Community Health Centres as on 31.12.95 is as under :

	Compounder (Pharmacist)	Nurses (Nurse Mid-wives)
Required	4023	5595
Sanctioned	927	259
In position	927	259
Vacant	Nil	Nil

(c) to (e). The recruitment of Compounders (Pharmacists) and Nurses (Nurse Mid-wives) is the responsibility of the State Government.

[English]

Fake Institutions

3354. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a fake education institution has been detected in Bhopal on September 17, 1996, which extorted money from the students in the name of providing Degrees and Diplomas in Engineering;

(b) if so, the number of persons from which it extorted money and the amount extorted;

(c) whether the Government propose to take any action to check such fake educational institutions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) and (b). There had been a news item in Bhopal that the Local District Administration initiated action against a fake institute promising to award degree and diploma in engineering. Such matters are dealt with by the State Governments under their legal jurisdiction.

(c) and (d). The All India Council for Technical Education is a Statutory Body established under the AICTE Act, 1987 for coordinated development of technical education in the country. No engineering college can be started without the approval of AICTE in accordance with its regulations.

Cataract Patients

3355. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :

SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA :

SHRI HARADHAN ROY :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank has been auditing a funds allotted to India for treatment of cataract;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the short term and long term plans of the Government for combating the menace of Cataract afflicting 80% of the economically poor persons and the steps of implement the same; and

(d) the number of eye camps organised in the country during the last three years and with what success?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) As a short term measures, eye camps are organised through the country by means of mobile units in the rural/tribal areas to clear the backlog of cataract. As a long term plan, the infrastructure in the district hospitals is being strengthen by constructing eye wards and dedicated eye operation theatre and providing ophthalmic equipments for modern cataract technical and also providing refresher training for District Ophthalmic Surgeons posted there to improve their surgical skills. It is, also, proposed to involve Non-Government Organisations on a sustainable basis for giving eye care.

(d) Information regarding No. of eye camps organised is not collected at Central level. However, the No. of cataract operations performed during last three years are as under :

Year	No. of cataract operations Performed
1993-94	1913630
1994-95	2165468
1995-96	2470499

U.S. Training to Sri Lankan Army

3356. SHRI CHITTA BASU :

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the US defence experts are providing training to the Sri Lankan Army in Sri Lanka;

(b) if so, whether the Government have since examined the security ramifications thereof for India; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) Sri Lanka and the US have an ongoing programme of cooperation between the defence establishments of the two countries which includes courses in defence institutions, visit of experts and Joint exercises on lines similar to what exists between the US and other countries in our region.

(b) and (c). The Government closely monitor all development which have a bearing on India's security interests.

Snow Removed by BRO

3357. SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantum of snow (cu meters) removed by the Boader Road Organisation (BRO) from the Zojila, Rohtang, Baralacha, Taklang, Khardong and Changla passes separately during the last three years, year-wise and total expenditure incurred each year separately for snow clearance operations on the above passes;

(b) whether proposal to construct a tunnel through Rohtang Pass is under consideration of the Government;

(c) if so, the total expenditure likely to be incurred on the tunnel on Rohtang Pass;

(d) whether the Government propose to conduct a survey to construct tunnels through Zojila and Khardong passes; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) The details of snow clearance and expenditure incurred thereon during the last three years from 1993-94 to 1995-96 are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) There is a proposal to construct a tunnel across Rohtang pass. M/s RITES are presently engaged in conducting a feasibility study in this connection.

(c) The cost of construction of Rohtang tunnel will be known only after the feasibility study is completed. However, as on March, 1994, the tentative cost of construction was estimated at Rs.351 crores.

(d) and (e). There is at present no proposal to conduct survey for construction of Tunnels across Zojila and Khardungla passes.

STATEMENT

Statement showing Snow Clearance and Expenditure Incurred from years 1993-94 to 1995-96

S. No.	Name of Pass	Snow cleared (CU metres)			Total	Expenditure incurred (Rs. in lacs)			Total
		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	
1.	Zojila	2130863	2014361	1381052	5526276	21.15	21.15	21.15	63.45
2.	Rohtang	2504755	2440673	2185437	7130865	41.50	41.50	41.50	124.50
3.	Barlachala	136508	140332	137236	414076	2.18	2.18	2.18	6.54
4.	Taklang	124506	120380	121580	366466	20.61	20.61	20.61	61.83
5.	Khardong	3036890	3186394	3280306	9503590	47.13	47.13	47.13	141.39
6.	Changla	1514832	1631465	1539865	4686162	24.70	24.70	24.70	74.10

Bridges in Goa

3358. SHRI CHURCHILL ALEMAO : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken to complete the bridges on the Talpona and Galgibaga rivers along National Highway-17 in Goa;

(b) the cost of the bridges; and

(c) the time by which the same are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c). The work of construction of bridges on Talporra and Galgibaga rivers has been included in the 8th Five Year Plan. The

alignment has been approved and land acquisition completed. Due to paucity of fund, the State Government have been asked to take up the work under B.O.T. Scheme.

Sailja Committee in regard to KVS

3359. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the recommendations of Sailja Committee appointed in 1995 regarding the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan; and

(b) The details of the recommendations accepted and implemented by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b). The Sailja Committee made 49 recommendations covering the areas of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan including its management structure, administrative, financial and academic matters and one on monitoring. A copy of the report of the Review Committee including its recommendations is placed in the Parliament Library. Out of the 49 recommendations, 37 have been implemented. Action has already been initiated to implement the remaining 12 recommendations.

Violation of Reservation Rules

3360. SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the flagrant violation of the reservation rules by the officials of Mahatma Gandhi Kashi Vidyapeeth, Varanasi, U.P.;

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

(c) whether such violation of rules have been widely reported in the newspapers time and again; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken/propose to be taken by the Government against those involved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (d). Information is being collected.

Compensation to Gulf Returnees

3361. PROF. P.J. KURIEN :

SHRI S. AJAY KUMAR :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any compensation due to Gulf war, is to be paid to any persons hailing from Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total amount of the compensation to be paid to Indians, category-wise and State-wise;

(d) the reasons for delay in the payment of compensation; and

(e) the time by which the compensation is likely to be paid?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) We have received 32,704 claims from State of Kerala which have been forwarded to United Nations Compensation Commission (UNCC).

(c) It is the exclusive responsibility of the UNCC to decide the amount of compensation. UNCC is yet to determine the total amount of compensation to be paid to Indians.

(d) and (e). The entire work of evaluating and awarding compensation to persons adversely affected by the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait is being handled by the United Nations Compensation Commission (UNCC) which was set up by the UN Security Council for this purpose in 1992. The UNCC is facing acute financial constraints due to UN Security Council's Sanctions against sale of Iraqi oil. Now that UN-Iraq have reached an agreement on the limited sale of oil, we will have to await further decisions by UNCC on the next steps to taken by them. We are regularly in touch with UNCC on this issue.

Negotiations to Buy MIG-AT Aircraft.

3362. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have completed negotiations to buy MIG-AT trainer for Air Force;

(b) if so, whether any final agreement was reached;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the follow up action being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) No, Sir.

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

[Translation]

Roads in U.P.

3363. SHRI GANGACHARAN RAJPUT : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the bad condition of the maintenance of roads in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether the corruption prevalent in P.W.D. is the main reasons behind it; and

(c) if so, the number of cases in which the Government have taken action against the corrupt officers so far?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) The availability of funds for maintenance and repair have generally been of the order of 50% of the requirements as per norms. The National Highways in Uttar Pradesh are being maintained in traffic worthy condition within the available funds.

(b) and (c). No case of corruptions is reported in the maintenance of National Highways in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

I.S.M. Code

3364. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the time by which I.S.M. code is likely to be accepted by Shipping Corporation of India; and

(b) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). The International Safety Management (I.S.M.) Code will come into effect for different categories of vessels of Shipping Corporation of India as per the following schedule :

(i) In respect of all passenger ships including high speed light craft (regardless of size), oil tankers, chemical tankers, gas carriers, bulk carriers and cargo high speed crafts of 500 gross tonnage and over, with effect from 1st July, 1998.

(ii) For other cargo ships and mobile off-shore drilling units of 500 gross tonnage and over, with effect from 1st July, 2002.

Shipping Corporation of India has already initiated action to ensure compliance with the I.S.M. Code, well before it comes into force.

English]

Assistance to Schools for Science Laboratories

3365. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are providing the financial assistance to recognised schools for upgradation of science laboratories;

(b) if so, the total assistance provided during each of the last two years, State-wise;

(c) whether any requests for financial assistance from schools are pending; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) and (b). Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Improvement of Science Education in Schools, financial assistance is provided by the Government to the States for upgradation of deficient laboratories in Government and Government aided secondary/senior secondary school. The State-wise details of assistance provided for upgradation of science laboratories in the schools during 1994-95 and 1995-96, is enclosed as Statement.

(c) and (d). Neither any requests, received directly from the schools are considered under the Scheme nor any assistance is provided direct to the schools. Therefore, the question of any request from the schools for financial assistance pending with the Government does not arise.

STATEMENT

Name of the State	Amount of assistance provided	
	1994-95	1995-96
Andhra Pradesh	-	Rs. 34,20,000/-
Assam	Rs. 6,00,000/-	-
Goa	Rs. 7,80,000/-	-
Karnataka	-	Rs. 2,07,90,000/-
Kerala	-	Rs. 2,62,80,000/-
Madhya Pradesh	-	Rs. 92,10,000/-
Maharashtra	Rs. 4,47,60,000/-	-
Nagaland	Rs. 3,25,080/-	Rs. 2,11,302/-
Punjab	Rs. 77,10,000/-	Rs. 42,00,000/-
Tripura	-	Rs. 9,90,000/-
Total	Rs. 5,41,75,080/-	Rs. 6,51,01,302/-

[Translation]

Paper of Combined Defence Service

3366. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT BACHDA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Question paper of Combined Defence Service is provided to candidates only in English language;

(b) whether Government propose to introduce the question paper in Hindi also for the Combined Service like other Civil Services examinations; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A proposal to introduce multi-lingual system of examination for all the Services for which selection is made by the Union Public Service Commission, based on the recommendations on Dr. Satish Chandra Committee, is presently under examination in the Department of Personnel and Training.

[English]

Visit of Foreign Minister of Bangladesh

3367. DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME :

SHRI VIJAY GOEL :

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :

SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a delegation led by Foreign Minister of Bangladesh visited India recently;

(b) if so, the issues that were discussed during the visit and the outcome thereof;

(c) the progress made in regard to resolving the issues of Ganga water sharing and repatriation of illegal immigrants from Bangladesh; and

(d) the outcome of Prime Minister's meeting with the Prime Minister of Bangladesh in Rome recently?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (c). Mr. Abdus Samad Azad, Bangladesh Foreign Minister visited India from November 8-14, 1996. He called on the President, Vice-President, Prime Minister, and Speaker. He also held wide ranging discussions with Minister of External Affairs and also had meetings with Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Water Resources. On the issue of Ganges water sharing, both sides reiterated their intention of arriving at an agreement on a fair and equitable sharing of Ganges water before the onset of next dry season. During the visit it was indicated by our Ministry of Commerce that it is working towards the operationalisation of tariff concessions on a range of items of export interest to Bangladesh by January 1, 1997. It was agreed that the India-Bangladesh Joint Economic Commission would meet as early as possible. The issues related to security such as insurgency, illegal immigration, smuggling etc. were raised when Bangladesh Foreign Minister called on Home Minister in Delhi. It was agreed to further strengthen cooperation in border management and to curb undesirable activities. Regarding the repatriation of the Chakma refugees Bangladesh Foreign Minister said that a high-powered delegation would be sent to refugee camps in Tripura to encourage the refugees to return to their homes. It was decided to expedite action on demarcation of the boundary and exchange of enclaves.

(d) During the meeting between our Prime Minister and the Bangladesh Prime Minister on November 17, 1996 at Rome, India-Bangladesh relations were reviewed and it was agreed to take steps to enhance the relations in all areas of interest to both sides.

Express Highways

3368. SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL :
DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to construct Express Highways/Super National Highways in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the routes, Highway-wise and State-wise;

(c) the funds earmarked, if any, for the purpose; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (d). The National Highways Authority of India, on behalf of the Central Government, had invited global tenders for carrying out feasibility studies for 323 proposed sections of Super National Highways in the country. However, due to paucity of funds for land acquisition it has not been possible to proceed with the scheme.

[Translation]

Rani Anwashibai Barghi Dam Project

3369. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULESTE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the entire work of Rani Anwashibai Barghi Dam Project in Madhya Pradesh has been completed;

(b) whether proper arrangement for rehabilitation of the people affected from the dam has been made and the amount given for rehabilitation;

(c) whether any remaining schemes are pending for the affected people; and

(d) if so, the time by which the work on these scheme will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Dam and Power House of Rani Avanti Bai Sagar (Bargi Dam Project) have been completed in 1987. The works on the Bargi Left Bank Canal are in progress.

(b) An amount of Rs. 16.52 crores has been paid as compensation for the land to 11,655 land owners whose land has been affected due to submergence. Rehabilitation grant of Rs. 1.48 crores has been distributed to affected families. A plan for Rs. 10.00 crores was approved in April 1988 by the Government of Madhya Pradesh for rehabilitation and resettlement of oustees of the Bargi Dam. The main features of the plan are :

(i) Issue of Identity Cards to project affected persons.

(ii) Rehabilitation grant @ Rs. 2,700/- per family.

(iii) Residential plot of 90 ft. x 60 ft.

(iv) Setting up of schools, dispensaries, market places, ration shop, electricity and water supply arrangements in the resettlement colonies.

(v) Creating opportunities for employment.

(vi) Provision of Government transport for shifting of the belonging to the resettlement colonies, and

(vii) An amount @ 20% of the amount of compensation for house for meeting expenditure on dismantling etc.

(c) and (d). The Scheme is being implemented by the State Government depending upon availability of funds.

[English]

Collection Centre at Surat

3370. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI :

SHRI KASHI RAM RANA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to upgrade Surat Collection Centre into a full fledged passport office to avoid the inordinate delay in issue of passport to the persons of the area;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which this likely to be upgraded; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (c). There is no proposal at present to upgrade the Collection Centre at Surat into a full fledged passport office. The Standing Committee recommendations are that apart from other reasons, there must be at least 50,000 applications for a full fledged office to be opened. The number of applications received from the District of Surat and the contiguous districts of Bharuch, Dang and Valsad in 1995 was only 27,268.

[Translation]

Pak's Anti-India Propaganda

3371. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the High Commission of Pakistan located in Nepal is indulging in anti-India propaganda and also providing protection to the extremists;

(b) whether the Government have taken-up the matter with Nepal; and

(c) if so, the response of Nepal thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (c). We have received reports that the Pakistani mission in Nepal has been engaging in a number of anti-Indian activities. This matter has been taken up with the Nepalese authorities. During the visit of the Foreign Minister of Nepal to India in August 1996, the subject of security and measures to counter terrorism was discussed. Both sides reiterated their commitment not to allow activities in the territory of either country prejudicial to the security of the other. It was also decided that in order to discourage movement

of undesirable elements across the border, there should be a more effective system of monitoring of movement across the border. Regular exchange of views takes place between concerned authorities in India and Nepal to tackle specific issues.

Financial assistance to Maharashtra

3372. SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have provided any assistance to the Government of Maharashtra for the procurement of essential medicines and other essential equipments including the Surgical equipments for eliminating paucity of these in many Government Hospitals;

(b) if so, the amount of the assistance provided therefor;

(c) whether the said amount has been properly and fully utilised; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Under National Programme for Control of Blindness the following financial assistance was provided to Maharashtra during last three years

Year	Cash Grant for Drugs and consumables.	Commodity (Rs. in lakhs)	
		Sutures	Ophthalmic Equipments.
1994-95	20.00	112.57	15.38
1995-96	39.00	42.21	120.40
1996-97	50.00	Not yet supplied.	

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The centralised purchase has been done by Govt. of India for sutures and ophthalmic equipments and the same is utilised for the purpose for which it was released. Under cash grants the State has utilised a sum of Rs. 36.50 and Rs. 42.65 lakhs during the year 1994-95 and 1995-96 respectively for the purchase of drugs and consumables.

[English]

Pattern of CBSE Examinations

3373. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Board of Secondary Examinations proposes to switch over from the pattern of objective type questions to some other pattern;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the recommendations of Yashpal Committee have been accepted; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):

(a) In the existing pattern of Question Papers framed for the Secondary and Senior Secondary Examinations conducted by the Central Board of Secondary Education, there are no objective type questions.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). Major recommendations of the Yash Pal Committee have been accepted by the Government. These include laying down norms for pre-schools, discontinuance of tests/interviews for admission in pre-schools, greater involvement of teachers in preparation of school textbooks, replacement of context-based and quiz-type questions by concept-based questions in public examinations conducted at secondary and senior secondary school levels and extensive use of audio-visual materials in transaction of school curriculum.

Human Organs

3374. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any lawnae in the administration of the Transplantation of Human Organs Act, 1994 have come to the notice of Government and if so, the detail, thereof;

(b) whether many instances have been reported in the press, where human organs, particularly kidneys, have been taken for monestory considerations;

(c) if so, the State-wise number of such cases and the action taken thereon; and

(d) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to make the law more stringent with regard to transplantation of human organs and if so, the details thereof and if not, the manner in which Government propose to deal with the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (c). The Trnasplantation of Human Organs Act, 1994, is sufficiently stringent containing provisions for imprisonment/high fines for persons dealing unlawfully in human organs. The punishment for commercial transactions in human organs covers the donor/the done/doctors and hospitals involved, persons abetting such transactions etc. Some reports of continuance of illegal trade in human organs have come to notice on which the States who are implementing the Act have initiated action. According to available information, such cases have been reported in the States of Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, West

Bengal and the NCT of Delhi where doctors/agents have been arrested, chargesheets issued, doctors deregistered etc.

(d) The adequacy of the Act effectively stop the trade and sale of Human Organs can be assessed only if the Act is adopted by all the State Governments and implemented by them in right earnest. However, so far only 12 States and the Union Territories have adopted the Central Legislation/enacted similar legislation of their own. The other States are being continuously requested to adopt the Act.

Sale of Expired Drugs

3375. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether many cases of expired Drugs sales by Chemists have been detected by the Government;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to cancel the licences of such defaulters;

(c) whether many Government Hospitals are getting Sub-standard expired drugs through such dealers; and

(d) whether any action plan has been chalked out by the Government to prevent such sale of expired drugs by Chemists and Druggists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (d). The Central Government Hospitals in Delhi including the Central Government Health Schemes Organisation have not reported receipt of expired drugs from Chemists. However, the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and the Rules made thereunder empower the State Licensing Authority to take punitive action against Chemists and Druggists who are found selling date expired drugs.

[Translation]

Birth Anniversary of Munshi Prem Chand

3376. SHRI S.P. JAISWAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any amount had been sanctioned by the Government to Shri Prem Chand Memorial Building and developmental scheme committee, village Lamhi, Varanasi for commemoration of the birth anniversary of the great Hindi novelist Munshi Prem Chand;

(b) if so, whether that amount had been utilised for the Birth Anniversary; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMALI) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. An amount of Rs. 25,000/- was sanctioned in favour of Shri Prem Chand Memorial Building and Development Scheme Committee, Lamhi, Varanasi for

holding a seminar on 31st July, 1995 to celebrate the birth anniversary of Munshi Prem Chand.

But the Demand Draft for payment of the 1st instalment amounting Rs. 18,750/- was returned undelivered owing to the non-availability of the addressee at the address given by the organisation.

Now, the sanction of grant has been revalidated and the payment will be made to the grantee soon.

[English]

Lift Irrigation in Orissa

3377. SHRI MURALIDHAR JENA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of lift irrigation points in working conditions in the state of Orissa till date;

(b) whether more than 50% lift points are not working;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to provide water in irrigated areas and to face the draught situation in Orissa; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) 10,150.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e). As per the information furnished by the State Government, to save standing crops, the details of the area covered by irrigation under Major, Medium, Minor (Flow) and lift irrigation sector are as under :

Major and Medium	951.64 thousand hectares
Minor (Flow)	180.326 thousand hectares
Minor (Lift)	79.476 thousand hectares

During Kharif 1996, much emphasis has been given to provide water in irrigated areas through lift irrigation projects. A sum of Rs. 1.20 crore, released from Calamity Relief Fund, has been deposited by the Orissa Lift Irrigation Corporation with GRID Corporation of Orissa for energisation of 441 LIPs. Similarly, Rs. 53.10 lakh released from Calamity Relief Fund has been placed at the disposal of Orissa Lift Irrigation Corporation for repair/replacement of 531 LIPs etc. Besides sum of Rs. 70.00 lakh has also been sanctioned from Calamity Relief Fund for repair/revival of 400 LIPs.

Government have allowed 75% subsidy on the water rate for Kharif crops to the avacutdars of the LIPs throughout the State.

Similarly, 50% subsidy has been made available to the cultivators in the avacut of LIPs throughout the State to encourage large scale compensatory rabi cultivation.

HIV

3378. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether nearly 5 million people in the country are likely to suffer from HIV infection by 2000 as stated by WHO;

(b) if so, whether various programmes run by the Government to check HIV/AIDS in the country are totally ineffective;

(c) if so, the total number of HIV positive cases reported in the country, State-wise as on November, 1996; and

(d) the new action plan Government propose to take to check/control the spread of this disease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) No, Sir. World Health Organisation has made statistical estimates based on extrapolation.

(b) National AIDS Control Organisation a dedicated wing of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has been set-up to combat spread of HIV/AIDS in the country. The strategies of the programme consist of generation of awareness among high risk behaviour group and general public about HIV/AIDS control of Sexually Transmitted Diseases, Blood Safety and rational use of blood, Surveillance; and care and support to HIV/AIDS cases.

(c) 48777 HIV positive have been reported as on November, 1996. The State-wise details is enclosed as Statement.

(d) The IXth Five Year Plan is under preparation. While strengthening programme activities, the new thrust areas include HIV/AIDS Education is secondary school, among street children, involvement of industry, other public and private sectors and NGOs, setting up of blood component separation units, continuum of care to HIV infected AIDS cases. Counselling advocacy and promotion of Voluntary Blood Donation.

STATEMENT

Sero-Surveillance for HIV Infection Period of report upto : 30th November, 1996 (Prov.)

S.No.	Name	Screened Positive	
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	43164	290
2.	Assam	10780	150
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	309	0

1	2	3	4
4. Andaman & Nicobar Island (U.T.)	9516	85	
5. Bihar	8403	17	
6. Chandigarh (U.T.)	54841	184	
7. Punjab	56	4	
8. Delhi	314213	1244	
9. Daman and Diu (U.T.)	250	8	
10. Dadra & Nagar Haveli (U.T.)	Report Not received	1	
11. Goa	59829	1007	
12. Gujarat	369960	527	
13. Haryana	131515	213	
14. Himachal Pradesh	13767	71	
15. Jammu and Kashmir	8450	28	
16. Karnataka	365093	2592	
17. Kerala	43927	215	
18. Lakshadweep (U.T.)	753	7	
19. Madhya Pradesh	82011	338	
20. Maharashtra	333853	31444	
21. Manipur	40557	3664	
22. Mizoram	22522	73	
23. Meghalaya	14013	57	
24. Nagaland	3344	261	
25. Orissa	79607	205	
26. Pondicherry (U.T.)	70740	2054	
27. Rajasthan	33374	97	
28. Sikkim	171	1	
29. Tamil Nadu	575954	2986	
30. Tripura	20871	13	
31. Uttar Pradesh	109706	699	
32. West Bengal	102505	252	
Total	2924054	48777	

[Translation]

Birth Centenary of Poet

3379. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have chalked out any programme to celebrate the birth centenary of the great poet Suryakant Tripathi Nirala;

(b) whether the birth centenary of great Urdu poet. Galib is also being celebrated;

(c) if so, the details thereof separately for parts (a) and (b) and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) if so, by when the birth centenary of both these eminent personalities are proposed to be celebrated?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMALI) : (a) to (d). There is no proposal before the Central Government to celebrate the birth centenary of the poet Suryakant Tripathi Nirala. But the Government would offer support to such celebrations.

The Government has, however, decided to celebrate the 200th birth anniversary of Urdu poet Mirza Ghalib through year-long celebrations beginning from 27th December, 1997.

[English]

Harbour at Visakhapatnam

3380. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct additional outer harbour to the existing one to create additional berthing facilities at Visakhapatnam;

(b) whether any proposal is under consideration to extend the port or to create additional berthing facilities at nearby Gangavaram to cater to the needs of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant and to ease to congestion at Visakhapatnam Port;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. In order to meet the future demand for port services and to ease congestion at the existing Visakhapatnam Port, a proposal to create additional berthing facilities near Gangavaram to cater to the needs of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant was under consideration of the Visakhapatnam Port Trust.

Meanwhile, Andhra Pradesh government declared Gangavaram as a minor port and decided to develop it as an integrated industrial port city. In view of this, Visakhapatnam Port Trust have proposed to develop an outer harbour to outer harbour to create additional berthing facilities.

Bombs for Tanks

3381. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Bomb worth Rs. 32 crore in Army trash bin", appearing in the *Pioneer* dated November 19, 1996; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) A news item captioned "Bombs worth Rs. 32 crores in Army trash bin" has come to the notice of the Government. The news item is based on observations contained in para 39 of the C & AG Report No. 8 of 1996 for the period ended 31 March, 1995.

(b) Rs. 32 crores is the value of 39,485 rounds of two versions of a tank ammunition manufactured using primer 'Y' based on technology transfer from abroad. The initial lots of primer 'Y' were manufactured in the presence and direct supervision of the foreign technical experts and to their satisfaction. Primer lots 1 to 25 were used in these 39,485 rounds of the ammunition which were issued to the army after successful proof testing of both the primer and the ammunition rounds.

2. Primer 'Y' from one of the lots which had also been successfully proof tested was used as a sub-system in the testing of a third version of the ammunition, which was under development indigenously, when an accident occurred. Investigations revealed that the accident was most probably due to an operation called "beading" not having been carried out in the manufacture of primer 'Y'. Arising out of this, "beading" is being carried out in the manufacture of primer 'Y' from lot 26 onwards.

3. Out of 39,485 rounds of the first two versions of ammunition issued to the army, some rounds have already been used up. No problem has been reported. However, following the accident while testing the third version of the ammunition under indigenous development, 28,377 rounds of first two versions of the ammunition lying in the army's ammunition depots which have the unbeaded primer 'Y' have been segregated. This has been done as a measure of abundant caution. Also, rectification work involving replacement of the primer from these rounds has commenced.

[Translation]

Maintenance and Construction of N.H. in Maharashtra

3382. SHRI HANSRAJ AHIR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Maharashtra Government has sought increase in the demands for grants and agency charges for the maintenance and construction of National Highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c). The allocation of funds for development of National Highways have been of the order of about 40% of the requirements. As such it has not been possible to fully meet the demands of the States including State of Maharashtra.

[English]

Eradication of Blindness, Leprosy and T.B.

3383. SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA :

SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank has sanctioned loan for three big schemes for eradication of leprosy, control of blindness and eradication of tuberculosis in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government for early utilisation of the said loan; and

(d) the time by which the said schemes are likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (d). The World Bank has sanctioned loans for National Leprosy Eradication Programme (NLEP) and National Blindness Control Programme (NBCP) as per details given as under :

1. NLEP - Rs. 302 crores for the period 1993-94 to March 1997.

2. NBCP - Rs. 554.36 crores for the period of 1994 to 2000.

The Government is seeking World Bank loan for an amount of Rs. 749.28 crores for the implementation of the Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme which all be for 5 years beginning from January, 1997.

The implementation of the Programmes under the World Bank funding are progressing accordingly to the schedule agreed to in the negotiations between Government of India and World Bank.

Board of Apprenticeship Training

3384. SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the 'Board of Apprenticeship Training' has been created and controlled by the Union Government;

(b) if so, whether Government of Maharashtra has requested to transfer this Scheme to State Government; and

(c) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) The four Boards of Apprenticeship/Practical Training

at Mumbai, Calcutta, Kanpur and Chennai have been created by Central Government under Societies Registration Act as autonomous bodies.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

[Translation]

Teaching of Gond and Bhil Language in Schools

3385. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the mother tongue of Gond and Bhil tribals of Madhya Pradesh is 'Gondi and Bill';

(b) whether the Government have any scheme to introduce these said language in schools with a view to encourage them;

(c) if so, the time by which the said scheme will be implemented; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As per the information received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh the tribal languages of Gondi and Bhili have been introduced in 2 districts.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

IGNCA

3386. JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the affairs of Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) were analysed in the press report published in the *Indian Express* dated 24.9.1996; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) and (b) Government is looking into the matter.

Bloodless Brain Surgery

3387. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether life-threatening conditions like deep seated brain tumours and blood vessel malformations can now be treated with a bloodless form of neurosurgery called stereotactic radio-surgery which does not require a single incision in the patients scalp; and

(b) if so, the details regarding this technique and the names of hospitals in which this type of bloodless form of brain surgery is available in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b). As per information received from Indian Council of Medical Research, some types of deep seated Tumors such as acoustic tumors, meningiomas and metastatic tumors are reported to be treated by Stereotactic radio surgery. This type of surgery is done by two techniques i.e. X-knife and Gama Knife. The X-knife type technique is available at Christian Medical College, Vellore and Apollo Hospitals at Madras and Delhi.

Modernisation of Kandla Port

3388. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has formulated any scheme for modernisation of Kandla Port;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the financial assistance provided by the Government so far for this purpose; and

(c) the progress made in the modernisation of the port so far?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c). The following Major Schemes have been sanctioned during 8th Plan for development and modernisation of Kandla Port. The details are as under :

S.No.	Name of the Scheme	Estimated Cost (Rs. in Crores)	Date of Sanction	Present Status
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Construction of additional cargo berth at Kandla Port.	38.82	9-6-94	Scheduled to be completed in June, 1998.
2.	Providing 66KV/11KV Electric sub-station with all equipment etc. at Kandla.	15.74	12-7-94	Scheduled to be completed in July, 1997

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Procurement of 4 Nos. Wharf cranes by Kandla Port	21.20	29-3-95	Scheduled to be completed in April, 1998.
4.	Construction of 4th Oil Jetty at Kandla Port.	25.12	18-2-96	Scheduled to be completed in February, 2000.

Re-emergence of Malaria

3389. SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM :
SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the States where the disease of Malaria and Cerebral Malaria has re-emerged in an epidemic form during the last three years:

(b) the number of deaths during this period. State-wise: and year-wise:

(c) whether any special efforts have been made to control the spread of the disease:

(d) whether adequate stocks are available in the country in respect of the medicines specially required to combat Cerebral Malaria and whether the same are within the reach of distant rural areas:

(e) whether any efforts are being made to produce preventive vaccinations for different kinds of Malaria; and

(f) the details of Central assistance provided to State Governments for curbing of the disease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Outbreaks of Malaria including P. falciparum were reported from the States of Rajasthan, Manipur and Nagaland in year 1994. During 1995 reports of outbreaks were received from the States of Assam, West Bengal and Maharashtra. During the current year 1996, the States of Rajasthan and Haryana reported outbreaks of the disease.

(b) The information is given in Statement-I.

(c) The following steps have been taken for prevention of outbreaks and containment of the disease in the States :

- (1) Additional supply of drugs, insecticides and fogging machines were made to the severely affected areas.
- (2) Adequate quantities of anti-malaria drugs and insecticides have been supplied to the States by the Central Government.
- (3) As technical support, expert teams from the Centre were deputed to visit the affected areas periodically to advise immediate remedial action to combat the situation.
- (4) For effective monitoring of the malaria situation and close coordination, control rooms have

been established both at the Centre and in the States.

(5) For effective implementation of the Programme, 100% Central assistance is being provided to 7 North Eastern States since December, 1994.

(6) A Malaria Control project with the support from World Bank to intensify Control measures in Malaria endemic, tribal/backward areas of the country is currently under formulation.

(7) State Governments have been advised to intensify preventive measures before onset of transmission season with particular emphasis on :

- early diagnosis and prompt treatment of malaria cases through establishment of drug distribution centres, fever treatment depots at the village level.
- Vector control through insecticial spray in rural areas and anti-larval operations in urban areas as per schedule provided on the basis of technical assessment.
- intensification of information, Education and Communication activities and reliance on community participation.

(d) Adequate supplies of anti-malarial drugs are made available to States/UTs under the NMEP.

(e) Research Institutions in India and overseas are engaged in this exercise.

(f) The Central assistance is essentially in kind in the form of insecticides, larvicides, drugs etc. The State-wise information indicating the quantum of Central assistance from 1993-94 to 1995-96 is given in Statement-II.

STATEMENT-I

Deaths due to Malaria in India During 1993, 1994 and 1995 (Prov.)

S. No.	Name of the States/ U.Ts/Others	1993	1994	1995 (P)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7	9	8
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	6	2
3.	Assam	43	69	300*

1	2	3	4	5
4. Bihar		2	12	50
5. Goa		-	0	2
6. Gujarat		25	14	9
7. Haryana		-	-	0
8. Himachal Pradesh		-	-	0
9. Jammu and Kashmir		-	-	0
10. Karnataka		-	3	28
11. Kerala		-	1	4
12. Madhya Pradesh		12	28	28
13. Maharashtra		15	9	189
14. Manipur		9	55	17
15. Meghalaya		-	11	31
16. Mizoram		33	41	55
17. Nagaland		-	253	NR
18. Orissa		118	78	271
19. Punjab		-	1	8
20. Rajasthan		19	452	74
21. Sikkim		-	0	0
22. Tamil Nadu		9	7	2
23. Tripura		19	20	16
24. Uttar Pradesh		-	0	0
25. West Bengal		37	52	146
Union Territories				
1. A and N Islands		1	1	2
2. Chandigarh		-	-	-
3. Dadra and Nagar Haveli		-	-	-
4. Delhi		-	-	-
5. Daman and Diu		-	-	-
6. Lakshadweep		-	-	-
7. Pondicherry		-	-	-
India		354	1122	1242

* Assam 202 confirmed deaths due to malaria.

STATEMENT-II

(Rs. in Lakhs)				
Name of the States	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	
1	2	3	4	
1. Andhra Pradesh	566.62	712.57	251.22	
2. Arunachal Pradesh	68.33	125.06	295.29	
3. Assam	435.78	540.78	2014.62	
4. Bihar	1099.15	385.11	133.08	
5. Goa	3.93	13.68	4.78	

1	2	3	4
6. Gujarat	502.00	970.06	848.19
7. Haryana	188.55	341.84	195.82
8. Himachal Pradesh	64.79	109.68	117.72
9. Jammu & Kashmir	108.95	85.20	15.05
10. Karnataka	241.05	476.65	463.42
11. Kerala	17.73	51.68	51.57
12. Madhya Pradesh	1422.20	1682.01	1228.26
13. Maharashtra	810.94	1121.65	1362.77
14. Manipur	58.03	105.71	350.00
15. Meghalaya	51.16	84.85	322.87
16. Mizoram	67.08	79.66	357.29
17. Meghalaya	105.73	150.11	364.87
18. Orissa	190.57	236.08	434.76
19. Punjab	468.49	377.52	325.12
20. Sikkim	6.01	0.80	14.24
21. Rajasthan	779.38	560.59	1196.57
22. Tamil Nadu	95.90	137.35	153.67
23. Tripura	173.46	114.65	404.12
24. Uttar Pradesh	969.46	890.78	349.96
25. West Bengal	236.81	449.64	445.16
26. Delhi	29.80	91.33	349.43
27. Pondicherry	8.99	10.42	23.94
28. A and N Islands	64.90	104.96	69.56
29. Chandigarh	42.51	55.20	24.49
30. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	18.92	19.56	22.82
31. Daman and Diu	4.32	7.10	4.08
32. Lakshadweep	2.90	3.23	3.33
Total :	8904.95	10095.71	12198.07
Total Head Quarter	285.16	327.00	354.89
Kala-azar	1864.14	577.29	311.45
Total :	11054.26	11000.00	12864.41

Repair of N.H. 23

3390. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey to know the missing links in National Highway No. 23 especially in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for not taken any action in this regard; and

(d) the time by which these missing links are likely to be repaired and the bridges constructed?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). As on 31.3.96, the length of missing links on National Highway network

aggregates to 269 km which *inter alia* includes 39 km of NH 23 in Orissa.

(c) and (d). The development works including construction of missing links on N.Hs. is a continuous process. The works are taken up in phases depending upon the inter-se priority of works and availability of resources.

Cadre Review Committee

3391. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Cadre Review Committee constituted for the industrial and non-industrial employees of the E.M.E. workshop had submitted its report in 1992;

(b) if so, the gist of the recommendations made by the Committee;

(c) whether the recommendations of the Committee have not been implemented so far;

(d) if so, the reasons for delay in the matter;

(e) whether any time limit has been set for the implementation of the report; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (f). The Cadre Review Committee constituted for the industrial and non-industrial employees of the Corps of EME submitted its report to the Government in 1992 which contained proposals for Cadre Review of 66 cadres of EME of which 50 cadres pertain to Group 'C' and 16 cadres to Group 'D' category in both industrial and non-industrial category.

2. The recommendations of the Cadre Review Committee were considered by the Government and after detailed deliberations, the proposals for 18 industrial cadres were sent to Vth Pay Commission for consideration, proposals for 9 cadres are under various stages of consideration in the Government, proposal for one cadre has been accepted and Cadre Reviews of 36 cadres were not accepted by the Government primarily due to the non-availability of functional justification for creation of higher level additional posts.

Cataract Patients

3392. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Cataract Patients falling victims of Unskilled Doctors" appearing in the *Times of India* dated April 11, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to protect the general public from such unskilled doctors and also to make available to them the services of properly trained doctors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. Phacoemulsification is the most modern technique for cataract extraction with Intraocular lens implementation. While this procedure is common in developed countries, it is new for Indian and can be followed by Ophthalmologists who are or were doing cataract operation by conventional methods. Like all new procedures, this also has its own learning curve. There are several facilities available in the country where this procedure is done as a routine and where Ophthalmologists can observe and gain experience in this procedure of Phacoemulsification.

Primary Health Centres

3393. SHRI MUNAWWAR HASSAN :
DR. BALIRAM :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the miserable condition of Hospitals and Primary Health Care Centres in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the scheme of the Government to improve the condition of these centres immediately with particular reference to Muzaffar Nagar and Azamgarh areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Dye Stuff Industry

3394. SHRI UTTAMSINGH PAWAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Dye Stuff Industry has demanded the review of the Government's proposal prohibiting the handling of AZO Dyes which are detrimental to health;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken on the demands of the Dye Industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. According to the Ministry of Environment and Forests, a proposal to prohibit

handling of certain azodyes which are detrimental to health is under consideration and objections from the public against the proposed move have been invited in accordance with the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986. A decision in the matter will be taken keeping all the factors under consideration.

Bridge

3395. SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to construct bridge over creek at Kiranpani joining two States viz. Maharashtra and Goa; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the work is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) There is no proposal to construct the bridge in question at present under any of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Sports Activities in Bihar

3396. SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to organise any training camp at National level with a view to encourage sports activities in the State of Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DHANUSHKODI ATHITHAN R.) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) National level training camps are organised at the various centres of Sports Authority of India only for training National teams for their participation in international events.

[English]

Ayurvedic Treatment

3397. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any step during Eighth Five Year Plan to promote Ayurvedic treatment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to promote Ayurvedic treatment and health care during Ninth Five Year Plan.

(d) if so, the scheme proposed thereon; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b). During the Eighth Plan period a separate Department of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy for the promotion and development of these systems has been established. Within a modest Eighth Plan outlay of Rs. 88 crores, financial assistance has been provided to Ayurvedic Colleges for infrastructure, for plantation of medicinal plants and for inservice training. The National Institute of Ayurveda, Jaipur, Institute of Post Graduate training and Research in Ayurveda, Jamnagar, Rashtriya Ayurveda Vidyapith, Delhi and Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha have also been assisted. The work for developing pharmacopoeial standards has been continued.

(c) to (e). For addressing the needs of Ayurveda sector adequately the Working Group for ISM and H for Ninth Plan has recommended an outlay of Rs. 1840 crores. Some of the proposals setting up of treatment facilities at district level infrastructure support for block level dispensaries, Ayurvedic health care to beneficiaries under the Central Govt. Health Scheme, support to NGOs for preventive health, large scale Vanaspati Vans on wastelands, meaningful assistance to Ayurvedic Colleges and Research/Development issues and areas of concern.

RPO Ahmedabad

3398. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :
SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL :
SHRI P.S. GADHAVI :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Regional Passport Office (RPO), Ahmedabad is presently located in a highly congested place in the city;

(b) whether it is a fact that a decision was taken by the Government to shift the office and a sum of Rs. 85 lakhs was sanctioned for the construction of a new building for the RPO;

(c) whether it is also a fact that neither the RPO was shifted nor the construction of new RPO building was undertaken; and

(d) if so, the reasons for non-implementation of Government's policies and action proposed by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). In view of inadequate facilities in the existing building, a decision was taken to shift the Regional Passport Office, Ahmedabad to a new building being constructed as an office-cum-residential complex on a plot of land acquired at a cost of Rs. 77.77.726/- from the Municipal Corporation, Ahmedabad. The estimated cost of the project as per 1993 estimates is Rs. 3,05,96,000. As per Government practice the construction work for the project has been handed over to the CPWD Ahmedabad and construction has commenced.

Old Heritage Havelis

3399 SHRI SANAT MEHTA :
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Culture has prepared any plan for preserving/upkeeping the old heritage havelis in the country;

(b) if so, the number of such havelis identified by the Government in each State;

(c) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the efforts being made by the Government of Gujarat to retrieve such havelis in Patan, Baroda, Ahmedabad, Surat, Bhavnagar and Jamnagar in Gujarat;

(d) if so, the financial assistance sought by the State Government and accorded to by the Union Government on this account;

(e) whether the Government propose to take over such havelis; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAL) : (a) No, Sir.

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

Only University in a State

3400. SHRI BADAL CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal for development and building up infrastructure of the only University in the State has been submitted by the Government of Tripura;

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

(c) whether there is any contemplation to convert the State University into a Central University; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Indo-Iran Initiative on Afghanistan

3401. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and Iran have made any joint initiative to stop civil strife in Afghanistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Foreign Ministers of India and Iran have discussed the supply of arms by foreign countries to Afghanistan; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (d). As part of a continuing process of exchange of views on issues of regional and international concern, India and Iran have held discussions on the situation in Afghanistan. India participated in a regional conference called by Iran on Afghanistan on October 29-30, 1996, in Tehran. The conference called for the immediate cessation of violence, armed hostilities and an end to all foreign interference in Afghanistan.

[English]

Graduates in Industrial Chemistry

3402. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the approximate number of candidates who complete B.Sc. degree in Industrial Chemistry in the country, State-wise;

(b) the gap between demand and supply of such graduates;

(c) the opportunities for graduates in Industrial Chemistry in public, private and Government sector; and

(d) the time by which these candidates are proposed to be covered by apprenticeship Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

NHs

3403. SHRI P. KODANDA RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise position of National Highways and the percentage thereof with reference to the other roads in each State;

(b) the State-wise expenditure being incurred on the national highways both on construction and maintenance for the period of 7th and 8th Five Year Plans;

(c) the Government's guidelines regarding allocation of funds and taking up of new national highways;

(d) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that the NH-4 has got two other Highways merging with it for a distance of 30 Km and 200 Km requiring the 200 Km stretch to be made into Express way; and

(e) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (e). The information is being collected.

Medical Facilities to Retired Defence Personnels

3404. COL. RAO RAM SINGH :

SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Defence personnel after retirement do not get proper medical facilities;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to open hospitals exclusively for serving/retired Defence personnel at such places where their numbers are adequate; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) Defence personnel after retirement are provided adequate medical cover under a comprehensive package. The package consists of the following medical facilities/concessions :

(i) Ex-Servicemen are provided free outpatient treatment in Military Hospitals. They are also provided In-patient in Military Hospitals, except for psychiatric treatment, cancer treatment, kidney transplantation and coronary bypass surgery.

(ii) For ailments in respect of which treatment is not available in Military Hospitals, medical cover is provided under the Group Insurance schemes of the Armed Forces. Under the Group Insurance scheme, an amount of

Rs. 1.00 lakh is paid for heart treatment, Rs. 75,000/- for Cancer treatment, Rs. 1.00 lakh for Renal transplant and Rs. 75,000/- for hip and knee joint replacement.

(iii) Those ex-Servicemen who are not covered under the medical insurance schemes, are provided financial assistance upto 60% of total expenditure on treatment of serious diseases, e.g., by-pass surgery, angiography, kidney renal transplant, cancer, coronary artery surgery, etc., by the Kendriya Sainik Board.

(iv) Ex-Servicemen can also take treatment in state Government civil hospitals.

(v) 24 MI Rooms and 12 Dental Centres have been set up for providing medical facilities exclusively to ex-Servicemen and their dependents.

(vi) Needy ex-Servicemen are also provided financial assistance for medical treatment from Raksha Mantri's Discretionary Fund upto a maximum of Rs. 15,000/-.

(b) and (c). Government have set up 127 Military Hospitals exclusively for Armed Forces serving personnel, ex-Servicemen and their families. These hospitals are based on regionalised patterns of health care delivery system and grouped into large Command Hospitals, Zonal hospitals, Medium hospitals and small hospitals. The Armed Forces Medical Services have one Army Hospital at Delhi, 7 Command Hospitals at Pune, Bombay, Bangalore, Lucknow, Calcutta, Udhampur and Chandimandir. There are 20 zonal hospitals, 18 medium hospitals (201 to 400 beds), 80 small hospitals (upto to 200 beds) and one specialist Cardiothoracic centre at Pune. Seventeen Civil hospitals both Government and private, spread all over the country have also been empanelled for providing advance Cardio-vascular treatment facilities to Armed Forces personnel pending development of these facilities in the service hospitals. Government have recently approved a scheme for modernisation of 127 Armed Forces hospitals at the cost of Rs. 66.00 crores. The existing Army hospital at Delhi Cantt. is being shifted to new premises at Subroto Park, Delhi Cantt. and is being provided with most modern state-of-the-art specialised medical facilities.

Quota of MBBS Seats

3405. SHRI GOPAL TANDEL : Will the Minister HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any action to increase the quota of medical seats (MBBS course) for Daman and Diu, Union Territory;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of criteria laid down for allocation of such seats to different Union Territories;

(d) the number of seats allotted, U.T.-wise; and

(e) the action taken by the Government to enhance the quota of MBBS seats to the Union Territory of Daman and Diu for the academic year 1997-98?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b). MBBS seats to Daman and Diu, UT, are released from the Central Pool, constituted by seeking voluntary contribution from states and certain other institutions. Due to limited availability of seats in the central Pool, it has not been possible to increase the allocation of MBBS seats to UT of Daman and Diu.

(c) Allocation of seats of different States/UTs depend upon the overall availability of seats in the Central Pool and factors like its size, population, geography etc. as well as special needs.

(d) Allocation of MBBS and BDS seats allocated to various UTs during 1996-97 is given below :

S. No.	Name of the UT	Seats allocated during 1996-97	
		MBBS	BDS
1.	A and N Islands	16	2
2.	Lakshdweep	10	2
3.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	3	2
4.	Daman and Diu	2	2
5.	Chandigarh	0	1

(e) Any enhancement in quota of MBBS seats to Daman and Diu UT during 1997-98 would depend upon the increase in size of the Central Pool.

Admission in KVS

3406. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that though Members of Parliament are being refused admission to the nominees in Kendriya Vidyalayas by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan the same are being ordered as late as November 1996 in favour of instrumentalities of different States; and

(b) if so, the details of such admissions made during the current academic session?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) and (b). No admissions on special dispensation have been ordered by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan in compliance with the directives of the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi.

Liposuction Treatment

3407. SHRI UDAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to certain advertisements appeared on behalf of 'Vital Weight Clinic' of New Delhi on November 17, 1996 claiming body shaping by Liposuction treatment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether efficiency of Liposuction treatment has been tried and approved by any Government Laboratory so far;

(d) if so, the details thereof with reasons for not introducing the same in Government Institutions; and

(e) if not, the reasons for allowing publication of such misleading advertisement exploiting the simple people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (d). Yes, Sir, Liposuction is a surgical procedure for removal of unwanted fat deposits from specific parts of the body. The procedure has been performed successfully on a few cases in the Plastic Surgery Departments of certain Government Hospitals.

(e) Does not arise.

Upper Wardha Irrigation Project

3408. SHRI ANANT GUDHE : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated cost and time schedule for Upper Wardha irrigation project at the time of clearance and present cost of the proposal and details of escalation in cost and time and reasons therefor;

(b) the details of stipulated and actual release of funds;

(c) the steps taken on review of this ongoing irrigation project, for release of funds for its expeditious completion; and

(d) details of funds provided during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) The Project was originally approved by the Planning Commission in May, 1976 for an estimated cost of Rs. 39.88 crores and the project was scheduled for completion by 1984. The latest estimated cost of the Project including Command Area Development works is Rs. 659.51 crores and the Project is now scheduled for completion in June, 2000. The actual time of completion depends upon availability of funds. The main reasons for time overrun and cost escalation are as under :

(1) Shifting of the dam site.

- (2) Change in scope of the Project i.e. inclusion of Left Bank Canal and the consequent increase in irrigation from 45,000 hectares to 80,750 hectares.

(3) General Price escalation.

(b) Irrigation projects are formulated, executed and funded by the State Governments from their own resources. The Central Government release Block loans and grants to the State Governments not tied to any sector of development or the Project. The information on stipulated and actual release of funds is not available. However, actual expenditure on the Project during 92-93, 93-94, 94-95 are Rs. 30.00 crores, Rs. 34.00 crores, Rs. 38.50 crore (anticipated) respectively. The Working Group of the Planning Commission recommended an outlay of Rs. 33.00 crores for the year 1995-96.

(c) The Progress of the Project is generally reviewed with the officials of the State Government at the time of annual plan discussions in the Planning Commission and it is impressed upon them to provide funds for scheduled completion of the Projects.

(d) The Government of Maharashtra has provided an outlay of Rs. 45.19 crores in their Annual Plan 1996-97 for this Project.

[Translation]

Monuments in Delhi

3409. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that around 500 monuments of archaeological importance have been destructed in Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for timely protection of these monuments?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) No centrally protected monument has been destroyed in Delhi.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Question does not arise.

Ground Water

3410. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether exploration of ground water adversely affects environment, soil and climate;

(b) if so, the analytical details thereof;

(c) the names of States where such adverse affects have been noticed;

(d) whether the Government propose to enact a law to use ground water with restraint;

(e) if so, when; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Question do not arise.

(d) to (f). Water being a State subject, enactment of law for regulation and control of ground water development is done by the State Governments/Union Territories. The Union Government have circulated a Model Bill to all the States/Union Territories requesting them to enact suitable legislation on the lines of the Model Bill for regulation and control of ground water development.

Ground Water Level

3411. SHRI PAWAN DIWAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the underground water level in plateau regions of Madhya Pradesh is constantly going down;

(b) if so, the action being taken by the Union Government to prevent the water level to go down;

(c) whether the schemes regarding raising the ground water level of the affected districts have been sent to the Ministry by Government of Madhya Pradesh; and

(d) whether his Ministry will provide Central assistance for implementation by clearing these schemes on priority basis?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Long term observations of ground water level have shown gradual decline of ground water level in some pockets including plateau regions of Madhya Pradesh.

(b) The steps taken by the Union Government to prevent decline in the level of ground water include :

(i) Circulation of a Model Bill to all the States/Union Territories to enable them to enact suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development.

(ii) Formulation of a Centrally Sponsored Scheme to assist the State Governments in artificial recharge of ground water. The Scheme is at consultation stage.

(iii) Circulation of a Manual on artificial recharge of ground water to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend in ground water levels.

- (iv) Assisting the State Government of Madhya Pradesh in identifying suitable sites for locating recharge structures.

(c) and (d). The State Government of Madhya Pradesh had sent a proposal in 1994 for financial assistance for ground water recharge projects in the State. After examination of the proposal, the State Government was informed in October, 1994 that some of the projects proposed by them could be considered for inclusion in the Centrally Sponsored Scheme formulated by the Central Ground Water Board which is at present at consultation stage.

Bridge on Ganga in Varanasi

3412. SHRI RAM SAGAR :
SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH :
SHRI MANOJ KUMAR SINHA :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) when the construction work on G.T. Road by pass from Mohan Sarai to Mughal Sarai and bridge on river Ganga in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh was started;

(b) the estimated cost of the said project along with the details of expenditure incurred thereon till date;

(c) the details of progress made in construction work; and

(d) the date fixed for the completion of the said project?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) The work was started in October, 1987.

(b) Original sanctioned cost of this project was Rs. 49.92 crores. The revised cost of the project (Roads and Bridges) is Rs. 122.59 crores. The up-to-date expenditure incurred on this project is Rs. 90.61 crores.

(c) Progress of the Project is as under :

(1) Bypass (Road works)	-	42%
(2) Ganga Bridge	-	93%
(3) 2 ROB's	-	80% & 60%

(d) Tentative target date for the completion of the project is December, 1997.

[English]

Science City

3413. DR. C. SILVERA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether inauguration of first phase of the Science City is likely to take place on December 31, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof with capacity of accommodation to be covered under this phase;

(c) whether the Government propose to inaugurate the second phase of said city somewhere in first quarter of 1997;

(d) whether the Government propose to set up such Science city in Mizoram for convenience of North-Eastern States; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) and (b). The Convention Centre of the Science City will be inaugurated on December 21, 1996, having a capacity of 2200. The Convention Centre has also a mini auditorium of 400 capacity, 8 seminar halls of capacity varying from 50 to 100 each, a special exhibition hall displaying computerised robotic dinosaurs developed by National Council of Science Museums and a large cafeteria.

(c) The remaining wings of the Science City which include Space Theatre, Space Flight Simulator and about 1000 indoor and outdoor exhibits of science, technology, environment and ecology will be inaugurated in March, 1997.

(d) and (e). In terms of the extant policy of the National Council of Science Museums, the Science Centre could be set up provided the concerned State Government approaches and provides a developed site and agree to share the 50% of the cost of project. However a Science Centre in the North-East region at Guwahati is functioning from 1994.

[Translation]

Acquisition of Land by Defence Forces in Bikaner District

3414. SHR MAHENDRA SINGH BHATI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had acquired all the land of nearly 34 villages in Lunkaran Tehsil in Bikaner district for Mahajan field Firing Range in the year 1985-86;

(b) if so, whether less compensation was paid to the concerned persons and if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which the outstanding compensation is proposed to be paid;

(c) whether thousands of cases have been pending in the court of Chief Judicial Magistrate, Bikaner for a long time;

(d) if so, the action being taken for early decision of the cases; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government for the rehabilitation of the families displaced due to the said Range?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) Yes, Sir. Number of villages involved was, however, 33 only.

(b) Compensation as provided under the Land Acquisition Act was paid for the lands acquired.

(c) and (d). 4000 Land Reference cases were filed by the land owners. Out of these, 1128 have been dismissed.

(e) An amount of Rs. 89,54,000/- for rehabilitation was sanctioned and made available to the District Collector, Bikaner for disbursement to the displaced families.

[English]

Fake Medicine manufacturing Units

3415. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of fake medicine manufacturing units unearthed in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken against the persons found responsible therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

India's Membership in UN Security Council

3416. SHRI C. NARASIMHAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of countries in favour of India's Permanent membership in the UN Security Council; and

(b) whether the U.S. and China are also supporting the case of our inclusion in the Security Council?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b). Five countries have specifically supported India's candidature for permanent membership of the UN Security Council (Bhutan, Mauritius, Cuba, Dominican Republic and LAO PDR). The US and China have not taken any position on India's candidature for permanent membership.

[Translation]

Vacancies in BHU

3417. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of posts of lecturers are lying vacant in Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of reserved/unreserved posts out of them;

(d) the time since when these posts have been lying vacant; and

(e) the time by which these posts are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (e). The information is being collected from the Banaras Hindu University and shall be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

Multinational Company

3418. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that a top Multinational Company will set up a Chain of Commercial Genetic testing and counselling clinics in India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b). A Proposal of M/s. Progene Inc., USA for setting up of Progene India Human Genetic Centre in New Delhi has recently been cleared by the Foreign Investment Promotion Board subject to certain stipulations including that they would have to seek the necessary approvals under the existing local laws, regulations and guidelines.

Krishna River Water Dispute

3419. SHRI B.L. SHANKAR : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state the details of action taken by the Union Government to solve Krishna River Water Dispute among the concerned States?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal (KWDT) has given Final Order in 1976 sharing of Krishna waters among the States of Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. As such there is no water dispute among Krishna Basin States. There is a controversy between the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka about Full Reservoir Level of Almatti Dam. A meeting of the Chief Ministers of Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh was convened by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 10-08-96 in an effort to arrive at an amicable settlement. But no consensus could be reached. However, the Chief Minister of Karnataka State assured that the Karnataka Government does not intend to utilise more water than its allocated share.

[Translation]

Schemes Offered to CSD Canteens

3420. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (Hardoi) : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Colgate Palmolive India Ltd. had floated a scheme of free bathing soap cake with one piece of 100 gm. Colgate toothpaste in September/October 1996;

(b) if so, whether the scheme was offered to the CSD canteens in Delhi; if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any proposal to conduct a survey as to how many companies giving supplies in the CSD have introduced schemes on their products to boost the sales thereof and how many of them also offered the scheme to the CSD canteens in Delhi;

(d) whether there is any proposal to blacklist all those companies which did not give/extend the schemes to the CSD canteens in Delhi and also report the matter to the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission for resorting to unfair trade practices by those companies; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e). As per terms and conditions, agreed with the manufacturers/suppliers, they are obliged to inform and offer such scheme to CSD including its Delhi Depot. The CSD also collects such information through other media including Radio, TV, Print/Press etc., about such schemes from time to time. In the event of default on the part of the firm, the CSD is empowered to recover the value of the gift item (s) plus 5% penalty thereon. There is no proposal for blacklisting of the firm and/or referring the matter to MRTP Commission.

[English]

Political Activities in Educational Institutions

3421. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are proposals under consideration of the Government to ban political activities inside the premises of the educational institutions; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) At present, no such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Bypass in Ranchi, Bihar

3422. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government propose to construct a Bypass in Ranchi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No, Sir.

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

Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas in Himachal Pradesh

3423. SHRI SAT MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Kendriya and Navodaya Vidyalayas functioning in Himachal Pradesh at present and the number of Kendriya and Navodaya Vidyalayas proposed to be set up in the State;

(b) whether the State Government has since made necessary land, building and other facilities available for setting up of proposed Kendriya and Navodaya Vidyalayas; and

(c) if so, the time by which the said Vidyalayas are likely to be set up alongwith the details of places thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (c). At present 18 Kendriya Vidyalayas and 10 Navodaya Vidyalayas are functioning in Himachal Pradesh. No proposals to set up new Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas in Himachal Pradesh fulfilling the required norms have been received.

[English]

Production in Ordnance Factory, Badmal

3424. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the time by which production in Ordnance factory at Badmal area of Balangir in Orissa will commence; and

(b) the reasons for delay in commencement of the plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) Production in

Ordnance Factory at Badmal is planned to be taken up in 1997-98.

(b) Plants for two versions of ammunition have been installed. During commissioning and trial runs of the plants, certain technical problems have been encountered which are being attended to by the suppliers. For the third version, plants are under installation.

[Translation]

Operation Black Board

3425. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of teaching classes conducted in Maharashtra during each of the last three years under 'Operation Black Board';

(b) whether any financial assistance was sought by the State Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) According to information furnished by Government of Maharashtra, the number of class room constructed under Operation Blackboard Scheme in the State in the last three years is as follows :

Year	Class rooms constructed
1993-94	1374
1994-95	2722
1995-96	2915

(b) to (d). Construction of school buildings is primarily the responsibility of State Governments. Under Operation Blackboard, a formula has been worked out in consultation with Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment to provide funds for construction of primary school buildings under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY).

According to the information furnished by the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment a sum of Rs. 382.81 lakhs have been released to the State Government during 1993-94 under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) for construction of primary school buildings.

[English]

Development of Harbour Project at Panaji

3426. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is fact that the Mormugao Port

Administration has proposed development of outer harbour project at Panaji;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereon;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the Mumbai Port Trust has decided to levy charges on Panaji bound vessels through its waters;

(e) if so, whether the Ministry has approved the above charges; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. In order to meet the future demand for port services, Mormugao Port administration has proposed development of outer harbour project at Panaji. Mormugao Port Trust has decided to shortlist consulting engineering firms for selection and appointment as consultants for carrying out feasibility studies for outer harbour.

(d) No, Sir.

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

Technical Innovations made by IIT

3427. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the role of Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi is rendering consultancy services to industries and technical innovations have gone down to considerable extent;

(b) if so, the details of technical innovations made by the senior professors of IIT, Delhi during the last five years Department-wise and also the quantum of money earned therefrom; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c). There has been steady increase year after year in consultancy services rendered to the industries and in large number of sponsored research projects undertaken by the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs).

Treatment to Afghan Soldiers

3428. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether injured soldiers of President Burhenuddin Rabbani's regime in war-torn Afghanistan are being set to India for medical treatment;

(b) whether most of these soldiers are undergoing treatment at private hospitals and nursing homes in various parts of Delhi;

(c) if so, the number of such injured soldiers getting treatment in India;

(d) whether the expenditure is borne by the Government of India and if so, how much amount, so far, has been borne by the Government; and

(e) whether any agreement in this regard has been arrived at and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) We have no information in this regard.

(c) Does not arise

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Does not arise.

Internet Threatens Copyright Regime

3429. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been invited to the news item captioned "Internet threatens copyright regime" appearing in 'The Hindustan Times', New Delhi, dated November 9, 1996; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The news item captioned "Internet threatens copyright regime" in "The Hindustan Times", New Delhi dated November 9, 1996 refers to challenges to copyright protection posed by developments in the field of digital technologies and the Internet. The article refers to the possibilities of copyright piracy because of the use of digital technologies and to the demand of interested groups in the country that measures be taken to modify the copyright and neighbouring rights appropriately to respond to the new information age.

The World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO), a specialised agency of the United Nations Organisation, has convened a Diplomatic Conference in Geneva from December 2 to 20, 1996 to consider new treaties on copyright and neighbouring rights taking into consideration recent developments in the fields of digital technologies and communications. India is participating in the Diplomatic Conference with a view to protecting its national interest. The Government has

held extensive consultations with concerned groups on the new treaties. A core group was constituted in the Department of Education with representatives of other Ministries/Departments, copyright and neighbouring rights organisations, experts on copyrights, academic institutions like Indian Institutes of Technology etc. to consider the proposed treaties. Panel discussions were also held in Delhi and Hyderabad on the proposed treaties. All possible steps are being taken to protect the national interests in this area.

Financial Assistance to Hospitals

3430. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has extended any financial help to any hospital under the Cooperative or other sector in the State of Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details with terms and conditions of such financing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b). Central assistance is extended to the States/Union Territories under various National Programmes as per approved pattern.

[Translation]

Funds for AIDS

3431. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have provided any funds to U.P. for prevention of AIDS during the last three years;

(b) if so, the manner in which those funds have been utilised by the U.P. Government;

(c) the number of AIDS affected persons in U.P. at present, particularly in Khurja Constituency;

(d) the assistance provided by the Union Government to U.P. particularly to Government hospitals in Southern U.P. for prevention of AIDS and the Hospitals, Medical colleges where AIDS detection facility is available; and

(e) the steps being taken to provide this facility to other big hospitals also?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b). The funds released by the Central Government and expenditure incurred by the State Government for Prevention and Control of AIDS

during the last three years are as follows :

Year	Funds released	Expenditure reported on the funds released in previous years (Rs. in lakhs)
1994-95	121.00	35.15
1995-96	0.00	204.31
1996-97	150.00	77.80
(upto 30.11.96)		

The State Government has utilised these funds in accordance with the approved schemes for prevention and control of AIDS which is being implemented as a 100% Centrally Sponsored Scheme in the entire country.

(c) 689 Human Immuno Deficiency Virus (HIV) positive and 56 AIDS cases have been reported from the State of as on 30th Nov. 1996. However, the Constituency of Khurja covered under Jawahar Lal Nehru Medical College, Aligarh has not reported any AIDS case.

(d) National AIDS Control Programme is a 100% Centrally Sponsored Scheme and is implemented by the State Governments/UT Administrations. AIDS detection facility available in U.P. is as under :-

(i) Department of Microbiology, K.G. Medical College, Lucknow.

(ii) Central JALWA Institute for Leprosy, Agra.

(iii) Department of Microbiology, Institute of Medical Sciences, Varanasi.

(iv) Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College, Aligarh.

(v) Kamla Nehru Memorial Hospital, Allahabad.

(e) All the hospitals in State can refer cases for Human Immuno Deficiency Virus (HIV) testing in the above centres which is nearest.

[English]

Three Language Formula

3432. SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the names of States where the 'Three Language Formula' has implemented.

(b) the status provided to the mother tongue and the minority language during the implementation of the formula. State-wise details thereof;

(c) whether some States have totally excluded the Minority Language from the curriculum;

(d) if so, the details alongwith the names of such States and the names of the Minority Language excluded/not included in the curriculum;

(e) whether the Government propose to review the working of the Formula in various States, and convene a meeting of Chief Ministers and Education Ministers for the purpose; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (f). In order to make provision for teaching of minority language or mother tongue, the Union Education Ministry in consultation with the States/UTs formulated the Three Language Formula in 1957-58. This formula was simplified at the Chief Minister's Conference, 1961. This simplified Three Language Formula which was subsequently incorporated in the National Policy on Education, 1968 is a vital constituent of the nationally agreed schemes of safeguards for linguistic minorities.

The Three Language Formula, which applies to Secondary stage of school education provides the study of a Modern Indian Language (MIL), preferably one of the Southern languages, apart from Hindi and English in Hindi speaking States and study of the regional language apart from Hindi and English in non-Hindi speaking States. According to the 31st Report of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities in India (for the period July 1990 to June 1991), all the States with the exception of Tamil Nadu, J & K, Pondicherry have implemented the Three Language Formula.

The National Curricular Framework for Elementary and Secondary Education, brought out by the NCERT in 1988 on the basis of the postulates of NPE, 1986 provides that mother tongue should be the medium of instruction. The framework also provides the following:

"In the case of learners whose mother tongue is also the language of the region, the medium of instruction at the elementary and secondary stage should be the regional language. In the case of those whose mother tongue is different from the regional language, the mother tongue may be used as medium during the first two years of primary education, and the regional language should be used subsequently."

At present, there is no proposal to convene a meeting of Chief Ministers and Education Ministers for the purpose to review the working of the Three Language Formula. However, State Governments have been urged from time to time to adopt and vigorously implement the Three Language Formula. The role of Central Government in the matter of implementation of Three Language Formula is recommendatory. The implementation of the Three Language Formula is the sole responsibility of the State Governments.

Hiring of Despatch Vessel by CPT

3433. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSHI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Calcutta Port Trust has hired a despatch vessel named "ASIE TRINIDAD";

(b) if so, when;

(c) whether the vessel was used by CPT; and

(d) if so, the results achieved thereby?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The vessel "ASIE TRINIDAD" was hired for one year with effect from 15.1.1994.

(c) and (d). The vessel was used by the Calcutta Port for river conservancy work. Since the performance of the vessel was not satisfactory, the contract was terminated on expiry of one year period with effect from 15.1.1995.

Strike by Port and Dock Employees

3434. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the principle of no work-no pay is applied to port and dock workers and their wages are deducted when they go on strike;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the port and dock officers went on one day strike on January 30, 1996;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether their salaries have been deducted for that day applying the principle of 'no work no pay', if so, when; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the case of strike/stoppage of work in contravention of the provisions of Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, the employees are not paid wages for the period of their absence from duty.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The strike was almost complete in all the Major Ports and was called to press for the implementation of the recommendations of the Pay Revision Committee.

(e) and (f). All Major Port Trusts except Paradip and Cochin have deducted the salaries for one day from the salary bills of subsequent months. The Cochin and Paradip Port Trusts have been instructed to follow the same.

[Translation]

Funds for Cantonment Boards in Gujarat

3435. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the funds provided for the development works to various cantonment boards in Gujarat during the last three years till-date;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to solve the problem of water and electricity supply in these cantonment board areas; and

(c) the schemes of the Government to make these boards effective and people serving?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) There is only one Cantonment in Gujarat namely Ahmedabad Cantonment. This is self sufficient. No grant from Ministry of Defence has been given to this Cantonment Board during the last 3 years. However, funds provided to the Board by way of service charges by the Central Government for the last 3 years are as follows :

1993-94	Rs.	50.00.000.00
1994-95	Rs.	88.61.477.00
1995-96	Rs.	3.98.62,363.00

(b) The Cantonment Board, Ahmedabad is having their own water supply scheme for notified civil area and for water supply in Bungalow area, they are taking water from MES under an agreement. The electricity is provided in Cantonment area by the State Electricity Board and not by the Cantonment Board. No problem in respect of water and electricity supply in Cantonment area has been reported to the Government.

(c) Cantonment Boards are body corporate with elected members representing the local civil population and are administered under the provisions of Cantonments Act, 1924.

[English]

Land to Rastraguru Surendra Nath College, Barrackpore

3436. SHRI HARADHAN ROY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Principal of Rastraguru Surendra Nath College, Barrackpore have made several representation to the Government as well as with the concerned authorities to hand-over the defence land to the said college;

(b) whether several Members of Parliament have also approached the Government to hand-over the defence land to this college;

(c) whether the Government propose to issue necessary instructions to the Eastern Command, Calcutta to do the needful;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (e). Government sanction has been issued on 17.9.93 for lease of 3.19 acres of Defence land in Barrackpore Cantonment to Rashtraguru Surendranath College authorities, who are already in possession of the land, on payment of annual rent of Rs.1,32,017/- and a premium of Rs. 13,20,170/-. The College authorities, instead of making payment of the rent and premium, have made a number of representations for reducing the amount of rent and premium to a nominal amount. The rent and premium have been fixed on concessional terms as per the existing policy for lease of land to educational institutions.

Assistance to IIDS at Kuppam

3437. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has submitted a project for budgetary support for Indian Institute of Dravidian Studies at Kuppam during 1995-96;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have cleared the project; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (c). A request was received from Government of Andhra Pradesh for budgetary support for Indian Institute of Dravidian Studies at Kuppam during 1995-96. However, no decision could be taken on the request of Govt. of Andhra Pradesh as the concurrence of the four southern States to the setting up a participative venture jointly funded by them and the Government of India, has not been received.

Water Sports Complex in Kerala

3438. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from Director of Sports and Youth Affairs, Government of Kerala to construct a full fledged water sports complex at Punnamuke in Alleppey;

(b) whether Government of Kerala handed-over land for the proposed complex;

(c) if so, the steps taken in this regard;

(d) whether the Finance Committee of Sports Authority of India has approved the proposal for the construction of Hostel for the accommodation of the

trainees in modern water sports like Canoeing, Kaya King and Rowing; and

(e) if so, will the Government take immediate step to accord fund sanction for this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DHANUSHKODI ATHITHAN R) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e). Sports Authority of India has a Water Sports Training Centre at Alleppey which is run as a Special Area Games (SAG) Sports Complex. The 27th meeting of the Finance Commission of SAI approved the construction of a hostel at a maximum cost of Rs. 70.00 lakhs. However, the construction work could not be taken up due to the present financial crunch in the Sports Authority of India.

Performance in International Sports

3439. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Education and U.G.C. planning to earmark atleast 10% of the total educational grants to physical education;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether instructions have been sent to NCERT and National Book Trust of India to provide text books for physical education and sports as per prescribed syllabi in the subject of physical education, health education and sports; and

(d) if not, the manner in which the policy decision of making physical education and sports as an integral part of general education without providing text books in these subjects to school children can be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Demolition of Houses and Shops in Civilian Area

3440. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that on the order of Army officers of the Defence Department many houses and shops were illegally demolished in the civilian area of Cantonment Council in Agra without the consent of the officers of that place;

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

(c) whether any assessment of the loss has been worked out;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the number of the persons displaced as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) No, Sir. However, a few houses and shops which were encroachments on Defence land under the management of the Army were removed by the order of Station Commander, Agra on 10th August, 1996 after giving notice for vacation.

(b) No intervention by the Government was required as the action of the Station Commander was within the law.

(c) to (e). As these were encroachments on the Defence land under the management of the Army, all shops and houses (mud houses with thatched roofs) were removed. The total number of persons displaced due to the demolition is approximately 140.

Human Resource Anganwadi Kendras

3441. SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Anganwadi Kendras in Chhota Nagpur area of Bihar and the amount proposed to be spent on these centres during the year 1996-97;

(b) whether the Union Government have received any complaint in regard to the working of these centres and the misutilisation of the allocated funds;

(c) if so, whether the Union Government have conducted any enquiry in this regard; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) There are 20963 sanctioned Anganwadi Kendras in Chhota Nagpur area of Bihar. An amount of Rs. 20.02 crores is proposed to be released during 1996-97 for running of these Anganwadi Kendras.

(b) No, Sir

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

Research and Technique Centres

3442. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Universities and its colleges are considered centres for research and techniques of Higher Education;

(b) whether qualification criterion is fixed by University Grants Commission for posting competent employees there;

(c) if so, whether the enquiry in regard to the posting made in Universities and colleges are conducted from time to time regularly; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Recruitment of Teachers by KVS

3443. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the norms laid down by the Kendriya Vidyalayas Sangathan for the recruitment of teachers in Kendriya Vidyalayas;

(b) whether these norms were not strictly following during the recruitment in 1994 and 1995 particularly in Gauhati region; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (c). Recruitment of teachers in Kendriya Vidyalayas is made in accordance with recruitment rules approved by the Board of Governors of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan from time to time.

These are followed in all the regions.

UGC Office in Calcutta

3444. PROF. JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Regional Office of UGC at Calcutta has since become operational; and

(b) if so, the infrastructure of the office and its area of operation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The building for housing the Regional Office has been provided by the Government of West Bengal. One Joint Secretary, who is Head of the Office, one Accounts Officer and one LDC have since been posted. This Office will cover the States of Bihar, Orissa, Sikkim and West Bengal.

Conference on Health and Dietary Habits

3445. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a conference on Health and Dietary Habits was held recently in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details and outcome thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir. A one Day National Congress on Health and Dietary Fats was held on 29th October, 1996 in New Delhi.

(b) Human Nutrition Unit, All India Institute of Medical Sciences in collaboration with seven national scientific organisations organised a "National Congress on Health and Dietary Fats".

The objective of this congress was to orient the academicians, scientists, health planners, administrators, nutritionists, dieticians, physicians in different parts of the country amount (i) the status of availability of dietary fats in India (ii) strategies for bridging the gap between production and requirements of dietary fats (iii) the Government of India's efforts to improve production of dietary fats, (iv) review scientific studies conducted in India and abroad on palm oil and its health effects, (v) utility of crude palm oil in prevention of vitamin A deficiency amongst children, and (vi) to disseminate correct nutrition information on palm oil.

The scientific programme of the congress ensured that all the delegates received the latest scientific information on the mentioned objectives during the congress.

(c) The details proceedings and recommendations of the Congress are awaited.

Shortage of Platelets Concentrate

3446. SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the Government and Semi-Government Hospitals and Blood Banks being run in Delhi and New Delhi do not have the facility to extract platelets concentrate, a life saving fresh blood derivative;

(b) whether shortage of platelets concentrate has been the cause of many avoidable dengue fever deaths; and

(c) the remedial steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) The blood banks functioning at All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Armed Forces

Hospital, G.T.B. Hospital and Indian Red Cross Society are having facility to produce platelet concentrate.

(b) and (c). Deaths were attributed to suspected dengue/Dengue Haemorrhagic Fever in Delhi, Haryana and other parts of the country during Sept. to November, 1996.

There was no shortage of platelets concentrate during this period.

Government took the following important measures to control the situation :

- (i) Immediate establishment of systems for the daily reporting of cases and deaths from all major public and private hospitals;
- (ii) alerting the State Govts. and in particular Delhi Government of measures to be taken for detection of cases, anti-larval operations, fogging, intensification of health education activities and clinical management of patients;
- (iii) augmentation of blood component separation facilities in major hospitals and the Indian Red Cross Society;
- (iv) supply of all commodities like Pyrethrum extract, malathion, fogging machines.

As a long term measure, preparation of a Contingency Plan for vector borne diseases including Dengue, has been taken up for being provided to the State Governments highlighting endemic areas and specific locations requiring attention from the points of view of prevention, spraying during transmission period and treatment.

[Translation]

Computer Education at Middle School Level

3447. SHRI JAYSINH CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are paying special attention on Computer Education at middle school level;

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

(c) the number of middle schools of Gujarat where computer education has been proposed and approved; and

(d) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard in the said State during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of 'Computer Literacy and Studies in Schools', only Government/Government aided Senior Secondary Schools are eligible to receive Central assistance for supply of computers and software. Middle level schools are not covered under the scheme.

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

Opening of New Dispensary

3448. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the reply given to USQ No. 1385 on 12.3.96 and USQ No. 3712 on 2.9.96, and state

(a) whether Government Employees/pensioners have to change three buses at outer-ring road, Peeragarhi, Punjabi Bagh and hire an auto rickshaw from Britannia Biscuits to reach Rani Bagh CGHS dispensary;

(b) if so, whether it is provided in the CGHS norms that a patient may have to change a number of buses for reaching to CGHS dispensary for getting treatment;

(c) whether other colonies like Sarasvati Vihar and Madhuban Chowk adjoining outer ring road be included in with group housing societies in order to meet the CGHS norms of minimum concentration of Central Government employees/pensioners;

(d) if so, the action to be taken by Government in this regard, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether Government would find out the solution to open a CGHS dispensary at Outer Ring Road, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (e). Although the CGHS dispensary at Rani Bagh (Shakur Basti) is fairly centrally located, it is possible that beneficiaries staying in the outskirts of the demarcated areas covered under the dispensary may have to travel some distance to reach the dispensary, as these are scattered private colonies where a mixed population of Government employees (retired and serving) and others are staying.

CGHS dispensaries at Rani Bagh (Shakur Basti), Rohini and Pitampura are serving the localities adjoining Outer Ring Road. Depending on the feasibility, requirement, availability of resources etc. and subject to fulfilment of CGHS norms, the CGHS network is being expanded gradually. However, it is not possible to open a dispensary for each cluster of CGHS beneficiaries.

Emigration of Brain Drain

3449. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether number of engineers, scientists, medical doctors, graduates in professional courses like Chartered Accounts, Business Management, Company Secretaries have emigrated to developed countries during the last three years;

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

(c) whether the Government are considering to take any policy initiatives to prevent Indian brain drain;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (e). Some Indian scientists, engineers, medical graduates do migrate to other countries for higher studies/work abroad and some of them tend to stay back. But it has not been possible to maintain a record of such migrants. In order to attract such personnel back to the country, the Government have taken steps which include increase in Science and Technology outlays, creation of new Scientific Departments/Organisations, delegation of enhanced administrative and financial powers to Science and Technology Institutions etc.

Memorandum from Kerala on Haj

3450. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any memorandum from the Government of Kerala regarding various issues of Haj pilgrims from Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon so far; and

(c) the total number Haj pilgrims from Kerala allowed during 1996?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The suggestions made by the Government of Kerala are mentioned below along with the present position :

- (i) Representation of Kerala on the Central Haj Committee—Composition of the Central Haj Committee is governed by the Haj Committee Act of 1959, which does not provide for representation from any State except Maharashtra.
- (ii) To hand over the process of selection of buildings and their allotment to the Kerala State Haj Committee—Representative of Kerala State Haj Committee has been included in the Building Selection Team for Haj - 97. Allotment of accommodation is made by the Consulate General of India, Jeddah, in consultation with the Central Haj Committee in an equitable manner for pilgrims from all States.
- (iii) Arrangement of direct Haj flights to Jeddah from Trivandrum Airport - for Haj'97, it is proposed to have Haj charter flights from

Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Calcutta and Bangalore.

- (iv) Circulation of draft legislation on Haj Committee to Kerala State Haj Committee before finalisation - The legislative proposals to be enacted in the Bill are under consideration and the new Bill would be introduced after all aspects have been examined.

(c) The total number of Haj pilgrims from Kerala who performed Haj under the auspices of the Central Haj Committee during 1996 was 4588.

Contracts to Indian Companies in African Countries

3451. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Indian companies were awarded African Development Bank/World Bank multilaterally funded international contracts in African countries located in south of Sahara region during the financial year 1995-96; and

(b) if so, the details of all such contracts awarded in each such African country?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

OBC Recruitment of Group 'D' Staff

3452. SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether candidates, sponsored by the Employment Exchange for Group D post (Peon) in the reserved category of OBC in the Ministry of External Affairs, have been awaiting in queue for their interviews/selections since long;

(b) whether it is also a fact that according to the latest Government policy, all such reserved vacancies must be filled up within the stipulated time; and

(c) if so, upto which specific date all selection formalities will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The selection formalities have already been completed within the stipulated time. The offers of appointments to selected candidates are under issue.

Agreements Signed with Other Countries

3453. SHRI B. DHARMA BIKSHAM : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the salient features of the agreements/accords signed with

various countries during the last six months, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : A statement is enclosed.

STATEMENT

China

1. Agreement on Confidence Building Measures in the Military Field along the Line of Actual Control signed on 29 November, 1996 in New Delhi includes several important confidence building measures and is built upon the Agreement on the Maintenance of Peace and Tranquillity along the line of Actual Control which was signed on 7 September, 1993.

2. The agreement concerning the maintenance of the Consulate General of India in Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China signed on 29 November, 1996 in New Delhi provides the legal framework for the maintenance of our Consulate General in Hong Kong after the transfer of sovereignty to People's Republic of China on 30 June, 1997.

3. The Agreement on Cooperation for Combating Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances and Other Crimes signed on 29 November, 1996 provides for exchange of information and mutual cooperation in combating drug trafficking and other crimes.

4. The Agreement on Maritime Transport signed on 29 November, 1996 in New Delhi provides a framework for the development of maritime traffic between India and China.

Mongolia

1. The Agreement on Trade and Economic Cooperation signed in Ulaan Baatar on 16 September, 1996 provides the framework for expanding trade and economic cooperation between India and Mongolia.

2. The Agreement on Cooperation in the field of Agriculture signed on 16 September, 1996 provides the framework for bilateral cooperation in agriculture.

3. The Agreement in the field of Geology and Mineral Resources signed in Ulaan Baatar on 16 September, 1996 provides a framework for bilateral cooperation in geology and mineral resources.

Oman

1. The Memorandum of Understanding on Joint Commission for Combating Crime signed in Oman on 5 October, 1996 provides for mutual assistance in combating crime through exchange of information/data and assistance in investigation in the areas of trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, international organised crimes including terrorism, illegal

activities in the economic field and arms and ammunitions, smuggling of items of historical and cultural value and counterfeiting of travel documents etc.

2. The Agreement on Scientific and Technological Cooperation signed on 5 October, 1996 in Oman provides for cooperation in science and technology through exchange of experts, information and data, holding of seminars and workshops, training and joint research projects

3. The Agreement on Cooperation in Agriculture and Allied Areas signed on 5 October, 1996 in Oman provides for joint activities in the areas of agricultural research, horticulture, soil conservation, irrigation, dairy development and food production and processing etc.

Yemen

1. The Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the Field of Agriculture and Allied Sectors signed in New Delhi on 7 December, 1996 provides a framework for expanding cooperation in the field of agriculture, desertification and soil conservation. The MOU contains a provision for deputing Indian agricultural experts to Yemen to help draw up a plan of action in this area.

2. The Agreement on Cooperation in Science and Technology signed in New Delhi on 7 December, 1996 provides not only a mechanism for such cooperation but also an impetus to expand bilateral cooperation in this important area.

3. The agreement on Joint Business Council signed in New Delhi on 7 December, 1996 provides a forum for exchange of business information and increased interaction between business representatives of both sides.

Sudan

1. The Memorandum of Understanding for bilateral cooperation in the field of health signed in New Delhi on 13 October, 1996 enables cooperation and Indian assistance to Sudan in the critical areas of primary health care etc.

2. The Cultural Exchange Programme for 1996-98 signed on 9 August, 1996 under the overall Cultural Exchange Programme facilitates the much needed cultural and social exchanges which will create goodwill and understanding between the people of both countries.

Tunisia

1. A workplan for cooperation in agricultural research for 1996-97 signed in New Delhi in October, 1996 provides for exchange of information and experts and optimum utilisation of agro technology by both the countries.

2. A Cultural Exchange Programme for the years 1996-98 signed in Tunis on 4 July, 1996 will facilitate social and cultural exchanges including bilateral visits by scholars, artists etc. in both countries.

Israel

1. The Memorandum of Understanding between National Small Industries Corporation of India and Small Business Authority of Israel signed in December, 1996 provides for cooperation in the area of small scale industry. India's expertise and Israel's experience will be placed at the disposal of parties of both countries through the nodal agencies which have signed the Memorandum of Understanding.

Slovak Republic

1. The Agreement on Cooperation in Science and Technology signed on 10 October, 1996 seeks to promote cooperation in the field of science and technology between the two countries.

2. The Agreement on Air Services between India and Slovak Republic signed on 10 October, 1996 provides the framework for future air links between the two countries.

Czech Republic

1. The Protocol on Consultations between the Ministry of External Affairs of India and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Czech Republic signed on 11 October, 1996 provides for regular consultations between the Foreign Ministries of the two countries.

2. The Agreement for Promotion and Protection of Investments signed on 11 October, 1996 provides for mutual guarantees for protection of investments, repatriation of profits and a mechanism for dispute settlement.

3. The Agreement on Cooperation in the Fields of Culture, Education and Science signed on 11 October, 1996 is an umbrella agreement which provides for cooperation between the two countries in the areas of culture, education and science.

Poland

1. A Cultural Exchange Programme between India and Poland for the period 1997-1999 signed on 7 October, 1996 was concluded within the timeframe of Indo-Polish Cultural Agreement of 1957 and projects specific bilateral exchanges in education and learning, culture and arts, and mass media.

2. The Agreement on Promotion and Protection of investments signed on 7 October, 1996 provides mutual guarantees for protection of investments, repatriation of profits and a dispute settlement mechanism.

3. The Protocol on Consultations between Ministry of External Affairs of India and Ministry of Foreign Affairs

of Poland signed on 7 October, 1996 provides for the regular consultations between the Foreign Ministries of the two countries.

Slovenia

1. The Protocol on Consultations between the Ministry of External Affairs and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Slovenia signed on 23 August, 1996 provides for regular consultations between the Foreign Ministries of the two countries.

Russian Federation

1. The Agreement between Ministry of Defence of India and the Ministry of Defence of Russian Federation signed on 22 October, 1996 provides for intensifying bilateral cooperation between the armed forces of the two countries.

Bulgaria

1. The Agreement on Trade and Economic Cooperation signed on 4 December, 1996 updates the earlier agreement and provides the necessary framework for intensifying trade and economic cooperation between the two countries.

Kazakhstan

1. The Agreement for Promotion and Protection of Investments signed in New Delhi on 9 December, 1996 has provisions to promote Indian investments in Kazakhstan and reciprocally Kazakhstan investments in India as well as to safeguard these investments according to rules and regulations applicable in the two countries.

2. The Convention for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income and Capital signed on 9 December, 1996 has provisions to avoid double application of income tax on capital and income of Indian nationals in Kazakhstan and reciprocally Kazakh nationals in India. The Convention also has provisions to prevent evasion of payment of income tax by nationals of one country who are residents in the other.

Thailand

1. The Agreement between the Ministry of Human Resource Development of India and the Thai Ministry of Education signed on 18 October, 1996 provides for making suitable logistics, security and other arrangements for exposition in Thailand of the Holy Relics of the Lord Buddha and a photographic exhibition on the Buddhist sites and shrines in India.

Luxembourg

1. A Cultural agreement signed with the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg on 12 September, 1996 provides cooperation in several areas of Culture between India and Luxembourg.

Finland

1. A Protocol on Foreign Office consultations signed on 26 November, 1996 institutions consultation between the Foreign Offices to promote bilateral relations.

Comoros

1. A Protocol on Political, Trade, Economic, Cultural, Scientific and Technical Cooperation signed on 24 July, 1996 is an umbrella protocol between foreign Ministries of the two countries.

Mauritius

1. The Cultural Exchange Programme 1996-98, signed on 9 August, 1996 includes various proposals for cooperation between the two countries in the fields of education, arts and culture, youth and sports, women and child development for the period 1996-98.

2. A Memorandum of Understanding on Air Services signed on 27 August, 1996 permits Air Mauritius to operate one weekly service between Mauritius and Delhi on same terms and conditions as the services operated from Mauritius and Bombay.

Seychelles

1. The Agreement on Tourism Cooperation signed on 3 October, 1996 provides for development of tourism between India and Seychelles.

Zimbabwe

1. The Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation for the development of small scale industries in Zimbabwe signed on 2 November, 1996 stipulates Zimbabwe would provide infrastructural support and India would provide technical expertise, equipment, training and personnel for small industries projects for 3 years.

Senegal

1. The Memorandum of Understanding on establishment of Entrepreneurship and Technical Development Centre in Senegal signed on 3 November, 1996 states that Senegal would provide infrastructural support and India would provide technical expertise, equipment, training and personnel for small industries projects for 3 years.

South Africa

1. The Agreement on Avoidance of Double Taxation signed on 4 December, 1996 provides that enterprises taxed in one country would not be taxed again in the other country.

2. The Agreement on Cultural Cooperation signed on 4 December, 1996 is an umbrella agreement on cooperation in education, culture, mass media etc.

3. A Memorandum of Understanding in the field of defence equipment signed on 4 December, 1996 provides for cooperation in defence related issues.

Irrigation Projects

3454. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the irrigation projects funded by external and internal resources in Orissa;

(b) the schemes and programmes drawn up for completion of the above projects and taking up the new irrigation projects;

(c) whether priority has been accorded by the Government of Orissa to include more number of medium and minor irrigation projects in tribal and drought prone areas of the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b) Statement indicating Irrigation Projects funded by external agencies with their scheduled completion date and those funded by internal resources in Orissa is enclosed.

(c) and (d). Since irrigation is a state subject, the projects are planned, funded and implemented by the State Governments from the aggregate resources available to them. While fixing priorities to the projects, aspects relating to tribal and drought prone areas are considered by the State Governments.

STATEMENT**A. Externally Aided Projects :**

S.No.	Name of the Project	Assisting Agency	Date of Agreement	Date of Termination	Amount of assistance (in Donor Currency) (In Million)
1.	Water Resources Consolidation Project	World Bank	19.12.95	30.9.2002	US \$ 290.9
2.	Hydrology Project	World Bank	22.09.95	31.03.2002	US \$ 12.2
3.	Dam Safety Assurance & Rehabilitation Project	World Bank	10.06.91	30.09.1997	US \$ 48.9
4.	Lift Irrigation Project	Kfw, Germany	19.12.93	30.12.2020	DM 55
5.	Upper Indravati Irrigation Project	OECE, Japan	15.12.88	20.01.1999	Yen 3744
6.	Upper Kolab Irrigation Project	OECE, Japan	15.12.88	20.7.1996	Yen 3769
7.	Exploitation and Management of Ground Water Project	Australia	31.7.92	31.07.1998	US \$ 8.097
8.	Orissa Minor Irrigation Project	EEC	11.7.95	31.12.2004	ECU 10.70

US \$ - US Dollar

DM - Deutsche Mark

ECU - European Currency Unit

B. Projects Funded by Internal Resources

S.No.	Name of Project	Started in Plan	Latest Estimated Cost	Expenditure up to March, 1996. (Rs. in Crores)
1	2	3	4	5
	Major			
1.	Rengali			
	(a) Dam	IV	40.77	41.48 (Anticipated)
	(b) Irrigation	V	2199.52	216.73

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Upper Kolab*			
	(a) Dam	V	48.81	51.21 (Anticipated)
	(b) Irrigation	V	237.00	162.26
3.	Upper Indravati*			
	(a) Dam	AP 1978-80	176.16	135.34 (Anticipated)
	(b) Irrigation	AP 1978-80	539.51	154.50
4.	Subernarekha	VII	1154.45	259.39
5.	Mahanadi Chitrotpala Irrigation	VIII	135.79	11.95
6.	Potteru**	IV	148.07	108.64
7.	Water Resources* Consolidation Project	VIII	1409.90	53.44
8.	Kanupur	VIII	319.91	12.87
Total			6409.98	1240.81

Medium

1.	Hariharjore*	AP 1978-80	58.59	46.54
2.	Harbhangi*	AP 1978-80	93.82	69.22
3.	Upper Jonk*	AP 1978-80	83.13	63.78
4.	Baghua Stage-II*	AP 1978-80	40.81	23.14
5.	Badanalla*	VI	91.75	73.93
6.	Deo	VI	52.23	9.80
7.	Baghalati	VI	45.44	7.86
8.	Sapua Badajore	VI	33.21	13.80
9.	Birupa Ghanguti Island Irrigation	VII	11.46	10.81
10.	Satiguda*	VIII	5.61	3.81
11.	Tittagarh	VIII	21.13	1.58
Total			537.18	324.51

Extension, Renovation and Modernisation :

1.	Strengthening : Hirakud Dam	VI	25.39	4.17
2.	Modernisation : Hirakud Distribution	VIII	81.82	4.85
3.	Rushikulya Ph.I (Modernisation)	VIII	55.00	0.52
4.	Modernisation : Mod: Dhanel	VIII	4.40	0.40
5.	" Jayamangal	VIII	0.64	0.10
6.	" Salia	VIII	2.82	0.43
7.	" Budhabudhani	VIII	4.63	0.52
8.	" Uttei	VIII	6.44	0.30
9.	" Sajpal	VIII	0.75	0.41

1	2	3	4	5
10.	Mod. Hiradarbati	VIII	1.35	0.05
11.	" Khadakhai	VIII	0.26	0.18
12.	" Nesa	VIII	0.40	0.18
13.	" Okala Distributory	VIII	0.21	0.19
14.	" Chowkinala	VIII	0.35	0.18
15.	" Salandi Canal (Dasmosa)	VIII	1.87	1.75
			186.20	1.23

* Projects also availing External Assistance.

** Project being implemented with Central Assistance.

Courses in Electrical Engineering Deptt. of IIT, Delhi

3455. SHRI DINSHA PATEL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that one of the important courses in the Electrical Engineering Department at the Under-graduate level in Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi (IIT) is being taught by Faculty Member having no basic background in Electrical Engineering;

(b) if so, the reasons for deterioration in teaching in this premier academic institution; and

(c) the remedial action is being proposed by the Government to uphold the teaching standards in IIT, Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (c). The Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) are the Institutes of National Importance attracting and retaining highly qualified, talented faculty. The well qualified faculty in Electrical Engineering Department of IIT Delhi teachers core and inter-disciplinary course at under-graduate level.

[Translation]

Lane of N.H. 2

3456. PROF. OMPAL SINGH NIDAR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to construct any other lane on National Highway No. 2 (Shershah Suri Marg) in Ferozabad city in Ferozabad district, U.P.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by the said scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) There is no provision to construct any other lane on National Highway No. 2 in Ferozabad city in Ferozabad district in UP in the 8th Five Year Plan - 1992-97.

(b) and (c). Do not arise in view of (a) above.

[English]

Visa to Foreign Travellers

3457. SHRI D.P. YADAV :

SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any suggestion from the Ministry of Tourism to permit foreign travellers travel without visa to this country;

(b) whether the Government have considered the suggestion to do away with the visas for travellers from those countries which have signed bilateral tourism agreement with India;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what policy will be framed to differentiate between a genuine tourist and someone entering the country with hostile intentions?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) From time to time Ministry of Tourism has suggested that foreigners from certain specified countries, having a sizeable flow of tourists to India, may be exempted from the requirement of visa.

(b) and (c). The suggestion has been considered by the Government but not found feasible.

(d) Indian Missions have clear guidelines on the manner in which bonafide tourists are to be provided with requisite assistance. These guidelines are updated periodically and implemented with due care and caution, in order to ensure that bonafide tourists are not inconvenienced.

Epidemic Death Cases in Orissa

3458. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS

SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware about the huge epidemic death cases that took place in Kalahandi district of Orissa during 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received any request to provide financial assistance to the families of victims; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) As per information available, there were 1080 cases and 184 deaths due to diarrhoea during 1996 (upto Sept., 1996) in Kalahandi district of Orissa. During the above period there were 20 deaths due to Malaria. The number of cases and deaths were higher in comparison to those in previous years.

(c) and (d). A Central Study Team constituted by the Ministry of Agriculture was deputed to Orissa (17-20th Nov., 1996) to assess the drought situation and to assess the quantum of Central Assistance from the National Calamity Relief Fund. The Centre team has submitted its report and to give the final shape to the Assistance to be provided, a meeting of the inter ministerial group has held on 12.12.96. No request from the State Government have been receive for providing financial assistance to the effected families.

Daily Wages Staff in AIIMS

3459. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons employed as L.D.Cs. UDCs, Stenographers, technicians on daily wages in the AIIMS;

(b) whether any judgement thereon, has been passed by the High Court of Delhi during the month of August, 1995;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the orders of the High Court are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) The number of employees working on daily wages as DCs, UDC, Stenographers and Technicians are 114, Nil, 49 and 23 approximate respectively in the Institute.

(b) to (d). The High Court of Delhi in its order on 29.8.1995 directed the Institute to formulate a policy in the matter within a period of 6 months. The Institute formulated a policy and placed it on record in the High Court on 7.10.1996 and the Court suggested some changes therein. The matter is subjudice and further action will be taken according to the final verdict of the Court.

[Translation]

Contagious Diseases in Kanpur

3460. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that a large number of persons suffering from different contagious diseases in Kanpur city (U.P.) but no concrete steps have been taken by the administration in this regard; and

(b) if so, whether the Central Government have intervened in this matter to provide medical aid to the persons; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) As per information received from the Chief Medical and Health Officer of Kanpur City (U.P.), the number of cases and deaths reported in Kanpur city from January, 96 till date due to various contagious diseases is as under :

Acute Diarrhoea		Viral Hepatitis	
Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
28	1	6	—

The Distt. Health Administration has taken the followings steps :-

- Distribution of cholorene tablets.
- Distribution of ORS Packets.
- Disinfection of wells, and
- Water testing for chlorine content.

(b) and (c). No request for medical aid has been received by the Central Government in this regard.

[English]

Foreign Ships

3461. SHRI PINAKI MISRA :

SHRI DATTA MEGHE :

SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign registered ships entered illegally in our sea border during the last three years;

(b) the names of the countries to which these ships belonaed:

(c) whether these ships with arms and ammunition had been seized;

(d) if so, whether this issue was discussed with the concerned countries; and

(e) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) According to information available with the Navy and the Coast Guard, three foreign ships and 117 fishing vessels/ trawlers illegally entered our sea border during the last three years.

(b) These ships belonged to France, Bangladesh and Myanmar. The fishing vessels were of Pakistan, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, China, Taiwan and Malaysia.

(c) Yes, Sir. Two ships.

(d) and (e). The issue was taken up through diplomatic channels and our serious concern was conveyed to these countries.

C.G.H.S. Dispensary in Calcutta

3462. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) when the CGHS Unani Dispensary/Unit was opened in Calcutta;

(b) the date since when the said dispensary is not functioning;

(c) whether a number of Physicians have been posted by CGHS to that dispensary, who have not joined there during the last three years till date; and

(d) whether no para-medical staff is posted to that dispensary and the Physicians are being harassed by making transfer orders in the first instance and then cancelling/revising them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (d). A CGHS Unani unit was opened at BBG-Bagh dispensary no. 39, Calcutta, on 19.7.93. Since the last year or so, the functioning of the unit has run into certain difficulties, due, inter alia, to institution of court cases challenging Government's orders posting Unani Physicians to the said unit.

Regarding posting of para-medical staff, despite persistent attempts to fill up the posts, difficulties are being faced in locating suitable candidates. Efforts are on to fill up these posts early.

With the withdrawal of the court case by the Unani physician presently posted there, all efforts are being made to streamline the functioning of the Unani unit at CGHS, Calcutta.

Use of Inferior Preservatives

3463. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bureau of Indian Standards keeps a check on manufacture of inferior preservatives like calcium propionate used for preserving bread;

(b) the number of times the manufacturers of the chemicals in Delhi, Haryana, Maharashtra and Gujarat were checked during the last three years and the result thereof;

(c) the action taken against guilty officials; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure quality of the chemicals by all manufacturers of bread before its use?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir. Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) periodically inspects the licensee units and checks records maintained by the licensee according to the Scheme of Testing and Inspection.

(b) and (c). The manufacturers who have been granted licence to use the BIS standard mark for Calcium Propionate - (food grade), are located in the States Haryana, Maharashtra, Punjab and West Bengal only. A total of 35 inspections were made by BIS to these Units during the last three years. In case of three units whose performance was not found to be satisfactory, BIS instructed them not to use ISI mark. As on 29.11.96 performance of all the units except one, have been found to be satisfactory.

(d) To ensure the conformity of the chemicals, periodic inspections are done by Bureau of Indian Standards as per the procedure laid down for grant of licence.

Course in Indian Languages

3464. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the places where courses in medicine are being conducted in Indian languages;

(b) whether the Government propose to start educational courses at all levels in Indian languages throughout the country; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (c). The Medical Council of India is of the view that English should continue to be the medium of instruction at all stages of medical courses for the present.

[Translation]

Survey on Nizamuddin Area

3465. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Supreme Court has issued directives to the Department of Archaeological Survey of India to constitute a group to conduct a comprehensive survey of Nizamuddin area of the Capital, Delhi and to find out the monument and the tomb of famous poet 'Zaukh' located therein;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Department of Archaeological Survey of India has find out the said monuments and the tomb;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons for the delay in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMALI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). A team of experts has surveyed the monuments in the Nizamuddin area of New Delhi. The area where the grave of the famous poet 'Zauq' existed has also been separately identified.

(e) Question does not arise.

[English]

Saline Land in Rajasthan

3466. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fast degradation of saline land in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the main reasons responsible therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to solve the problem of salinity in the State?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

M/s. Boehringer Mannheim (India) Limited

3467. SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the production and sale of adulterated contaminated drug (Comsat Forte) by M/s. Boehringer Mannheim (India) Ltd. as detected by FDA-Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard;

(c) the details of steps taken/proposed in terms of fresh initiative to tighten the inspection and detection of inferior/sub-standard drug through FDA State Governments;

(d) the comprehensive plan of action of quality control and rampant sale of sub-standard drugs in rural and semi-urban areas of many States; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The instance occurred at the free cataract surgery Eye Camps organised by Non-Government Organisations at Ahmed Nagar, Maharashtra and village Peresanda, District Kolar in Karnataka where persons on being administered different batches of Comsat Tablets (an antibacterial preparation manufactured by Boehringer Mannheim (I) Ltd., Thane reported adverse reactions which also resulted in the death of 2 persons in Karnataka. Samples of different batches of Comsat Forte Tablets on analysis revealed that it contained an anti-diabetic compound (Glibenclamide) as adulterant in them which caused adverse reactions in persons undergoing treatment. After in-depth investigations by Food and Drugs Administration (FDA), Government of Maharashtra, cancelled licences of the firm and persons involved in manufacture and sale of the said drugs were arrested. FIRs were lodged against them as per the provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Rules thereunder.

(c) to (e). The State Licensing Authorities have been asked to ensure compliance of Good Manufacturing Practices by manufacturing unit, as laid down under Schedule 'M' of Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 and to strengthen their enforcement staff as well as their quality control laboratories. In order to prevent circulation of substandard drugs moving in the interstate Commerce, the State Licensing Authorities have been empowered under Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945, to destroy such stock lying with the manufacturer/dealer. In pursuance of Drugs Policy, 1994, this Ministry have initiated steps to set up a National Drugs Authority. Besides many other functions, the Authority will streamline the registration and quality control of drugs moving in the inter-state Commerce and by establishing new zonal/Sub-zonal Offices as well as by establishing Regional Drugs Testing Laboratories.

Sardar Sarovar Project

3468. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI :
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the request of Government of Gujarat for declaring the 'Sardar Sarovar Project' as

a National Project is still pending with the Union Government.

(b) if so, the action taken so far by the Union Government in this regard:

(c) the time by which this project is likely to be declared as a National Project: and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

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

(d) No project in irrigation sector has been declared as National Project.

Cray Super Computers

3469. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :
SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are likely to permit the purchase of the Cray Super Computer for the Indian Institute of Science from Silicon Graphics;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the decision is likely to affect the nation's own super computer project; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to safeguard the interest of indigenous industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) :

(a) No, Sir.

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

[Translation]

PM's Talks with World Dignitaries

3470. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :
DR. VALLABH BHAI KATHIRIA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister met various dignitaries of other countries during his recent visits to Harare and Rome; and

(b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof, dignitary-wise?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b). During his visit to Harare to attend the G-15 Summit, Prime Minister had meetings with the President of Egypt, Prime Minister of Malaysia, Prime Minister of Senegal and President of Zimbabwe.

Egypt

The meeting was in the form of a *tete-a-tete* and included a review of bilateral relations as also issues of international interest.

Malaysia

During the meeting with the Prime Minister of Malaysia on 3 November, bilateral political and economic issues were discussed as well as how best to take India-Malaysia relationship forward. Regional and multilateral issues of common concern were also discussed. The need for working together in forums like G-15 and World Trade Organisation was emphasised.

Senegal

Discussions with the Prime Minister of Senegal included a review of the status of various bilateral projects which India is undertaking/contemplating in Senegal. It was also agreed that the President of Senegal would visit India in early 1997. A memorandum of Understanding on the establishment of Entrepreneurship and Technical Development Centre in Senegal was signed under which Senegal would provide infrastructural support and India would provide technical expertise, equipment, training and personnel for small industries projects for 3 years.

Zimbabwe

In a gesture demonstrative of India's commitment to South-South cooperation, our Prime Minister gifted to the President of Zimbabwe, a rural automatic telephone exchange manufactured in India. A Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation for the development of small scale industries in Zimbabwe was signed on 2 November, 1996 which stipulates that Zimbabwe would provide infrastructural support and India would provide technical expertise, equipment, training and personnel for small industries projects for 3 years.

2. During his visit to Rome, the Prime Minister held discussions with the president of Indonesia, Prime Minister of Italy, Vice President of Iraq, President of Cyprus, Prime Minister of China, First Vice President of Iran, Prime Minister of Nepal, President of Cuba, Prime Minister of Bangladesh and President of Afghanistan.

Indonesia

During his meeting with President Soeharto of Indonesia, the two leaders discussed means to build and expand bilateral relations. The need to strengthen India's relations with ASEAN countries in general was also discussed. India's interest in participating in Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) and Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) was expressed.

Italy

During his meeting with Prime Minister of Italy, Prime Minister discussed matters of bilateral interest including

ways of strengthening relations and current international issues.

Cyprus

During his meeting with the President of Cyprus, the Prime Minister held discussion on matters of bilateral interest as well as ways for strengthening relations between the two countries and current international issues.

China

Prime Minister met Chinese Premier Li Peng on 16 November and expressed the hope that President Jiang Zemin's visit to India would lead to improve relations between the two countries. The two sides expressed their respective view-points on a number of issues, including those of concern to either side, which came up for discussions during the meeting.

Bangladesh

Prime Minister met the Prime Minister of Bangladesh on 17 September and reviewed bilateral relations. It was agreed to take steps to enhance relations in all areas of interest to both sides. Prime Minister also briefed the Bangladesh Prime Minister on the situation in the region and referred to Pakistan's support for terrorism in India.

Iraq

Prime Minister met the Vice President of Iraq on 16 November. Bilateral relations and future economic cooperation with Iraq after the UN economic sanctions against that country are lifted, were discussed.

Nepal

The Prime Minister received the Prime Minister of Nepal on 17 November. A wide range of subjects were covered during discussions and the friendly, cordial nature of bilateral relations was reiterated. The discussions emphasised not only the need for intensifying bilateral economic cooperation but also the need for diversifying trade relations. During exchange of views on latest developments in the South Asian region, specific emphasis was also laid on the need for exploiting the immense economic potential of the region for the benefit of its people.

Iran

During the meeting between the Prime Minister and First Vice President of Iran on November 16, issues of bilateral, regional and international importance were discussed.

Afghanistan

During the meeting with the President of Afghanistan on November 15, situation in Afghanistan was

discussed. Our Prime Minister reiterated India's support to the Rabbani Government and called for cessation of outside interference in Afghanistan.

Cuba

Prime Minister called on President Fidel Castro on 17 November. The two leaders recognised existence of extremely warm and cordial relations between the two countries over the last several decades and need to strengthen them further. They discussed the prevailing international situation in relation to Russia, China, Palestine etc. and multilateral economic issues, in particular the question of eradication of poverty and hunger, augmenting agricultural production, population control and South-South cooperation. President Castro stressed the need for cooperation among Third World countries in solving their problems. He wanted India to play a leadership role and reiterated Cuba's desire to see India as a Permanent Member of the Security Council. He accepted invitation of our Prime Minister to visit India at his convenience.

[English]

Bridges in Bihar

3471. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of bridges constructed on the National Highways in Bihar since 1994;

(b) the total expenditure incurred thereon;

(c) whether some of the proposals of construction of bridges in Bihar are pending with the Union Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Seven.

(b) Expenditure upto 3/96 is reported to be about Rs. 263.98 lakhs.

(c) and (d) No proposal of Bridge works is pending with Ministry.

Indian Assistance to Nepal

3472. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Projects being implemented in Nepal with the assistance from India;

(b) the cost of those Projects and the extent of assistance extended by the Government for implementing those projects; and

(c) the steps taken to improve bilateral relation between both the countries?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) 15 Projects in Nepal are under implementation or under consideration for execution with Indian assistance.

(b) Indian aided Projects along with the estimates are given below. These Projects are fully funded by Government of India :

(Rs. in crores)	
Project	Cost
1. Sirsiya Bridge at Raxaul (since completed)	3.50
2. Rajbiraj Industrial Estate (since completed)	2.12
3. B.P. Koirala Institute of Health Sciences Project at Dharan	88.00
4. 22 Bridges on Kohalpur Mahakali Sector of East-West Highway	55.00
5. Supply of Iodised Salt for Goitre Control	9.96
6. Lumbini Project	3.44
7. Hetauda Museum	3.68
8. Expansion of Shree Panch Indra Rajya Laxmi Maternity Hospital	1.00
9. Broadgauging of Birganj-Raxaul rail link	13.00
10. Greater Janakpur Development Project	50.00
New Projects	
11. Expansion of Bir Hospital by 200 beds	28.00
12. Koshi-Bharada Road	7.00
13. Embankment along Bagmati, Kamala, Khado and Lalbakaiya rivers	41.00
14. Biratnagar-Rangeli-Bhadrapur Road	260.00
15. Birpur-chatara Road	17.00

(c) There is a constant endeavour to strengthen and diversify bilateral relations with Nepal. In the past year, high level visits have been exchanged between the two countries. The External Affairs Minister visited Nepal in January 1996 followed by the visit of Prime Minister of Nepal to India in February 1996 and the visit of the Foreign Minister of Nepal to India in August 1996. During these visits an extensive exchange of views and a detailed review of bilateral relations took place.

In August 1996, the High Level Task Force (HLTF) met in New Delhi to have a project-wise review of economic relations between the two countries. The major ongoing project being implemented with Government of India assistance include the setting up of a medical college and institute at Dharan, and the construction of 22 bridges on the East-West Highway in Western Nepal.

Further, additional locomotives and coaches have been supplied to strengthen services on the Jayanagar-Janakpur railway sector. Work on surveys for outer ring road at Janakpur, broad-gauging of rail link between Raxaul and Sirsiya, as well as other Projects have been initiated. During the visit of the Prime Minister of Nepal to India in February 1996, the "Treaty concerning the integrated Development of the Mahakali River including Sarada Barrage, Tanakpur Barrage and Pancheshwar Project" was concluded. This Treaty envisages implementation of the concerned Projects jointly by India and Nepal. These Projects on completion would yield significant benefits to both countries. Steps are already underway to follow up on the necessary activities to commence implementation of the various Projects. In addition, a liberalised trade regime to enhance bilateral commercial exchange in general and Nepal's exports to India in particular, is being facilitated.

MFN Status to India by Pakistan

3473. SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Pakistan has taken any effective steps to accord the Most Favoured Nation (MFN) Status to India;

(b) whether Pakistan has laid down a condition that India opened up her border; and

(c) whether Government have met opposition from security agencies on this point?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) Pakistan has not yet accorded Most Favoured Nation status to India.

(b) Government has not received any proposal from Pakistan regarding India opening its border as a condition for Pakistan granting India the MFN status.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Branches of Indira Gandhi National Open University

3474. SHRI DATTA MEGHE :
SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the places where the branches of the Indira Gandhi National Open University are located;

(b) whether some more branches are being opened; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA)

(a) According to the information furnished by the Indira Gandhi National Open University, seventeen Regional

Centres of the University have already been established at different places in the country, the details of which are given in the Statement.

(b) and (c). Information is being collected

STATEMENT

List of IGNOU Regional Centres

S.No.	Place of Regional Centres	Address	Operational area
1	2	3	4
1.	Ahmedabad	Regional Director IGNOU Regional Centre 268-C, Pitru Ashish, Near Avani Flats, Iswar Bhawan Road, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad-380009	Gujarat
2.	Bhopal	Regional Director IGNOU Regional Centre E-7/62, Arera Colony, Near Bus Stop II, SBI Colony, Bhopal-462016.	Madhya Pradesh
3.	Calcutta	Regional Director IGNOU Regional Centre, Bikash Bhawan, Bidhan Nagar, 4th Floor, North Block, Salt Lake, Calcutta-700 091.	West Bengal
4.	New Delhi	Regional Director IGNOU Regional Centre Vishwa Yuvak Kendra, Circular Road, Chanakyapuri New Delhi-110021	Delhi Ghaziabad District of U.P. and Gurgaon and Faridabad Districts of Haryana
5.	Jaipur	Regional Director IGNOU Regional Centre C-113, Shivaji Marg, Tilak Nagar, Jaipur-302004.	Rajasthan
6.	Lucknow	Regional Director IGNOU Regional Centre B-1/33, Sector-H, Aliganj, Lucknow-226020.	Uttar Pradesh excluding District Ghaziabad
7.	Pune	Regional Director IGNOU Regional Centre, Symbiosis Premises Senapati Bapat Road, Pune-411004.	Maharashtra
8.	Shillong	Asstt. Regional Director (i/c) IGNOU Regional Centre Sunny Lodge, Nongthymmai Nongshilliang Shillong-793014	Meghalaya Mizoram Nagaland Tripura Manipur
9.	Bangalore	Regional Director IGNOU Regional Centre N.S.S.S. Kalyana Kendra No. 293, 39th Cross, Jayanagar, 8th Block Bangalore-660082.	Karnataka Goa
10.	Bhubaneswar	Regional Director IGNOU Regional Centre, 222/1, Shastri Nagar, Unit-4, Bhubaneswar-751001.	Orissa

1	2	3	4
11	Cochin	Regional Director IGNOU Regional Centre, Mamangalam Palarivattom P.O. Cochin-682025	Kerala Lakshadweep
12	Hyderabad	Regional Director IGNOU Regional Centre, Cess Building, Nizamia Observatory Compound Begumpet, Hyderabad-500016	Andhra Pradesh
13	Kernal	Regional Director IGNOU Regional Centre Old Govt. College Campus Railway Road, Karnal-132001	Punjab Chandigarh (UT) Haryana excluding Dist. Gurgaon and Faridabad of Haryana
14	Chennai	Regional Director IGNOU Regional Centre 28, South Boag Road, (Gwalior Shivaji Ganeshan Road), T. Nagar, Chennai-600017.	Tamil Nadu Pondicherry Andaman and Nicobar Islands
15	Patna	Regional Director IGNOU Regional Centre 170-A, Patliputra Colony Patna-800013.	Bihar
16	Shimla	Regional Director IGNOU Regional Centre Willys Park, Near A.I.R. Station, P.O. Chaura Maidan, Shimla-171004.	Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir
17	Guwahati	Regional Director IGNOU Regional Centre Navagiri Road, Ist Bye-Lane, Chandmari, Guwahati-781003.	Assam, Arunachal Pradesh & Sikkim

Admission of Students in KVs

3475. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH :
SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether concerned Assistant Commissioners are the competent authority for the admission of the children in category-IV in Kendriya Vidyalayas in special cases;

(b) if so, the details of those special cases;

(c) details of other officers who are comptent to order for such admissions;

(d) whether Assistant Commissioner of Jaipur Division has given admissions under this category in a large number during this year; and

(e) if so, the school-wise and class-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):

(a) to (c): Yes, Sir. As per admission guidelines approved by the Board of Governors of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, the Assistant Commissioners are competent

to allow admissions to the children of category III and IV in Civil and Defence sector Kendriya Vidyalayas and Category-IV and V in Project Sector Kendriya Vidyalayas up to the class strength of 32 if the children of priority categories are not available.

(d) and (e). Admissions of 395 children in 17 Civil Sector Kendriya Vidyalayas, 57 children in 8 Defence Sector Kendriya Vidyalayas and 44 children in 3 Project Sector Kendriya Vidyalayas have been permitted by the Assistant Commissioner, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, Jaipur Region.

Basic Facilities in Navodaya Vidyalayas

3476. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH :
SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI
CHIKHALIA :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any complaints have been received regarding poor maintenance and lack of basis facilities in Navodaya Vidyalayas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to provide basic facilities in these schools and ensure proper maintenance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b). Some Shortcomings in the infrastructure and facilities of some Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas have come to the notice of the Samity. These mainly relate to shortage of accommodation, water and electricity.

(c) The Samiti is taking all necessary steps to improve provision of basic facilities in all Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas. Construction of permanent buildings is being accorded high priority. The ongoing works and temporary accommodation are monitored constantly for provision of basic facilities.

Job Opportunities

3477. DR. G.R. SARODE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have prepared any programme for creating new job opportunities in accordance with the new economic policy.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the target fixed for the year 1996-97 in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c). In pursuance of priority accorded in National Policy on Education, 1986, a centrally sponsored scheme of vocationalization of Secondary Education was launched in February, 1988 with a view to introduce vocational courses in class XI and XII of the system. The primary objective of the scheme is to enhance individual employability. Within the University education system also it has been the endeavour of University Grants Commission and the Universities to provide a built-in element of vocational inputs and specific skills to improve the employability of the students.

The job opportunities are assessed by the State Governments depending upon various course available in the States and also requirement of the employing agencies from time to time.

[English]

Burma Road

3478. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been decided to revive the World War II surface route, the old Burma Road;

(b) if so, the length of this road and the capital outlay involved.

(c) whether any portion of the expenditure is to be borne by Myanmar;

(d) whether any Memorandum of Understanding has been signed with the Myanmar in regard to this project.

(e) if so, the salient features thereof;

(f) the time by which the construction of the road is likely to start and completed.

(g) the benefits to be accrued to the country as a result of this road.

(h) whether the Government have kept in mind the problem of insurgency in North-Eastern areas before reviving this road, and

(i) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken in that regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) A Memorandum of Understanding has been negotiated with the Government of Myanmar to develop/construct road from Tamu to Kalembo. The road was originally constructed during the World War-II.

(b) Total length of the road is 160.525 kilometer and the cost of the construction/improvement work amount to Rs. 91.68 crores.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The Memorandum of Understanding still remains to be signed.

(e) Do not arise in view of (d) above.

(f) Work plan has not yet been finalised.

(g) It will facilitate movement of people and commodities across the border.

(h) The national interests of India have always been kept in perspective.

(i) Border liaison meetings take place regularly to strengthen cooperation in curbing insurgency, illegal trade and to develop better understanding between the armed forces of the two countries.

Financial Assistance to Irrigation Projects Under AIBP

3479. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR :
SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY :
SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR :
SHRI UTTAM SINGH PAWAR :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of irrigation projects selected for providing financial assistance/loan under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Scheme, State-wise;

(b) the quantum of financial assistance/loan provided during the last three years and the current year under the scheme, project-wise alongwith the terms and conditions set therefor

(c) the modus-operandi of releasing the funds under the scheme, and

(d) the status of the projects included under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) State-wise number of irrigation projects selected for providing loan assistance under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme are as under :

Name of State	Number of Project
Andhra Pradesh	2
Assam	4
Bihar	2
Gujarat	6
Haryana	2
Karnataka	3
Kerala	1
Madhya Pradesh	3
Maharashtra	1
Orissa	4
Punjab	1
Rajasthan	2
Tamil Nadu	1
Tripura	2
Uttar Pradesh	6
West Bengal	1
Total	41

(b) Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme has been launched for the first time during the current financial year and as such no loan assistance was provided in the past. Approved Project-wise amount of Central Loan Assistance and the amount of first instalment released to the State Governments are given in the enclosed statement.

The Special Central Assistance to the States for timely completion of on-going projects will be in the form of loan at 13% rate of interest per annum during 1996-97 and at the rate of interest as prescribed by the Ministry of Finance in the subsequent years. The loans will be repayable in 20 annual equal instalments together with interest on the outstanding balance commencing from the following year. However, fifty per cent of these loans will enjoy a year initial grace period, after which repayment of these loans will be effected in 15 annual equal instalments. The loans annually

payable (by way of principal and interest) would be recovered in ten equal monthly instalments commencing from 15th June.

The amount of loan would be equal to the amount provided by the State for the project out of its own resources.

(c) The Central assistance will be in the form of reimbursement on quarterly basis after the expenditure is actually incurred on the identified projects for construction in accordance with the agreed schedule of construction. The first quarterly instalment will however, be released in advance to enable the States to mobilise on the projects.

(d) The projects included under the scheme are ongoing and have received investment clearance by the Planning Commission.

[Translation]

Vasectomy Operations

3480. SHRI MANHARAN LAL PANDEY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government had issued guidelines to all States in 1993 in regard to Vasectomy operation;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the guidelines for tubectomy operations and the centres where the same should be performed keeping in view the hygiene;

(c) whether the above guidelines are being followed by States particularly Madhya Pradesh; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir. Revised guidelines have been issued in 1993 to all States/UTs in regard to Vasectomy Operations as well as Tubectomy Operations.

(b) Tubectomy operations including Laparoscopic Sterilisation as well as Vasectomy Operations may continue to be performed at the field/PHC level. However, it has to be ensured that sterilisation and dis-infection of instruments are strictly followed so as to eliminate any risk of infection including risk of viral infection like hepatitis and HIV, by autoclaving of the investment or boiling in water for 20 minutes or keeping the instruments in 2% glutaraldehyde for 30 minutes. Further one team with two sets of instruments may not perform more than 24 sterilisation operations in one working day.

(c) Yes Sir. The Guidelines are being followed in the State of Madhya Pradesh;

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Astrology in Universities

3481. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have any proposal to establish a chair for Astrology in some of the Universities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Licence for Blood Banks

3482. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to allow the Government of Kerala Drug Control Department to issue licences for blood banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) In Rule 122 F of Drugs and Cosmetics Rules 1945 a licence for operation of Blood bank is granted or renewed by the State Licensing Authority subject to the approval of Central Licence Approving Authority.

Buses in U.P.

3483. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Uttar Pradesh State Roadways Transport Corporation buses plying in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether the Government propose to introduce new buses in the State during 1996-97; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Ratification of C.T.B.T.

3484. SHRI CHITTA BASU :

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether C.T.B.T. has been opened for signature after its endorsement by the UN General Assembly;

(b) if so, how many countries have signed it and ratified the same, till date, and

(c) whether it has been brought into force?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) was opened for signature on 24th September, 1996.

(b) 137 countries have signed the C.T.B.T. till 4th December, 1996. To date, only Fiji has ratified it.

(c) No, Sir.

Functioning of IIT, Delhi

3485. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that in the Undergraduate level in Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi surveying is being taught by Environmental Engineer, Geology is being taught by faculty member having background of Rock Mechanics, Environmental Engineering is being taught by faculty members with background of Water Resources;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to appoint a Committee to go into the state of affairs IIT, Delhi with a view to improve its functioning and terming it at par with other IITs in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b). The Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) are the Institutes of National Importance attracting and retaining highly qualified, talented faculty. The courses in Surveying, Geology and Environmental Engineering at Undergraduate level are being taught by experienced and well-qualified faculty.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Central Road Fund

3486. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the total money credited to the Central Road Fund; and

(b) the number of schemes of road works approved and financed out of the fund during the last three years in Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) The total funds credited by Ministry of Finance towards Central Road Fund during the 8th Five Year is Rs. 107.24 crores.

(b) During the last three years no road works have been sanctioned to State of Kerala under the Central Road Fund Scheme

Soil Erosion

3487. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :
SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to soil erosion, India is losing its territory to Pakistan;

(b) if so, the total territory so far lost due to this;

(c) whether Pakistan's has diverted flow of Ravi and Sutlej rivers;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to stop this erosion of territory;

(e) whether this has resulted in loss of fertile land of Punjab State; and

(f) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b). Rivers Ravi and Sutlej flow along the Indo-Pak Border before entering Pakistan. During floods these rivers change their course and soil erosion resulting in loss of land to the river.

(c) The Pakistan has, over the years, constructed flood embankments and spurs on its side of the river. These works under certain hydrological and morphological conditions divert the flow of the river towards the other bank in the Indian Territory.

(d) to (f). The State of Punjab has been constructing counter protective works to keep the river away from the Indian border, so as to avoid loss of fertile land, according to the recommendations of the Committee on special Remedial works for Flood Protection Embankments on rivers Ravi and Sutlej. About Rs. 1.5 crore is earmarked every year as Central Loan Assistance to State of Punjab for construction of these

counter protective works. As this amount is not sufficient the state undertakes balance works depending upon priorities and resources available with them. Ministry of Home Affairs has also constituted a High Level Committee comprising experts from concerned Ministries to look into this matter.

[Translation]

Sex Diseases

3488. SHRI GANGA CHARAN RAJPUT : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his ministry has conducted any survey under the Central Schemes to identify the sex-diseases prevailing in youths all over the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof particularly, with reference to Hamirpur in Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) No such country-wide survey was conducted under the Central Schemes to ascertain the prevalence of Sexually Transmitted Diseases among the youth. However, base-line surveys have been conducted at Jaipur, Madras, Calcutta and the rural areas of Tamil Nadu to study prevalence of STD in the general population.

(b) and (c). Question does not arise.

[English]

Diabetes Patients

3489. KUMARI UMA BHARATI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Viswa bhar mein Sarvadhik madhumeah pirit Bharat mein" appearing in the *Dainik Jagran* dated November 15, 1996;

(b) if so, the percentage of total population suffering from diabetes in India;

(c) whether any scheme has been chalked out by the Government to curb diabetes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No nation wide data is available. However, on basis of some of ICMR studies estimated prevalence of diabetes mellitus in India is 1.73%.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Admissions in Air Force Schools

3490. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Air Force Schools in Delhi provide admission to children of civilians under non-air-force category;

(b) if so, the number of admissions allowed to civilians during 1995-96, and 1996-97 in K.G. class, school-wise;

(c) whether these schools have revised fees etc. during the current year;

(d) if so, the category-wise details and comparative figures thereof during the last academic session;

(e) whether the revised fees are very high for civilians;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor;

(g) whether the Government proposed to rationalise the fees structure for all the categories and provide same facilities to the children of all the categories;

(h) if so, the details thereof; and

(i) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The number of children of non Air Force personnel admitted to K.G. classes during each year is as under :

	1995-96	1996-97
Air Force Bal Bharti School	188	100
The Air Force School	86	19
Air Force Golden Jubilee Institute	79	25

(c) The fee was revised with effect from 1st April, 1996.

(d) Details of Tuition Fees :

	1995-96 (in rupees per month)		
	Primary	Secondary	Senior Secondary
Airmen	110	120	140
Officers	200	210	230
Non-Air Force	350	365	390

	1996-97		
	Primary	Secondary	Senior Secondary
Airmen	120	130	150
Officers	225	250	275
Non-Air Force	500	600	700

(e) to (i). Air Force schools are not granted any budgetary support. They have to manage their finances from the fees charged from students. The fees charged is in consonance with that charged by other schools in the capital.

[Translation]

Schemes for Seamen Officers

3491. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of welfare schemes formulated by the Government for Seamen Officers and other employees

(b) whether these schemes are in conformity with the international standards; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c). The Govt. of India had constituted a National Welfare Board for Seafarers for advising the Govt. on the measures to be taken for promoting the welfare of seamen generally and in particular the following :

- establishment of hostels or boarding and lodging houses for seamen,
- establishment of clubs, canteen, libraries and other amenities for the benefit of seamen,
- establishment of hospitals for seamen or the provision of medical treatment for seamen, and
- the provision of educational and other facilities for seamen.

The above mentioned welfare schemes have been provided at various places to the extent possible.

Further, in accordance with the Seamen's Provident Fund Act, 1966, the Provident Fund and Gratuity scheme have been formulated to provide social security. As on 31.3.96, as many as 32,082 seamen are covered under this scheme. In addition, the Seamen's Welfare Fund Society has been established in 1964 to provide for various welfare measures like, medical assistance, ex-gratia assistance to seamen/their families, financial assistance to distressed seamen, educational scholarship to children of seafarers, annual grants/loans to seafarers' club/hostels, payment of gratuity to seamen in respect of voyages on ships of companies, which are known to have gone into liquidation etc. These schemes are in conformity with the international standards.

[English]

Utilisation of Funds

3492. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether utilisation of funds allocated to States

under CRF is being monitored by Union Government to guard against diversion of funds for other schemes by State Governments;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Funds under the Central Road Fund (CRF) are allocated to the States for the specific schemes proposed by them. However, responsibility for the implementation of the same lies with the concerned State Government.

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

Water Supply from MES to Ranikhet Cantonment Board

3493. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the system of bulk water supply from MES to Ranikhet Cantonment Board;

(b) if so, the rate at which the water is being supplied to Cantonment Board as fixed by the Union Government;

(c) whether there is any upward revision in rates by the MES or the Union Government after the fixation of rates;

(d) if so, the details thereof and whether there are any arrears due from the Cantonment Board to MES, Ranikhet;

(e) whether any scheme for augmentation of water for the civil population is pending with the Director General Defence Estate/Ministry of Defence;

(f) if so, whether the cost of water supply has been subsidised by the Central Government; and the differences in the cost has been adjusted by the concerned controller of Defence Accounts; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Water is supplied by MES @ Rs. 6.76 per 1000 gallons since 1977 as fixed by the Government. There has been no upward revision by the Government since then.

(d) Arrears to the tune of Rs. 28.19.701/- are outstanding against the Cantonment Board for payment.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) and (g). The cost of water supply has not been subsidised by the Government. MES receives water

from KUMAUN JAL NIGAM at the following rates :

Upto	1990-91	Rs. 8.10 per kilo litre
	1991-92	Rs. 8.79 per kilo litre
	1992-93	Rs. 15.48 per kilo litre
	1993-94	Rs. 14.77 per kilo litre
	(Onwards)	

The difference in cost has not been adjusted by Controller of Defence Accounts so far.

[Translation]

Reena Tola Reservoir Project

3494. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULESTE : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal has been received regarding Reena-Tola Reservoir Project in Mandla district of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the time of receipt of the said proposal;

(c) the details of the decision taken in this regard;

(d) the number of schemes pertaining to Mandla pending for approval with the Union Government alongwith details;

(e) whether there is any delay in clearance of these schemes; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which these schemes are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Reena Tola Reservoir Project Report has not been received in the Central Water Commission for Techno-economic appraisal.

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

(d) Two projects namely Thanwar Tank and Upper Narmada which benefit Mandla district of Madhya Pradesh and are estimated to cost Rs. 24.40 crores and 211.92 crores respectively are pending clearance. The detailed Project Reports for these projects were received in the Central Water Commission for Techno-economic appraisal in December, 1989 and September, 1996 respectively.

(e) and (f). The Thanwar Tank Project was found acceptable by the Advisory Committee in March, 1991 subject to evaluation of socio-economic status of oustees and provision of additional amount for Rehabilitation and Resettlement plans. The project is pending as the State Government has not complied with the observations of the Advisory Committee. Modified Report of Upper Narmada Project has been received recently in September, 1996. Though, there is a prescribed time limit for clearance of the projects, the delay is due to the time taken by the State Government in compliance

of the observations of various central appraising agencies and not obtaining Environmental/Forest/ Rehabilitation and Resettlement plans clearance.

[English]

Red Cross Society

3495. SHRI A. SAMPATH :

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received complaints regarding irregularities in the functioning of the Red Cross Society and its various branches throughout the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and the findings of the enquiries if conducted in this regard;

(c) whether allocation made under the Prime Minister's Relief Fund were also found to be misappropriated by Red Cross Society; and

(d) the total funds received by the Red Cross Society from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund during the last three years and the details of its utilisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b). From time to time Press reports etc. have been focused on alleged irregularities in the functioning of Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS)/its branches. The irregularities included violation of provision of Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA), failure to utilise funds provided by the Japanese Red Cross Society (JRCS), non-appointment of a full-time Secretary-General, malpractice in the issue of relief materials to Manipur malpractice by an employee with regard to supply of relief materials etc.

So far as violation of FCRA is concerned the deficiencies in the maintenance of accounts of foreign contribution have been rectified by the IRCS, and the case stands closed. A fresh memorandum of understanding has been signed between Indian and the Japanese Red Cross Societies for time-bound utilisation of funds. full-time Secy. General of IRCS has been appointed. The Govt. of Manipur have informed that they are not aware of any complaints as mentioned in Press Reports, and have stated that these may be treated as baseless. The irregularities in the Kanpur branch of IRCS have been enquired into and explanations have been called for from the concerned employees. The case of malpractice by an employee with regard to supply of relief materials is under investigation by CBI/Vigilance.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Of Rs. 1 crore received during 1993-94, almost the entire amount has been utilised for relief work in connection with the Maharashtra earthquake of Sept., 1993. In 1994-95, Rs. 25 lakhs were received and almost the entire amount has been utilised towards purchase of ambulance vans for assisting the Government of J and K. No funds have been received during 1995-96.

[Translation]

Water Sports Complexes

3496. SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had received any representation from the Government of Maharashtra for the construction of water sports complex in various districts in the State; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DHANUSHKODI ATHITHAN R.) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Rubberisation of Roads

3497. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether experiments have been done to make rubberised roads, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the quantum of funds earmarked/utilised for this purpose;

(c) whether some roads have been rubberised in the country, if so, the performance thereof;

(d) whether there is a proposal to rubberise certain National Highways roads, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the advantages of rubberised roads?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). A research scheme was sanctioned in March, 1993, for Rs. 7.46 lakh for laying experimental stretches on Kanpur-Varanasi Section of NH-2 near Allahabad, using rubber as a modifier. The work was completed in March, 1995. An amount of Rs. 6.00 lakh has so far been released for this purpose.

(c) and (d). No, Sir.

(e) The performance study is in progress and the advantages in details will be known after completion of the Scheme.

Standard of Teaching in Schools and Colleges

3498. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :

PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :

DR. ASIM BALA :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a decline in the standard of teaching in schools and colleges;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to make some refresher courses compulsory for teachers at different levels so as to improve the quality of teaching; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):

(a) In pursuance of National Policy of Education (NPE)-86 the Central Government and University Grants Commission (UGC) have taken several initiatives to improve the standard of education in institutions of higher learning and schools.

(b) and (c). In the VII and VIII Five Year Plans, 424 District Institutes of Education and Training (DIETs), 73 Colleges of Teacher Education (CTEs) and 34 Institutions of Advanced Study in Education (IASEs) have been sanctioned to provide pre-service and in-service training to school teachers under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Restructuring and Reorganisation of Teachers Education. UGC has identified 45 Academic Staff Colleges (ASCs) in various universities for organising orientation/refresher courses for university and college teachers. In addition, 71 Departments have been selected to conduct refresher course for in-service teachers in the university system.

Decline in Irrigated Land

3499. SHRI G.M. KUNTURKAR :

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :

PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a book namely "In the Famine Trap" written by one agricultural scientist, Dr. Devinder Sharma has made some shocking revelation regarding decline in irrigated land in the country particularly in Punjab and Haryana;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the revelation include the going down watertable in these States and also the reduction of organics matters in soil etc;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any assessment have been made about the total area agricultural land reduced in the country during the past there years;

(e) if so, the details thereof including the reasons for decline in agriculture land and efforts made by the Government to bring more and under agriculture;

(f) the overall affect on the food production as a consequence thereof;

(g) the measure contemplated by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (g). The revelations contained in the book namely "In the Famine Trap" are based on the author's own observations and findings. However, as per Land use Statistics brought out by the Ministry of Agriculture for 19 (latest), the net irrigated area in the country is 50.10 million hectares out of 184.38 million hectares of total cultivable area in the country. In certain parts of different States, decline in ground water level has been observed due to heavy withdrawal of ground water. This decline has been observed during the past three years in certain pockets of States of Punjab, Haryana, West Bengal, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Assam and Delhi. The extent of decline ranged from less than 2 metres to over 11 metres. As per study conducted on problem identification in irrigated areas in 1991, estimated areas affected by waterlogging, soil salinity and alkalinity are as follows :

Affected by waterlogging	1.61 million hectares
Affected by salinity/alkalinity	3.30 million hectares

The waterlogging and soil salinity do affect the crop productivity to some extent. However, the States have undertaken a number of steps to reduce the waterlogging and soil salinity problems such as conjunctive use of surface and ground water, lining of canals and water courses in vulnerable reaches, treatment of alkaline soils and on-farm water management practices.

Krishna Menon Centenary Celebrations Committee

3500. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the purpose of setting up of Krishna Menon Centenary Celebrations Committee by the Government under the Chairmanship of Prime Minister;

(b) the number of meetings and details of decisions taken by the Committee; and

(c) the action taken to implement those decisions?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) A National Committee under the Chairmanship of Prime Minister has been constituted with a view to celebrate the birth centenary of Shri Krishna Menon in a befitting manner and to chalk out the programmes therefor

(b) and (c). The National Committee met on 20th November, 1995 and *inter alia* decided that the birth centenary celebrations would commence on 3rd May, 1996 and continue for a period of one year. The National Committee also decided that all the suggestions received should be examined and a suitable programme evolved by a Sub-Committee headed by the Minister of Human Resource development.

Accordingly, a Sub-Committee was set up which met on 25th June, 1996 and decided, among other things, to organise a commemorative public function both at New Delhi and London; to hold seminars and lectures; to set up suitable memorials for Shri V.K. Krishna Menon; and to collect and publish recordings of Shri Menon's UN speeches. A number of agencies are involved in the implementation of these programmes. Another meeting of the Sub-Committee is being convened shortly to review the progress made so far.

[Translation]

National Protected Monuments

3501. SHRI S.P. JAISWAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of divisional offices functioning for the maintenance of protected national monuments along with the division-wise number of protected national monuments;

(b) whether more divisional offices are proposed to be set up for proper maintenance of the said monuments;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether attendants have been posted at all the protected monuments their maintenance;

(f) if not, the system in force for the maintenance and security of the said monuments; and

(g) the division-wise number of protected monuments on which till date no special repair works have been undertaken alongwith the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) to (d). The Archaeological Survey of India has 17 Circles and two mini Circles for the maintenance of the centrally protected Monuments as enclosed in the Statement. In

addition a new Circle at Thrissur has been ordered to be commissioned with effect from 1 January, 1997.

(e) No Sir.

(f) Regular Monument Attendants have been posted at most of the centrally protected monuments. At other monuments where considered necessary, casual workers have been engaged.

(g) The conservation and preservation of the centrally protected monuments is a continuous process. Conservation works are taken up as per actual need and priority of conservation of monuments and the availability of resources

STATEMENT

List of Centrally Protected Monuments Circle-wise

S.No.	Name of Circle	Number of Monuments
1.	Agra	323
2.	Aurangabad (including Mini Circle Goa)	309
3.	Bangalore	203
4.	Bhopal	282
5.	Bhubaneswar	122
6.	Calcutta	117
7.	Chandigarh (including Mini Circle Shimla)	150
8.	Delhi	166
9.	Dharwad	301 (w.e.f. 1.11.96)
10.	Guwahati	72
11.	Hyderabad	134
12.	Jaipur	151
13.	Lucknow	362
14.	Chennai	401
15.	Patna	190
16.	Srinagar	64
17.	Thrissur	37 (w.e.f. 1.1.97)
18.	Vadodara	209
Total		3593

Bhimtangi Irrigation Project in Orissa

3502. SHRI MURALIDHAR JENA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bhimtangi Irrigation Project in Orissa has been neglected;

(b) whether the areas covered by the irrigation project have been affected as a result thereof;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for well revival of the project?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Sex Education in Schools

3503. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to rise in AIDS cases and other sexual diseases, the Government propose to introduce sex education in Schools; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) :

(a) and (b). According to the information furnished by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), they organised a National Seminar on Adolescence Education in 1994 in pursuance of National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986 (as modified in 1992) which recommended the introduction of 'suitable components of adolescence education in the curricula at all stages of schooling'. The major components of adolescence education are (i) process of growing up, (ii) HIV/AIDS and (iii) Drug Abuse. The recommendations of the National Seminar have been accepted by the NCERT for developing a general framework of Adolescence Education including Sex Education. The National Population Education Project (NPEP) being implemented since 1980 has related components of Sex Education. The contents of Population Education are integrated in all stages of school education.

Health Insurance Scheme

3504. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce a health insurance Schemes for senior citizens to enable them to enjoy a life of fulfilment;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not helping them grow old gracefully?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (c). There Medical Insurance Schemes are already under implementation under the umbrella of the General Insurance Corporation as follows :

(i) *Mediclaim Insurance Policy* is available for persons between the ages 65 and 75 years

and the cover provides for reimbursement of medical expenses incurred towards hospitalisation/domiciliary hospitalisation.

(ii) *Jan Arogya* :

Primarily meant for larger segment of population who can not afford the high cost of medical treatment with coverage upto 70 years of age.

(iii) *Bhavishya Arogya* :

Under the Scheme a person pays a single premium or nominal annual premium during his earning years and get reimbursement of hospitalisation and domiciliary hospitalisation expenses from a future selected age between 55 and 60 years.

Nehru Yuvak Kendras

3505. DR. VALLABH BHAI KATHIRIA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of various projects and works taken up and completed by Nehru Yuvak Kendras in Gujarat during the last three years and till-date, year-wise;

(b) the total financial assistance sanctioned and provided during each of the above three years on each projects and works in each district of Gujarat;

(c) the plans, projects and proposals of the Nehru Yuvak Kendras for 1997 to 2000 in each places in each districts of Gujarat;

(d) the sources of income of Nehru Yuvak Kendras to run the activities; and

(e) the base on which assistance is being provided to such Kendras?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DHANUSHKODI ATHITHAN R.) : (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Conducting of Management Courses by UP Export Corporation

3506. SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether UP Export Corporation Limited and public sector undertakings under the State of UP has been fraudulently conducting management courses and selling out certificates to candidates;

(b) whether Director of Industries, UP has not allowed the corporation to hold and conduct such courses at all; and

(c) if so, the steps taken/proposed by the Government to stop this illegal activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):

(a) No Sir.

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

Assistance to Private Schools in Leh and Kargil

3507. SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the grant in aid sanctioned to various private schools in Leh and Kargil district of Ladakh during 1993-94, 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 so far, school-wise; and

(b) the agencies through which the amounts have been distributed to such schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Post of Chairman in GFCO

3508. SHRI SUKH LAL KUSHWAHA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that the post of Chairman of the Ganga Flood Control Organisation has been lying vacant for the last two years;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the officers who were selected for appointment had not joined;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government proposed to appoint immediately the Chairman in the interest of work of the Organisation;

(e) if so, by when; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e). Yes, Sir. Recruitment process in respect of the post of Chairman, Ganga Flood Control Commission, is in an advanced stage and an officer will be appointed immediately once the selection process is complete.

(f) Does not arise.

[English]

Drop Out Rate

3509. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that large number of students drop out of Primary and Middle School level in Western Rajasthan due to non availability of High/Higher secondary Schools within reasonable distance;

(b) if so, the break-up of drop out cases between urban and rural area and between male and female students; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to reduce the drop out rate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b). According to information furnished by Government of Rajasthan the availability of secondary and senior schools in districts of Western Rajasthan is not less than the state average of such schools per lakh of population. However factors such as distance and sparse population do contribute to high drop out rates in this region. The drop out rates in classes I-V and I-VIII in 1993-94 in Rajasthan were as follows :

	1993-94	
	Classes (I-V)	Classes (I-VIII)
Boys	54.76	62.34
Girls	63.02	72.34
Total	57.44	65.43

(c) The Central and State Government have taken a number of measures to reduce the drop out rates which include exemption from payment of tuition fees, provision of free text books, and introduction of mid-day meals scheme. The two projects for basic education, namely Lok Jumbish and Siksha Karmi assisted by Swedish International Development Authority in Rajasthan are also taking steps to reduce drop out rates.

Constitution of Commission

3510. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government has recently constituted a Commission headed by Mr. GVK Rao, former Principal Secretary to the Union Agriculture Ministry as its Chairman;

(b) if so, the details regarding its members as well as the terms of reference of the Commission; and

(c) the time by when its report is likely to be submitted?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir. However, due to indifferent health, Shri G.V.K. Rao has recently resigned and in his place Shri Hanumantha Rao, former Member of Planning Commission has been appointed as the Chairman of the Commission.

(b) A statement is enclosed.

(c) The report is likely to be submitted in two years time.

STATEMENT

1. This Ministry has set up a National Commission for Integrated Water Resources Development Plan with the following composition :

1. Chairman :

Initially Shri G.V.K. Rao was appointed as Chairman vide O.M. No. 2/11/96-BM/645-661 dt. 13.9.1996. However, he resigned. Thereafter Shri C.H. Hanumantha Rao was appointed as the Chairman vide O.M. of even no. dt. 22.11.1996. He too has expressed his inability to accept the offer of appointment. Action is being taken to appoint a new Chairman expeditiously.

2. Dr. S.R. Hashim : Vice-Chairman
Member,
Planning Commission

3. Shri V. Ramachandran : Member
Ex-Chief Secretary,
Govt. of Kerala Trivandrum

4. Dr. V.S. Vyas (Economist) : Member
Director,
Institute of Development
Studies, 8-B Jhalana
Institutional Area,
Jaipur-302 004.

5. Dr. D.N. Tewari : Member
Ex-Chancellor,
F.R.I. (Deemed University)
Dehradun (UP).

6. Shri S. Prakash : Member
Ex-Engineer-in-Chief,
Delhi Water Supply and
Sewage Disposal Undertaking.

7. Shri C.C. Patel : Member
Ex-Secretary (WR) Govt.
of India

8. Dr. Bharat Singh : Member
Vice-Chancellor (Retd.)
University of Roorkee

9. Shri S.P. Caprihan : Member
Engineer-in-Chief (Retd.)
Government of M.P.

10. Director General. : Member
National Water Development
Agency (NWDA), New Delhi. Secretary

There is also a provision to co-opt other experts for assisting the Commission.

2. The terms of reference of the Commission are as under :

(i) To prepare an Integrated Water Plan for development of water resources for Drinking, Irrigation, Industrial, Flood Control and Other uses;

(ii) To suggest modalities for transfer of surplus water to water-deficit basin by inter-linking of rivers for achieving the above objectives.

(iii) To identify important On-going Projects as well as New Projects which should be completed on priority basis together with phasing;

(iv) Identify a technological and interdisciplinary research plan for the water sector with a view to maximise the benefits.

(v) To suggest physical and financial resources generation strategies for the water sector.

(vi) Any other related issue.

Regularisation of Staff in Nehru Yuvak Kendras

3511. SHRI S.P. UDAYAPPAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has received any representations regarding regularisation of staff and non-payment of pay and D.A. during the last three years to the employees of Nehru Yuvak Kendra Sangathan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DHANUSHKODI ATHITHAN R.) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The issues raised in the representations mainly relate to regularisation of services, grant of Central Govt. Pay scales, revised structure of Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, grant of pensionary benefits etc.

(c) These issues are under active consideration in consultation with the concerned Ministries/Departments

[Translation]

Narmada Water Irrigation Projects

3512. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the figures of the Narmada Water usable for irrigation purpose has been assessed to be 18.25 M.A.F. by the Narmada Dispute Tribunal;

(b) whether Central Water Commission has also confirmed it.

(c) if so, the M.A.F. of water allotted to Madhya Pradesh out of it;

(d) the present position of the construction scheme of major dams (Narmada Sagar, Onkareshwar etc.) on Narmada river in view of the pace at which Madhya Pradesh has been using its share of water;

(e) the estimated cost of construction of these dams and the expenditure incurred thereon so far;

(f) whether the Union Government propose to provide financial and other necessary assistance for Narmada Sagar, Onkareshwar and Maheshwar dams in view of the insufficient financial resources of Madhya Pradesh; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (c). As per the Award of Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal (NWDT), the quantum of available flow in Narmada river at Sardar Sarovar Dam site is assessed as 28 Million Acre Feet (MAF) on the basis of 75% dependability, out of which 18.25 Million Acre Feet (MAF) of water is allocated to Madhya Pradesh. Studies conducted by Central Water Commission have confirmed the assessment made by the Tribunal.

(d) and (e). The construction of Narmada Sagar Project in Madhya Pradesh is in progress and about 26% works has been completed upto July, 1996. An amount of Rs. 365.40 crores has been incurred on the project upto June, 1996 against an estimated cost of Rs. 2167.67 crores. The construction of Omkareshwar and Maheshwar Projects at an estimated cost of Rs. 1616.04 crores and Rs. 465.63 crores respectively are yet to commence

(f) and (g). Central Assistance is given to the States in the form of block loans and grants and is not tied to any particular sector of development. However, Central assistance of Rs. 50 crores has been earmarked for Narmada Sagar Project under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme for the year 1996-97. Out of this, Rs. 25 crores has already been released.

[English]

Misappropriation of Funds Under Operation Black Board in Karnataka

3513. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state

(a) the funds provided to Karnataka under the Operation Black Board during 1995-96 and 1996-97;

(b) whether several crores of rupees had been misappropriated in the implementation of Operation Black Board in Karnataka;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to take action against the officials found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : Central Assistance amounting to Rs. 1381.10 lakhs and Rs. 966.47 lakhs have been released to Government of Karnataka during 1995-96 and 1996-97 respectively under the scheme of Operation Blackboard.

(b) No, Sir

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

[Translation]

Post Lying Vacant

3514. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether some posts in various categories reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have been lying vacant since long in various departments and undertakings under in administrative control of his Ministry;

(b) if so, the post wise details thereof separately as on date;

(c) whether new appointments were made to some posts alongwith promoting various categories of employees working in departments and undertakings under his ministry during the last three years;

(d) if so, category-wise and year-wise details thereof;

(e) whether the recruitment of candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes has been made as per the reservation policy and employees belonging to these categories working therein have been promoted as per the reservation quota prescribed for them; and

(f) the action being taken by his ministry to fill up the vacant reserved posts under various categories and to promote the SC/ST employees as per the reservation quota?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (f). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Amrahat Pump Scheme

3515. SHRIMATI KAMAL RANI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the funds allocated for the first phase of Amrahat Pump Scheme under Ghatampur Parliamentary constituency of Uttar Pradesh and the progress achieved so far;

(b) whether Union Government propose to start the second phase of this scheme;

(c) if so, the date from which the said work will be started; and

(d) the funds likely to be allocated by State Government and Union Government under this scheme separately?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) No amount has been allocated during VIII Plan for the first phase of the scheme since the scheme was completed during VII Plan. The ultimate irrigation potential of the scheme was 3.90 thousand hectares which was fully created.

(b) and (c). Second phase of the scheme is yet to be received from the State Government for appraisal/examination in Central Water Commission.

(d) Amrahat Pump Canal State-II is an unapproved scheme and was included in the VIII Plan as a new scheme. An amount of Rs. 5.00 crore was recommended by the Planning Commission during VIII Plan for the execution of the scheme. However, no expenditure on the scheme has been incurred during VIII Plan by the State Government.

Test Report

3516. SHRIMATI KAMAL RANI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether sub-standard medicines have been encouraged due to not taking timely action after raids by the Department of Health on the enterprises and shops in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether the test report of the raids made in the medicine shops in the year 1994 by the Department of Health has not been received so far;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the number of persons against whom action is being taken on the basis of the Test Report; and

(e) the number of cases lying pending?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Maintenance of Canals in U.P.

3517. PROF. OM PAL SINGH NIDAR : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether digging and clearing of canals is undertaken every year in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the names of such canals in Uttar Pradesh which are cleared fully every year;

(c) whether Seesam and Babul etc. trees have grown up in canals in Uttar Pradesh;

(d) if so, the reasons of coming up of these trees inspite of their cleaning every year; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to removing these trees and other filth from the canals?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

12.00 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Notifications under sub-section (4) of section 124 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963 and Annual Report and Review by the Government of the Working of the Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Ltd., Calcutta for the year 1994-95 etc.

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN (Tindivanam) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table -

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of section 124 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963 :

(i) G.S.R. 257(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th June, 1996 approving the New Mangalore Port Trust Employees (Recruitment Seniority and Promotion) Amendment Regulations, 1996.

(ii) G.S.R. 362(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th August, 1996 approving the Visakhapatnam Port Trust Employees (Recruitment, Seniority and Promotion) Amendment Regulations, 1996.

- (iii) G.S.R. 259(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th June, 1996 approving the New Mangalore Port Trust Employees (Recruitment, Seniority and Promotion) Amendment Regulations, 1996.
- (iv) G.S.R. 366(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th August, 1996 approving the Cochin Port Employees (Conduct) Amendment Regulations, 1996.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1049/96]
- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under Sub-Section (i) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :
 - (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1994-95.
 - (ii) Annual Report of the Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1050/96]
- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Calcutta Port Trust for the year 1995-96.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Calcutta Port Trust, for the year 1995-96.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1051/96]
- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Tuticorin Port Trust for the year 1995-96.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Tuticorin Port Trust for the year 1995-96.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1052/96]
- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Mumbai Port Trust for the year 1995-96.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Mumbai Port Trust for the year 1995-96.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1053/96]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Kandla Port Trust for the year 1995-96.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Kandla Port Trust for the year 1995-96.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1054/96]
- (8) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 103 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963 :
 - (a) (i) Annual Accounts of the Calcutta Port Trust for the year 1995-96, together with Audit Report thereon.
 - (ii) Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Calcutta Port Trust for the year 1995-96.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1055/96]
 - (b) (i) Annual Accounts of the Visakhapatnam Port Trust for the year 1995-96, together with Audit Report thereon.
 - (ii) Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Visakhapatnam Port Trust for the year 1995-96.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1056/96]
 - (c) (i) Annual Accounts of the Kandla Port Trust for the year 1995-96, together with Audit Report thereon.
 - (ii) Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Kandla Port Trust for the year 1995-96.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1057/96]
 - (d) (i) Annual Accounts of the Tuticorin Port Trust for the year 1995-96, together with Audit Report thereon.
 - (ii) Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Tuticorin Port Trust for the year 1995-96.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1058/96]
 - (e) (i) Annual Accounts of the Mumbai Port Trust for the year 1995-96, together with Audit Report thereon.
 - (ii) Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Mumbai Port Trust for the year 1995-96.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1059/96]
- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Visakhapatnam Port Trust, for the year 1995-96.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Visakhapatnam Port Trust for the year 1995-96.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1060/96]

- (10) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Cochin Port Trust, for the year 1995-96.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Cochin Port Trust for the year 1995-96.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1061/96]

- (11) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under section 5E of the Dock Workers (Regulation of Employment) Act, 1948:

- (a) (i) Annual Report of the Mormugao Dock Labour Board, for the year 1995-96, together with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Review by the Government of the working of the Mormugao Dock Labour Board, for the year 1995-96.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1062/96]

- (b) (i) Annual Report of the Madras Dock Labour Board, for the year 1995-96, together with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Review by the Government of the working of the Madras Dock Labour Board, for the year 1995-96.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1063/96]

- (c) (i) Annual Report of the Visakhapatnam Dock Labour Board, for the year 1995-96, together with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Review by the Government of the working of the Visakhapatnam Dock Labour Board, for the year 1995-96.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1064/96]

- (12) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Navik Bhavishya Nidhi (Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation), Mumbai, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Navik Bhavishya Nidhi (Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation), Mumbai, for the year 1995-96.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1065/96]

- (13) Statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Hooghly

Dock and Port Engineers Limited, for the year 1995-96 within the stipulated period of Nine months after the close of the Accounting year.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1066/96]

Annual Report and Review by the Government of the Working of the Water and Power Consultancy Services (India) Ltd. for the year 1995-96 etc.

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : Sir, I beg to lay the following papers of 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 :

- (a) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Water and Power Consultancy Services (India) Limited for the year 1995-96.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Water and Power Consultancy Services (India) Limited for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1067/96]

- (b) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Hydrology, Roorkee, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Hydrology, Roorkee, for the year 1995-96.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1068/96]

A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Narmada Control Authority, Indore, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1069/96]

Annual Report and Review by the Government of the Working of the Dental Council of India, New Delhi for the year 1994-95 alongwith statement showing reasons for delay etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table.

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Dental Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Dental Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1070/96]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Nursing Council, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Nursing Council, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95.

- (4) (i) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1071/96]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Pharmacy Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Pharmacy Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95.

- (6) (i) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1072/96]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Academy of Ayurveda, New Delhi for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the National Academy of Ayurveda, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1073/96]

Annual Report and Review by the Government of the working of the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Regional Engineering College, Jalandhar for the year 1994-95 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DHANUSKODI ATHITHAN R.) : Sir, I, on behalf of Shri Muhi Ram Saikia, beg to lay on the Table -

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the B.R. Ambedkar Regional Engineering College, Jalandhar, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Regional Engineering College, Jalandhar, for the year 1994-95.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1074/96]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Karnataka Regional Engineering College, Surathkal, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Karnataka Regional Engineering College, Surathkal, for the year 1994-95.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1075/96]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Engineering College, Srinagar, for the year 1993-94, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Regional Engineering College, Srinagar for the year 1993-94.

- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1076/96]

12.01 hrs.

RICE-MILLING INDUSTRY (REGULATION) REPEAL BILL*

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : Sir, I, on behalf of Shri Dilip Kumar Ray, beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to repeal the Rice Milling Industry (Regulation) Act, 1958.

Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section 2 dated December 16, 1996.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to repeal the Rice Milling Industry (Regulation) Act, 1958"

The motion was adopted

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP : I introduce the Bill.

12.02 hrs.

SUGAR EXPORT PROMOTION (REPEAL) BILL*

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : Sir, I, on behalf of Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to repeal the Sugar Export Promotion Act, 1958.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to repeal the Sugar Export Promotion Act, 1958."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP : I introduce the Bill.**

RE: PAPERS RELATING TO INDIA'S STAND ON WTO MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE AT SINGAPORE

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : Sir, what about the papers regarding WTO.

MR. SPEAKER : I have ordered that the statement of the Minister may be circulated now.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, we are talking about the Statement made there which should have accompanied the draft statement/resolution. What stand did we take? On that there are certain documents. They have made speeches. We wanted those copies. On that day, you requested them to hand those papers over to us. Now they have not done that. They say that they have rejected certain things. What did they say? They have agreed with the working group. What did they say? But what was their statement there. The Minister was there...(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly) : We have not been provided with that...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have ordered circulation of the Minister's statement which is not normally done. Before the Minister makes a statement, I have ordered for

circulation as a special case. You cannot use it outside the House before 4 o'clock.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : That is a statement which he is going to make before the House.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN (Mumbai-North East) : What we are requesting is that we have got the statement of the Commerce Minister. We will not use it outside the House before 4 p.m. That is over.

Sir, you asked the Government to submit us the papers of the Declaration at Singapore. What stand did the Government of India take at Singapore? The papers stating as to what they agreed and what they disagreed including the speech made by our Minister at Singapore are not available. That is important. This is a statement which is likely to be made at 4 o'clock.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Sir, so many confusing stories are coming about the stand taken by the Minister and our delegation. We want to know the stand of the Government.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : This is what he would say here. But we want to know what he said there...(Interruptions)

SHRI G.G. SWELL (Shillong) : Sir, you have said that the Minister would make a statement at 4 o'clock. But before that we would like the Minister to brief us what are the parameters of the negotiations in relation to investment and competition policy. Those parameters should be known to us.

MR. SPEAKER : You have got the Minister's statement. You cannot quote it now. That is only to facilitate you.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ (South Delhi) : Sir, We want the copies of the adopted Declaration ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : Still, those copies are not with us.

MR. SPEAKER : Let us hear the Minister. Mr. Minister, whatever documents are available, please give it to the Members.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : With due respect to the Members, I wish to say that the Declaration has been circulated.

SOME HON. MEMBERS : No.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Sir, the Ministerial Declaration has been circulated. So, that is the Declaration and there is not a single word beyond that in the Declaration.

SHRI G.G. SWELL : We have not got it.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : So far as the statement of the Minister is concerned, as per your direction, it has been circulated to all the Members. With regard to the

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section 2 dated December 16, 1996.

** Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

details as to what were the negotiations that were held and at what point of time or what was our stand before making a Declaration, it is a voluminous thing. If you want that, it is possible to make those details available. But it has never happened earlier...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly) : There is a deviation in that. That is why, the Government agreed to make it available, whatever was given in the document, to the Members.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : Sir, your direction was that those papers should be given to us...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Chatterjee, please sit down. Shri Pal, please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Mehta, you cannot talk like that while you are sitting.

Shri Jena, I will say that two documents are very important for a purposeful debate. One is the statement of the Commerce Minister in the WTO Conference at Singapore. That is one very important document which, in fact, would help the Government. The second document is the final Declaration, not the draft one. But if it is final, then you can say that it is the final one. The final Declaration is very important for the House. So, you may kindly look into it.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, this one is a draft Ministerial Declaration at Singapore and it is not the final Declaration.

[Translation]

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY (Buxar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I spoke against this.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have received it and I am looking into it.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK (Mumbai North) : The sum of Rs. 1/- crore pertaining to M.P. Local Area Development Fund has not reached several constituencies and no work pertaining to the year 1995-96 is being undertaken according to guidelines. The guidelines should be amended. I spoke to other hon. Members also in this regard. This money has not reached the constituencies. So, I made this complaint. In the meeting held on 9th December in your Chamber the Government undertook that the amount of Rs. 1 crore would be sent before the closure of this session and the amount pertaining to earlier period would not lapse. The Government side also gave an indication that the guidelines would be revised. Today is Monday and the session is going to conclude of Friday. I, would, therefore, like to know the time by which this amount would be sent. We have to start the work immediately after reaching our

constituencies after the closure of the session. The hon. Members should know also the time by which this money would be released. After money reaches there we will start work. Now the year is going to end. This is the month of December and we have to give the detailed account of the proposals of Rs. 1 crore within three months. A clarification to this effect should be given.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I think you have made your point.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha) : Sir, there is also some ambiguity in the circular.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ (South Delhi) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the last week of the present Parliamentary Session has began, but the Government has not so far brought Women's Bill. Today is Monday. If the Government does not bring the Bill, the question of its getting passed does not arise at all. Mr. Speaker, Sir, sitting on this Chair you said the Bill would be brought on the 12th, but it was not brought on that date. Today, it is 16th. If the Government does not introduce the Bill today, when the discussion will take place and the Bill be passed. I don't see Government's intention in bringing forward the Bill. I would like you to direct the Government to bring forward the Bill by tomorrow morning. Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is injustice to women. It is a betrayal against the women community by the Government. Today it is already 16th and the Government did not bring the Bill.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Madam, you have made your point.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura) : Sir, the Business Advisory Committee has stipulated two days, that is, 17th and 18th December for discussion and passage of the Constitution (Eighty-first) Amendment Bill as amended by the Joint Committee.

The Government was supposed to discuss it in the Cabinet and give their decision before 17th of December.

As you know, this Bill has created a great expectation among the women of India. Thousands of postcards written in blood reached us for immediate passage of the Bill. Innumerable signatures of women exhorting for the same also reached us.

In this background, I demand that the Government opinion be placed before the House now and the exact date for the discussion and passage of the Bill be fixed today so that it can be passed before the Session ends.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : I am sure the House will recall that when the Bill was introduced, there was a request made by us on behalf of many hon. Members here that the Bill should be passed even without discussion because we are committed to the

object of the Bill and it was, according to us, quite non-controversial and it is high time that it is passed. Then the question was of Select Committee or Joint Committee. The Joint Committee has done very useful work. It has given a report within a short time on 9th which left sufficient number of days for the passage of the Bill. After it has been fully considered in the Joint Committee, no further time should have been taken. Therefore, we are pressing the Government to bring this Bill so that it can be considered and passed in this House. The Government has to take a decision on this matter. It cannot be allowed to sit over a very important enactment which the country wants. The majority of the people of this country want this. Therefore, I request the Government to bring this Bill.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : We do not want to pass the Bill without discussion, rather the Bill should be passed after a full discussion.

When we, some of the women Members of Parliament, met the hon. Prime Minister in this connection, he said that a meeting of the leaders of all political parties would be convened and a consensus arrived. When major political parties made a commitment in their election manifesto that justice would be done to women, where the question of consensus does arise now. It is not only our party but all the parties were unanimous over it...(Interruptions)

SHRI ILLIAS AZAMI (Shahabad) : No, our party did not say so. How does she talk about all the political parties. The hon. Member is misleading the House.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Leaders of all political parties which include Shri Somnath Chatterjee of CPM, Shri Indrajit Gupta of the CPI, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and other leaders, are involved in it...(Interruptions) All the leaders are present in the House. They said that this Bill should be passed. I would like to know as to which party has differences on it. Do the cadres of CPM or CPI not want it...(Interruptions) Leaders of all parties are committed on this. Then, where does the question of consensus arise?...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have called Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev. Please allow others also to support you.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : What has been said just now by Shrimati Sushma Swaraj is not correct. We have also got this pledge in our manifesto and we are giving our support to this Bill...(Interruptions) Shrimati Sushma Swaraj is saying about CPM and BJP.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : I said that leaders of all major political parties agree on this.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : What is your problem to utter the word 'Congress'?

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : I said all major political parties have given consent...(Interruptions)

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : There should not be any confusion about the support of the Congress-I, Party. But the fact remains that some other Parties in this House are also not supporting this. That is the fact. You should consider that.

[Translation]

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY (Buxar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, democratic rights are being snatched. The parliamentary system is being taken for a ride. Parliamentary rights are being eliminated...(Interruptions) The hon. Minister had said...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : When I have disposed of the matter and I have told you I am considering it, why are you raising it again and again?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY : Mr. Speaker, Sir...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No, No.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Why are you raising it again the again?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : Regarding the Women's Bill, I would like to say that this should not be allowed to be complicated. This cannot be tolerated by this House. Why should caste consideration come in the way of passing the Women's Bill? This House must take a stand unanimously that this Bill must come before this House and it must be enacted in the course of this Session itself notwithstanding any reservation on caste lines by any party...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is enough. You have already expressed your views.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : what is the fate of that Constitution Amendment Bill? The House would like to know about that.

(Interruptions)

* Not Recorded.

MR. SPEAKER : Why can you not listen? Do you not want an answer from the Minister?

[Translation]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH (Hissar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Hon'ble Minister through you about the non release of funds by the Central Government to the Deputy Commissioner under M.P. Local Area Development Scheme and would like to request the hon. Minister that they should issue necessary directions to the concerned Deputy Commissioner of the districts...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister has come. You will get a reply on that also.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : Sir, there are two issues...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : We have to dispose of this matter first. Shri Pal, you cannot speak now.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Sir, two issues were raised. One is by Shri Ram Naik about the MP's Local Area Development Fund. His point is that money has not been placed at the disposal of the Collectors. The other point is that the previous fund that was with the Collector has not been allowed to be spent by the Members this year. These are the two issues. You have already taken a meeting. On this, instructions have been given.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR GOEL (Sadar-Delhi) : Sir, six months have elapsed.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Why do you not listen? What is this?

(Interruptions)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : On this, instructions have already been given to the Collectors and the money has been placed at their disposal. That was the information given by the Ministry of Programme Implementation. The hon. Minister is here. If any other information which the hon. Members want, he can clarify the position very clearly...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : What is the fate of the Women's Bill?...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ (South Delhi) : Let him give a reply on the Women's Bill...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister is here. The Minister will himself reply now.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You are turning it into a Question Hour. I do not know what you are doing. Please listen

[Translation]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to request Hon. Minister, through you that the money should be sent to the Deputy Commissions immediately...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Sir, I would like to submit that some of the Collectors have taken a wrong view that the fund has lapsed...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : If you want the money to reach, you allow the Minister to answer.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Why do you not listen to the Minister? If you are not satisfied, you can ask him again. Sit down now, please.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You listen to the Minister. If you are not satisfied, you can ask him again. You want the answer. But you do not allow the Minister to answer. What is this?

(interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GULAM RASOOL KAR (Baramulla) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to request the hon. Minister through you that only half of the amount has yet been released under the "MP Local Area Development Scheme" and the rest of the amount would be released after spending this amount so I request the hon. Minister through you, that the rest of the money should also be released immediately...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What is this Gulam Rasool Kar sahib. Please sit down. The Minister is on his legs to reply...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : If you do not want, I will not allow the Minister to answer. Please sit down Mr. Minister. I do not think, anybody is interested in the solution. Unless there is complete silence, the Minister will not reply. What is this going on?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, every Collector has been informed together with reminders that as soon as they finish the money that is available at their disposal, they should immediately ask us for the next instalment. In a very large number of cases, the next instalment has

already been sent. In fact, I have written a letter to each and every hon. Member saying, if by any chance...(Interruptions) Let me finish and then you can ask me.

MR. SPEAKER : Let us listen first to the Minister.

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : In a few cases, Members have informed me about it and we have spoken to the Collectors. But these are very few cases and in all those cases, money will be made available. In addition, in the presence of a number of senior leaders of the House, the hon. Speaker had taken a meeting in which he had already given certain instructions. As soon as the record of that meeting is made available to us, we will process it up and follow it up. If there is a specific question, I am willing to answer it...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN (Mumbai-North East) : No Collector has received a single pie so far...(Interruptions)

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : Fifty per cent has been sent...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, in the capital of India, Delhi...(Interruptions). It is not in our constituency...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : Sir, either the hon. Minister is confused or he is misleading the House. That day, it was decided in the meeting and the hon. Speaker had given direction in this regard. The Finance Minister had agreed that a total of Rs. 1 crore must reach the District Collector immediately. But the Minister is saying that after spending fifty per cent, another fifty per cent will be sent. That is wrong because as rightly stated by Shri Ram Naik, we have only got three months to spend that money. You also asked whether we would be able to spend that additional money. We appreciate it. Now the Minister must make it clear, if he has not already done, whether before 20th, the District Collectors would get Rs. 1 crore.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : He can do it within 24 hours with the modern communication system. He can do it by tomorrow noon.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Secondly, the Minister has again taken a leeway in saying that unless otherwise, guidelines are sent to him, duly signed by you, he cannot instruct the respective District Collector. I appreciate it. I request your Secretariat to send that guidelines which have been decided so that he can circulate them to the Members.

Thirdly, it was decided on that day that this was a scheme of the Speaker. Neither the Finance Ministry nor has the Employment Ministry got any right to dilute it. If they want to dilute it, they should come to you and dilute it and no other should be allowed to do this.

There is a clear indication. This is my request...(Interruptions)

COL. RAO RAM SINGH (Mahendergarh) : This should be released by 20th of December.

[Translation]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH : Speaker Sir, Not received from the Ministry...(Interruptions) That is why we say that whatever was discussed...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RAM NAIK : Now, the Minister is trying circumvent what has been decided. When he was present, what is the necessity of these minutes? Are the minutes necessary?...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ (South Delhi) : Speaker Sir, you had asked the question from the Minister. He has not replied to that...(Interruptions) You must ask him to give the reply...(Interruptions)

[English]

DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL (Calcutta North-West) : I draw the attention of the hon. Railway Minister through the hon. Speaker about the lawlessness and the helpless situation that the passengers in the trains are facing in Bihar.

The incident that had happened on 13th of December 1996 is very shocking. I was also personally involved in that incident. On 13th of December 1996, we got into the Ranchi-Howra Express in the Air-Conditioned first Class, and as soon as the train started, within four or five minutes we found that a gang of young hooliganes with revolvers and daggers were knocking at one of our AC compartments. Immediately, we closed the doors. When they could not open the doors of our AC compartments, they went to the Two-tier AC compartments and looted the properties of the passengers at the point of revolvers which they were having. After finishing the said operation, they again came to the AC compartment and when we did not open the doors in spite of their knocking, they broke the glasses of the doors and entered into the compartments. They came to me and with the revolver on my throat, they gave a fisted blow to me and I had no other choice but to hand over to them my purse. Similarly, all the AC compartments had to do the same thing...(Interruptions) The operation continued for about 45 minutes. The place of incident was only five minutes away from Ranchi station. There was no armed police, no Railway Protection Force and it was only after two or three hours when the train reached Mourie and then an officer of the GRP came to meet me...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : We will refer this matter to the Home Ministry.

DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL : Sir, this incident is not a solitary one but the same incident took place one week ago also in the same route from Ranchi to Mourie in the Ranchi-Calcutta Express. Similar incidents took place earlier also within a month's time.

I would request the hon. Railway Minister through the hon. Speaker to give a full statement of how many incidents had occurred of this type of dacoity in the Ranchi-Calcutta Express or any other routes and what action the Railway Minister has taken to ensure the safety and protection of the railway passengers. This is a very serious situation where there is no law and order in Bihar and the hon. Railway Minister coming from Bihar also is not taking any action for ensuring the safety and protection of the railway passengers.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Pal, I have understood the point and I will refer it to the Home Ministry.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Why are you talking like this? This is not the place for conversation.

Let us listen to the hon. Minister.

[Translation]

SHRI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Speaker Sir, *...(Interruptions)* I need your protection...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I will come to the 'Women'. But let us finish 'Men and Women' first.

[English]

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : Sir, I want to state most categorically on behalf of the Government and on behalf of my Ministry that there can be no question of the Ministry of Programme Implementation circumventing any of the instructions of the hon. Speaker.

As soon as I receive the record of the meeting that you have taken, I will take action with the Finance Ministry...*(Interruptions)* This is very important. Then again, I have written to each hon. MP...*(Interruptions)* If anyone of you faces any problem, tell me. Under the rules that are there, right now I will solve it. For a number of times I have solved the problems of hon. MPs. Just tell me the day of spending, right now we will send it.

As far as the instructions of hon. Speaker are concerned, they will be followed immediately. I want to give categorical assurance on that...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH : Speaker Sir, you just give them directions so that the money is released by 31 December...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR (Mumbai North-West) : you give them instruction.

[English]

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK (Aska) : I am wondering whether the Programme Implementation Ministry is *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Why are you interrupting?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : I am wondering whether the business of the Programme Implementation Ministry is not to implement. We have said one crore rupees must be given. He will spend Rs. 50 lakh. Then he will come here for sanction again and again. Are you a clerk or a Minister? What are you? You should be a Minister *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : I have very high respect for the hon. Member Biju Patnaikji. But I do not think he is being fair to me.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK : I have also got respect for him...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : As far as this issue is concerned, the existing rules are being followed fully. It is my duty also to protect the hon. Members. We are doing it with a lot of dispatch. As soon as the rules are changed, I am giving an assurance, we will follow them through.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (Chhapra) : Hon. Minister has become an MP for the first time, he has become Minister for the first time, he does not know, he has no experience. He has become a Minister by becoming an MP...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : Shouting would not work, I am sorry...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JAI PRAKASH : This scheme was going on for the last five years...*(Interruptions)* This is not a University. This is House...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you please dispose of our issue.

MR. SPEAKER : Sure, Sure, we would definitely dispose of that issue.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Two issues were raised, you are disposing of the one issue. Kindly give us a chance too and dispose of the other issue relating to the Women Bill.

[English]

What is the fate of the Bill?

MR. SPEAKER : I will come to that.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we MPs are facing problems regarding MP Local Area Development Scheme about which many MPs have complained to you separately and several MPs have also complained to the hon. Minister. According to the

letter circulated recently the unspent amount left during the previous year has to be carried forward and to be adjusted during this year. It has no other meaning. This scheme does not mean spending of Rs. one crore for the development of one particular area only, but it means if the Collector does not take any interest in the development of that area or due to certain political reasons the scheme is not deliberately implemented then the unspent money of the previous year would be adjusted during this year. This is the first thing.

Secondly, the scheme for the year 1994-95 has not yet been implemented and the estimated cost is escalating day by day and if the funds are to be adjusted every year then it would take several years to consume the funds while implementing the scheme of 1994-95. These are the two problems. Firstly, non-implementation of the recommended scheme of the previous year and escalation of its estimated cost while the scheme is going on. Secondly the use of economy on the part of the Administration and balance of unspent money to be carried forward and adjusted during the next year. In these circumstances the MP Local Area Development Scheme has become a farce and nothing else.

It is our suggestion...*(Interruptions)* Let me complete. Whenever the Ministers are changed bureaucrats under them are also changed and they interrupt the scheme in their own way. Former Speaker is not here, we people have talked with him also he had introduced this scheme in consultation with the MPs. Rules were framed in regard to that. He also says that even in his area the collector also misinterpreted the rules and he told that they themselves had framed the rules and he was telling them how to interpret the rules so that is the interpretation. Of course, Alagh Sahib is an intelligent person but that does not mean that he understands the very intention of the scheme and implement it successfully. Whatever our senior Leader Shri Biju Patnaik has said, is correct. Everytime we would come here spending the money and those who would not spend the money, his constituency would suffer and my constituency is it live example.

I am going to meet you along with the documents regarding the position of 1994-95 scheme. Of course, it is an individual case. It is a general problem also. But we suggest that the only way to solve the general problem is to constitute a Standing Committee of Parliament on this subject which may be composed of even less members. Whosoever have any problem, may complain and approach this committee and the committee should consider that and redress the grievances. If there is some problem in the implementation or interpretation of rules and the rules are to be changed then the committee should go into it and finally that can be accepted by you and directions are issued by the Government accordingly.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Ballia) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think the questions raised by our friend are perhaps

being raised in the House for the fifth time, there cannot be anything more shameful than this. This scheme was framed after lot of deliberations. Hon. Shri Biju Patnaik has also raised this question. It seems members are literally begging. The hon. Minister has just said that it is also their duty to protect them. The MPs need his protection and your protection. If the Minister feels that they are protecting the Members they are under the wrong impression and going beyond their brief. But the whole scheme is becoming a mockery and specially in the context of the standard of debate going on in the House. It is really in bad taste.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would request you to kindly issue clear directions to the Government to send a copy of the scheme to all the members and the District Collectors. This Government is somewhat more confused. Please do not add to the prevailing confusion otherwise it would appear as if the Members of Parliament are daily fighting for Rs. one crore. Mr. Speaker, Sir, you please do whatever you deem fit and there is no need to constitute any Parliamentary Committee. You have your own Secretariat, you have your own people knowing law. So you forward a copy of the scheme and its correct interpretation to the hon. Minister and the Members of Parliament. We would be really grateful if Shri Jena Sahib sends a copy of the same to the District Collectors.

(English)

MR. SPEAKER : Please, sit down. We cannot waste any more time. Shri Rasool, please sit down. Otherwise, everybody would want to speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I think, it is time now for the Speaker to protect the hon. Members, as the senior Member, Shri Chandra Shekhar has said. I think, the hon. Minister is mixing up the whole issue. There are two issues here. One is the finalisation of new guidelines and the other is the release of the money.

I do not think that these two issues are inter-related. As we have discussed in the meeting with the Leaders of all the parties, the guidelines have been finalised unanimously and they will be ready in two days' time. They will be sent to the Ministry of Planning and Programme Implementation for circulation to the hon. Members. As the guidelines have been unanimously accepted by the various political parties, I can even give them to the hon. Members informally, if they want to have it that way. But formally, the guidelines will have to go through the Ministry of Planning and Programme Implementation. And in that meeting, it was agreed in the presence of the hon. Minister of Finance that irrespective of the guidelines being finalised or issued, the money would be released to all the constituencies in fifteen days' time.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now, I would give the direction to the Ministry of Planning and Programme Implementation that whether the guidelines are finalised or not - and they would be finalised in two days' time - the money, that is the full Rs. 1 crore should be released before the 20th of this month.

Now, on the Women's Bill.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Sir, you give the same guideline.

MR. SPEAKER : That was not my guideline; that was decided by all the political parties.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Sir, on this second issue also, you can give the same guideline... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GULAM RASOOL KAR : Please listen to me also. There had been no M.P. in our area for the last four years. This scheme would not be applicable to us. Hence Rs. 4 crores for each MP for the last four years may kindly be got released

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : Sir, I would like to reiterate the Government's stand that the Bill regarding reservation for women is being considered seriously by the Government... (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : The Bill was introduced in the House. How can they take it so lightly? Are you satisfied with the reply?... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Zero hour is over.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now, let us take up Matters Under Rule 377.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : They are saying that they are considering it seriously. Are you satisfied with the reply?... (Interruptions) We need your protection. Now the Government is saying that it is being considered seriously. They are turning it topsy-turvy. The Bill was introduced in the House with the consensus of all the political parties... (Interruptions) How can they do it?

[Translation]

(Interruptions)

I don't want to talk with them. I want to talk with you only. It is your baby. You had assured that it would be passed without discussion ... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly) : Sir, on the night of 12th December many people were gunned down by extremists operating from across the border in Tripura... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I would like to give time to Shri Jagmohan.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : They have killed 36 people and left a good number of people belonging to the Bengali community injured, including women and children... (Interruptions) Several times in the past in this very House demands have been made for sending back the para-military forces which were shifted from Tripura during the time of elections in Jammu and Kashmir and other places... (Interruptions) Let this House condemn this heinous act of crime of the extremists and urge upon the Government to immediately send back the para-military forces to Tripura to assist the law and order agencies of the State of Tripura... (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Sir, what is this? ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What can I do?

[Translation]

SHRI SUSHMA SWARAJ : You are helpless. It is really surprising. If you won't help us where we will go

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You bring the Bill here.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : We were under the impression that you certainly help us. We thought you would direct the Government and ask them to bring the Bill in due course. On being said by them that they are considering it, you have become silent.

[English]

What does he mean? Does he mean that the Government was considering it non-seriously earlier and now they have introduced an element of seriousness in it. What is this?

[Translation]

Why have you become silent. If you are not going to help us then who is going to help us.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The BAC has already decided.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Do not show your helplessness... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Unless the Bill is brought before the House, I cannot do anything.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : How can the other business allowed...*(Interruptions)* How they can be allowed. More women are not allowed to become member of the House...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM NAIK (Mumbai North) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Bill has already been introduced in the House. The Committee has submitted its report. It should be listed for consideration of the House and whatever amendments have been suggested by the Committee can be considered by the House. It appears that the Government is not sensitive to this and its insensitiveness has been increased...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

Bring it to the House for consideration.

[Translation]

SHRI PARMOD MAHAJAN (Mumbai North East) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have just said that if the Government doesn't bring the Bill...*(Interruptions)*

AN HON'BLE MEMBER : You please allow the ladies to speak, why are you speaking?

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Why? Can't I speak?...*(Interruptions)* Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have just said that nothing could be done till the Government brings the Bill. I think, this is not the correct interpretation of the rules...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : No. It is not. I will clarify it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : The House has got the Bill. It has to come on the Agenda paper and it has to be passed by this House.

[Translation]

...*(Interruptions)* If the Government doesn't want to pass the Bill and wants to oppose it let it be done, but discussion must be done and whatever decision is arrived then, would be final.

[English]

Let the Government be exposed in this House, if they do not want to pass it...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Can you listen to me for a minute? What I meant is that in the last BAC meeting, the Government have said - it was agreed by all - that since some amendments have been suggested by the Joint Committee, if the Government have to accept them, they have to go to the Cabinet, after which only, it can be taken up. That was the decision. That was agreed to by all the political parties in the BAC meeting. That is what I am saying. Otherwise, you have got every right;

the Bill is the property of this House. It is not necessary also that the Bill has to go back to the Cabinet. That is not our concern. We can take up the discussion on the Bill. It is for the Government to accept or not to accept the amendments. But it was the decision of the BAC. I have only reiterated that point...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA (Junagarh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has already passed eight days.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have to say one thing relating to your point. All the amendments were moved with the permission of the Law Minister and those not accepted were ignored by the Committee. All amendments have been moved with the permission of the Law Minister and Cabinet approval is merely a formality. If the Government have made up its mind, the Government should not be afraid and have the courage to withdraw the Bill so that the women of India come to know that the Government have changed its mind. There is no need to say that the Government would bring the Bill in this Session or that Session. If the Government does not want to pass the Bill let it be withdrawn. The Government must be aware of its consequences. The whole Indian women would come on the roads and would start an agitation. It will be a fraud on the House and on the Indian women. The Government should not be afraid. A fraud has been committed and the people have been kept in dark. If you have the guts, let the bill be withdrawn...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA : The intention of the Government is not clear...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : You just want to keep the bill pending by bluffing.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : The report on the Bill was presented to the House on the 9th of December. Then the BAC took up the issue and decided that the Bill would be taken up on the 12th. The Government had enough time. There was enough time to consider all the amendments by the Cabinet also. The Government should be serious to pass the Bill. We have always demanded that the Bill should be passed in the present form itself, even without discussion because there was enough discussion in the House on this, last time. We had enough discussion and now, the Bill should be brought before the House and it should be passed. What is the necessity of a discussion now? The Bill should be passed as it is. If the Government is serious about reservation of women, then the Bill should be brought before the House by tomorrow and passed by tomorrow even without discussion.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we people have full faith in the Government. The whole lot of Indian women are under the impression that the Bill would be passed. We have been told that there would be no discussion on the Bill and it would be referred to a Committee and would be passed by having a discussion there itself. We would request that this Bill should be passed this week itself i.e. today, tomorrow or day after. This is our demand.

SHRIMATI RAJNI PATIL (Beed) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the way the Bill, should have been protected, has not been protected. This is our allegation. I just want to say that the intention of the Government doesn't appear to be clear. I would request all the women that they should boycott. All women have high hopes from the Government.

SHRI GANGA CHARAN RAJPUT (Hamirpur U.P.) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say that we, members of Parliament favour reservation for women but we must take care of those women of backward classes who constitute the fifty percent of the lot and the Government must pass this Bill immediately, of course, in a modified form. The Government should not keep pending the issue of backward classes and should move the amendments in this session itself.

KUMARI UMA BHARATI (Khajuraho) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, when the Bill was taken up for discussion for the first time I had told while speaking on this Bill that some provision should be made for the women belonging to the backward classes. I never meant division of women on caste lines. I had urged this because when a Bill is being brought it must contain some provision for the development of weaker sections. But now it appears that the Bill is being stalled on that plea. I would like to urge the Government though you, that it has other options also. On that very day I had requested the Hon'ble PM that he should promise to the members of the House that soon provision would be made in the modified Bill for the women belonging to the OBC by calling another session. But if the present Bill is not being passed on that plea I would urge that this Bill should be passed in the present form itself or it should be passed by making certain amendments by incorporating certain provisions for the reservation of women belonging to the backward castes.

SHRI ILLIYAS AZMI (Shahabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is an important issue and it is in consonance with high tradition of Parliamentary system that we must have a consensus on this issue.

Secondly I would like to say that it is wrong to say that backwardness of women can be removed by making reservations for them as the people of BJP and other progressive parties are saying... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Sir, I raise strong objection to it.

[Translation]

SHRI ILLIYAS AZMI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, specific reservation should also be made for Muslim backward women and the people who call themselves progressive and those who are communal seems to be much worried about Muslim women. They regard muslim women as most backward. It is a fact. If backwardness can be removed by political reservations, then should be given special status in that reservation, they should have larger share and the women belonging to the backward classes should be given reservation too.

Secondly, I would like to point out that this reservation should be made applicable in Rajya Sabha and in State Assemblies also.

Thirdly, in so far as Bahujan Samaj Party is concerned we are against political reservations. Even Baba Saheb Ambedkar had opposed reservations we favour reservations in the matter of employment. We have opposed political reservations at every level. We have been opposing political reservations since the time Baba Saheb Ambedkar and have been saying that there should be no political reservations. You show your large heartedness as has been shown by the Bahujan Samaj Party. That party has chosen a women as their leader and that women has distributed all tickets. Given that proof of your large heartedness and choose some women as your leader. Don't commit the sin the disturbing the political structure by giving political reservations.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You have made you point. Please sit down now.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI BHAGWATI DEVI (Gaya) : The Bill may be passed provided it has provisions for the reservation of women belonging to the Harijan Tribal, backward classes and backward Muslim society. Since a women has been regarded as mother since time immemorial. Gauri came first not Shankar. Sita is first not Ram. Hence reservation should be provided to women provided it has reservation for the women belonging to the Harijan Community, backward community and Tribal women.

SHRIMATI PHOOLAN DEVI (Mirzapur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Bill must be brought and whenever this, Bill is brought it must have reservation of women belonging to the backward classes and muslim society. Mr. Speaker, Sir, you must appreciate that our women know only how to veil. They don't know how to move in the society. If reservation is made for them they can move in the society and can fight for their own rights... (Interruptions)

we are demanding reservations for the backward women...*(Interruptions)* We are demanding reservation for our backward women.

MR. SPEAKER : Phoolan Devi ji. Please sit down.

[English]

Now, please sit down. That is enough. We have no time.

Yes, Shri P.C. Thomas.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha) : Sir, this is a very very important and a novel bill...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PINAKI MISHRA (Puri) : Sir, when the issue has been decided unanimously by all political parties in the Business Advisory Committee...*(Interruptions)* Why should the House waste its time on this...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : I am sure, all are interested in this Bill. We also support this Bill. But I am of the view that this being a very important Bill it should be discussed in the House and all the Members should be given an opportunity to participate in the discussion. Moreover, there are a number of amendments which the Members are likely to bring. The amendments should also be looked into.

Sir, another suggestion has also been made that this affects the States also and so the State Legislatures are also interested in the matter and a discussion by the State Legislatures may also be necessary for a very important Bill like this. So, I suggest that the views of the States should also be taken in this regard.

SHRI G.G. SWELL (Shillong) : I support what Shri Thomas said. This is a very important Bill and from the discussions it is quite clear that the entire problem of the women - the *adivasi* women, OBC women, the Scheduled Tribe women — nothing has been considered. This Committee has confined its activities only in Delhi and therefore, it should first go to the States. The States must give their opinion and consider them. Then we would try to find out a proper policy on this. This Bill should be reconsidered and sent back to the Committee.

13.00 hrs.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You had your say. Let him also say his view point. He has a right to say what he think about it.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI (Darbhanga) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you very much for having given me an opportunity to speak. It is heartening that we are going to do in India something which has not been done anywhere in the world and in any Parliament. But Sir **when** you conceive of a thing that such a Bill is brought in Parliament and is passed I would request,

that such an exercise may not lead a particular section to capture the Parliament. Regarding this issue of reservations to be made for Scheduled Castes and backward people being discussed in the House I would like to say that reservation for muslim women and women of other minorities should also be made. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would also like to point out here that the freedom being enjoyed by the minorities have is not because of the communal forces. These minorities should have more representatives in the House.

KUMARI UMA BHARATI : There must be a Uniform Civil Code. You have Talaq by merely saying Talaq, Talaq, Talaq three times...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You had your say. Let him also say his view point. He has a right to say what he thinks about it.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : About 18-19 percent of the population belongs to the minorities. Are they being represented fully and if that representation is not there then certainly their representation would be further reduced by bringing this sort of Bill. The people of minorities would hardly reach to the Parliament. It is, therefore, requested Sir that due care should be taken to bring the minorities within the purview of such a Bill if at all brought.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You have made your point.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : Our stand is entirely on a different plank.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDER SHEKHAR (Ballia) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, after a prolonged Debate for days together, it is clear that a decision has been taken by you people with utmost care in which our leader Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee was also present.

AN HON'BLE MEMBER : Why doesn't you call him Guru today?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) : He has found a new Guru.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : After being inspired by the Guru I would suggest that when you are ready to take such a far reaching decision, of course I was not one of them, but if Guruji is ready his pupil is ready to follow suit. To make it more far reaching let us take some concrete measures as suggested by our friend. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee should resign and Kumari Uma Bharati should take over as leader of Opposition. Similarly Shri Ram Vilas Paswan should resign and Ms.

Subhawati should take over him as their leader. In place of Shri Mulayam Singh, Smt. Phoolan Devi should take over and Ms. Chhabila ji should become leader of the Congress Party. I don't know whether the Communist party has any leader or not.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : You have not given prominence to other women.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : So, I feel if people are really sincere and serious this problem can be fully solved. But I don't think the Communist party has any women leader who belongs to backward classes also. I can understand why Shri Mahajan is taking interest, but I failed to understand why my old friend is showing this much interest.

So, Speaker, Sir, I very seriously say that it is not required in the House at all. Anyhow, all leading parties should implement it immediately and then see its impact in the entire country.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The Business Advisory committee is meeting today. I will again place the matter before the BAC.

The House stands adjourned for Lunch to meet again at Five Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

13.04 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till five Minutes past fourteen of the Clock.

14.14 hrs.

The Lok Sabha reassembled after lunch at Fourteen Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock

(Mr. Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

MATTER UNDER RULE 377

- (i) **Need for construction of a by-pass at Kuju on National Highway No.33 in Hazaribagh district, Bihar.**

[Translation]

SHRI MAHABIRLAL VISHWAKARMA (Hazaribagh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, under Rule 377 I would like to say through you that National Highway No.33 passes through a place named (Kuju) in Hazaribagh District of South Bihar and hundreds of trucks and other vehicles pass through that road daily. The local people are under constant threat of accidents as well as diseases because of pollution because of lesser width of Kuju road.

I, therefore, request the Central Government to construct a bye-pass at Kuju on Highway No.33.

[English]

- (ii) **Need to set up a Bench of High Court in Saurashtra region.**

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA : The people of Saurashtra region have a long outstanding demand for setting up a High Court bench in Bhavnagar city in Saurashtra region. The demand has not been met so far.

The people of Kutch Saurashtra have to commute to Ahmedabad. The Bar Associations, Chamber of Commerce and various institutions of Bhavnagar and Saurashtra launched agitations and demonstrated on the roads with this demand. The Members of Parliament, Assembly and members of the local bodies of Saurashtra wrote letters, submitted memoranda in support of this demand but the same has not been fulfilled so far. If the demand is not met even now, the people may have to resort to making a demand for separate Saurashtra.

A separate High Court bench should be provided for Saurashtra in the same manner as High Court Benches have been set up during the last 10-20 years in U.P., Bihar, Maharashtra and other States of the country. When Saurashtra was a separate region it had a high Court, therefore, this demand is genuine and deserves to be fulfilled immediately.

- (iii) **Need to set up Biosphere Centres in National Parks to Protect Tigers**

[English]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO (Dhenkanal) : I would like to draw the attention of the Government of India to the increasing incidents of poaching of tigers in the country. After decimating the tiger population in most parts of Asia, poachers have now stepped up their activities in India.

Tigers are killed for commercial and medicinal purposes. Each and every part of a tiger's body is used for making some kind of traditional medicine or other. According to an estimate made in 1995 by the Worldwide Fund for Nature India (WWF), 32 to 40 tigers are killed every year for commercial purposes. Even the poachers making unauthorised entry into the project tiger areas are killing the tigers. Whether it is Shimilipal or Ranthambor or any other tiger reserve forest, such incidents are increasing every year. It is most unfortunate that the poachers are allowed to go scot-free.

Another factor that threatens the tiger's survival is a loss of its habitat. Approximately 1.15 million hectares of forests were lost in India from 1952 to 1980. Therefore, I urge the Government to conserve the habitat if we want to save the tigers from depletion. A biosphere centre is being set up at the famous Shimilipal forest.

Similar biosphere centres should be set up at the location of each and every national park. At the same time, I demand that the Mahanadi Gorge Sanctuary in Orissa should be converted into a National Park by including Padmatola and Tikrapara.

- (iv) **Need to take up the matter re: Construction of dams on rivers flowing down to Bihar from Nepal with the Nepalese Government**

[Translation]

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI (Sitamarhi) : 'All the main subsidiary rivers flowing in Bihar to the north of the river Ganga originate in Nepal. Out of these rivers Gandak Bagmati, Kamla, Koshi and Adhwara Group of rivers pass through the plains of north Bihar due to which north Bihar is prone to severe floods every year causing huge loss of men and material. Non of the rivers on the Nepal border has high embankments due to which floods become all the more damaging. There is great need constructing high embankments in the plains of North Bihar in order to control floods. An Indo-Nepalese sub-commission had been set up on water resources. This Commission has shown no enthusiasm so far for the development of water resources.

The Central Government is, therefore, urged upon to solve the problem by holding early talks with the Nepalese Government for flood control and construction of high embankments in north Bihar.

- (v) **Re: Need to lay a New Railway Line between Ariyalur and Salem in Tamil Nadu**

[English]

SHRI A. RAJA (Perambalur) : Sir, Perambalur is the Headquarter of my constituency as well as for Perambalur Thiruvallavar district, which is newly constituted last year. The only district headquarter in Tamil Nadu which has not been touched by the railway line is Perambalur. Moreover, throughout my vast constituency, the railway track just crosses only at Ariyalur town which is 30 kms. away from Perambalur. Even at Ariyalur station express trains namely 'Pallavan', 'Pandian', 'Madure Mahal' and 'Vaigai' have no stoppage at all and as such there is not use for my constituency people by these trains.

Similarly another Taluk Headquarter as well as a Municipal Town, Turaiy of my constituency and another neighbouring Municipal Town Namakal which is having the large lorry operation in Tamil Nadu are also not yet connected by the Railway line. It is a long need and demand of my constituency for more than 50 years to connect these towns by a railway track without appreciation and action. I request the hon. Minister for Railways to take steps to lay a new railway line from Ariyalur to Salem connecting the towns Ariyalur, Perambalur, Turaiyar and Namakal urgently. And for the time being the express trains mentioned earlier may be

stopped at least for one minute at Ariyalur-Station which is giving more revenue than the other stations through both, passengers and goods.

- (vi) **Re: Need to include Sakri reservoir project of Bihar in the Ninth Five Year Plan and release adequate funds for its completion**

[Translation]

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR : From the upper Sakri reservoir project of Bihar, a total of 83,325 hectares of lands of Jumai, Shekhpura, Nalanda, Nawada, Hazaribagh and Giridih districts is proposed to be irrigated. This scheme has been approved by the T.A.C. of Central Water Commission. A sanction of Rs. 18,373 lakh has been received, in the light of the price index for the year 87-88. Due to non-availability of funds the work on the project has not been started. This scheme is in public interest.

The Government is, therefore, urged upon to include the upper Sakri reservoir project in the Ninth Five Year Plan.

- (vii) **Need to open more post offices in offices in Erandol Parliamentary Constituency Maharashtra**

[Translation]

SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL : Sir, in my Parliamentary Constituency Erandol (Maharashtra), Specially in its Adivasi, backwards and rural area, post offices are situated at distances of about 4-5 kms. and at several places at distances of 15-20 Kms, due to which the inhabitants of this region have to face great difficulty and do without the postal facilities. These areas also face lack of Dak delivery. People receive their letters after several months due to which many youths are deprived of employment opportunities.

Therefore, through you I would urge upon the hon. Minister to issue orders for setting up more and more post offices in the rural, adivasi and backward areas in the Erandol Parliamentary Constituency of Maharashtra so that people may get the benefit of postal facilities.

- (viii) **Need to provide economic package to Himachal Pradesh on the lines of one provided to North-Eastern States**

[Translation]

SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI : Sir, Prime Minister Shri H.D. Deve Gowda toured the eastern States last month during which he announced package programmes everywhere for the schemes of the States and removing backwardness of those States, promising several crores of rupees for solving the problems of the States of that region for which his Government was praised of the hilly regions of that area. But Himachal Pradesh was kept out of these announcements because this State is

peaceful and for away from extremism. But now the young men and women and this regions also have become prone to extremist thinking, feeling that the Government comes to the help of extremists prone areas only and not peaceful States

I therefore urge upon the Central Government that Himachal Pradesh which has Punjab on one side and Jammu & Kashmir on the other, should be provided with the same kind of package as given to the eastern States, Punjab and Jammu & Kashmir.

14.25 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

(i) Rise in Prices of Essential Commodities

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, we shall take up Item No. 9- Discussion under rule 193. I request the hon. Minister, Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav to reply to the discussion.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTIONS (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to reply to the discussion held on the motion put forward by hon. member Shri Chitta Basu regarding rise in the prices of essential commodities. About 21 hon. Members expressed their views by participating in the discussion. I want to thank all of them because this House discussed this very important issue which is related to the life of the common man. Whether it is the question of prices of wheat or flour, all these are related to the human life. I have considered the points raised during this discussion.

First of all, I would like to give details of the prices of wheat, rice, soft coke, kerosene oil, sold under the Public Distribution System. These commodities are made available by the Central Government under PDS. The price of none of these commodities has increased under the Public Distribution System. You may say that these prices relate to the commodities sold under the Public Distribution System, we want to hold a discussion on the steep rise in the prices of these commodities in the open market. I will come to that also.

Flour has to do much with the common man. Under the PDS, we provide wheat to the States at the rate of Rs.402 per quintal. The States distribute the same through the Fair Price Shops by adding purchasing, transportation and other duties thereon. The price of sugar throughout India is Rs.9.05 per Kg. This is the only commodity whose consumer price is fixed by the Central Government, rest of the commodities are

provided to the public by the State Government after calculating their own margins on these commodities. The rates of Palmoline oil and soft coke are Rs.24/- per Kg (Bulk) and Rs. 175/- per tonne respectively. These items are provided to West Bengal and Bihar only. The Government on its part has neither increase these commodities sold under PDS nor decreased the allocation of any State.

Since I have assumed charge of this Department, I have made allotments to States under the PDS on the basis offtake against the demands of the States made on the basis of their population. As far as prices in the open market are concerned the prices of wheat and flour have registered an increase on which there has been so much discussion here. There are certain circumstances responsible for it which I do not want to mention because whatever natural increase has been registered is due to a different factor and which ought not have taken place. I had referred to it in my statement in which I said that I believe in transparency. Therefore I do not want to conceal anything from the House. One of the reasons for the price rise is that we have raised the support prices for the farmers. It was necessary also as it had the consensus of the hon. Members of all parties as also the whole House. If we do not provide remunerative prices to the farmers for their produce, it will indirectly affects the production. The production will be adversely affected. It is necessary to increase the M.S.P. in order to encourage the grower. The specialists have estimated a 5.5 percent increase in prices if continues like this. The 5.5 percent increase registered in the prices of wheat was due to M.S.P. To increase the sell and considering the wider interests of the farmers we can go to any extent

Petroleum products are inclusive of everything. The increase to the extent of 4 percent. The C.I.P. of wheat has not registered an increase as compared to the last year, it has been stable and it is responsible for the price rise to the extent of 5 percent. So far as production is concerned, production and procurement of wheat was low during the last year. Production depends on rain fall, last year the production was less by 31 lakh tonnes and the procurements which the Government of India makes were less by 41 lakh tonnes, this is responsible for the price rise to the extent of 8 per cent. But the increase in prices registered thereafter has been due to very unfortunate factors. Hoarding and blackmarketing have been responsible for the price rise to the extent of 8 per cent.

Due to slump in the Share-market people desisted from investing there. They had estimated that the prices will increase because the production was low. Some hon. members have also raised this question that the Government did not take effective steps timely. What steps have been taken by the Government. I will give details thereof lateron. With the slump going on in the share market people have encouraged hoarding and black-marketing by investing their money in it. There

are some vested interests in this country who have a nexus with hoarders and black-marketers due to which artificial scarcity is being created by raising the prices of flour because the son of the soil that is Prime Minister Shri Deve Gowda is a great sympathiser of the farmers and the United Front Government has vowed to eradicate scarcity and shortage...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT (Shajapur) : Mr. Speaker Sir, Whether he has descended from the sky, all are sons of the soil...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Accept the reality. A bogey is being raised against the United Front Government by hoarders and blackmarketeers by raising the prices of flour. I have referred to the reality in my statement. The bogey and price rise is being created to malign the Government. But the Government is determine to take strong action against hoarders and black-marketeers. We have come down heavily upon them which has resulted in a declining trend in the prices. I have sent for reports from all places.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Wheat is selling at Rs.10 per kg. in Chandigarh...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Please listen to me first.

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA (Ferozabad) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister is saying that all these things are in his knowledge, why then starvation deaths are taking place...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let him have his say.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Let me complete first.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You go ahead with your submission. Prabhu Dayal ji, you take your seat.

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : The hon. Minister wants to say that he knew the entire conspiracy. If that is so...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : I am telling as to where the prices have gone down...*(Interruptions)* I am bringing forward a bill in this regard...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : Listen to him before you Speak. You may speak later on.

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : It means that you too are involved in the conspiracy?

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, during the last 3-4 days...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please make it a point not to look towards the press while making your submission.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I am telling all of you.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Sir, the wholesale price of wheat has registered a decline. The price of Dada Wheat has come down. The fall in price is in the wholesale rate. As per yesterday and today's reports, the minimum price of wheat was Rs.755 and maximum Rs.775 per quintal and the rates have fallen...*(Interruptions)*

AN HON. MEMBER : I am talking of retail prices.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : I am coming to retail prices. If you are not able to comprehend, what can I do? The minimum and maximum wholesale price has come down to Rs.635 and Rs.645 per quintal respectively. Thus the price has fallen by Rs.120 per quintal. Today, in Mumbai and Hapur...

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Can you imagine the agonies of the people living below poverty line.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Once in a while, intervention is desirable but not always.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Sir, when these people were speaking I was listening to them patiently. Hapur is a major grain market of north India. In that market the minimum and maximum price of wheat was Rs.730 and Rs.750 per quintal respectively which fell to Rs.610 and Rs.620. Thus, the fall in price is Rs.120 per quintal.

AN HON. MEMBER : Can you name the places where you have conducted raids?

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : I am coming to that. I have mentioned these things well in time. The Government is alert from the very day I assumed charge of this Ministry. The result is that the prices have risen to the extent of 31 per cent, otherwise, rise would have been more...*(Interruptions)* on 25th June, it was reported on behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture that the production of wheat this year has fallen by 31 lakh tonnes as compared to last year. On that very day, I took a decision that not even a chhatank (50 gram approx.) of wheat would be exported and I stuck to that decision. The FCI has totally stopped export of wheat. Then on July 5-6 a conference of Chief Ministers was held in which it was said that the foodgrains meant for distribution through the PDS in the States were being diverted. I drew the attention of the Chief Ministers and the administrators and Governors of the UTs to stop this diversion.

AN HON. MEMBER : What do you mean by diversion?

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Diversion means to divert the foodgrains to other channels. The foodgrains are sent for the fair price shops but the supplies find their way to the traders and then to the black market...*(Interruptions)* Thereafter, on 22nd July, I wrote to the Chief Ministers that if they want to amend the Essential Act and the Consumer Protection Act,

the centre was prepared for that. We told them that based on their suggestions, decision in this regard would be taken. This was clearly written in the letter. But now it appear that some traders and unscrupulous elements are once again indulging in boarding of essential commodities. I told the Chief Ministers through this letter that this fact should be brought to the notice of the officials and field workers and they should be told to stop this tendency of hoarding. Not only this, I told them that this tendency should be checked well in time and I may be informed about the action taken in this regard from time to time as well as the suggestions they might like to give. Some people say that the timely action was not taken. This letter was written on 22nd July. Is it not a timely action? I am conscious and alert about my responsibility from the day when I came to know about the fall in production. The open sale by FCI started in 1994. Before 1994 open sale was not there. This was introduced to bring a balance in the market price. Supplying foodgrains to the PDS is the responsibility of the Central Government. When my attention was drawn to the open sale, I said that we would consider to make amendments in it also. The hon. lady Member who was speaking at the pitch of the her voice on that day is not present today. Some people make a mountain out of a mole hill. I do not have that habit. Since Smt. Sushma Swaraj is not present here, I would not say that. I have clearly said that we have to streamline the open sale. To streamline it, we sent a directive from the Ministry of the FCI to constitute a three member committee. Directors of Food of all states would be members of that committee so as to protect the interest of their respective states and to apprise the committee of their PDS requirements vis-a-vis open sale. One member would be from the accounts and the other would be the R.M. of the FCI. The proposed committee would examine whether proper registration of roller flour mills is being done; whether the mill is running or whether the application for allotment of wheat is genuine or not. The limit for open sale of wheat would be 200 metric tonnes. The committee has been given instructions to the effect that no flour mill should be allotted more than 200 MT of wheat. Priority would be given to small flour mills. If they want to avail of the facility of wheat quota, they too should be given concession. Previously, small flour mills were facing difficulties as they had to go to the big flour mills. That difficulty has not been removed. They are supposed to apply between 1st to 7th of the months and their applications are disposed to between 7th and 14th. The responsibility to do this job has been given to this committee. If any complaints are received on this account, the three-member committee would be answerable for it. The Government is prepared to enquire into the complaints, if there are any, about allotment of wheat to those who are not registered for the open sale or complaints about supply of wheat prior to the application or supply of wheat to someone under pressure. Of the complaints that came to me, I have

handed over two cases to the CBI after thorough enquiry
...*(Interruptions)*

Some people say that the Government was not alert from the beginning. I would like to say that we have been alert from the very beginning and we took all possible steps when we came to know about the fall in production. First, I raised the question of diversion of foodgrains in the Chief Ministers' Conference. It was followed by the State Food Ministers' conference on 7th August in which I explicitly told them to stop diversion of foodgrains in their respective states. A general complaint which we hear in the Lok Sabha as well as in the Rajya Sabha is that the Foodgrains supplied by the Centre do not reach the fair price shops. This has been the complaint of the people earlier also. We too have been elected to this House by the poor people and are ware of this complaint. With these complaints in view, we have made PDS poor-oriented. I do not want to mention the project which we are formulating in this regard as it is in the final stage. We have also taken up the question of supplying foodgrains to those living below poverty line. I have gone into the complaints received at the state-level about diversion, black marketing, hoarding and corruption in the supply of foodgrains. Not only that, we have withdrawn the rescinding order of Foodgrains control and Licensing order dated 30th September, 1994. Under the provision of this order, there was no limit on stock of wheat and the traders associated with the trade wheat, flour and other wheat products were free to stock any quantity of these commodities. But we have rescinded that order.

SHRI PINAKI MISHRA (Puri) : When did you issue this order?

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : This order was issued on 8th. Mr. Pinaki Mishra, excuse me, I had written to the States on 22nd July telling them that they should take it seriously. In democracy, we have to take the opinion of the States. We believe in giving more powers to the State.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : When did you receive the opinion of the States?

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Some States responded on 8th and some in the last week of October. I do not want to mention about some of the states or else they would stand exposed...*(Interruptions)* The order regarding hoarding limit has been issued to all the States and it is for the States to fix the limit to give this order a practical shape. All should display the stock position in their shops. Under this order of the Central Government all shopkeepers having licence for stocking and sale of wheat are supposed to display their stock position. Not only that, they should display information regarding the sale price of wheat products as well. Wheat products such as flour, maida, suji which were in the OGL earlier have now been put in the restricted list. Now onwards, these items cannot be exported freely. Another decision which we have taken is that all

cooperatives under the control of the Central Government, such as Super Bazar or Kendriya Bhandar would be issued as much wheat as they require. But the condition in their case would be that they would not sell it at more than Rs. 6.40 per kg. The hon. Members who live in North Avenue can go and see for themselves how much wheat and wheat products are being sold through Super Bazar. There are 218 such outlets in Delhi. Although this is a state subject, yet we have taken initiative in this direction in Delhi because the Government have taken the rise in prices as a challenge and have made alternative arrangement in Delhi...*(Interruptions)* I invite any of the hon. Members to come to the Super Bazar and they will get it at Rs. 6.40 per kg...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Do not ask these things as yet, you may ask them later on.

SHRI GULAM RASOOL KAR (Baramulla) : It is the local Government that is responsible in Delhi and not the Central Government.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Then I would like to tell you about the position in Super Bazar...*(Interruptions)* Whatever you are saying is incorrect. Do not go by the news reports. I can say it with challenge. First you listen about the steps which I have taken. According to the report of Super Bazar, 4000-5000 bags (10 kgs. each) of wheat flour are selling at Rs. 6.40 per bag daily. As per my information, mobile vans are going to the colonies in Delhi for selling wheat flour...*(Interruptions)* In addition to 218 branches of Super Bazar, 31 mobile vans have also been pressed into service. This initiative is being taken only in Delhi because here the Central Government has the infrastructure.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL (Chandni Chowk, Delhi) : The trucks which you sent to the colonies do not stay there even for an hour...*(Interruptions)* Just listen to me...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You can put your questions later. Let the hon. Minister reply first.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : I have myself visited Madangir, Dakshinpur and Ambedkar Nagar colonies of Delhi to make an inspection there. Since the Super Bazar shop is located at a distant place there, three of our mobile vans had gone there. The people were standing in a queue and were buying wheat flour at the rate of Rs. 6.40 per kg. The sign board to this effect was displayed there...*(Interruptions)* Being a colony of poor people, queue was unavoidable. We have issued instructions to accorded priority to jhuggi-jhonpri colonies and slum areas. As soon as we are able to mobilise more resources, we shall be giving attention to other colonies as well, but in the first phase, we are giving priority to slums and jhuggi-jhonpri colonies.

Thereafter, I visited Rajiv Camp in Lodhi Road. There too, I saw a long queue of people buying wheat flour. There are many clusters of jhuggis over there inhabited by poor people. I have personally made on the spot inspection and I promise that after the House rises for the day I shall visit the colonies after 7.00 p.m. and make on the spot inspections. So we are certainly taking initiative. To start with, we have done it in Delhi...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL (Beed) : I am on a point of order.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You may raise it later. Let the Minister complete his reply.

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL : I have with me the cash memo. I bought 5 kgs. of flour at Rs. 83 from Super Bazar...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : I am not yielding.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let the hon. Minister complete his reply first. I will allow you later on. You can ask whatever you want at that time.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : I have told you about the special arrangements that have been made in Delhi. If other states want...*(Interruptions)* I am coming to that...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : What you are saying is not fully correct. I invite you to come with me...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let him complete the reply first. I shall allow you later on...*(Interruptions)* What is the point of order in it. Under what rule do you want to raise the point of order? I shall allow you later.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Not only that, we have started a special scheme for Delhi State, but if a State Government request us...*(Interruptions)* I invite you with a challenge to give me in writing if wheat flour is being sold at a price more than Rs. 6.40 per kg. in any of the branches of Super Bazar. If any such complaint comes to me, I shall order inquiry into it.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH (Hissar) : The hon. lady Member has the cash memo of Super Bazar...*(Interruptions)* it is just possible that you may not be having this information in your record...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : If the hon. lady Member gives such complaints to me, I shall welcome it. I shall order an enquiry into it and take action thereon.

We have told the States also that if a cooperative society in the State comes forward to sell flour at the fixed price of Rs. 6.40 per kg., orders may be issued to supply them the required quantity of wheat. So, this special scheme can be extended to other States also if they so desire because for us the entire country is equal. All cooperative consumers societies in the States

who come forward for this work will be allotted wheat provided they give an undertaking that they will not sell wheat flour at a price exceeding the fixed price.

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN (Murshidabad) : What about the sales tax?

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : I am referring to the sale on 'no profit no loss' basis.

Before, I tell Shri Agarwal about the position regarding fair price shops in Delhi. I would like to tell the House about some of the important decisions which we have taken in this regard. We have decided to import 20 lakh tonnes of wheat. The decision to import wheat has been taken in the wake of fall in wheat production.

I would like to assure the House that we have sufficient quantities of wheat for the PDS. 'Mid-day-Meal' programme and other such welfare schemes.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Minister, where is this 'Mid-day-Meal' scheme running?

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : This scheme is run by the HRD Ministry and not by our ministry ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY (Buxer) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, one of our lady Member is on her legs quite sometime now and she has been repeatedly saying that she has bought wheat flour at the rate of Rs.10.30 per kg. the day before yesterday whereas the hon. Minister is saying some thing different here ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : I would request the hon. Member to listen to my point first. The Government has decided to import 20 lakh tonnes of wheat so that the prices could be brought under control, and food sufficiency is maintained and supply of food grains is continued. I would like to make it clear that there was no shortage of wheat for the PDS. Last year wheat was sold at a lower price in the open market than this year. The reason being that last year we supplied 11-12 lakh tonnes of wheat whereas this year it was 5-6 lakh tonnes only. This year's production was low. That is why lesser quantity of wheat was produced this year. In order to maintain a balance between the production and supply of wheat, we decided to make import of 20 lakh tonnes of wheat. At the same time we have authorised the flour or roller mills to make import.

14.59 hrs.

(Shri Chitta Basu in the Chair)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Minister, I would advise you not to make the import. Whatever might be the hardships, the Government should not take recourse to import...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Hon. Nitish Kumarji, you are a farmers' son-and you are opposing import. If import is not made, how to control the profiteers.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Only because I am a farmer's son, I am opposing the move to make import.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : If import is not made, hoarders will benefit.

15.00 hrs.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am talking of Uttar Pradesh ...*(Interruptions)*

AN HON. MEMBER : Wheat cannot go one of Uttar Pradesh...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Today is the 16th instant. In the raids conducted on 13th and 14th ...*(Interruptions)* Under the holding limits given to various States raids were conducted in as many as 2271 places in Uttar Pradesh and FIRs registered in these there days...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is on paper only. Not a single raid was conducted ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Alongwith this we have since intensified our campaign against black-marketing and hoarding. As Many as 28 cases have been registered ...*(Interruptions)* Gradually we will bring all guilty person to book. ...*(Interruptions)* Licences of 62 shops have been suspended. The compensation amount accounts for Rs. 38,850. The cost of wheat seized is Rs.6,350/-. Similarly, the Government of U.P. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member should know that the Minister is not yielding. You cannot speak, unless he yields.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVEDNRA PRASAD YADAV : The outcome of the decision taken by the Government has since come.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Minister is not yielding. Unless he yields, how can you speak? Let him complete his reply and then other things could be taken up.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV ...*(Interruptions)* We will check blackmarketing very soon. We will effect control with other will power. Action has since been initiated in that direction...*(Interruptions)* we request all the State, be it Delhi, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Haryana or Punjab, to initiate similar action. If this is done there can be no artificial rise of price of flour on any account.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Mr. Chairman, Sir, What the hon. Minister said is correct, but the entire distribution system in Delhi is totally disarranged ...*(Interruptions)* The Public Distribution come under the Government of Delhi...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please allow the hon. Minister given reply

(Interruptions)

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : What the hon. Minister say is correct but the Central Government has no control over the distribution system in Delhi.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to reply to points raised by Shri Agarwal...*(Interruptions)* It is the responsibility of the State Government to transport foodgrains to F.P.S. The Central Government on its part allots foodgrains to various States. The Central Government has no control over transportation of foodgrains to F.P.S...*(Interruptions)* The Government allotted 60,000 tonnes of wheat to Delhi last month...*(Interruptions)* Just listen, please...*(Interruptions)* We seek co-operation from hon. Members to detect blackmarketing. They have their Government in Delhi. They should talk to their Government.

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota) : The Prices of wheat have not come down in the market...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Joshi ji, you should understand what I said

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Minister why are you inviting questions from them?

[Translation]

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Delhi is not getting wheat...*(Interruptions)* Prices have not receded...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : The entire system is disturbed in Delhi.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : I am taking it seriously what Shri Agarwal has said. The point raised by Shri Agarwal...*(Interruptions)* Just listen please...*(Interruptions)* It will be done.

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : When will it start?

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : It will be done in 7 days...*(Interruptions)* Just wait and watch...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Minister, you please address the Chair. You should not invite questions from them. You say whatever you have got to say.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : As regard complaints made by the Agarwal against F.P.S.

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota) : Please tell me if prices of wheat have gone down in West Bengal?...*(Interruptions)* The entire responsibility is that of the Food Corporation of India...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : I take seriously when wheat does not reach F.P.S. That is why I have all along requested the States in this regard...*(Interruptions)* It under the control of the State Governments...*(Interruptions)*

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : The hon. Minister said that he would conduct an inquiry within 2 days and show result. Instead of 2 days, six days have since elapsed. What happened to that.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let the hon. Minister give his reply. Thereafter, you seek any clarification you want...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

You address the Chair and make the points which you want to.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : When Joshiji raised this point I am reminded of a proverb often used in villages...*(Interruptions)* I also come from a village. The proverb is that :

Chalni Dushlakhya Barani Ke.

Jinaka Swayam Sahasra Chhed.

Joshiji, you may not be knowing. Reports of the probe have since been received. The report was completed the day before yesterday i.e. on the 7th day. I assured the House that I will give full information to the House. I also said that I shall conduct an inquiry and ensure accountability by guilty officers. The Government of the United Front would not make any compromise on corruption front, come what may. Since I assumed charge, three access of the FCI were brought to my notice. Many senior Members are sitting here. In no case, a Minister has ever sent a case to the CBI concerning his department. But in my case-concerning my department I referred a case relating to shortage of foodgrains in a FCI godown to C.B.I. The CBI is conducting the investigation. I am not going to say anything more in this regard. The Second case was of Karnal about which Jai Prakashji made a point every day. He has been a friend of mine since the days of Lok Dal. I referred the Karnal case also to the offence cell of the CBI on the contrary, I am being charged to be lenient. Office is not a big thing for me. As a Government, we need confidence and co-operation of the people. I appreciate the sentiments of the hon. Members. If any hon. Member notices any case of corruption in the FCI he should let me know...*(Interruptions)*

There was some lacunae in his information.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Please reply the points raised by 'Shri Joshi.'

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : I am replying the same thing. So far as the point raised by Shri Joshi...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN (Chandigarh) : It is not his case. He has raised this matter.

AN HON. MEMBER : ...

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : ...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Yadav, you have to give the reply, so please do that. If the hon. Members seek any clarification, you can give your clarification thereafter.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : I obey your orders...(Interruptions)

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : I am on a point of order...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Under what rule are you raising the point of order?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Unparliamentary word has been used against an hon. M.P. It should be expunged from the proceedings.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : These is no point of order as the Hon. Member is not saying under which rule he is raising the point of order.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members I am not to be guided by you. You should maintain the decorum of the House.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is the point of order?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please sit. The hon. Minister is on his legs. Please sit. I am on my legs.

[Translation]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia) : I am coming from Jaipur. The Government of Rajasthan had passed orders for keeping 500 tonnes of wheat in the godown.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Minister has to reply.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Under which rule are you raising the point of order?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have not quoted the rule under which rule you are raising the point of order. So, there is no point of order.

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY (Mandsaur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, in this House no Member can make personal accusation against any other hon. Member. It is there in the Rule. An accusation was made against the hon. Member, Shri Joshi. It should be expunged from the proceedings.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Chair will examine the proceedings and it will expunged if it is found it is not proper. I have given my ruling.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : How is that? I have given my ruling. The Chair has already given its ruling that if anything improper is there, it will be expunged after examination.

[Translation]

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : I am raising a point of order under Rule-371.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Minister, you reply whatever you have got to say.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : That point has been taken up. Resume your seat, please.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : As regards the point made by hon. Shri Joshi...(Interruptions)

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Rajasthan's quota of 60.000 tonnes have been sold...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Minister, you should always address the Chair. You are not required to mention the names of the Members and then reply to them.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : A probe by the secretariat has been ordered into the third case that has come to my notice...(Interruptions)

AN HON. MEMBER : What the hon. Member sitting behind the hon. Minister is talking about. Can he not dissuage the hon. Member from talking?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have not permitted you.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : That has already been expunged. Nothing is to be recorded.

(Interruptions)*

* Not Recorded.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : I deputed an officer to probe the case. The outcome of the probe will be given within 2-3 days' time...*(Interruptions)* There are laud talks at one Delhi. There are 36204 tonnes of wheat in our godown located in Mayapuri, C.T.O. Okhla, Narela, Devra, R.P. Bagh any Shakti Nagar in Delhi. Besides, we have a stock of 36204 tonnes of rice. We allotted 60,000 tonnes of foodgrains to Delhi in a month. But Delhi lifts only 46-47 thousand tonnes of wheat at a time. This time they lifted 40,000 tonnes. They lift a lesser quantity because they have no godown facility. They cannot arrange trucks. We told them that we will provide them as much wheat as the number of trucks they make available. They say that they cannot lift more than 2,000 tonnes. Actually, they lift only 1.5 thousand tonnes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : How much more time you want.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : I need another 5 minutes. We are capable of providing as much wheat as the Government of Delhi can lift.

SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA (Outer Delhi) : Is the Government prepared to provide as much of wheat to the Government of Delhi as they have demanded in their letter.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Yes, we are prepared. The hon. Member raised this point on the 28th. I held meetings with the Food Minister of Delhi on 3rd and 4th instant. I asked them to lift 3,000 tonnes of wheat everyday. They said that they do not have sufficient trucks, nor they have godowns, then where to store the stock. They said that they cannot lift more than 2,000 tonnes. As such we decided to give 2,000 tonnes per day.

Even that much wheat they are not able to lift. I, therefore, request the hon. Member to see that wheat allocated by the Centre reaches the F.P.S. in full. Shri Agarwal rightly said that it is the responsibility of the Centre Government to reach wheat but it is for the State Government to distribute the same to F.P.S. through their network. Monitoring is also their responsibility...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Does this decision apply to all the states or to Delhi only...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Finally, I would like to make a submission.

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is not a question answer session. What you want to say you say.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Central Government allocates foodgrains to all the States for the P.D.S.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : He is not yielding.

[Translation]

You are a senior leader. You should know, there is some rule.

SHRI GANGA CHARAN RAJPUT (Hamirpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, in Uttar Pradesh...

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Chairman, Sir, you say that there should be same rule. We do agree to that.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat, let the hon. Minister conclude.

SHRI GANGA CHARAN RAJPUT : ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Rajput, your remarks are not going on record. Nothing goes on record, except the Hon. Minister's speech.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Chairman Sir, be it Uttar Pradesh or any other State of the country the wheat quota for the P.D.S. has not been reduced and demand of various States has been fulfilled after due consideration I seek the co-operation of hon. Members for further strengthening the P.D.S. From among the States, Delhi was given 40 thousand tonnes. Accordingly each household should have got 16 kilograms. But it has not been given as has been rightly pointed out by Shri Agarwal. I also admit it. I expect the State Government to discharge its responsibility. I sent a departmental team and ascertained the situation I am unfolding the mystery that only 33 per cent people were given foodgrains from the F.P.S. I do not want to hide this fact.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please complete.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : I am concluding in 5 minutes. The State Government is responsible for blackmarketing because only 33 per cent people got wheat from the F.P.S.

MR. CHAIRMAN : As you said, 5 minutes have since been over.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : I am concluding in a minute. Mr. Chairman, Sir, not only that a subsidy of Rs. 10,000 crore is being given for the F.P.S. The Government of India gives a subsidy of Rs.6000 crore to the Department of Food and Rs.4000/- crore to kerosene. A total of Rs. 10,000 crore is spent on subsidy. But the needy are the poor do not get as much quantity of foodgrains as they ought to get. I would, therefore, request the hon. Members to initiate action in this direction in their respective States. I have issued directives for constituting a monitoring committee. Guidelines have been issued to all the State to take selected persons from Panchayats and blocks in the committee. Monitoring should be intensified by forming committees comprising villages Pradhans, social workers

Not Recorded.

and block officials at the block, district and State levels so that more and more needy people than the present 33 per cent get foodgrains.

Before concluding, I would like to take up the point raised by Shri Pinaki Mishra about norms of buffer stock. He said that norms of buffer stock are a decade old. Hon. Member is a very vigilant member. The norms for buffer stock were prepared in 1989-90. There are the guidelines for buffer stock to be followed at the beginning to each Five Year Plan. A task force which will remain valid from 1997 to 2002 has been constituted. The continuous growth of population has been taken into account in its recommendations. The new structure of the buffer stock is in its final stage.

SHRI PINAKI MISHRA (Puri) : The hon. Minister should yield for 30 seconds. Does the Minister recognise that 2 millions tonnes of wheat were imported this year? Last year 2 million tonnes of wheat were imported. Four years ago we exported sugar and 2 year ago we imported sugar. Is it not system failure. Is buffer stock not a system failure. Then what is it? Six months ago the Government knew that there will be a shortage of two million tonnes. Now the Government is going the make import. Nitish Kumar ji has rightly said this.

[English]

Now we are heading for wheat scam.

[Translation]

The multinationals of... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : There should be some rules to run the House. Please give a chance to the hon. Minister to given his reply. After he concludes you can seek clarification. Please help me. If you get up in the middle and seek clarifications.

[English]

The he goes on to another point. In this way there cannot be a fruitful discussion or a debate in the House.

SHRI PINAKI MISHRA : But he has yielded.

MR. CHAIRMAN : That does not mean that I should also yield to you... (Interruptions) Hon. Minister may kindly complete the reply within the time that he has promised. After that, some hon. Members may be allowed to put some questions by way of clarifications... (Interruptions) Let him complete... (Interruptions) Please take the House seriously.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the apprehensions of the hon. Member will be removed. Perhaps he does not have any idea about us. I have already mentioned earlier that this United Front Government will not make any compromise with any matter of corruption. I have already initiated action in this regard. So far as the matter of export and import is concerned I would like to say that when there is shortage

of foodgrains, then it is imported and if we have surplus we export it. Therefore, the apprehensions of the hon. Member are baseless and I would like to tell him that it is our first duty to provide sufficient foodgrains to people of our country by all means. For this thing we can go to any extent. Our Government can go to any extent to make available foodgrains to poor people.

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister of Food has given a detailed statement. I would like to add one more thing for investigation that the FCI officials, who sold wheat from Medaka, Swai Madhopur in Rajasthan, have charges Rs.15 per quintal as premium. The hon. Minister should also inquire into it as to what for this premium has been charged. In addition to it, I would like to say that at present wheat is being sold to the traders, so traders from Rajasthan should be given wheat in Rajasthan ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are senior Members.

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : When wheat is available in local FCI godowns then this Government should direct FCI that traders of Maharashtra should get wheat in Maharashtra and traders of Punjab should get in Punjab. It is not justified that traders of Rajasthan should go to Punjab for purchase of wheat.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we have been listening to lengthy reply of the hon. Minister but his reply is not satisfactory. His reply has given rise to many apprehensions. It has been stated by the Minister that there is shortage of wheat... (Interruptions) You can also deliver a lecture, who forbids you.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Nitish Kumar ji, you are a senior member.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Sir, the hon. Minister has stated in his reply that the Government is going to import 20 lakh tonnes of wheat. From his reply the gravity of crisis cannot be estimated. In spite of these facts the Government is going to control the prices of wheat. I do not know under what circumstances the Government has decided to import wheat. Now the Prices of wheat have increased in the international market and our Government is going to import at this juncture. I have cautioned the Government to be very careful. If the production of wheat has decreased then the production of rice has increased. Therefore, the Government should take people into confidence and make proper distribution from the existing stock. I would remind the hon. Minister that when he was an MP, we, under the leadership of Shri V.P. Singh, went to Bombay Port for Satyagrah against the import of wheat. At that time we warned the Government that if it imports wheat, we would not allow the ship to unload it at Bombay Port. And now the present Government is taking a similar decision. Mr. Chairman, Sir, this scarcity has been created by the hoarders. The hon. Minister has admitted that it is an artificial scarcity, so he should deal with this artificial scarcity by taking some administrative

measures. Instead of doing it he is going to import wheat by spending our precious foreign exchange reserve. This will ultimately affect our farmers during the next season of wheat. Therefore, in the end, I would like to caution the hon. Minister that he should be very careful so that in the days to come, there may not be any wheat scam which may put him in trouble.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is good thing that the hon. Minister has made everything clear in the House. It is true that State Government of Delhi is not responsible for this scarcity. This Government is allocating wheat and also providing wheat flour to the people of Delhi through Super Bazar...(Interruptions) I would like to know that if the State Government of Delhi fails to provide wheat and wheat flour to the poor people, will the Central Government make available essential items to the poor people through its distribution centres or through its mobile outlets? Are you going to take such steps?

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right, Please sit down...(Interruptions)

SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH (Meerut) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will take only one minute. My question has not replied...(Interruptions)

15.36 hrs.

(At this stage Shri Amar Pal Singh stood on the floor near the Table)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please go to your seat.

15.36 hrs.

(At this stage Shri Amar Pal Singh went back to his seat).

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Amar Pal Singh, you speak for one or two minutes.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH : Sir, I will take only one minute to make submission.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Minister, please be brief and specific.

[Translation]

SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH : Sir, in my submission, I had stated the plight of sugarcane growers in Uttar Pradesh. Mill owners are not paying their dues and growers have gone to the High Court. I had suggested that with a view to check arbitrary behaviour of mill owners, the khandsari units should be made licence free and they should be allowed the crushing capacity upto five thousand quintals. I would like to know as to what the hon. Minister is going to do about it?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Minister, you please continue to reply.

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister has told about Delhi but he has not said anything about Uttar Pradesh. What arrangement has been made for 15 crore people of Uttar Pradesh. We have been drawing your attention towards the situation in Uttar Pradesh...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Minister, you please continue to reply.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Just now, one hon. Member raised a matter of premium...(Interruptions) The wheat, that is sold in open market...(Interruptions) Earlier it was given to the rate of Rs. 415 per quintal...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : He is replying.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I think, one or two senior Members from the opposition party should also make it clear to their Members.

[Translation]

SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA (Udhampur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, just now it was said from the Chair that every one would be given chance...(Interruptions) It is not a good thing...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Either you yourself regulate the business of the House or you will have to rely on the decision of the Chair. I cannot allow everybody to stand up and ask questions. Therefore, excuse me. The hon. Minister may kindly reply.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will take one second only. My question is very important...(Interruptions) The prices of wheat are very high in the open market so I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether he would make some arrangement to provide wheat to the poor people through PDS in reduced rates?

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Chairman, Sir, just now one hon. Member has asked about premium. I will conclude in one minute. Earlier what was sold by FCI at Rs. 415 per quintal in the open market which was later on raised to Rs.441 and now it is being sold at Rs.490 per quintal. Since we are selling it in the open market, so we have reduced the subsidy on it.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Minister, I have allowed Shri Joshiji, Shri Nitish Kumar and Shri Agarwal, so their points should be replied.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have just now replied to the point raised by Shri Joshiji that there is no question of premium. No earnest money would be charged from the cooperative establishment but other institutions would have to pay 10 per cent earnest money...*(Interruptions)*

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister is not giving satisfactory reply to questions of hon. Members. Some hon. Members asked question regarding the price of wheat and availability of wheat but the hon. Minister could not give a satisfactory reply. Under such circumstances there is no use of sitting in the House. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister that either he should give proper oral reply or give a written reply to the questions raised by hon. Members...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT (Shajapur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, no clear reply is being given by the hon. Minister. Position regarding wheat stock in the country is not good. People are not getting wheat...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Minister, I think, you noted the points raised by the Ministers. I would suggest that you should send written replies to them.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : All right, Sir.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Joshi, I want to draw your attention. Please ask your Members to sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Nitish Kumar, you know the procedure of this House. The Minister has agreed and I have also asked him. The Minister would or might have taken down all the points that have been raised.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have raised matter regarding import of wheat. It is an important point...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Nitish Kumar, please sit down.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI (Allahabad) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, since we are not satisfied with the answer of the hon. Minister we are walking out.

15.44 hrs.

At this stage, Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi and some other hon. Members left the House.

15.44½

MULANA AZAD NATIONAL URDU UNIVERSITY BILL

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, the House will take up further consideration and passing of the Maulana Azad National Urdu University Bill, 1996.

[Translation]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL (Chandni Chowk-Delhi) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, all this has been done by the Delhi Government.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We are on the other topic.

[Translation]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : If it is all right, but those who were raising slogans...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Sivaprakasam is on his legs.

*SHRI D.S.A. SIVAPRAKASHAM (Tirunelveli) : Hon'ble Chairman, I would like to extend my support to the Bill to form Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Urdu University which has been introduced by Hon'ble Minister for Human Resource Development. It will be a welcome move to start Universities for all the Indian languages especially the ancient and classic languages.

Some of us have got a tendency to ignore English as a foreign language. But we must not forget that it was English that united this country to what it is today. Prior to English, much before Britishers could come to this country, it was Urdu that united the major parts of this country.

Urdu language and its cherished traditions of arts and culture have pervaded into the Indian society. Urdu literature definitely has its welcome impact on other Indian language literature. For instance, in Tamil we have an epic poem called 'Seera Puranam' written by Umaru Pulavar. Probably it is the only epic poem of its kind in any of the Indian languages about one of the Prophets. 'Seera Puranam' means 'great epic'. It is found only in Tamil language.

I am of the view that the setting up of a Urdu University can definitely pave way for the nation's unity and strengthen national integration. This would enable us to have researches on comparative literature. Interaction with other language literature would be possible then. This would enable scholars from several parts of the country to come under one roof. They can work together. This would facilitate the creation of an academic and research atmosphere.

While welcoming this move and the Bill I would like to put forth some of my suggestions too. I wish the

* English Translation of the Speech originally delivered in Tamil.

Union Human Resource Development Ministry take note of them.

As far as India is concerned, it is the southern part of the country that had social, cultural and trade ties with the Middle-Asian countries from the ancient times. The ancient Islamic and Christian worlds' ties with the southern India are not adequately highlighted in our Indian history. I hope that the establishment of this Urdu University would focus its attention to bridge the gap. I hope proper research studies on sociology, history and culture would be carried out through this University.

In Tamil Nadu, the districts of Tirunelveli and Ramnad alongwith Vellore and the surrounding Arcot region and in Kerala, the north-western coastal region alongwith the Malappuram area have got sizeable Muslim population. These areas have got ancient Arab world connections. From time immemorial they have had trade links with the Arabian countries.

In my constituency, Melappalayam, Tuticorin, Kayalpattanam, abirampattanam, Keelakkarai, Kadayam Nallur are important Muslim towns. Several Muslim villages and many famous Dargahs are also situated there. Nagore in the erstwhile Tanjore is a famous pilgrim centre.

I would like to point out one thing here. Unfortunately there seems to be a north-south divide in the Urdu speaking population too. The Urdu influence that came through Persia and the subcontinental regions that have had ancient Arab links are found to be living apart. This Urdu University can bring these two sections together. This will strengthen the Unity of the country. Hence I request the Minister to bear this in mind while giving shape to the proposed University.

It is appropriate to establish a University dedicated to the name of one of our great freedom fighters Maulana Abul Kalam Azad. While setting up this University, you may also think in terms of establishing Extension Centres of this Urdu University in both Tamil Nadu and Kerala. The proposed Urdu University's Higher Education Autonomous Centres should also be started in areas of the country where Muslims reside in good number. I would like to request you to set up an Extension Centre of this University in Tirunelveli, the town that is famous as an Education Centre. I would like to point out that Urdu medium of instruction is available in Kerala and Tamil Nadu. Hence it is needless to state that this Urdu University should reach those people too.

I fervently hope that the functioning of this Urdu University will bring together all the scholars and Muslims shedding their differences as Shias, Sunnis, Lebbais and Rowthers. Urdu language education and research facility would be provided to all those who are interested in Urdu. Urdu can play an important role in preserving the unity and integrity of this country. To that end, this Urdu University can play a vital role. So I express my support to this Bill and conclude my speech thanking you again.

SHRI SHIVANAND H. KOUHALGI (Belgaum) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I welcome the Bill presented by the hon. Minister. I am extremely happy that the government has named this University after Maulana Azad, a great freedom fighter and an eminent scholar of Urdu.

Sir, in this context I want to bring to your notice that there is a need to establish a university for women. Kittur Rani Channamma was the first woman who fought for the freedom of this country. I request that a women's university be established at Kittur, in the name of Kittur Rani Channamma who fought against the British.

[Translation]

SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA (Udhampur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support this Bill. I come from a State where Urdu is the State language. There are three regions in J & K. The Kashmir valley, Jammu and Laddakh. Though Urdu is the State language, 90% of work in offices is done in English. Nobody cares for Urdu. No efforts are made for the development of the language in the State. In last 50 years the strength of Urdu knowing people has declined. No development of Urdu has taken place since then. In the circumstances when the Government is introducing a Bill for the development of Urdu, I would like to know whether any infrastructure has been raised for this. The Bill seeks to import technical education in Urdu.

[English]

"The Bill to establish and incorporate the university at the national level, mainly to promote and develop Urdu language and to impart vocational and technical education in Urdu medium through conventional teachings and distance education system and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by the Rajya Sabha.

[Translation]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Urdu should be linked with the daily life and daily livelihood of people. In the State of Jammu and Kashmir the Government work on the courts used to be done in Urdu, earlier. All work pertaining to revenue is being done in Urdu in the State. But Patwaris are not available now. Urdu knowing people are not available, because people know that they won't get jobs if they study Urdu. I, therefore, request the Government to link Urdu with the daily livelihood of people. Then only this language can develop. From my experience I say that Urdu suffered regression in the State of J & K. We never considered Urdu as a separate language. Urdu and Hindi are twin sisters. But the way this Bill has been brought, one can notice pseudo secularism in it. While one Bill on Hindi was brought linking Gandhiji's name with it, another Bill on Urdu has been brought after Maulana Azad's name. This shows the psyche with which the Government proceeds. We

want urdu to develop but all work in this regard should be done honestly. Infrastructure should be fully revised and urdu should be linked with daily livelihood of people.

I fully support the Bill.

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, several of the hon. Members expressed their views on this Bill. In this connection I would like to tell the hon. Minister that Bareilly and Deoband are the two centres of Islamic culture in North India. Many a work is done in Urdu in these two places. Children are taught accordingly. If we want development of Urdu, we should pay special attention to these two places so that urdu can be developed in the schools at these places under the existing set up and procedure. I cannot understand how can there be co-ordination between Hyderabad and these places. I represent Bareilly. The centre at Bareilly and the Hazarat Alla family is known to all in the country and abroad. Had the university been set up after his name, it could have given recognition to him and an opportunity for the ideology to proceed further.

The Bill mainly seeks to ensure progresive use of Urdu in the industry, trade and other fields. But I feel that nothing of this sort is being done in that direction.

Is it not so that all this is being done just to appease some people. Whatever may be its real objective, I suggest that eminent persons who take keep interest for the promotion of urdu, should be consulted so that the University would be of maximum utility. The Government should have taken a decision only thereafter. Then only we could have given proper direction to this Bill and do something.

Finally, I would suggest that we should take into consideration how it link Bareilly and Deoband the two centre where an ideology already exists and which are known to people inside and outside the country.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Just remember that at 4 o'clock, there will be a discussion under Rule 193.

[English]

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN (Chandigarh) : I will take more than two or three minutes.

In addition to the points that have already been raised by various Members, I would like to point out two or three points. In this Act, there is no age limit prescribed for the Vice-Chancellor.

15.58 hrs.

(Shri Basu Deb Acharia in the Chair)

Mr. Chairman, Sir, now we are discussing the Maulana Azad National Urdu University Bill and I would not like to take much time. I would only like to add two or three points which have not been taken into consideration in the Bill.

Firstly, in the Bill, no age limit has been prescribed for the Vice-Chancellor. Under various Acts and under various amendments, the academicians have come to a point of view that no Vice-Chancellor should be appointed beyond the age of 65. I do not find any mention in the Bill about the age of the Vice-Chancellor. I would request you to kindly examine this point from that analogy.

Secondly, regarding the Executive Council, I would request that in such a University, which is named after such a big hero of the country, there should be a provision for the representation of the teaching community, of the graduate community and the experts in Urdu. I have not been able to find out if there is any provision for those people in the Executive Council. For example, in the Punjab University Act, we have different categories. Some people are elected by the teaching faculty, some members are elected by the professors of the University and some members are elected by the registered graduates of the University. I do not find anything of such sort in this Bill. I would request that do not leave the Executive Council only to be nominated by the Minister or by any highest dignitary. Kindly provide for different categories, namely, experts in that field. I would request you, do not fill this University with mere politicians. Somebody may be an important political leader, but if he has no academic background, with respect, I would submit that such persons should not be appointed to the universities highest bodies. Kindly make a provision for giving representation by way of election from teachers, graduates and experts in the field of Urdu.

Thirdly, now it has been observed, of late, that the internal autonomy of the universities is being infringed. We have come to know of certain cases where the State Governments unnecessarily interfere in the internal working of the universities. I would request you to kindly ensure that the Government does not have much powers over the universities.

16.00 hrs.

The final decision should be left to the wisdom of the Executive Council and other such authorities. The Government should not be given the power to annul any decision taken by the Exeutive Council unless it is very contrary to the Constitution of India.

About pro-Vice-Chancellor, I would like to say a few things. I have an experience of working in a University for sixteen years. I was in the Senate of the Punjab University. This pro-Vice-Chancellor turns into anti-Vice-Chancellor. All anti-Vice-Chancellor activities take place in the office of pro-Vice-Chancellor. Please do not proceed further with this idea. This will create a lot of problem.

So, I would request you to kindly examine this Bill from that angle. Thank you very much.

16.01 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

India's Stand on Singapore Declaration of World Trade Organisation

[English]

(Mr. Speaker in the Chair)

MR. SPEAKER : Now, it is already four o'clock. We will take up discussion under Rule 193 regarding India's stand on Singapore Declaration of World Trade. The Commerce Minister is replying to the debate in the Rajya Sabha. It will be concluded at 16.25 hours. So, at 16.30 hours, the Minister will be here.

Now, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs may lay the Statement on the Table of the House. It is because, this Statement has already been circulated in the morning. After this, we can straightaway start the debate.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): On behalf of Shri Bolla Bulli Ramaiah, I beg to lay on the Table a statement regarding India's stand on Singapore Declaration of World Trade Organisation.

STATEMENT

1. As the Hon'ble Members of this House are aware, the First Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organisation was held at Singapore from 9-13 December 1996. This Conference was held in compliance with Article IV:1 of the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organisation which stipulates that the Ministerial Conference shall meet at least once in every two years. There are currently 128 members of the WTO, in addition to 34 Governments and 49 international organisations having observer status.

2. The major focus of discussions at Singapore pertained to the future work programme of the WTO, including new issues. The new issues included:

- i. Core labour standards;
- ii. Investment;
- iii. Competition policy.

3. There was also discussion on the Information Technology Agreement sponsored by the QUAD countries, namely, USA, Canada, European Community and Japan.

4. I now wish to apprise the Hon'ble Members in some details about the outcome of the discussions at Singapore on these new issues.

5. In relation to the issue of Core Labour Standards, there had been a move by certain important countries to secure a mandate at Singapore for initiating a work programme in WTO to examine the linkages between

trade and internationally recognised core labour standards. India's position, along with that of many other developing countries, had been that while individual countries are fully committed to the observance of labour rights and promotion of labour welfare through their domestic policies, the issue of labour standards at the international level is a subject which needs to be addressed only by the ILO and that the question of use of trade measures to enforce labour standards should be forthrightly rejected. The same view had also found a mention in the Harare Communique of the G-15 leaders in November, 1996. I am happy to inform the Hon'ble House that a positive consensus decision was reached on the subject at Singapore Ministerial Conference as reflected in the following paragraph forming a part of the Declaration :

"We renew our commitment to the observance of internationally recognised Core Labour Standards. The International Labour Organisation (ILO) is the competent body to set and deal with these standards, and we affirm our support for its work in promoting them. We believe that economic growth and development fostered by increased trade and further trade liberalisation contribute to the promotion of these standards. We reject the use of Labour Standards for protectionist purposes, and agree that the comparative advantage of countries, particularly, low-wage developing countries, must in no way be put into question. In this regard, we note that the WTO and ILO Secretariats will continue their existing collaboration."

6. Since the Ministerial Conference of the WTO is the highest decision-making body of the organisation, the foregoing statement clarifies WTO's attitude to the question of Labour Standards. This has given to the developing countries a substantial reassurance that the Labour Standards issue will not be used against them for protectionist purposes, either now or in the future. The developing countries including India which finally supported this formulation felt that the same result would not have been achieved, had the above stipulations only been embodied in the Chairman's Concluding Statement rather than having been incorporated in the Ministerial Declaration itself.

7. In early 1995, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), which represents 28 developed countries, agreed to initiate negotiations amongst OECD countries for drawing up a Multilateral Agreement on Investment to facilitate investment flows. A few months later, certain delegations representing prominent OECD countries started suggesting informally in the WTO that instead of such an Agreement being working out by the OECD, which they may subsequently put forward for adoption by all WTO Members, it would be better to take up similar

work in the WTO itself where both developed and developing countries are represented.

8. The Indian response to these suggestions has consistently been that :-

- i. Any Agreements which are worked out among OECD countries concern such countries and cannot have any automatic relevance for all WTO Members.
- ii. While investment may have some trade linkages, it has much stronger development linkages and implications and the organisation best suited to analyse the trade as well as developmental dimensions of investment in UNCTAD.
- iii. It is for each individual country to decide as to what should be its policy regime for attracting foreign direct investment and no single investment framework can meet the specific requirements of countries which are at different stages of development.
- iv. If any attempt is made to liberalise the flow of investment capital across countries, it must be accompanied by an equally liberal policy for the movement of labour which is another major factor of production.

9. At the Singapore Ministerial Conference, the sponsoring countries namely Canada and Japan, with the support of all the developed countries as well as a number of developing countries, actively pursued their proposal of starting an educative process to look at all issues connected with investment, considering the trade and investment linkage. The Indian delegation stated unequivocally that we could not agree to any new mandate being given at Singapore to start any examination of the investment issue and that we would prefer these matters to be first looked into by UNCTAD. In my Plenary statement on December 9, 1996, I had clearly stated that WTO should confine itself to issues of trade and should not try to encroach on matters relating to the domestic production systems in Member countries. I had also stated that national investment policies solely fall within the competence of the national governments. *As a result of the strong stand taken by us on this subject, the sponsors and supporters of the move to start investment-related studies in WTO had to scale down their position and to go along with a proposal formulated by the Conference Chairman with the advice of the WTO Secretariat that the study could only be taken up within the existing framework of the WTO Agreements including the specific provision in Article 9 of the TRIMS Agreement.* Article 9 of the existing TRIMS Agreement in WTO (Trade Related Investment Measures) reads as under :-

"Not later than five years after the date of entry into force of the WTO Agreement, the Council for Trade in Goods shall review the

operation of this Agreement and, as appropriate, propose to the Ministerial Conference amendments to its text. In the course of this review, the Council for Trade in Goods shall consider whether the Agreement should be complemented with provisions on investment policy and competition policy."

10. Even in relation to any studies to be undertaken under existing WTO provisions, we insisted that such studies should not automatically lead to any process of negotiations and *that the decision to go in for negotiations at a future date, if at all must be based on the explicit consensus of the WTO Members.* I wish to inform the Hon'ble House that by specifying that the work on trade and investment relationship should only be carried out within the framework of the existing WTO Agreement and provisions thereunder and that this study should not lead to any negotiations without a fresh explicit consensus, India has not only fully preserved but further strengthened its rights regards any future work in this very sensitive area of investment.

11. The outcome with regard to Competition Policy issue which is also required to be studied in the same context of the *existing WTO provisions* can similarly be deemed satisfactory from India's point of view. In the final Ministerial Declaration, it has been explicitly stated that the Working Group on Competition Policy will also deal with anti-competitive practice. Inclusion of anti-competitive practices at the insistence of developing countries like India was made despite the strong opposition of certain developed countries. Therefore, developing countries will have an opportunity to raise the issue of restrictive business practices of transnational corporations, as well as trade policy measures having anti-competitive effects, like anti-dumping action initiated by developed countries against imports from developing countries.

12. In the area of proposed further liberalisation where some countries had put forward the idea of evolving a plurilateral Information Technology Agreement, we had taken the view that strengthening of the global information technology infrastructure would be generally beneficial and therefore, subject to the interests of domestic producers being adequately safeguarded, India could consider joining the programme of phased tariff reductions. At the same time, India had also raised the issue during plurilateral discussions that if the global information technology infrastructure was to be strengthened, the rules for movement of skilled persons working in this sector should also be liberalised. It turned out that because of both paucity of negotiating time as well as the limited coverage that India was able to consider, we did not join the IT Agreement, which was initialised by a group of countries at Singapore.

13. Sir, I do hope that the foregoing facts and circumstances narrated in my Statement will satisfy and

reassure the Hon'ble Members that our national interests have been fully safeguarded at the Singapore Ministerial Conference and that India has left no one in doubt about its principled positions on certain issues which we intend to stoutly maintain in the future as well. It will be seen that it was not India which compromised its stand in any manner vis-a-vis its core interests but the other countries which had been seeking *new mandates* in the areas of investment and core labour standards which had to very substantially moderate their position in the face of stiff opposition put forward by India and some other countries.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Shri Ramendra Kumar.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR (Begusarai) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all I would like to convey my thanks to you for giving me an opportunity to express my views on this issue. I have read the statement of the hon. Minister. After having read it, I would like to say that this statement includes nothing about the briefing of the Cabinet to the delegation that visited Singapore. I want to know what is the function of the World Trade Organisation? I understand the function of the World Trade Organisation is to discuss about the trade. If you look at the proceedings and declaration you will come to know that other issues apart from trade have also been considered there. Willingness or unwillingness has been expressed directly or indirectly on other issue. It has been mentioned in the statement of the Minister.

In Singapore the main issue considered was the future programme of WTO. Several other issues like Labour standards, wage policy, competitive policy etc. were also considered. I would like to say that the World Trade Organisation is deviating from the issues for which it was set up. It has started discussing internal matters pertaining to other countries. May be World Trade Organisation has unknowingly trapped into a circle. It appears as if the World Trade Organisation has become the supreme Government of the world. United States of America is ready to rule. Now whether we would decide our policy and trade of the country ourselves or it would be decided by the World Trade Organisation? Whether our policies would be dictated by America?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the main point is whether there was a consensus about the principles and policies of our country? Whether our delegation diverted its line of action? If you look at it, you will come to know that the delegation deviated from its decided policy. There is a tilt towards rich. We have always discussed about the poor. But the industrialists of his country have started doing this. This has been stated in the Singapore declaration.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, attention is invited to the editorial of Hindustan Times dated 14.12.96. We have always

discussed about the poor. They are not doing it and a section of industrialists of the country do not agree with it. They are apprehensive about the threat to the country by the World Trade Organisation in future. I would like to submit in this regard that in our country the foreign investment is only 2 per cent and the remaining 26 per cent investment has been made from our savings. We can discuss an issue pertaining to competitive policy or we can state that directly or indirectly it is concerned with the foreign trade but if all these discussions were held in the World Trade Organisation instead of our Parliament than it is objectionable. The discussion in this regard may be held after few years or who knows that this government will continue or not; what would be the state of affairs in the world? Today we have yielded a bit tomorrow we may do more. Slowly and steadily our economic freedom will be endangered. I would like to draw the attention of the Government what is their policy in this regard? What are the issues raised by our delegation in the World Trade Organisation in the interest of the country? I want to give an example. We export raw material at a very low price. The foreign countries supplies finished goods at a very high price. Can we discuss this issue in the World Trade Organisation? Can we discuss about these prices? In view of the declaration of the conference, whether the World Trade Organisation and International Labour Organisation will continue their cooperation in the present form because it has been said that the entire world would follow the norms prescribed by ILO about the labour standard? Whether their secretariats would discuss these issues? Indirectly it means that World Trade Organisation has started intervening in the functioning and the decision of the ILO. WTO is a super power and it is possible that it may amend the labour standards of ILO. What will happen then? Therefore, I want to say that our Cabinet has stated that they have not accepted clause about the labour standards but they have accepted this concept of labour standards that secretariat of WTO would discuss with the secretariat of ILO in this regard. Who is WTO to discuss with ILO? Who are they to say anything about the labour standards? Are they bosses of the world? Will they dictate their terms? Then our industries will have to face a closure. Where would our people go? America would decide about our imports; about our production? Should we handover our economic management in the hands of America? This is the main issue. It has been stated in the declaration that there should be two groups. What is the need of these groups? It clearly indicates that indirectly an attempt is being made to amend the principles of the country. It is possible that in view of the complicated nature of the issue many persons and perhaps our Ministers might not have been consulted. It is a new trend in our country that higher officers after retirement join IMF or World Bank. Whether there is an indication of this type? We are least concerned about the interest of our country. We should not only watch our interest. No qualification has been laid down in the Constitution

for becoming a Minister. Mr. Speaker. Sir. If I were in your position I would have moved a constitutional amendment bill with a view to provide qualification for becoming a Minister. Qualification has been laid down for a M.P. but not for a Minister. Member of Parliament will become a Minister...*(Interruptions)*

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI (Allahabad) : Anyone can be appointed a Minister even if he is not a M.P.

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR : Mr Joshi you have experience in this regard. You were appointed as a Minister for 13 days...*(Interruptions)* No Qualification has been laid down in our Constitution for a Minister. I come from Bihar. There, a secretary told the Minister that a note has been forwarded. The Minister hurriedly reached his quarter and attempted to locate "note"...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Ramendra Kumar, please do not refer to those.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR : You are a very senior M.P. I also have a bit experience...*(Interruptions)*

AN HON. MEMBER : What happened to the note?

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR : You are well experienced in such matters. What is the need for constituting groups?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Ramendra Kumar, please wait for a minute. Honourable Member should not read a newspaper like this in the House.

[Translation]

SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH : He was reading rates of wheat...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR : It has been stated in the declaration that there should be two groups. This is a deviation of our policy. Our delegation should not have accepted this. I also object the concept of constituting two sub-groups incorporated in the declaration. Our economic policy has also been discussed which is not in the interest of our country. The Hon. Minister is not present in this House. He is delivering a speech in the Raja Sabha. He needs to give an explanation in this regard. At last in this connection I would like to add that in any case or in any circumstances we can not give this argument that India was isolated and in order to avoid that isolation we had to deviated from our policy. Whatever has been concluded or discussed is not in any way in the interest of the country. Therefore I would like to urge upon the Government not to make any compromise with the principles and policies of our country. At last I register my opposition on these issues.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Mr. Speaker. Sir, this is a very important issue and I am thankful that this issue is being discussed in the House. Shri Ramendra Kumar has raised logical question about the economic freedom and about the future of the country. When a discussion was held about the delegation the Forum of Parliamentarians had deliberations in this regard. Shri Ashok Mitra, Jaipal Reddy, George Fernnades and A.B. Vardhan, Representing various political parties were apprehensive about the Singapore Conference. They had discussions with the honourable minister, Prime Minister and Finance Minister. We all apprised them of the concern of the entire National in this regard stating that the proposals likely to be moved by the European Union would be harmful for the countries like India. It would be improper to extend the jurisdiction and scope of GATT. There was no mention of such trims in the GATT Agreement. This has not relevance with investment and trade. We had reiterated that investment is a different thing and it should not be linked with trade. It is a conspiracy under which investment is being linked with trade. We asked as to what is the relation between investment and trade and investment and development. After a deep study it was found that investment had nothing to do with the development of trade except the intra firm trade. Where intra-firm trade is being carried out? This is being done in multinational corporations. It is done in those corporations which do not carry out their entire production at one place. They produce at various places and then sell out their commodity. In those cases there can be problems about investment and trade. They should resolve those problems under the normal trade rules. Why it is linked with investment? We had urged upon the Government that this is a very dangerous aspect and it should not be done. It is dangerous in the same way as an attempt was made after the Markesh Treaty to link investment, environment, social consult and labour. All these things have been mentioned therein. At that time also we had apprised that our delegation has not raised voice in this matter. At the concluding function of the Markesh Treaty it was pointed out in the speech of the Director General that this issue can be discussed in GATT and W.T.O. At that time also we were surprised why our delegates were keeping silence. This question can neither be raised to this juncture nor this can now be added. However continuous efforts are being made to link this question. Under that strategy multinational companies had launched GATT under which W.T.O. has been set up. When multinational companies of Europe, America and Japan observed that they are facing difficulties in the field of trade and developing countries are coming forward in various sectors such as India has progressed in the field of software and engineering; at one time America was leading in the field of automobiles but now Japan has also entered into this field; in our country patent act was enforced according to which we could produce only low price medicines as a result of which multinational Companies were unhappy and since 1986

a continuous attempt was made by them to include new subjects in the Uruguay Round.

16.22 hrs.

(Mr. Deputy-Speaker in the Chair)

The have tried to link patent, investment and labour.

[English]

'Basic Framework of GATT provisions on Intellectual property Rights' is a document in this regard.

[Translation]

Business community of Europe, Japan and USA had formed union of Industrial Employers Confederation of Europe in 1958. It has 33 member confederations of 22 countries. Its Secretariat is in Brussels. Big powers of business and industries of the whole Europe are associated with it. Some other organisations are also its members such as Federation of Economic Organisation of Japan. All the big industrialists and multinational corporations of Japan have formed this organisation. Their aim is to expand trade and watch the interests of Japan. Third organisation associated with it is American Intellectual Property a few multinational companies which are Members of this association, which are known to the entire world for their efforts to capture the economy of the whole world, are as follow-

[English]

Briston-Myevas Co. Ltd., E.I. due pont de Nemours & Co., FMC Corporation, General Electric Company, General Motors Corporation Hewlett-Packard Co., International Business Machines Corporations, Johnson & Johnson, Merck & Co., Inc., Monsonto, Pfizer Inc., Rockwell International Corp., and Warner Communications Inc.

[Translation]

It has been stated in this document that the exercise was undertaken for two year.

[English]

"This exercise was undertaken with a view to bring out in detail the type of Intellectual Property Regime which these three private sector institutions would like to be adopted in the Uruguay Round of GATT multilateral trade negotiations. It represents the culmination of about two years of close cooperation of the three organisations to develop private sector consensus on GATT provisions."

[Translation]

This is the secret of that document which is available to all. If you go through the document you will find that

the suggestions contained therein about I.B.R. and TRIMS are the same which were given by the Governments of America and Europe in GATT. A constant pressure was used on our country to compell us to agree with their conditions.

At that time all the suggestions given by them were not accepted in TRIMS whereas all these suggestions of Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights were included therein. They had talked about strong patent regime which your Government accepted. Bill pertaining to patents is pending with the Rajya Sabha as a result of which it lapsed. At that time also efforts were being made to enforce a strong patent regime in the country because big organisations of these three multi-national companies were striving for it as they were watching their interests. The same process is being adopted for TRIMS. Today multinational companies are facing difficulties in regard America and Europe has reached a plateau point with regard to investment. Condition is not favourable in those countries also. American Council on international and public affairs in their report has written that the situation is not very good in America. Unemployment is increasing tremendously and productivity is decreasing in that country. Scope for investment is very less. Therefore they intend to make investments in other countries in any way with a view to earn profits. About their aims and objectives report say-

[English]

"During the mid-1990s, according to the Bureau of Labour Statistics, America, 8.4 million workers lost their jobs. Of the 3.8 million who had held those jobs for three or more years, 64.8 per cent either did not find new jobs, or found only part-time jobs, or found jobs paying below their previous earnings."

[Translation]

This report contains all the figures about the growing unemployment in America. Almost same situation prevails in all the European countries.

I want to place a report of I.L.O. before you with which you will be able to understand the secrets for which these agreements are made and thrust upon us. This report of ILO-1995 on World Employment reads as follows:

[English]

"Between 1974 and 1985 unemployment grew markedly in the countries of the European Community following each of the recessions caused by the oils shocks, although it did not drop during the intervening upturns; it remained remarkably stable in the EFTA countries."

It further says:

"Finally, during the period 1990-94, the general recession affecting the whole of Europe nullified all the improvements on the labour market front during the preceding period; in 1994 unemployment returned to its 1985 levels, and even exceeded them, in most European Countries; under the simultaneous effect of the slump in the former USSR, which essentially affected Finland, the deep and lasting economic recession in Sweden and the Norwegian and Swiss recessions, unemployment rose sharply in EFTA."

[Translation]

This is what the ILO report says. This is not the report of any Indian economist or a politician I would not like to go into the details. It is stated in the report that :

[English]

"Thus the United States has created more employment in proportion to growth than the countries of the European Community, but this has implied a smaller increase in real wages compatible with productivity gains."

[Translation]

The document says that there is lowest productivity in America and lowest wages also. The report further states :

[English]

"In rather simplified terms, we may define three different ways of responding to inadequate growth :

- the American model : sharing low incomes by giving jobs to a large part of the labour force at the risk of creating a whole class of working poor;
- the Scandinavian model : guaranteeing employment for all under satisfactory conditions by creating employment in the public sector, at the risk of building up inflationary pressures and depleting public finances;
- the European model : protecting the incomes and working conditions of those who are in employment by reserving for them all the benefits of growth and ensuring decent incomes, through the costly unemployment benefit system, for a large and still increasing pool of unemployed.

The most obvious sign of the failure of the three models, American, European and

Scandinavian, is their management of economic growth since 1973."

• This ILO Report, 1995.

[Translation]

All these countries are facing economic crisis and that is why they are trying to find new employment opportunities, new market to sell their produce and investment opportunities. This document has forced two things on us silently. Shri Ramendra Kumar has rightly pointed out that they have asked to set up a study group. After some time they will say let us discuss same matters and still later they may ask to include them. They will do lot of arm twisting. Besides there will be many restrictions. They will even threaten us. Every effort will be made to keep a check on the trade of this country. If the issues discussed in the study group are accepted. Our country will be affected most. In fact many countries in the world will have to suffer the consequences. What do they want? They want that foreign multinational companies and the indigenous industries should get level playing field. We are demanding level playing field so that the disparities between foreign and domestic industries is eliminated and we get equal benefits. But they want level field in investment. This means that they want to make investment in whichever field they want, so that they can get benefit by manufacturing anything and can transfer the profits to their respective countries. I have a document which was adopted by the European Union. According to this document the income tax laws should be similar throughout the world. Similarly, the laws pertaining to investment should be same. They want one industrial policy throughout the world so that they can come here, manufacture goods, save income tax and accrue profits and transfer it to their country. What can the Parliament do in that case. If the income tax laws are framed by WTO what can we do. We are helpless. We will have to simply ratify it or support it. The country might be independent but our Government will be completely subservient to WTO. They will decide how much percentage of rebate is to be given for investment. The Government will have to agree to everything said by WTO. They will decide which type of goods are to be manufactured where. Proper sanction will have to be taken and you cannot refuse it. You will have to allow them. If the question is of economic freedom then it may be pointed out that in 1991 the BJP had raised this matter of danger to our economic freedom. The Hon. President Shri Venkatraman while addressing the House had said that there is danger to the economic freedom of the country and we should be prepared for it. We are surprised that even after so many Address to the Parliament, no effort has been made to save our economic freedom. The Government one after the other have sold off the country gradually and here is no way of protecting the economic freedom of the country. We should try to know the stand of veteran friends like Somnathji, Nirmal Kantiji, Basudeb Acharia and others who are sitting on that side. When

we were posing this move many of the friends sitting opposition had supported us. Shri Vajpayee had forewarned in 1994 when we were about to sign to the GATT agreement. He was addressing a mammoth rally in the Ramlila Maidan. He had drawn the attention of the House to those dangers which we are facing today. Many countries have criticised the GATT agreement and the Dunkel proposals. Many of those hon. Members are sitting on the treasury benches today.

I fail to understand as to how the Dunkel proposals were accepted. How did the Government accept the proposal of constitution of two study groups which will later formulate the guiding principles of the WTO. What will be the dispute settlement machinery. America says that if 3 more decisions go against the interests of that country it will withdraw from GATT. The WTO will be ignored. The situation today is that American laws supersede WTO, wheat has been accepted there? Has anybody raised his voice against super 301 and its elimination. Has anybody raised his voice for the labour movement so that there are no restrictions on it throughout the world. What does globalisation mean? Does it mean that investment be made here, profits be earned and our labour force, talented doctors, engineers and scientists be not allowed to move out. This is a strange market theory. I fail to understand as to how this can be said to be open market. Does globalisation mean only one way traffic i.e. only movement from that side. Nobody will go on the other side. This cannot be in the benefit of the country. How do we accept such a position?

I would like to know why this question was not raised when the question of scope of WTO was raised during this period? Why did our delegation accept these proposals. It is said that in cases of labour dispute the ILO would be the competent authority. They may take any decision in regard to labour scandals and therefor these should be accepted. Why does not the UNCTAD go in investment case and other allied trade related matters the UNCTAD, ILO and UNO are being ignored and only WTO will replace them. This seems to be the intention of USA. WTO will function according to the wishes of European Union, America and Japan. The other countries of the world will get ruined. There is no other purpose.

It is good that in regard to textiles the Government has expressed its concern. Nothing specific is mentioned about the barriers and restrictions on textiles industry. I have seen the statement and there is mentioned of our concern. Textile constitutes a major portion of our foreign trade. The interests of textile industry have not been protected and no concern has been shown. Another point is about linking environment to trade and development. Those countries have polluted the environment of nations like ours. Their technology has affected us through atomic radiation and the effluent of industries has adversely affected the environment in

our country. The way technology has been transferred during the last 30-40 years, even in countries like Greenland the percentage of DDTE is beyond tolerance. The population of Greenland is thin and it is away from civilisation. There are few industries yet the country is afflicted by this problem. This is the result of the industrial effluent. We have not created Green House effect. Infact this is their creation. They have disturbed and polluted the environment throughout the world. Not only this lakhs of fishes have perished on the seashore throughout the world because of the industrial effluent and chemical waste being pumped in the ocean. The balance of nature has been disturbed, be it ocean, air or water, everything has been polluted. Now they want to impose all environmental considerations on us and that too they want to relate with trade and development. They will not purchase our wheat, rice and fruits on the pretext that we do not fulfill the photo sanitary considerations. By doing so they impose barriers on our trade. They are responsible for polluting the environment but we are being blamed for it. All kinds of restrictions are being imposed on the developing nations. This is not appropriate. On the one hand they say WTO is an international agenda but on the other they say that every nation should have national agenda on environment, that is dangerous. That is not in our interest. This will destroy our technology because it will take use some time before we reach their level. They have polluted the environment and are now asking us to clean it. But they do not want to give us sufficient time and also want to impose conditions on us so that their trade remains unrestricted. Whereas restrictions are imposed on our trade. Recently, they raised the issue of exploitation of child labour and ruined our carpet industry. You might be aware that our carpet cannot be exported till a foreign institution certifies that child labour has not been engaged in its manufacture. Why? The Government is accepting all these conditionalities. Tomorrow they can impose objection on our Gems and Jewellery trade on the pretext that the Goldsmith working in his shop does not get proper oxygen and there is a particular type of pollution at that place. That is why this jewellery cannot be purchased. The entire international trade in this sector will be wiped out.

Lot has been said about services. They want to enter the financial services sector like Insurance and banking. They have also imposed a deadline that it should be completed by that particular date. When will they take a decision regarding labourer mobilisation or will it be postponed indefinitely. I fail to understand when these provisions are not in the interest of the country why this agreement is being accepted. Why has the Government agreed to the study by the working Group and the Government procurement price. This means that they would impose conditions on us and compel that if procurement standard is not followed, it would affect our international trade which is otherwise also declining.

This is evident from the statistics of the period between April to September. Why have the exports declined? I would have been happy even if our exports would have increased in proportion to the overall increase in international trade. This would have made me believe that this GATT agreement is in the interest of countries like India and it has benefitted them.

Now, I would like to point out the real intention of these MNCs and the rich countries. This has been their intention and hidden desire for a long time. They want to control the developing countries including India so that they could have unrestricted trade there. Our share of output in the world manufacturing declined between the Years 1750 and 1900. The same is happening between the year 1900 and 2000. The share of output of USA in the world manufacturing was just 0.1 percent in 1750 which rose to 23.6 in the beginning of 20th century. It has risen today further. The share of output of Japan and China was 3.8 percent and 32.8 percent which has been reduced to 6.2 percent. This is the result of imperialist policies and economic liberalisation. Our trade share was 24.5 percent when India and Pakistan were united. This came down to 1.7 percent in the beginning of this century. Even today it is around 2-2.5 percent. There is no increase in it so what is the use of this International Trade Agreement (GATT) for countries like India. How much has our trade increased during these years. Had our share increased from 2.5 percent to 10 percent we would have believed that these Agreements were of some use and they would safeguard our interest. But this is not so. The exports are declining, share in international trade is declining, employment is on the declining, share in international trade is declining, employment is on the decline and the country is in deep debt. Beside, this is the result of those policies which were being implemented by the Rao Government and the present Finance Minister is faithfully implementing them. I would like to know what benefit would we get from such agreements. You should not have agreed to the Draft proposal. The Government is following a policy which is detrimental to the country's interests. I strongly oppose it and this House will never accept it nor will the National accept it.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : WTO is an organisation of multinationals and a very strong public sector. May be China, therefore, wants to enter it. Why are you not coming to the conclusion by saying that our joining it has been a mistake and if possible we should come out.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : I have said it long back and my Party had said it long back.

[Translation]

The conditionalities of the WTO are not justified and if all of us decide together - because this it not the

question of one Party alone - if we decide that the WTO is detrimental to the interests of the country and therefore we should withdraw, we must withdraw. I would support this move. But we should have lot of courage to withdraw from WTO and I think in that case you should forget communalism.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : All of us together can do it. We had the muscle power ... (Interruptions). I does not mean that you cease to be communal.

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : When the question of withdrawal from the WTO is concerned Nirmal Kanti Ji says that the entire secular forces or the world are united.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : But we can all be together and fight them.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You will have your say on our terms.

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : At that time you say that you oppose because it is communal.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : You cannot escape WTO; you will be dragged into all this.

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : We should speak with courage. The rich countries had set up colonies in countries like India and this is reflected in what English Economist James had said in 1865. I quote from Paul Kennedy's book 'Preparing for the 21st Century.'

[English]

"The plains of North America and Russia are our cornfields; Chicago and Odessa are our granaries. Canada and Baltic are our timber forests; Australasia contain our sheep farms, and in Argentina and on the western prairies of North America are our herds of oxen; Peru sends her silver, and the gold of South Africa and Australia flows to London; the Hindus and the Chinese grow tea for us, and our coffee, sugar and spice plantations are all in the Indies. Spain and France are our vineyards and the Mediterranean our fruit garden, and our cotton grounds, which for long have occupied the Southern United States, are now being extended everywhere in the warm regions of the earth."

[Translation]

This is what they intend to do even today. Instead of Britain replace it with the European Union and MNCs. They want that we should continue to supply Tea, Coffee, Cotton, Sugarcane and Spices for them and they enjoy all the worldly pleasures. This is the mystery behind imposing this neocolonialism and a new world economic order today. This thing was said in 1865 and the same is rooted in their minds even today in 2000. Why are you supporting it. Why don't you provide leadership to the down-trodden people of the third world countries who are the victims of this international mismanagement. You should come forward with courage, show that courage which you showed at the time of CTBT and the whole country had appreciated it and it has given moral boost to the country and we were expecting the same courage this time also. All the political parties have asked you to oppose this. At that we felt that you would do nothing which would adversely affect the interests of the country. But I do agree with Shri Ramendrajji that there are officers in our country who are afraid that their prospects in IMF and World Bank would diminish after retirement.

SHRI KALPNATH RAI (Ghosi) : Of their children also.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : As Shri Kalpnath ji has said the prospects of their children will also be ruined. You please look above this bureaucracy and think for the country. We want such people in our country who have spine of steel. This banana spine won't do. We have to struggle and lot and prepare the country for it. I think it was an opportunity, where you could have given a message to the whole world that India is standing on its feet and it won't bend before any power and cannot be bullied by anyone. If we had adopted such an attitude, the whole world would have accepted the leadership of India. But I am pained to say that by accepting these two things in Singapore conference you have moved a step forward in the direction of shattering the economy. The other points which I have raised are also important but this point is more important. We do not think that W.T.O. was reviewed after two years and it was done in our interest.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I disagree with all the points of this agreement and I think that the House should unanimously oppose it and give a message to WTO that Parliament of India is sovereign. I had talked to the people of America and asked why don't you remove super 301. One of their publisher replied that it is there in their statute Book and they are sovereign and are public representative. I asked them that you are sovereign of 23 crore people and we are representing 96 crore people. Our Parliament is not less than anybody in anyway. Therefore, had we asserted our sovereignty properly, I am confident that you could have raised the head of country high. You have lost this opportunity. This have always happened with the country.

Country want to do any thing and the Government does against the aspirations of the people. I am sorry that this story has been repeated in Singapore.

[English]

DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL (Calcutta North-West) : Sir it is good that the decision which was taken at the Conference at Singapore by World Trade Organisation and to which India was a party requires a very close consideration. I do not accept the suggestion that India should have abstained or should have gone back from the World Trade Organisation. Such a suggestion was also made at the time when this House considered the issue that Uruguay Round of Conference when the Dunkel proposals were accepted.

We must not forget that in the modern times, no country can live in complete isolation from the rest of the world. When the Dunkel proposal were accepted and the treaty was signed it should be remembered that India was one of the 103 countries which were signatories to that Treat and there were not only developed countries, but quite a large number of developing countries also who had participated in the Dunkel proposals and even China made an application for an entry into the Dunkel proposals which were embodied, in the Treaty. So, in the World Trade Organisation, according to its Constitution, according to Article 9, the biennial conference is to be held and this was held in Singapore. One hundred and twenty eight countries participated in this conference. It is not correct to say that only developed countries were there. There were a large number of developing countries, large and small, which participated in this Conference. The World Trade Organisation undoubtedly in a forum through which the international trade is to be smoothened out. That was undoubtedly the objective. But, at the same time, we must not forget that in the name of economy, growth liberalisation of investments and trade, the developing countries cannot allow economic hegemony of the developed countries to be infiltrated into the developing countries. That should be the perspective when the developing countries like India participate in this Conference. One of the main subjects which came up for consideration in this conference was whether the labour standard should be used as an instrument or a device of protectionism. We must not forget that the economic growth of the different countries is unevenly balanced. The developed countries enjoy some advantage and a large amount of superiority because of their larger investments in capital. They can afford modernisation of plant and machinery because they have got enough flow of money. But, at the same time, in the developing countries, we have undoubtedly our labour which is efficient, but they get low wages for their labour.

If it is construed that in the name of economic liberalisation, the wage standards or the Labour Standards of the developing countries should receive

the same level and it can be used by the developed countries as an instrument for their protectionist policy. India has always protested against this. India, with all the other developing countries, has objected to it. I am happy that in this Conference, at least this position has been vindicated, has been reiterated. It has now been agreed at the Ministerial Conference at Singapore of the World Trade Organisation that the Labour Standards will not be allowed as an instrument for protectionist policy which the developed countries might insist.

In other words, if the Ministerial Conference at Singapore has any validity - and I hope it will - be acceptable because all the countries will observe this solemn assurance given at the Ministerial level as it is the highest body of the World Trade Organisation, that the Labour Standards will never be used as a protectionist measure. In other words, the developed countries though that this process, they can infiltrate into the economy of developing countries and because of the standard of low wage, they can plead that their economy also needs protectionism. If that is so, then the developing countries can equally claim that because of the advantageous position in the flow of investment, in the capital formation, then the developing countries also can require the same protection against the developed countries. Now, this position has been clarified in the Singapore Conference by the Ministerial assurance.

It has also been accepted that the low wage cost policy of the developing countries cannot be put into question by any of the countries. The low wage policy cannot be questioned because each country has got its own labour legislation, each country has got its own wage policy, the welfare legislation which is aimed at coping with their own problems needed, to suit the convenience of the labour problems and the labour situation in a particular country. No cut and dried policy can be framed which will be automatically accepted by all the countries. Therefore, whatever is the wage cost policy, that cannot be put into question, by and other country.

But one thing is troubling me. Although on the basis issues the Singapore Conference at the Ministerial level has assured that neither the Labour Standards can be used as a mechanism for protectionism nor the low wage policy can be put into question, yet there is one clause that there will be exchange of correspondence between the ILO and the World Trade Organisation. It has been accepted in the Singapore conference that if wage decision is to be taken. It is not within the domain of the World Trade Organisation but it is within the competence of the International Labour Organisation, the ILO, which has to consider having regard to the conditions of the economy of a particular country whether the wage policy requires any revision or not. The World Trade Organisation is not the competent authority to usurp the decision which is to be taken by the ILO. To that extent also, there has been a confirmation that the

World Trade Organisation, in the name of the Development of world trades, cannot intrude into the domestic policy of the wage decision of any one particular country, be it a developing country or not. But at the same time when we see the correspondence to be made between the ILO and the World Trade Organisation, on misgiving in lurking in my mind.

17.00 hrs.

What for is this correspondence to be exchanged? If the correspondence is confined only to certain matters of record or some letters, well, not much can be said. But on the correspondence which is exchanged between the ILO and the WTO, we enforce a very strict vigilance that in the name of this exchange of correspondence they should not enter into any consideration of any policy decision like wage policy or the labour standards. If correspondence is to be exchanged between the two organisations, it must be strictly confined only to documentary records and not otherwise. There should not be, in the name of exchange of correspondence between the two organisation, are attempt to formulate any policy decision regarding the wage policy or regarding the labour standards. The Government also should have made it clear that no such attempt should be made in the name of exchange of correspondence. I am sure, the hon. Minister will assure this House that this is what was intended when the draft was made regarding the exchange of correspondence between the ILO and the WTO. He should make it very clear and unequivocal that through this correspondence the WTO should not in any way encroach any policy decision on the wage policy or the labour standards.

There is another important area where the WTO has attempted to introduce multilateral agreement regarding the promotion of international investment. I agree that promotion of investment is not strictly within the domain of the WTO, but nonetheless the promotion of investment is a matter which pertains to the domestic policies of each particular State. The developing country has to decide as to what will be its policy of investments. The developing country has to decide how much or to what extent it can invite foreign direct investments. It is not for the developed countries which are the members of the OECD that they will formulate and dictate what will be the policy of international investment all over the globe.

It cannot be so because our country has its own economic problems, our country has its own economic difficulties and we are to solve our own problems by pursuing the policy of investment on your own. We cannot dictate the developing countries; we cannot dictate what the investment policy of a developing country should be. But at the same time, when we are to develop international trade, the restrictions, which to a great extent hamper the free flow of International trade, have to be to a great extent to be eased and smoothened. If the discrimination in tariff and non-tariff

reas, which often hamper the flow of trade could be wiped off or at least regulated, then, it would ease and smoothen the development of international trade to a great extent.

Any policy which tries to reduce such the degree of discriminatory treatment is welcome, but at the same time, we must not forget that there has been an attempt in recent times in the name of liberalisation that the developed countries, when they find that their market is squeezed, want to extend their economic hegemony in areas which have not yet been tapped by them fully in the developing countries. Attempts should be made that they are not allowed to infiltrate into the domestic economy of the developing countries. This has been accepted in the Singapore Conference very categorically.

In the Singapore Conference of in the World Trade Organisation, it has been accepted that if any decision is to be taken, then, it would require the explicit consensus of all the countries. In other words, whatever is the decision that been taken by the OECD and the 28 developed countries, they cannot be in any way be projected or thrust upon the developing countries. If any policy on investment is to be carved out, it will required the explicit consensus of all the parties. So, if any party, any developing country does not agree to it, it will not be binding. Therefore, this is a major step which has been taken to protect the interests of the developing countries.

At the same time, although the stand which was taken by the developed countries at the beginning has been slowed down, a provision has been made that a study is to be made regarding the promotion of international investments. I do not know how and why such a study could be made and why our country has to agree to that. It appears from the statement that has been circulated that the study would be confined only within the periphery of the WTO. Then, according to that, the study cannot expand to or embark upon new area of investment policy. As it goes on the paper, it is nice. But at the same time, if a study is made, a group of experts makes a study and makes some suggestions with regard to expansion of or the revision of the investment policy which will affect the developing country, then, I think, it is fraught with very grave consequences. Such a study should not be allowed to be made in such a case there should be a struck vigilance to see that the study which is made does not usurp or extend its work beyond the WTO level. If that is not so, then, in the future, we may be faced with a consequence, where in the name of a study certain suggestions would be given for the expansion of or revision of the investment policy and it might affect the developing countries. The next question would be whether to accept it or not. Our country should have protested against the inclusion of such a clause.

I do not agree with the suggestion that because of the economic liberalisation policy, our economic conditions are deteriorating. During the last five years from June, 1991 to May, 1995, or, rather June, 1995, it has been found that by pursuing a policy of liberalisation, our exports had increased to an unprecedented 26 per cent; in the economic development of the country, our industrial growth had increased and rose to its peak level of 12 per cent; our inflation had been reduced to five per cent; even though our foreign exchange reserve at the beginning was only \$2 billion, it had increased to more than \$20 billion. If that has been the result, then, how could you say that the economic policy pursued by the earlier Government has led to the present deterioration?

Today, what we find is that our industrial growth has been reduced from 12 per cent to nine per cent; and now it would be eight per cent.

We find that our exports have decreased from 26 per cent to ten per cent. We can only speculate as to what will be the position in the coming months.

The foreign direct investments have come down from \$350 millions a month during the regime of present Govt. to \$50 millions. We cannot say this deterioration is the result of any economic policy pursued by the earlier Government. It is due to the mismanagement of the present Government which has led this country to the economic ruination. Within a few months the capital market collapsed and there is no growth of savings in the country. The economic ruination will go up much further.

There is nothing wrong if the present Government is a party to the World Trade Organisation. We cannot live in splendid isolation. Protectionism is taken by the developed countries in a veiled form. As an hon. Member has rightly pointed out, the US has Super 301 clause. It is nothing but a blatant protectionist policy. They speak of liberalisation of trade, they speak of globalisation and free development of funds all over the world, but a clause like Super 301 in the US code goes against such type of assertions. In the WTO, India should have insisted on promotion of international investments. The US must delete a clause like this. That would ensure a real gesture on the part of the developed countries.

Sir, I must caution the present Government that so long as this Government pursues the policy which was enunciated by the earlier Government, undoubtedly we will support this Government. But they need not be assured or be under an illusion that Congress would lend its support to whatever the present Government does. On each occasion we have to test its action with reference to the economic policy which had been pursued by the Congress Party.

With these words, I support some of the decisions which have been taken with the qualifications which I have already set out.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this discussion is with regard to what happened in Singapore and how the representatives of the Government of India, in place of protecting the interest of the country surrendered before USA and its allies. But it should not be limited to what happened in Singapore. For the last few years attack of America and especially big producer countries is continuing on developing countries or least developed countries. A deep philosophy is behind all this. There is a famous document on which there was a discussion in our country three years ago. This document was prepared by renowned professor Samuel Huntington of Harvard University and its name was "The Changing Security Environment and American National Interests". I want to quote two three sentences because when we discuss the matter like what happened in Singapore, we should not see them in a isolated manner. Huntington has written about the policy of America. Huntington is an American citizen and is a great politician and a great writer on economic matters in Harvard University. Whenever he writes he does not write as an article but he writes as policy guideline and also places some facts with it :

[English]

"The West is now at an extraordinary peak of power in relation to other civilisations. Its superpower opponent has disappeared from the map. Military conflict among Western States is unthinkable and Western Military power is unrivalled. Apart from Japan, the West faces no economic challenges. It dominates international political and security institutions and with Japan, international economic institutions. Global political and security issues are effectively settled by a directorate of the United States, Britain and France; world economic issues by a directorate of the United States, Germany and Japan, all of which maintain extraordinarily close relations with each other to the exclusion of lesser and largely non-Western Countries. Decisions made at the UN Security Council or in the International Monetary Fund that reflect the interests of the West are presented to the world as reflecting the desires of the world community. The very phrase 'the world community' has become the euphemistic collective noun replacing the free world' to give global legitimacy to actions reflecting the interests of the United States and other Western power. Through the IMF and other international economic institutions, the West promotes its economic interests and imposes on other nations, the economic policies it thinks appropriate."

[Translation]

Mr. Deputy Speaker, the last sentence is :

[English]

"The West in effect is using international institutions, military power and economic resources to run the world in ways that will maintain Western predominance, protect Western interests and promote Western political and economic values."

[Translation]

I do not know whether your officers have given it to you for reading or not?

(Mr. Basudeb Acharia in the Chair)

17.48 hrs.

[Translation]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is a need of it because in what direction the world is going. America has chalked out WTO with great efforts by scraping GATT so that not only trade be discussed on international level but other economic and connected matters should also be utilised in the interest of America. Only with this purpose America had initiated to chalk it and the philosophy behind it was that of Huntington. With such type of statements that we have won and not lost, we are deceiving ourselves, not others because the world knows where they have thrown us. But the hon. Minister has given a statement and this statement appeared in Far Eastern Economic Review as an interview. The Commerce Minister of India Shri B.B.Ramiah say :

[English]

"An International Accord will give foreign investors and automatic right to establish in Asia taking away... Now, remember these words, Mr. Minister : "Asian Governments' sovereign right to vet investments." These words are yours and not of those who are talking about Swadeshi and not of those who are discussing wooly ideas about sovereignty because these days, I read in newspapers that many of the things that people like us are talking about are wooly, that we live in a different world and that we have still not come in terms with the new world., etc.

[Translation]

These were your words.

[English]

"Taking away Asian Governments' Sovereign right to vet investments."

[Translation]

You have further said :

[English]

"It is very important that countries are allowed to identify their investment priorities."

They cannot take away this right from us. They did not. You surrendered that right.

[Translation]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we do not say that you did not give a fight. Our people there raised voice, and we do agree that we gave a fight but our complaint is not this whether you fought or not but our complaint is, why did you surrendered? You said that you were left alone. But whether Singapore will provide leadership to Indian or we shall follow Malaysia or Indonesia and these countries will tell us in which direction we should go. Whether stand we do not know that on whose behalf they speak. Did they tell you and make you under because in the statement you gave in the Far Eastern Economic Review there is no such fact that there is no harm in signing it. Did they make you understand that this is not going to make any damage to your sovereignty.

Here the issue of isolation is being raised again and again. What do you want to preach us. India Knows what does isolation means, but where there is no question of isolation, we were talking about the leadership. You would not have been isolated but you have told the world that Indian has courage to face the philosophy evolved by Huntington for America, and this power has reached even in Singapore. What would have happened? If we do not know, you tell us some rules. If we had not accepted it then there would have been voting in Singapore. If you had been isolated in that voting then there would have been voting to constitute a working group to accept that declaration. If that would have passed with the majority, even then what was the loss? At least the world would have known that the Foreign Trade Minister of India can stand alone and has courage to reject it. We would not have been a loss. We would not have been isolated. After two years when this working group would come with its report you had moral right to say at that time that we had not supported it and even now we oppose it. You had an opportunity but you had missed it. What was the need for it. No body could have bullied you. As per original TRIMS Agreement, you had two years time. Then why did you surrender? There is no answer to this question in your reply.

I do not know whether you have gone to Harare or not but the hon. Prime Minister has gone there - although he may have gone there for picnic. The statement which he gave in Harare was a strong one. He said in Harare -

[English]

In the Press statement, Shree Deve Gowda Said :

"There was a broad measure of agreement that the Investment Agreement should be first studied by a body like the UNCTAD to understand the subject and its applications particularly for developing countries.

On labour standards, Shree Deve Gowda Said :

"It was not a trade related issue and, therefore, should not be brought forward at the WTO Ministerial Meeting in Singapore next month."

[Translation]

It was a collective opinion about G-15 there. Then why do you organise all this conferences? Why do we 50-60 people with families go there for picnic. Whether all these G-15 and G-77 Conferences are organised for the picnic of our families? And we finally surrendered when America threaten us to sign.

Mr. Chairman, I am speaking all this with a sense of deep anguish. I also do not like that I should speak in such a manner, but what should I do? What was the meaning of Harare. Today we are being insulted before the world. Who will respect us? America has pressurised every country with G-15 and has adopted many measures such as arms twisting and others. We know that no deals were made with you. You were simply pressurised. We have been insulted. I am not talking about what respect do we hold before G-15 and G-77 countries, but I am talking about my own country. We are not being respected in our own country. Whether Government has not lowered our dignity in Singapore? These people do not know what they are doing?

Mr. Chairman, we are astonished with regard the statement and you officers are saying that we have achieved much in respect of labour. I would like to say that the deal which you have finalised does not project our victory. I have some portion of this original draft which is about labour and has already been prepared by the Director General of WTO Shree Raneto Rugearo as to what is to be written there. I would not read it fully. Their original draft which they have submitted and on which there has been an agreement is as under:

[English]

"We are not putting into question the competitive advantage of low wage countries nor do we consider that trade solutions are the answer to the enforcement of core labour standards. We recognise the primary role of the ILO in the promotion of labour rights."

[Translation]

Now you see where the deal has struck. We agree that core labour is there. There can be no agreement in this regard which we can utilise to enhance our trade. You have divided us over this agreement. I would

like to know that when you accept it and Raneto Regearo has finally written-

[English]

"We renew our commitment to the observance of internationally recognised core labour standards."

[Translation]

Who has define it? Is there any foot-note? Whether you have asked which are those core labour standards, which they recognised in their commitment. Then there is original draft and Mr. Chairman, it is stated there-

[English]

"We recognise the primary role of the ILO in the promotion of labour rights."

[Translation]

WTO wanted this and you accepted it. They place this document before you. You protested and they deleted something and added something and what they added is as under

[English]

"In this regard, we note that the WTO and the ILO Secretariats will continue their existing collaboration."

[Translation]

Where was not collaboration and when it was done? Its your own document. It is your Harare document, where you have stated in no uncertain terms that you have nothing to do with WTO. There is no mention of WTO. If you had given this statement in this document, then why did you allow WTO to enter. You are saying that we have one with regard to labour standard and you have also accepted there that the WTO and INO will work jointly. Did your officials not tell you that how America is playing tricks in all this matter. They speak everything to achieve their objective. Whether it is not the repetition of Uruguay round. We do not consider services, intellectual property and agriculture and trade matter and separately we go on discussing all the things and gradually GATT will also come to an end and that is what which we never wanted and for which this country fought at every forum 3-4 years ago. We took refuge in all these things in 1989 and today again we are treading the same path.

Mr. Speaker, I would not take much time. There is nothing they have won with regard to labour standard. Actually we have been beaten in this regard and I do not know how we shall find a way out. As far as multilateral investment is concerned, actually it is not multilateral but unilateral because America says that it should have right to invest its capital in any country of its choice. This argument also is being given that TRIMS were

already there. We say there was no mention of all these things in TRIMS. There were two things with regard to investment in TRIMS. The first was that any country can invest its capital in other country. The countries in which he would like to invest would impose certain conditions - some positive and some negative. Positive conditions in the sense that there would decide the extent of capital to be invested, the area in which it is to be invested and the basic on which it would come into the country. In this way there would be some other positive conditions also. Some negative conditions would be in the sense that once the capital is invested, it would decide the extent of profit to be taken out of the country. The extent of export to be made out of the production made through the capital. These are some positive and negative conditions in TRIMS. There was nothing in TRIMS agreement that they would invest their capital in your country on their own conditions. Today you have accepted the amended nature of TRIMS.

Somnath ji has posed an important question here. There is no party politics in Parliamentary forum, intellectual property and patent forums. We unitedly discuss all the issues. We Take some decisions. Shri Murli Manohar Joshi is Chairman of this forum. Shri Ashok Mitra and Shri Jaipal Reddy are its founder members. Shri A.B. Bardan takes part in its meetings although he is not its members. There is no party politics there. We must ponder over the question which Somnath Babu ji has raised, because India should not be pressurised by anyone. This thing cannot be accepted. Now the arguments being given is that if we shall not march along the world, we shall lag behind and we need foreign exchange. I would like to know all these things from Government. Shri Joshi ji has just asked this question but I would like to asked this with some facts that the areas in which the export of India has increased during the last two years, five years or it is expected that it would increase in future. It is the current month document of centre for monitoring Indian economy (CMIE). Both previous year and current years figures of export are given because it is December and they have given the figures pertaining to the month of August. If you may see our export of items like vegetables, rice, wheat, fish and meat is worth 2 billion and 884 million dollars. This figure pertains to the period from April to August this year. This export is of agricultural and allied products. Our export of manufactured products, comes to just 9 billion and 767 million dollars. The term 'manufactured products' may sound good but actually it consists largely of 'diamond cut and polish' which account for 1 billion and 833 dollars and 1 to 1.5 billion dollars respectively. Child labourers in Kutch, Surat or Mumbai do the cutting and polishing job. If we add value Added to it for the whole year, the amount comes to a figure of to 1.1 billion dollars. all this involves hard labour. All this work is done at the hands of small children and also of some grown up persons. In this you have no competition. India is the largest exporters

of diamond polishing and cutting items all over the world. Redaymade garments, cotton including accessories account for exports worth 1 billion 260 million dollars, cotton yarn fabrics made up at 1 billion 240 million dollars, machinery and instruments : 429 million dollars. Where do we stand? Which are the items which will be exported from India.

The Finance Minister is not present here. I have read a sentence of the speech he delivered yesterday in Mumbai. He say that now they are working for those people who had no choice whatsoever up till now in regard to certain items. He gave two examples for this. What was the choice before the people previously? Ambassador and Ambassador, Indian Airlines and Indian Airlines. This was the choice. He used these two words there. Mercedes Benz in place of Ambassador and any big indigenous or foreign airlines in competition with the Indian Airlines were no where to be seen. His thinking is restricted upto this only. He does not know that there are people living in India who have no choice but to go to bed without taking meals or make do with whatever little food they can lay their hands on. So far he has developed no thinking for such people. Even as he was saying this, an interesting thing occurred. An international conference of Lawyers was held in Mumbai yesterday. Somebody asked him whether foreign lawyers will also attend the Conference. He replied in the negative saying that they should not come, they are not needed. He gave this answer promptly without exercising much thought over it because he himself is a lawyer and therefore does not want competition nor any choice in the field of law, and he is perfectly right in saying so...*(Interruptions)*

I am concluding. When I am Saying this I am addressed not to the Government but to the whole country whom I would like to think over as to how to get out of the tangle we are in. I am not saying that the Ministers sitting here or the bureaucrats will do it, nor I am saying that only Parliament can take certain decision on it, but certainly this matter should be put before the country for decision. Because, as Huntington says, their intentions are to suppress us and rule over us for ever. When anyone exhorts me to face them in any field, I get disturbed. What we are saying repeatedly is that only two biggest giant multinational corporations of America, No.1 General Motors, No.2 Exxon or No.3 Ford Motors. Out of these three, when No.1 and No.2 or No.1 and No.3 combine, their total trade turnover exceeds the national income of India. How can we compete with them or participate in the World Trade? The FICCI people C.I.I. people have always harped on the same string. But now they are repenting because they have come to understand that for competing in the World Trade we neither have the technology nor is there any likelihood of our ever having such a technology because whatever technology we have is by way of technology transfer and it is either second hand or even third hand and they are never going to transfer their latest technology to us. We do not have

the guts to steal such technology like Japanese were once adopted in doing.

Considering all these things I have to request that (i) we must have second thoughts about WTO and the matter must be taken to the public. Gandhiji Confronted the Britishers, their gigantic empire considered to have been the largest in world history, by taking the issues to the public and not in Singapore or Harare or in the Cabinet meetings or by having discussions with officials while gossiping or making fun. Now the time has come when we must go to the people on this issue after taking into consideration the country's independence, its sovereignty and all other related things. In the meanwhile we have to think over as to how to get out of the tangle created by our acts at Singapore for which the responsibility lies squarely at the doors of the Government.

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly) : Mr. Chairman. Sir, the questions being asked all around now are two. One is, "Who fixed the agenda for the WTO Conference?", and the other is, "Did the Indian delegation act on the basis of the brief received from the Government or not?" On both the count we need an answer from the Government. In the built-in agenda for the biennial meeting of the WTO, there were many items. The agenda items were to review the implementation of WTO agreements viz., (1) maritime, (2) telecommunication, (3) financial, (4) remedial measures, and (5) new trade issues. What came out of it was, three items under 'new issues' dominated the agenda. That was the major focus and that has been admitted in the hon. Minister's statement.

The second question is, "On whose brief did the Indian delegation act?" The delegation must have had the brief that the trade issues are our major concern and one such area of major concern was textiles.

There is no reference to what happened to the Textile Agreement. What was the demand? Whether we want to raise it or not?

Sir, regarding the implementation of the WTO agenda on the Multi-Fibre Agreement. There is no mention of it even in the Minister's Statement. Although Pakistan, all along had been with us and they wanted to raise the Textile question with us.

With regard to the skilled professionals, I mean the information technology professionals, what is given in the discussions on the ITA? Of course, we did not sign it. What happened? There is a causal reference to it to the effect that the movement of Skilled persons working in this sector should also be liberalised. But it turned out that because of both paucity of negotiating time as well as the limited coverage, India was able to consider it and we did not join the ITA Agreement. What happened to this demand? Who supported us? Are we isolated on this question also? These are the questions that are

being asked. What happen to our demand for manpower movement?

The United States were always sermonising about the multilateralism, liberalisation, opening and all these things. Have they opened up? Have they agreed to open up with regard to manpower movement? Are they agreeable to allow our own professionals to go to their country? What happened to that? There is no mention of such things in our statement. There are saying that the major focus was on the new issues like core labour standards, investment, competition policy, but what happened to our agenda?

Our brief was on the basis of our agenda. There is no mention of it. But we have heard that some neighbouring countries, including Sri Lanka, up to the last, had been with us. Pakistan had been with us on so many issues. Malaysia might have left, might be they had changed their position. But there are questions. Even at Harare, some people had said that Malaysia will shift its position and the warning was given to our leaders. That is on record, the Government of India knew that core labour standards will come. It is a new question? Did it not come from the very inception? Did it not come in the Uruguay deliberations? Did it not come in the Marrkash? We knew that it will come, but ultimately we have shifted our position. On whose brief? Has the Government of India agreed? Because very serious things have taken place, we said that the ILO is the only organisation and now we are agreeable that WTO will continue the dialogue with ILO on such questions. They do not consider it a climb down. They consider it a victory.

I am not so much concerned about what happened in the past. What happened in Singapore is serious, but more serious is the complacency of this Government; more serious is that they are failing till now the address themselves to the new serious developments that are taking place. Have they worked out any alternative strategy? They knew what was to come. They knew what were the deliberations at the OECD countries. But the Government of India did never seriously work out any alternative strategy.

Sir, we are saying that we have agreed to set up two Study Groups in respect of multilateral investments. They are innocent Study Groups. Has there been any such exercise anywhere in the world, leave alone the question of an international forum like WTO? We have been told that we shall never allow this study to lead to any negotiation. We have never mentioned about what is meant by this educative process. By this educative process, they are weaning away the countries from the Third-World. Sometimes they give something to them; sometimes they influence them in several ways; sometimes they influence their leaders and sometimes they influence their bureaucrats. We knew all these things. Now, they are saying that they will not agree to the recommendations of these Study Groups.

We have been told that even in the Declaration there has been a positive mention about this explicit

consensus. What does that mean? Internal implicit consensus is one thing. No one will object to that. Does that mean unanimity? What does that mean? This House wants to be assured about it. This Government is saying that they have agreed to this explicit consensus. But, Sir, different interpretations are coming. Some leaders in the United States have explained it differently. They said that even without caring for India, they can come to a conclusion just as it had happened in the case of ITA. Out of 210 items, We have been trying to stick to some 40 items. Ultimately, the agreement was finalised on 400 items. They said that there is no time. We said that we have no opportunity to consider the draft. Actually, we have been marginalise on this question of ITA involving of 600 billion market. ITA Where our interest lies have been ignored. We had the brief to raise in the open this question of skilled professionals and all these things. The Indian also we have delegation ignored it. There is hardly any reference to it in the Statement also. Why is this question very serious? It is because, the WTO was set up with the specific objective of using it as another instrument of nominating the world, to capture the market, and by TRIPs, our indigenous capability, our own technology and all these things have been controlled. One window was left before us. It was strange. As a national sovereign Government, we have no option. Left before us. Earlier we have a choice regarding the area of investment about the sector, about the technology, and all such things. Now that window also is going to be closed. What will happened to us? Will they invest according to our choice? No. It is transnationalisation of the economy of the developing countries. They will dictate everything. Will they come to areas where we need foreign technology? We should not be fussy about foreign technology.

We need foreign investment. But who will take the decision? Will it come in the infrastructure or will it be in the unimportant marginal areas where we do not require them urgently or immediately? They will determine everything.

In the power sector a lot of controversy had come. In telecom and in many such areas what do you find is that they are gradually trying to dictate their terms. As a result of this note only that our sovereign right to choose as regards technology and area of investment is restricted and we are going to suffer but also our domestic industry will suffer. What is the reaction of the CII on that Singapore Declaration?

CII in their latest Study, even before the Singapore Declaration had reached them, had come our openly that it would be disastrous for the domestic industry. FICCI, in the beginning responded as 'it was a welcome move with regard to the core labour standard and all these things'. Today, you find that their reaction is also changing after studying the details of the Declaration. We are not, ultimately going to gain as a result of this Singapore Declaration or the agreement. It will cause havoc to our economy. What is the major concern for all

of us? This Government is weakening its position as far as its economic sovereignty and authority are concerned. But what is at stake is its credibility. Will the people of India believe them that at Delhi in the Preparatory Meeting they assured them that as far as core labour standard investment, competition policy, etc. are concerned, they should never surrender.

With regard to our stand on CTBT, we take pride that even if we are alone, we have taken a principle stand at Harare, in this House and outside. Who has authorised this delegation to radically change its position with regard to core labour standard, investment and competition policy?

When I raised the issue, the hon. Minister of Finance said that he did not have the details about what had happened there. He also said that with regard to investment, our delegation was unhappy. The Minister of Finance was unhappy. The Government was unhappy. But what has come out in the Statement 'that it was a victory. Who has surrendered? The other countries have surrendered. It was not India which compromised. Then who compromised? Other countries which have been seeking new mandate have compromised'. This is very serious.

What is very serious is this part of it that there is no serious thinking on the part of the Government as to how to make the new situation. In what situation they have surrendered is one thing. The Government must explain all those things. But this climb down, this shifting, this change of position, this surrender, may be in the jungle of diplomatic or neo-diplomatic verbiage or whatever it is, but it was a surrender. We are more concerned about this. There is still time and this Government should work out, have a national consensus, discuss...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Rupchand Pal, please wait for a minute.

Now it is six o'clock. If the House agrees, the time of the House can be extended up to seven o'clock today to conclude the discussion today.

(Interruptions)

SHRI K. VIJAYA BHASKARA REDDY (Kurnool) : Let us take it up tomorrow...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : Sir, it was agreed in the meeting of the Business Advisory Committee to extend the time of the House till we finish this entire debate and the reply thereto. But since a request has been raised for the adjournment of the House, we can sit up to seven o'clock today. Tomorrow, discussion on foreign policy is there, discussion on Supplementary Demands for Grants is there, discussion on the U.P. Budget is there, and the discussion on sports is there. In the meeting of the Business Advisory Committee, it was agreed by all the political parties to sit up to 10 o'clock.

As there is a request from the Chair to sit up to seven o'clock today and also as the staff will be facing some problem in going back to their places to day because of the bus strike, we can at least sit for another one hour today so that we can conclude this debate and the reply thereto can be given tomorrow...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is the sense of the House?

(Interruptions)

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : Sir, we can sit up to seven o'clock today. Otherwise it will be difficult to finish all the subjects. Let us not sit more than one hour under any circumstances...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : So, today the House will sit up to seven o'clock.

Shri Rupchand Pal, you please continue your speech.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am saying that the Government needs make some introspection. They have to work out an alternative strategy on the basis of suggestions from different political parties.

Immense damage has already been caused and many more dangers are waiting because in the OECD Agenda, they will not limit trade to trade only; they will try to relate almost every human activity on the earth to trade. For example, social clause, which they have been trying all along from the inception and they have now, at least, been successful to make a reference to it. Now, there are question on human rights and environment question. They will repeatedly try to incorporate all these questions in the WTO Agenda. We must have a positive alternative, which will not only project our own interests but also provide credibility so that under-developing countries can be mobilised around us and we can given leadership to protect themselves before the onslaught of these rich nations, particularly the United States and the other OECD countries, which are out to exploit the market, to capture the market of the developing countries and to subjugate them in every possible way. My plea, to the Government is that still there is time to stand up: not only to try to compensate the damage caused but also to find a positive Agenda with which we can move on, protect ourselves and give leadership to other developing countries in the world.

SHRI C. NARAYANA SWAMY (Bangalore North) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, India's position at the recently concluded Ministerial Conferences of the World Trade Organisation which was held at Singapore is being discussed in this august House. India has been taking a consistent position in respect of many international issues. The internationally acclaimed stand of the country in respect of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty has shown that the country can take a decision on its own and continue the policy of non-alignment that it has been consistently following over the years.

Now, the Marrakesh Agreement has brought into existence the World Trade Organisation has implied the commitment on the part of its 128 members to certain provisions of the Agreement and under the agreement the Ministerial conference is expected to meet and discuss about the implementation of the various provisions of the Agreement.

Now, There are certain controversial issues relating to international trade, their relationship with international labour measures, the new and recent attempt to incorporate into the Agreement certain standards relating to core labour standards and relating to investment and competition policy. It is said by certain hon. Members here that India has gone back on its consistent stand taken earlier on various occasions relating to this subject. It is also a fact that we, having been a signatory to this Agreement are bound by the terms of the provisions of the Agreement, have a moral and legal obligation to proceed with the implementation of the various provisions. But we have to see as to how far these provisions have affected us or, in other words, how far the stand taken by our country in the Recently-concluded Conference has affected our sovereignty and interest in relation to the international situation.

We also know in respect of these trade treaties, the policies that we have followed, the trade agreements that we have had in the regional arrangements earlier and certain other arrangements with the countries which are signatories to the Agreement, in those regional areas, are allowed to be continued with.

It was opined that in respect of certain issues like the fixation of the core labour standards in this Treaty or in the recently concluded Conference, our country's Stand has not been fair or good for the interests of the country. But, on the other hand, we can see from the text of the Draft Ministerial Declaration and also from the statement of the hon. Minister that we have taken a stand much against the wishes of the advanced countries, including America, Japan and Canada who form the group of 28 countries and especially those who from the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) which, in 1995, tried to initiate certain negotiation for their Multilateral Agreement on Investment to facilitate investment flows into the terms of World Trade Organisation. This has been specifically stalled at the initiative of our country and may other developing countries which supported this move.

Issues relating to the fixation of Labour Standards have now been left to be decided by the ILO. It is also said that the interests of the developing countries, especially the countries like ours, insofar as fixation of Labour Standards is concerned, have to be protected and these issues do not affect the interests of the developing countries so as to enable the advanced countries or the developed countries to have protectionist measures against the interest of the developing countries. It is also a fact to be mentioned here in respect of other issues which are raised in this

august House, that a consistent stand has been taken by our country that issues other than trade-related issues need not be discussed and no decision be taken on those issues, apart from the provisions of Agreement already entered into by the WTO. We also have other sensitive issues like the Trade Related Investment Measures (TRIMs) which are to be discussed for further action. I still remember that at the time when we entered into the GATT and we became a signatory to that Treaty and later on also accepted the formation of the World Trade Organisation, we had said that we would not remain isolated in the international economic scenario and that we have to integrate our economy, especially in relation to trade and development, and commerce with the international terms and treaties.

18.12 hrs.

(Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee *in the Chair*)

We also see in the Draft Ministerial Declaration that the issues raised by the developing countries and also in respect of Core Labour Standards, have been discussed. It says :

"The International Labour Organisation (ILO) is the competent body to set and deal with these standards, and we affirm our support for its work in promoting them. We believe that economic growth and development fostered by increased trade and further trade liberalisation contribute to the promotion of these standards. We reject the use of Labour standards for protectionist purposes, and agree that the comparative advantage of countries, particularly, low-wage developing countries, must in no way be put into question. In this regard, we note that the WTO and ILO Secretariats will continue their existing collaboration."

The role of World Trade Organisation has been enumerated as a renewal of commitment to :

"a fair, equitable and more open rule-based system;

progressive liberalisation and elimination of tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade in goods;

progressive liberalisation of trade in services;

rejection of all forms of protectionism;

elimination of discriminatory treatment in international trade relations;

integration of developing and least-developed countries and economies in transition into the multilateral system; and

the maximum possible level of transparency.

Sir, as I already said, it also makes a mention :

"We note that trade relations of WTO Members are being increasingly influenced by regional trade agreements, which have

expanded vastly in number, scope and coverage. Such initiatives can promote further liberalisation and may assist least-developed, developing and transition economies in integrating into the international trading system. In this context, we note the importance of existing regional arrangements involving developing and least-developed countries. The expansion and extent of regional trade agreements make it important to analyse whether the system of WTO rights and obligations as it relates to regional trade agreements needs to be further clarified. We reaffirm the primacy of the multilateral trading system, which includes a framework for the development of regional trade agreements, and we renew our commitment to ensure that regional trade agreements are complementary to it and consistent with its rules. In this regard, we welcome the establishment and endorse the work of the new Committee on Regional Trade Agreements."

When we notice the overall composition of the Declaration and the stand consistently taken by our country, we cannot lose sight of the fact that our country has taken a stand which is in conformity with the consistent stand that we have been taking in these matters. At this juncture we have to see other things. It is not as if we are prepared to face a situation when all the terms of the agreement are becoming operative. Now we feel that in the context of our economy, especially the industrial growth there is a need for us to foster the existing core sectors from the onslaught of the new arrangement. So, we have to prepare ourselves.

Our senior Member was mentioning about the situation of the public sector undertakings like I.T.I. We may also mention about similar organisations. We have also to protect certain core sector organisations so that in the event of a competition in future our infrastructure facilities or our key industries do not lose their identity so as to be a dis-service to the country in that field.

These are certain aspects. I was listening to the hon. Member who was mentioning about the present economic situation. It is true that the present Government has been following the liberalisation policy that was adopted in 1991 and followed subsequently. At the same time, it is also true that there have been some instances. In specific cases I have observed that though there have been technological improvements in the quality of the products, at the same time there has been a negative growth in respect of employment in certain areas.

We have the National Renewal Fund. The budgetary provision is being made year after year. These things, the situation relating to the employment, condition of labour in view of the new scenario after liberalisation will also have to be taken care of. Units like I.T.I., H.M.T.

etc. have also a social cause to be followed. They are following the cause. That also has to be borne in mind while allowing for unbridled privatisation by investment from overseas or internally.

These are certain things which I would like to bring to the notice of the Government through you, Madam Chairperson. I thank you for this opportunity given to me. I welcome the stand taken by the Government.

I would also impress upon the Government to see that the industry and trade of the country is not affected adversely and that we have to take preliminary steps that are required so as to be in a position to face the situation that arises after the transition period.

18.20 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Ninth Report

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA)
: I beg to present the Ninth Report of the Business
Advisory Committee.

18.21 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

(ii) India's stand on Singapore declaration of World Trade Organisation - Contd.

[Translation]

SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH (Balia) (Bihar) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, today we are discussing a very important and sensitive issue. At this juncture, I would like to remind you of the international 5th Conference of the Labour Ministers held in Delhi on 23rd January, 1995 in which directives were issued about the Labour standards. The consensus arrived at the Conference has been given at page 34 of the Joint Declaration.

[English]

It is mentioned under 'Upgrading of Labour Standards'

"Opposition to any attempt to link ILO Conventions with international trade at all international fora. and -

[Translation]

Review, updating and consolidation of international labour standards within the ILO without linkage to trade concerns."

[Translation]

I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether he had gone through the phrasology of the declaration paper that was issued as a directive in the International Labour Minister Conference, before proceedings to Singapore. Various newspapers have expressed their opinion and a news item also appeared in the 'Business Standard' to the effect that India is deviating from its policies. A voice was also raised during the Zero Hour in this regard. Today also in its editorial column the newspaper says :

[English]

Message from Singapore .

"The issue of labour standards did figure in the declaration despite near unanimity amongst developing countries to stand against such a reference."

[Translation]

at the end it says :

[English]

"The run-up to the Singapore Conference had seen developing countries led by India reiterate that the WTO should not be allowed to take up so-called new issues like labour standards and the MAI."

[Translation]

Mr. Chairman, It has been mentioned in the statement made available to us that we reiterate our commitment to follow the important labour standards which have been accepted at the international level. When you reiterate your commitment then who authorised you, when and where, to constitute a sub-committee or a study group or a working group to review the principles of labour standards. I would like to know as to how he acceded to this decision. Was it the decision of any international organisation or the Council of Ministers or was there any indication of the change in this policy matter from Delhi. I understand no political party in this House is biased.

All the political parties are committed to the national integration, unity and sovereignty of the country. We would not make any compromise with the sovereignty. Under what circumstances he made this compromise? He could have returned from there. He would have earned more respect in the world. How did he surrender on this issue. He also surrendered in the matter of labour standard. About the extension of services, he stated that in February, 1997, we would discuss telecommunications and in April, 1997 we would have deliberations on financial services with a view to have a good market in this field. You have accepted a time limit. Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha both are in Session. Did you obtain public opinion in this regard? You have also mentioned in your statement that we

have agreed to a number of provisions as a part of agreement and decisions. You have agreed on the provisions of agricultural services, excise evaluation, import licencing etc. I would like to know from the hon. Minister from where and under whose directives the facts were collected and how he fulfilled the responsibility of policy making? A particular strategy is adopted while preparing Agenda for international conferences.

Madam Chairman, I remember, I had read in the Newspapers, when an International Labour Conference was held here in which the then Labour Minister and present Speaker Shri P.A. Sangma who was Labour Minister at that time under the Congress Government, had had many sleepless nights. Such disputed issues which are our internal matters and which are normals settled by us according to the laid down International Labour policy and service policy and on which consensus paper was got prepared by him after lot of initiative and lot of deliberations by several countries. You have destroyed all those important documents in one stroke without having any discussion by you with those experienced persons before you went there. So you are under a cloud before the nation because of that.

Madam Chairman, the secretary who had accompanied the hon. Minister for talks has issued a statement by saying that India has won. It appears as if the Minister had gone in the battlefield and have returned winning a battle hoisting the Flag and asked his secretary to issue the statement in the press that we have won. I would like to know from the Minister as to where we have won or defeated and before whom? When the House is in session such statements should be made first in the Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha and only then any statement can be made anywhere. Who authorised your secretary to issue such a statement that he has come as a winner and feel exalted by saying so?

Madam Chairman, the Foreign policy which we have been following since the time of our first Prime Minister, late Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru till today has enhanced our status in the eyes of the world and has all along protected our identity and defended our dignity. All countries bow before India in so far as its unity and sovereignty are concerned. World countries have lauded our stand all along. You remain stick to your stand on CTBT. We earned a good name in the world and in our own country. Even the common village people, the farmers and the labourers have lauded the stand taken by the hon. External Affairs Minister Shri Gujral that he did not surrender before the world and the way he presented the Indian viewpoint before the United Nations have enhanced the prestige of the United Front Government. What has happened to you in Singapore? If you were weak enough you could have taken Shri Gujral alongwith you or could have taken hon. Prime Minister alongwith you. But you did not achieve anything there and we became a laughing stock.

Madam Chairman, I would like to request that the House should pass a resolution to denounce and condemn the surrender agreement which was entered into at Singapore. We all resolve to denounce and condemn that agreement in toto. With these words I conclude.

[English]

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat) : Thank you, Madam. Singapore is not an end by itself. Singapore gives out or holds out some ominous portents for the independent sovereign economic development of our nation. It is not the question that who won in Singapore or who lost in Singapore. The question should not be limited only to the precincts of the Conference Hall at Singapore. Madam, it has got far fetching implications and significance. When the Declaration which was accepted, including by India, I think it is a green signal for something which we do not desire to happen in our country, particularly in the economic field. I feel that this is the green signal for the de-nationalisation of our nationalised industry including the bank, including the insurance and including other financial institutions. Therefore, it is not limited to the question whether by accepting this amendment or by rejecting that thing we have won or we have lost. What is at stake is the economic sovereignty of the country of ours.

Everybody knows that the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the WTO are the instruments which are worked upon to further the interest of the United States of America and its allies. Of late, the WTO has been forced as another instrument to further the cause of the global interest of the United States of America, not only in the economic sphere but also in the political sphere and also in military sphere. It is needless to mention that the United States of America have got a global strategy and they think that it is in their national interest to see that the global strategy is imposed upon every country of the world. They dream of a future, they dream of tomorrow where it will only be the United States which will remain a strong and a very prosperous nation. That is in one word means that instead of bipolar and instead of multipolar, it should be unipolar world and the United States of America will rule the roost. It is admitted by many including certain functionaries of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund that these organisations are being utilised and will be used for furthering the cause of the so called national interest of the United States of America and their allies.

Madam, India is a free, sovereign and a republican country. We have got the free choice of following our own path of development. We have got the inalienable right or choice of routes of development. Nobody can impose on us a particular route of development. On many occasions here, in this House, I have described in almost a great detail about the negative consequences of the New Economic Policies of the

former Government which, according to me, is a disastrous route, and it is a route which has been shown or prescribed by this trio. Now, this trio has come; earlier it was the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the GATT.

Madam, we have chosen the path or the route of planned economy. The planned economy has brought us some progress, though not, of course, to the desired extent; but we have progressed. India's economy has attained certain stability and India's economy has got all these qualities which can withstand the pressures from the foreign countries. The objective of planned economy is self-reliance, self-sufficiency, the right to choose national priorities and also to work for national prosperity. It has the distinct objective of distribute justice. The objective of the Planning Commission is not only development, but also to distribute the fruits of development. On another occasion, I explained with figures how these New Economic Policies or the so-called Structural Adjustment Policies which have been adopted by many countries in Latin America, in Africa and in Asian countries have produced no employment. It has been called a jobless growth. Growth is there, but jobs are not there. This is a dangerous route. To my great dismay, at Singapore, I say that we have further weakened our position which would ultimately lead us to a greater disaster.

Madam, the New Economic Policies and the Structural Adjustment Policies happen to be the fundamental basis of the economic edifice. In these policies, that is, NEP and SAP, the main foundation-stone is marketisation and globalisation. As a matter of fact, the WTO wants a borderless world where everybody, from every part of the world, can bring in their available and investible surplus. It means, that it would distort the development of many Third World countries including India. It appears to me that we are proceeding towards marketisation and globalisation which ultimately aim to deplan our plans.

We are going to complete eight Plans and enter upon the Ninth Plan and this planned economy will be distorted because the so called borderless world will penetrate into the national economies and distort the national priorities for the planned growth in the interest of the masses of the country.

Therefore, Singapore is not an end in itself. Singapore holds out certain ominous portents for India's economy. The Declaration mandates that a study of the link between foreign investment and trade be undertaken. Everybody knows that it was the TRIM which wanted to bring in these investment measures. We have objected to certain provisions of the TRIM. The House protested against it and they had to hoist their march, but in a different way, through a backdoor. These principles of TRIM which have not yet been accepted by India, as far as I know, are being accepted. This is a backdoor entry of the TRIM. I do not like to quote the

speech of our Prime Minister in Harare which is with me. He was categorical that there is nothing to do as trade and development are apart. There is no link between trade and development. India will resist all attempts to build up a linkage between trade and development. Now these are accepted in violation of the policy stance of the Government of India as pronounced by our Prime Minister. But you have not given proper respect and vigour to that Declaration from an international platform.

Again on the question of integrating WTO and ILO, our Government is clear, at least this House is clear, that WTO and ILO are separate entities and International Labour Organisation is the only authorised and only recognised forum to talk about and to discuss about the labour standard. Now we have brought through the backdoor WTO also to consider about the labour standards. This is a device which is not worth, to use the mildest expression. It is not very very desirable and I think it is undesirable.

Lastly, India is not so weak as the hon. Commerce Minister feels. India of 900 million people, with the quality of labour, with the technological enhancement that we have been able to achieve, is not so weak. We may be very much enamoured of Asian Tigers. Let them remain Tigers. But let us remain a peaceful, a progressive Republic committed to bring about economic, social, political and cultural advancement of the entire masses of our country. India should stand on its own legs and I think it is wrong if we allow the CTBT spirit to be spirited away.

Let the same CTBT spirit also be displayed in respect of the economic policy. Let the Government stand up to choose the right path of our choice for economic development.

With these words, I conclude. I think the Government should take additional precaution so that we may not be required to surrender again our national interests.

LT. GENERAL SHRI PRAKASH MANI TRIPATHI (Deoria) : Madam, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak.

On 13th of December, this House went into a turmoil. There was a lot of anger from across the House, from all parts because of the sudden turn that our representatives had taken in the Singapore Conference of the World Trade Organisation. Today, after we have read the Declaration of the World Trade Organisation at Singapore to find out what happened, we felt that anger was fully justified and that there has been a grave failure that we have gone back on what we have been talking of. We saw a lot of anger in hon. Shri George Fernandes. I am also very angry although I do not shout about it. But the anger is fully justified.

Most of the points have been brought out and I will try not to repeat them. But the one point I do want to say is that what we kept on saying before

- the Singapore Conference was totally at variance with what happened at the Singapore Conference. The anger was as much to the content of the Declaration as to the certain change or direction, certain change of attitude displayed by you once you had reached the Singapore Conference. This is becoming a habit. The representatives of our country, when they go to a Conference, are not only supposed to project the views of our country but are also supposed to project the power of our country, the capability of our country and there must be some correlation between what the Government say there, and with what they have been saying here earlier and what they achieved there. What they achieve in the international fora is the world's view about our country in the area.

Why are we so angry about it? It does not take India name anywhere. The declaration against all developing countries. But we are very angry because the Government, I and the country feel that we are capable of leading the least-developed countries of the Third World. In fact, we are not able to lead them and therefore we have an important rage about these kinds of failures. That is the first point that I want to make.

With regard to the International Labour Organisation, the point has been well made. We totally reject the view that the linkage between the internationally-known Labour Standards and the WTO has finished. It has not finished. If you see the first sentence and the last sentence of what our hon. Minister himself has said, this will become very clear that the linkage has remained and that it will remain. We also reject para 20 regarding acceptance of providing for working-groups to study the trade linkages with investment and competition. It is a sell out. In pure and simple words, it is a sell out. The WTO is not a research agency. It is not meant to carry out studies without a purpose. Why should a study be there when already it is provided for, that after two years, the work of the WTO will be seen and it will be further evaluated in 1999-2000.

What is the hurry? What has been laid down is not good enough. The same applies to the trade related investment measures. But there are one or two points which have not been highlighted particularly para 21 with regard to the Transparency in Government Procurement. It says :

"Establish a working group to conduct a study on transparency in government procurement practices, taking into account national policies, and, based on this study, to develop elements for inclusion in an appropriate agreement."

Really what it means is that we must get international bidders. You listen to us. Now in the Government business also, some outside agency away from this country is going to watch out with regard to trade transparency. I thought, so far, only we were only trying to see the transparency in our Government deals.

But now the World Trade Organisation is going to see this. This leads me to a point which is not very original but I think, it is becoming a habit. This Draft has just come to us this morning. There was a questions when you do not like it. Why do you not go away from the World Trade Organisation? Why do you not forget about the GATT and so on? Why do we have this Frankenstein? Can we develop a method to deal with it? This is to important is a subject only to say that this has gone wrong, that has gone wrong and gone wrong! There is a question of time span. First we get GATT, we get certain things in it which we do not like and we sign it. Then we come to WTO which is a child of GATT. There are some more aberrant inclusions and we sign it. This is a build up that goes on. How to deal with it. We must find a way to deal with it.

We are going to have another conference in Geneva in two years time. Are we going to fail the same way or are we going to set up a machinery where we can deal with it? There are many items. Let us not forget that the GATT agreement spells out measures in favour of least developed countries. "Notwithstanding their acceptance of these instruments the least developed countries recognised as such by the UN and for so long as they stay in that category while complying with the general rules set out in the aforesaid instrument, they will only be required to apply individual commitments, obligations and concessions to the extent consistent with their individual developments, financial trade needs or their administrative and social capabilities." It is laid down that the WTO is a child of GATT. It is not away from GATT. Therefore, we have to find out a machinery of dealing with this monster that we have got. I dare say that we need not confine ourselves only to winning cricket matches. But we are winning the cricket matches because there are professionals there who have proved themselves coming up to that standard, that there are no Under Secretaries, Deputy Secretaries or Secretaries playing in that team. There are people who are available in our country also. We have had a mention of the Forum of Parliamentarians for Intellectual Property Rights. There are many individuals who are equally, if not more, competent to be able to advise, to be able to see beyond the office walls and to be able to formulate a policy that we are able to tackle, these issues.

In 1998 the business will should be in two bits, highlighting and bringing to predominance the areas that must be with us. It is an amazing thing that we have an information technology suggestion passed by 28 countries, brought in the declaration of Singapore Declaration. While things like textiles, clothing and others are bothering us, nobody is talking about the reduction or doing away with tariff on them by 2000 AD and here you have laid down that the tariff should be removed by 2000 AD infotechnology items. What a dilemma!

Here itself in para 5, it says :

"We commit ourselves to address the problem of marginalisation for least-developed countries and the risk for it for certain developing countries..."

It keeps on making these noises. Every four or five sentences, I can read here where it talks about the importance of the developing countries and the least developed countries. But there is no concrete proposal. It is because, we are not putting any concrete proposals. We are only saying that 'this is wrong and we would not do this, we would not do that.' Why are we not putting our concrete proposals? Why are we not talking about the movement of skilled labours across the international borders? Why are we only mentioning it in this? Why are we not giving it a date? If there is to be a free trade, what kind of a free trade do you envisage if the borders are limited like jails to our budding young people? Why cannot they go out and save that free trade? Why are we not putting those things into the agenda? That is the question I have got to ask.

Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister to give a serious thought to this problem. We have to get away from the mind-set that we have to only resist. But in future conferences, starting from now, we must have a report in six months' time, that is, one and a half years before the next Conference, as to what the major issues are that we are going to put. And, for his, there should be a discussion here. We must have a strong establishment to deal with these existing issues, to do the homework. I feel that our homework is poor. It is pathetic. No sooner did we get to Singapore than we took a stand and we found our stand untenable because Malaysia has shifted its position. It is a amazing state of affairs.

Please get the experts of our country, take their services, take their help and in six months' time we must formulate our plans. While we are facing this monster, we must be able to tackle it. Should we decide to go away from it? Certainly, I would consider that that is a separate question altogether. But at the moment, my main grouse is that we have not been able to tackle it.

I think, this point has been brought out quite clearly that what happened in Singapore was not about a trade. It was about dominance and really this dominance must take another *Avtar*, that is, *The Economic Avtar*. The developing and the least-developed countries would come with us if they felt that we were capable of taking their leadership. At the moment, we do not mind isolation but we are alone because at the moment, with the kind of performance that went on in Singapore and earlier, nobody has any faith that we are capable of taking their leadership.

19.00 hrs.

We have to go about it methodically. We have the potential, we have everything. Therefore we must seize the opportunity this point.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE): If you do not mind, it is already 7 o'clock.

LT. GENERAL SHRI PRAKASH MANI TRIPATHI (Deoria) : With these words, I thank you very much.

19.00 hrs.

ARREST AND REMAND OF MEMBER

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members, I have to inform the House that the following fax message dated 15 December, 1996 has been received today from the Deputy Commissioner of Police, Special Branch, Nagpur, Maharashtra :-

"I have the honour to inform you that Shri Banwari Lal Purohit, Member of Lok Sabha,

was arrested on 15 December, 1996 at 16.15 hours in crime No. 214/96 under sections 143, 341 of the Indian Penal Code read with section 135 of the Bombay Police Act at Police Station, Koradi, Nagpur City, Maharashtra. Member was remanded to Magisterial custody on 15 December, 1996 at 23.30 hours."

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : Is it a matter of honour to arrest a Member of the House?

MR. CHAIRMAN : He has communicated that he had the honour. It was within quotes. The DCP was honoured by arresting Shri Banwari Lal Purohit, it seems! This is what he says.

The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow, the 17 December, 1996 at 11 a.m.

19.02 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, December 17, 1996/Agrahayana 26, 1918 (Saka).