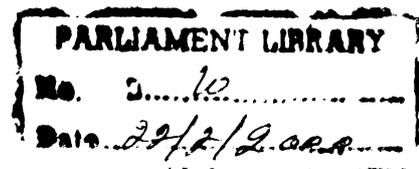


# LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

**Third Session  
(Twelfth Lok Sabha)**



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

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI**

*Price : Rs. 50.00*

## **EDITORIAL BOARD**

**Shri S. Gopalan**  
**Secretary-General**  
**Lok Sabha**

**Dr. A.K. Pandey**  
**Additional Secretary**  
**Lok Sabha Secretariat**

**Shri P.C. Bhatt**  
**Chief Editor**  
**Lok Sabha Secretariat**

**Shri A. P. Chakravarti**  
**Senior Editor**

**Shri V.K. Chhabra**  
**Editor**

---

**(Original English Proceedings included in English Version and Original Hindi proceedings included in Hindi Version will be treated as authoritative and not the translation thereof.)**

## CONTENTS

*[Twelfth Series, Vol. VII. Third Session 1999/1920 (Saka)]*  
*No. 12, Tuesday, December 15, 1998/Agrahayana 24, 1920 (Saka)*

SUBJECT	COLUMNS
<b>ORAL ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS</b>	
* Starred Questions Nos. 221-225	1-22
<b>WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS</b>	
Starred Questions Nos. 226-240.	22-59
Unstarred Questions Nos. 2483-2712	59-318
<b>STATEMENT BY PRIME MINISTER</b>	
Bilateral Talks with United States	318-322
<b>PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE</b>	
	323-328
<b>ESTIMATES COMMITTEE</b>	
Third Report	328
<b>STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS</b>	
(i) Grant of Out-of-Turn Allotment of Gas/Telephone Connections by Members of Parliament	
Shri Madan Lal Khurana	328-329
(ii) Incidents related to the screening of film 'Fire'	
Shri L.K. Advani	365-367
<b>SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (RAILWAY) (1998-99)</b>	
	330
<b>BILL INTRODUCED</b>	
Insurance Regulatory Authority Bill	331-350
<b>MATTERS UNDER RULE 377</b>	
(i) Need to ensure early functioning of Ahmedabad Railway Division	
Shri Harin Pathak.	354-355
(ii) Need to ensure early completion of the bypass on National Highway No.7 at Jabalpur in Madhya Pradesh	
Shri Dada Baburao Paranjpe	358-359
(iii) Need to ensure facilities to the workers engaged by contractors in Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited at par with permanent workers of the company	
Shri Rajendra Agnihotri	359
(iv) Need to involve local representatives in development activities for removal of poverty in KBK districts of Orissa	
Shri Khagapati Pradhani	359

---

\* The sing + marked above the name of Member indicates that the question was actually asked on the floor of the House by that Member

SUBJECT	COLUMNS
(v) Need to release two thousand crores of rupees to State Government of Karnataka to meet the damage caused due to heavy rains in the State Shri K.H. Muniyappa	360
(vi) Need for early reconstitution of Haj Committee Shri Mohd. Ali Ashraf Fatmi .	360
(vii) Need to direct State Government of Bihar for early election to Panchayats in the State Shri Shakuni Chaudhary	360-361
(viii) Need for regular payment of salary to municipality employees in Assam Shri Nepal Chandra Das	361
<b>DISCUSSIONS UNDER RULE 193</b>	<b>369-434</b>
<b>ATROCITIES COMMITTED ON MINORITIES IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE COUNTRY</b>	
Shri Madhukar Sirpotdar	369-383
Shri T.R. Baalu	383-387
Shri Purno A. Sangma	387-394
Kumari Uma Bharati	394-401
Shri G.M. Banatwala	401-404
Shri P.C. Thomas .	404-407
Prof. Saifuddin Soz	407-411
Shri Amar Roy Pradhan	415-416
Shri Harin Pathak	416-419
Shri Jochim Baxla	419-420
Shri N. Dennis	420-422
Shri P.R. Kyndiah	422-423
Shrimati Bhavana Kardam Dave .	423-425
Prof. A.K. Premajam .	425-426
Shri Shakuni Choudhary	426-429
Shri Hira Lal Roy	429-430
Shri V.M. Sudheeran	430-431
Shri Motilal Vora	431-432
Shri B.M. Mensinkai	432-433
Shri Francisco Sardinha .	433-434

# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## LOK SABHA

Tuesday, December 15, 1998/Agrahayana 24, 1920 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at  
Eleven of the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

#### Indo-Oman Project

+  
\*221. SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA :

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of CHEMICAL AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have accepted terms of bankers for Indo-Oman project;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Fertilizer Secretary had visited Oman in regard to inquiries into the Oman Fertilizer Project;
- (d) if so, the outcome thereof;
- (e) whether the present Government is in favour of setting up of joint venture projects in the countries where abundant supply of cheap gas is available; and
- (f) if so, the latest position in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICAL AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA) : (a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) and (b) Government has approved investment by Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Limited (RCF) and Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited (KRIBHCO), the two Indian Sponsors, in the Oman India Fertilizer Project in December, 1997. No proposal has been received from the Indian Sponsors to revise the investment approval as the terms and conditions suggested by the consortium of banks mandated to arrange debt for the project—mainly revision in the debt equity ratio and increase in debt service reserve account — are under discussion between the arranging banks and the Indian and Omani Sponsors.

(c) and (d) The Union Fertilizer Secretary has not visited Oman to conduct enquiries in regard to matters relating to the Oman India Fertilizer Project.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Two joint venture projects abroad for manufacture of fertilizers/intermediates are under operation, two such projects are being implemented by private sector companies and two are at the planning stage.

SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have seen that the use of fertilizers per hectare in this country is much less compared to other developing and developed countries. It tells on the production of foodgrains, the prices of which are sky-rocketing everyday. I am sure that this is reflecting on our economy because inflation for the last one year has nearly doubled. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to when the idea started off about this project between Oman and India. Secondly, how much money has been spent by the Government on this project in terms of feasibility report and other things so far? When do you think the Government will complete the stage of discussion and start this project? And lastly, what will be the cost of urea per tonne after the project is completed vis-a-vis the present price per tonne of urea?

SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA : Sir, the hon. Member has asked several questions in one supplementary. The idea originated long back and the MoU was signed in July 1994 between the Government of India and the Sultanate of Oman — RCF, KRIBHCO and OOC. Thereafter, the Government approved the RCF and KRIBHCO for entering into a Joint Venture Agreement in April 1997. The Joint Venture Agreement was signed in April 1997 and the Government's approval to RCF and KRIBHCO for investment was given in December 1997. The Government is not a party as such, but these two Indian companies are parties from our side and the Oman Oil Company is the party from the other side. So, the Government is not spending anything on this. The companies are spending money on it and they expect that by 2002 the project will be on line.

SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA : Sir, he has not answered my relevant question.

MR. SPEAKER : You ask a supplementary.

SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA : What is the cost of urea per tonne today and what will be the cost after this project is completed? I would like to ask another question also.

SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA : Today, there is no production of urea as the plant has not yet started. It is not on line as yet.

SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA : I know that. I am talking about the country. What is cost of urea per tonne today and what will be the cost of urea per tonne after this project is completed?

SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA : The project is likely to be completed in about four years from now onwards. And nobody can predict the price of urea at that time.

SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA : What is called the feasibility report? What is the meaning of feasibility? It may not be *in toto* but the point is, they have to know what will be the cost.

MR. SPEAKER : What is your supplementary?

SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA : My supplementary is this. What is the cost now and what will be the cost later? If the Government has taken four years only for the stage of discussion, you can imagine how long it will take to bring this project. I am sure that this project will never come and it will not see the light of the day.

SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA : As I said earlier, the project is likely to be completed by 2002. That is what is expected. Nobody can predict the international price prevailing at that time because prices are going up and down everyday.

SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA : Sir, the hon. Minister has still not answered my question. Let me know what is the price today. I do not know why he is evading the answer.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Sir, I had written a letter to the hon. Minister regarding the Oman Project. The then Leader of Opposition and now the Prime Minister himself, Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi, Shri Arunachalam, Shri Chidambaram and a number of others had written about the complications or rather something fishy about this Project. Now, after taking over office, Shri Barnala had issued a statement also on 22nd March, 1998 in which he said that he would look into it. Then I wrote those letters to the Prime Minister and Shri Barnala also regarding what has happened now, how they are going to approve it, whether there has been a plea by one of the participants to reduce this already calculated expenditure by 100 million dollars or not. If things are going on and it is being delayed like this, then what is going to happen? Why did you retrace back your step when you said that you are going to look into it? You have to probe into it. What was happening at that time when the Prime Minister had written, when you had written, when Dr. Murl Manohar Joshi had written and when everybody had written about that? What has happened to that?

SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA : Sir, the hon. Member had written a letter to the Prime Minister on 27th June, 1998 regarding this and a reply was sent to the hon. Member by me on 28th October, 1998. In this respect, I had mentioned like this in the long reply which I had sent:

"In view of the foregoing, a revaluation of the engineering, procurement and construction (contract based) for Oman India Fertilizer Project is not called for. Any action on our part that may shake the confidence of the international leading community in this project which has been taken up in pursuance of the Government policy of promoting fertilizer joint

ventures in countries with abundant resources of endowments would not be in the national interest."

I had written this reply to the hon. Member at that time.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : Was there a demand for revaluation by Shri Atal Behari Vajpayee in the capacity of the Leader of Opposition of Lok Sabha? What exactly has the Government done about it?

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Secondly, I would like to know whether anybody has written about reduction of the amount to be spent on this Project.

SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA : At that time, when these letters from various political leaders were received, they were referred to the Joint Committee dealing with joint ventures and it was examined at various levels. Thereafter, it came to the Cabinet. The Cabinet also considered it and decided that the venture should go on as it is and that there is no need of any interference at this stage.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : You have not still replied whether anybody had asked for reduction in the investment, whether it is still viable or not and whether you are holding 100 per cent control over it or not. What about the visit of the Secretaries and others to Oman? What have they done so far?

SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA : None of the two Indian Companies has written anything regarding reduction, etc.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAKUNI CHOUDHARY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I want to know from the hon. Minister the quantity of urea being produced presently in our fertilizer factories? How much is our requirement and how much urea is required from other countries? What is the present price of urea being produced in our country? .... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please understand that this is a question regarding Indo-Oman Project.

....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHAKUNI CHOUDHARY : My question is that the factory which we are going to set up with Oman collaboration....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : This is not relevant to the present question.

SHRI LAKSHAMAN CHANDRA SETH : Sir, comparing the rest of India, in West Bengal, fertilizer consumption is increasing day by day. In West Bengal, consumption of urea is about 9 lakhs tonnes a year. But in West Bengal, so far, there is no fertilizer factory ....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please understand that this question is relating to the Indo-Oman Project, not about any fertilizer factory.

SHRI LAKSHAMAN CHANDRA SETH : I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is considering the proposal is given by a private sector company to set up a urea factory at Haldia in collaboration with the West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation. I would also like to know whether the Government is considering the revival of the Haldia unit of the HFC  
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Lakshman Chandra Seth, please take your seat. Mr. Minister, you need not answer this question. I will not allow such kind of supplementaries.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI LAKSHAMAN CHANDRA SETH : I want to know about the joint venture company. It is a related question....(Interruptions)

#### Employment to Disabled

+  
\*222. VAIDYA VISHNU DATT :

SHRI C. D. GAMIT :

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

(a) whether the Government have issued any orders to various Ministries/departments/agencies to give priority in employment to the disabled;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and;

(c) the details of the action taken by the Government in providing employment to disabled in J&K as compared to other States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) to (c) A statement is enclosed.

#### Statement

(a) to (c) The Government has taken steps to provide employment to persons with disabilities in the Government Sector as follows:-

(i) Section 33 of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Participation) Act, 1995 contains a provision that the appropriate Government shall appoint in every establishment not less than 3% of persons with disability of which 1% each shall be reserved for suffering from:-

(a) blindness or low vision;

(b) hearing impairment; and

(c) locomotor disability or cerebral palsy.

In the post identified for each disability, 3% reservation in Group 'C' and 'D' for handicapped persons had already been there even before the Act came into force. In pursuance of this provision, extension for 3% reservation in Group 'A' and 'B' posts under the Central Government for physically handicapped persons - 1% each for visually, hearing and orthopaedically handicapped have been notified by DOPT's circular No. 36035/16/91- Estt (SCT) dated 18.2.1997.

(ii) 50 Special Employment Exchanges and 39 Special Cells for the handicapped persons have been set up exclusively to help the handicapped persons in getting gainful employment. Besides, the Normal Employment Exchanges also help the handicapped persons in finding suitable employment.

(iii) Chapter I, Section 1, Clause 2 - of the Act, states that it extends to the whole of India except State of Jammu & Kashmir.

[Translation]

VAIDYA VISHNU DATT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the written answer it has been stated that this Act does not extend to Jammu-Kashmir State. I want to say that this should be implemented strongly in Jammu-Kashmir State also and a letter should be written to the State Government asking them to provide the facility to the people after making necessary amendments in the Act because handicapped people these are helpless, they do not get reservation.

[English]

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI : Sir, we have written to the State of Jammu & Kashmir. I am happy to tell you that on the 20th July, 1998, they had passed a Notification reserving three per cent for the disabled. Therefore, now the entire India is under the same Act.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Vaidya, do you want to put the second supplementary?... There is no second supplementary.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the handicapped in the country account for really seven crore people, that is, around eight per cent of the population. But the reservation is only three per cent. Will the Minister appreciate the need for raising the percentage of reservation? Does the Minister realise that even this three per cent reservation has been more honoured in breach than in observance? It is a dead letter. It is only on paper. Will the Minister take stringent action in the matter?...  
(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI : I fully appreciate the need to employ more of the disabled both in the Government and non-Government sectors. Regarding the employment of the three per cent itself, they are divided into the categories of A, B, C and D. Of the C and D category, we have employed them and we have over-fulfilled the three per cent requirement. It is about 8.7 percent for the C category and 13.65 for the D category against the identified posts in 31 Ministries. While I appreciate the hon. Member's suggestion that we should move it up from three per cent to eight per cent, the fact is that in A and B categories, we still have not been able to fulfill even the three per cent in spite of repeated reminders and in spite of a lot of action being taken with the Department of Personnel and Training.

Now, what we have done is that on 11th September, 1998 we have set up an Expert Committee. For the first time, we have appointed a Chief Commissioner for persons with disabilities to identify more posts that are suitable for them so that we can actually not only increase but fulfil three per cent reservation that has not been fulfilled in A and B categories. The actual fact is that a large number of people have been interviewed. We have a reservation of one percent each for hearing-impaired, for the blind, and for the orthopaedically disabled. Now, we have not been able to fill up all the posts because we have not been able to get them trained sufficiently. So the Government have set up 17 Special Vocational Training Centres in which job training will be given. After we fulfil reservation of three per cent, I am sure it would be in the fitness of things to raise it.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Jaipal Reddy, there are many more Members also.

SHRI. S. JAIPAL REDDY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has said that this percentage could not be filled up because of lack of qualified persons. It is not true. There is a lot of prejudice among the recruiting authorities in regard to handicapped people. It is not for want of qualified persons...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI : Perhaps, that is true. That is why, we now have a Chief Commissioner for disabilities and his job is to see that there is no prejudice. If it is there, it is to be removed. His job is to ensure that grievances of the disabled are redressed.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon'ble Minister has said in her reply that three per cent reservation is given to three different categories of handicapped persons. Besides these are a number of organisations through which Government provides facilities and assistance to handicapped persons. As Jaipal Reddy ji said that increasing reservation from three per cent to seven per cent is a different thing, but the handicapped persons

are not able to get the full benefits of even the existing facility of three per cent reservation. I want to know from the Minister whether Government is considering any proposal to constitute a Committee at employment exchange level and at State level, of elected representatives such as M.L.As and M.Ps in order to ensure whether full benefit of reservation is reaching them or not? Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I want to know from the Minister whether the Government is thinking to constitute any such Committee or not?

*[English]*

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI : Sir, there are already 50 Special Employment Exchanges at work. There are 39 Special Cells monitored by senior people to see that the disabled persons are given their chance. There are 17 Special Vocational Centres, as I said earlier, for retraining so that they find employment. Now with this the Chief Commissioner's office being set up, we will be able to introduce far more justice in the employment sector.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : They are all officials.

SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has issued any direction to the States to implement the programme of employment for the disabled. The number of disabled persons is high. Is the Government thinking to increase the percentage of reservation for the disabled?

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI : Sir, directions have been given to the States. In fact, it is because of our constant reminders, the Government of Jammu and Kashmir has passed this notification as well.

Regarding the second question which Shri Jaipal Reddy has already raised, the moment we cross three per cent barrier in A and B categories, we would be happy to look into the needs to increase it.

DR. SAROJA V. (RASIPURAM) : Hon. Speaker, Sir, I understand that the Ministry is planning to establish, at least, one Vocational Rehabilitation Centre in each State during the Ninth Five Year Plan. Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether any proposal had come from the State of Tamil Nadu to start a Vocational Rehabilitation Centre. Would this Government consider setting up a Vocational Rehabilitation Centre in Namakkal which falls in my constituency?

Mr. SPEAKER : Is there any proposal, Mr. Minister?

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI : I will bring this to the notice of Ministry of Labour ....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : We unanimously passed the Bill on Disability three years back but in spite of that, this is not being implemented by various Departments. The hon. Minister was referring to the recruitment to the various categories of posts in the Central Government. I

would like to know whether the same instruction has been sent, and whether the same is being implemented in the case of State Governments and public sector undertakings.

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI : Not just my Ministry, but the Department of Personnel and Training has regularly sent out instructions to all PSUs and to all the States. Performance varies from State to State. In some States, there may be a position that they have not employed physically handicapped or other disabled persons for a long time... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I think, many hon. Members want to raise supplementaries on this question. I understand the importance of the question. If the hon. Minister has no objection, I can allow a Half-an-Hour Discussion on this.

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI : All right.

MR. SPEAKER : All right, I will allow a Half-an-Hour Discussion.

...*(Interruptions)*

Mr. SPEAKER : I have already allowed a Half-an-Hour Discussion on this.

#### Extremist Attacks on People in Tripura

\*223. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :

SHRI T. GOVINDAN :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a steep rise in the number of extremist attacks on innocent people in Tripura and some other North-Eastern States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of persons killed due to such attacks during the current year;

(d) whether the withdrawal of central forces on a large scale from Tripura has created uncertainty and insecurity of the people;

(e) if so, whether the Union Government are considering restoration of army battalions deployed in the State; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) to (c) There has been an increase in incidents of extremist related violence in Assam and Tripura. Available information in regard to such incidents in the North-Eastern States during the years 1997 and 1998 is given below :-

States	1997		1998 (upto December 2)	
	Incidents	Civilians Killed	Incidents	Civilians Killed
Arunachal Pradesh	34	9	71	2
Assam	427	285	676	463
Manipur	320	233	235	79
Meghalaya	14	3	13	5
Mizoram	1	—	—	—
Nagaland	380	92	186	25
Tripura	303	205	519	200

(d) to (f) The levels of deployment of Central forces in various parts of the country, inter alia, depend upon the overall security scenario as well as the availability of such forces. The situation is kept under constant review. Central forces have been deployed in Tripura to curb insurgency and maintain public order. The Central Government is fully alive to the security situation in the State.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the statement that has been given by the hon. Minister, it is seen that the incidents are the highest in Tripura and Assam. Compared to the population of Tripura, incidents are very high. Though the hon. Minister has stated that the Central forces have been deployed in Tripura to curb insurgency, to maintain public order and the Central Government is fully alive to the security situation in the State, I would like to know, how many army battalions were granted to the Government of Tripura to meet the situation and how many battalions are now stationed in Tripura.

SHRI L. K. ADVANI : Sir, the hon. Member must be aware that insofar as the deployment of the Army is concerned, it is not the practice to make statements in the House so far as the deployment of number of Army battalions or Army companies are concerned. I would have no objection in sharing with the House the fact that so far as the para-military forces are concerned, today in Tripura, there are, in all, 111 companies of the para-military forces, out of this, 45 are the BSF companies, which are on the border. Their duty is not related to counter insurgency.

They are managing the borders, whereas it is 66 companies of the CRPF which are deployed for counter-insurgency and anti-militancy activities. It is the highest ever. In fact, we have had to stretch our resources to the maximum. But I must confess to you that the Government of Tripura has been pleading for greater deployment and we have been in touch both with the MPs of Tripura as

well as the Chief Minister. We have also been in touch with the senior leaders of the parties and the Army which, for certain tactical reasons, had to withdraw some of its contingents. But we are alive to the situation and, as I have admitted, it is in these two States, Assam and Tripura, there has been an increase in incidents and casualties. In the other States of North-East, it has come down. In fact, in four of the eight North-Eastern States, the situation is relatively peaceful.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Sir, I would like to know the same details regarding Assam. I would not ask about Army now since he cannot say that. But I would like to know about the BSF and the other forces which have been deployed there. How many battalions are there, what is their demand and how could the Minister meet it?

SHRI L. K. ADVANI : Sir, in Assam, the number of CRPF companies is 153, and BSF is 50, out of which 30 are deployed on the border.

SHRI T. GAVINDAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you for the opportunity given to me. The statement of the Minister is very brief and it is avoiding many facts. The question is exclusively regarding Tripura. The statement says very clearly that the incidents are increasing day-by-day. The Government of Tripura repeatedly requested for strengthening the forces, but the Minister did not mention about it here. Out of seven companies deployed there, two companies were withdrawn from that State while the State Government has been repeatedly requesting for strengthening the forces. I would like to know why these companies were withdrawn.

SHRI L. K. ADVANI : Sir, I have already mentioned that there has been some withdrawal of the Army companies and that is for tactical reasons. We have been in touch with them also conveying to them the desire of the State Government that more and more deployment is needed. After all, the State has been facing insurgency, a low-key insurgency, for nearly 18 years. It has been growing and, today, there are, in all, about 20 armed tribal groups donning different names which have been indulging in some kind of violence, though, of course, two of them, the ATTF and the ADLFT, are responsible for the majority of killings and have some ideological moorings also.

But, as I said, so far as the Army is concerned, it is for them to decide. I am in touch even with the Army Chief as well as the Defence Minister and I would like to see that the problems of Tripura are met properly.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the North States, different battalions of army and para military forces such as C.R.P.F., B.S.F. and local police have been deployed. Sometime back when the Standing Committee visited there it found that there was no co-ordination between them. I want to know from the hon. Minister

whether there is any proposal to constitute a Coordination Committee for proper coordination between these agencies so that they could work properly?

SHRI L. K. ADVANI : Coordination work is primarily done by the State Governments. But if State Government want to the Central Government should coordinate then Central Government can definitely take responsibility of coordination. Otherwise where there are elected State Governments, they take the responsibility. Regarding Tripura I can say that they want a fool proof solution to this problem. However, so far as the deployment is concerned, effective deployment, which should have been there, perhaps is not taking place and, therefore, I will keep in mind the observation of the hon'ble Member.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, extremism is growing in South-Eastern India.

SHRI L. K. ADVANI : You are saying about North-East India or South-East India?

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : I am saying about North-East India. Growing extremism in that part of the country's really a matter of concern for all of us. These States have a population of just 7-8 lakh and 44 thousand personnel of the para-military forces are deployed there. Even then there is no control over extremism. For the last one and half years the Government of India has ordered cease fire with N.S.C.N. extremist organisation and according to my information the period and area of this cease fire is being extended; it is being extended to whole of India. According to my information this extremist organisation is increasing its activities slowly in all States of North-East India. Second problem is that para military forces which are sent by Government of India to these States to improve law and order situation and to fight extremism are being used by the local administration in the work of personal security of local politicians, people's representatives and bureaucrats whereas this work should be assigned to civil police. Therefore, para military forces are unable to perform their duty of providing security to common masses. I want to know from the hon'ble Home Minister as to what initiative the Government is taking to deal with other reasons for rise in extremism as the same cannot be tackled by para-military forces only? Secondly, what steps are being taken by the Central Government to ensure that the para-military forces are used for the purpose for which they are deployed?

SHRI L. K. ADVANI : There is substance in what the hon'ble member has said and we hold talks from time to time with State Governments on this subject and tell them that para military forces should be mainly used for border security or counter insurgency operations. If I give you the figures of Central para military forces, in all 349 companies are there. Of them, some are for V.I.P. security but their number is not much. 13 companies are for security of installations. 34 companies are for escorts etc. We give

suggestions to them that minimum use of para-military forces should be made for such work. That work is not meant for them to do. It would be better if this work is primarily done by the State police.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the basis of our experience in Punjab, we have given directions to all those States and their Chief Ministers, D.G. police etc., that whenever we got success against extremism, military and para military forces have played supplementary role. Mainly if this role is played by the local police then we get success because they know this problem better. These broad guidelines are given to them. But the Central Government is quite aware of the points raised by the hon. Member and the attention of the State Governments has been drawn to them.

[English]

SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has already committed and stated that he is having a shortage in utilising the military forces, para-military forces and other forces. He has also mentioned that law and order is the issue of the State Government. I do not disagree over there. But I would like to tell the hon. Minister that insurgency is a matter which will remain in this country and everyone has to live with it. At the disposal of the Ministry of Home Affairs, there are no forces except the BSF which, looking into the kind of training they have got, they are not meant for insurgency purposes.

May I know from the hon. Minister whether he is going to seriously look into the factor which has been looked into, namely, starting a new organisation whose whole or sole purpose would be maintaining integrity of this country and having a national force whose main objective is to deal with this kind of situation which has arisen and which we have been facing in the North-Eastern and other States? I would like to know whether the hon. Minister is going to think in these terms rather than using the military forces which are meant for other purposes.

Sir, the military action is one action in which there is no result, where we cannot put a stop to it and it is a temporary phenomenon. May I know from the hon. Minister that to have a permanent solution, at what level are they dealing with this issue? The message that is coming is that there is a link between these extremists and the Myanmar Government over there and some kind of training and education links have today been established. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what he thinks about it.

SHRI L. K. ADVANI : I do not agree with the hon. Member when he says that the paramilitary forces are not trained for the job. There is intensive training provided to them. It is not merely the BSF which contributes to supplementing the State forces or the Army, but it is the

CRPF, ITBP and Home Guards also, though Home Guards are not included in the paramilitary forces. This is certainly true that the requirement of the country, because of the changing situation in the last fifteen years, has been considerably more than it was contemplated 15-20 years back. I would agree to this.

SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR : But the military has always rescinded to what they have been asked to do.

SHRI L. K. ADVANI : In this regard, we would like to see that so far as internal security problems are concerned, they are dealt with more and more without the assistance of the Army and the Police. The paramilitary forces are able to deal with them. It is true that the law and order is a State subject but national internal security is the responsibility of the Centre to which we are very much alive.

I would keep in mind the other observation made by the hon. Member.

SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHURY : Hon. Speaker, Sir, would the hon. Home Minister agree that after the two battalions of Army and Assam Rifles have been withdrawn from Tripura, the situation has gone from bad to worse? Out of 44 police station areas in the State, 22 police station areas under the disturbed area. Five other police station areas have also been declared as the disturbed areas. The Army, the Assam Rifles, the CRPF and all other security forces have been deployed sector-wise. These two battalions have been withdrawn and since then, some of the sectors are completely without any protection.

MR. SPEAKER : What is your supplementary?

SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHURY : Sir, I belong to Tripura and this problem relates to my State also.

I would like to know whether the hon. Home Minister agrees that the issue is the induction of additional forces to Tripura to combat the insurgency as these insurgents are having sophisticated arms in their hands, and whether the hon. Home Minister would immediately deploy additional forces there.

Sir, seven battalions of additional forces are required, according to the assessment of the professional authorities. I would like to know whether he agrees to this demand of seven battalions which are to be deployed there to immediately control the situation and fight insurgency.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Let there be no such impression that the Armed Forces have been withdrawn from Tripura. There has been some withdrawal. You have mentioned two battalions. You have mentioned some dates. I would

not like to break the practice of not mentioning the quantum of Armed Forces. On this, I can only say that our Ministry is in contact with the Defence Ministry, trying to impress upon them the need to see that these withdrawn battalions are sent back. Apart from that, we have advised Tripura Government to raise what we call the 'India Reserve Battalions'. One of them has already passed out. The second one, that has been sanctioned for Tripura, is in the process of raising. This is another device we have resorted to. Half the expenditure is borne by the Centre in these cases.

Further, we have also decided that even though law and order may be a State subject certain items security-related expenditure which come upon the States because of insurgency problems, because of the problems of militancy are borne by the Centre. This is the manner in which the Centre has tried to assist the States in dealing with his problem.

SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHURY : Sir, I have another supplementary. ...*(Interruptions)*

#### Pay Scales of Doctors

\*224. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Convention of Doctors in Government Services has demanded that Doctors in all States be given pay scales at par with officers belonging to the IAS;

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

(c) whether there is a demand to create a new cadre called Indian Medical and Health Services;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) According to a copy of the resolution obtained from the Indian Medical Association, the National Convention of Service Doctors has inter alia demanded uniformity of Pay and perks for all service doctors in the country; uniformity of promotional avenues for service doctors with central cadre; constitution of an Indian Medical and Health Service; sanction of uniform non-practising allowances; system to provide in-service training; banning of quackery; proper security against physical assault; and involvement of doctors in the Health Programmes. As 'Health' is a subject under the 'State List', actions in this regard are to be taken by respective Governments.

(c) to (e) The creation of an Indian Health and Medical Service has been considered by the Government in the past when 5 States accepted the proposal, 4 States gave conditional approval, 5 States did not accept the proposal and a number of States did not offer their comments. A consensus among the States is yet to emerge.

SHRI. A. C. JOS : Sir, the reply is that health is a State subject and the centre becomes helpless. When you look into the national picture, health management in this country is in a total disarray. Everyday the newspaper carry one strike of nurses in one place and in another State, doctors will be striking work. Everyday that is the problem, especially in Delhi. Now, the answer is that a consensus is yet to emerge.

May a request the hon. Minister and ask the hon. Minister ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You can ask a question and not request the Minister.

SHRI A. C. JOS : Sir, may I ask the Central Government to call a meeting of the Health Ministers of the State Governments, emerge a national programme regarding health management and come to a consensus in this matter?

SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI : Sir, I thank the hon. Member. I fully agree with the suggestion of the hon. Member. In fact, the Health Ministry as such do not have any disagreement with this type of suggestions. In fact, we are for that. The Sarkaria Commission had recommended that, and again the Pay Commission had also recommended that. But these recommendations are mainly considered by the Department of Personnel and Training. Anyway, we are going for the Central Council of Health Ministers' Conference by the turn of the next year. In January, we are going to have that meeting. In fact, we are proposing this as a subject and we will see that everything possible is done.

SHRI A. C. JOS : Sir, the best of the doctors, not only in North America but also in other countries, are born in India, studied in India, got degrees in India and they have become the best doctors there. That means, the best of our talents is going away from this country to different places.

That is why the doctors' convention had urged and everyone also would agree that apart from the fact that whether it is a State subject or not, the State Administration is a State subject but we have a Central cadre by which we allot IAS Officers to each State to work there so that the best talents can be attracted.

I ask the hon. Minister that he should consider why we should not have a Central cadre of professional doctors so that better talents can be attracted and they could be deployed suitably. The Thiruvanthapuram Sri Chitra

Medical Institute and the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi are two centres where we can deploy them. My request is whether we can consider having a Central cadre of doctors like the IAS and other administrative services.

SHRI DALIT EZHIMALAI : Once again I appreciate the suggestion offered by the hon. Member. In fact, these Central Services in the medical sector were available upto 1947 and that was disbanded. After that, recently the Pay Commission has further recommended that a high-powered Committee should be appointed to start a dialogue between the State Governments and the Centre, that we should work out the modalities within a fixed time-frame of five years for an All India Medical and Health Services. That was the recommendation of the Pay Commission and we have to just wait for that. The time is not over. Anyway, somehow it will bear fruit. I am hopeful that the Department of Personnel also will be helpful. As far as we in the Health Ministry are concerned, we support to promote, to strengthen and to welcome the meritorious contributions of our doctors. When they are servicing in America or going abroad, why should we not avail of their services? We are aware of that. We are trying just to avail of the contribution and the expertise of our doctors.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : I would like to ask whether the hon. Minister would agree that the All India Institute of Medical Sciences is a very prestigious national institute. And does he know the latest position that there is a sort of brain drain in the All India Institute of Medical Sciences? Initially the doctors go through a very tough competition because of the prestige of the Institute. And later when show their talents, they are attracted abroad, or they are attracted by private hospitals in Delhi itself. It is because the salaries are low and the conditions of work are frustrating.

Would he, therefore, also agree with me that he would take a meeting with the Director of the Institute and sit with the faculty to understand as to how the conditions of work will be improved in the AIIMS?

SHRI DALIT EZHIMALAI : I am thankful to Prof. Soz. Actually, I agree with him when he calls it a prestigious institution. I do not have anything to disagree with that.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Doctors are going out.

SHRI DALIT EZHIMALAI : But the situation in the prestigious institution is not just as he looks at it and as I see it, it is entirely different. As he says, it is not on the part of the doctors or the faculty members or the Director himself, it involves many things. The situation is no so rosy as such. We have to look into this very seriously.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : The situation is not rosy. That is what I am telling the Minister. Will he talk to or consult the faculty members?

SHRI DALIT EZHIMALAI : Yes, I am one with you.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : It should not be like a Minister going, which they call an exercise.....

SHRI DALIT EZHIMALAI : We do not work like the previous Ministers. We work as Ministers actually.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, patients from all over the country through All India Medical Institute, due to which the hospital is unable to provide proper treatment to everyone, and therefore patients especially from Bihar take long time to recover. I think that this situation is either due to lack of doctors or the facilities are inadequate. The hon'ble Minister has said, that he will look into the matter. What arrangements are being made to provide timely treatment to patients in the AIIMS because all the MPs are facing problems daily due to this? Patients come from their constituency, and their treatment takes almost an year. I would like to know about the measures Government propose to take so that patients may get treatment at the earliest.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, this question relates to the pay scales of the doctors.

SHRI DALIT EZHIMALAI : He is generally talking about the health care system and the inadequate beds that are not available in the hospitals and because of that the patients are forced to suffer more. Yes, it is a fact. Health is not given that much of priority as it deserves to be. It is in everybody's knowledge. So, I do not have anything to disagree with the hon. Member. We will take sufficient care for this. Just this year only, the budget was little enhanced. Otherwise, it was altogether a different picture. In fact, we have for 1998-99 allocated an amount of Rs. 2489 crore. Previously, it was Rs. 1547 crore. Anyway, it has to progress slowly. I thank the hon. Member for his valid suggestion.

SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know whether they will seriously take the suggestion of the creation of an Indian Health and Medical Service because that will solve many of our problems. The answer given is very sketchy that some States say 'yes', some States say 'no'. I hope they will take it up seriously. Now, doctors also come under the Consumer Protection Act. Many doctors allege of harassment. Physical assaults on doctors take place. All these can be tackled in an uniform manner if the Central Government takes up, as Shri Jos had said, a Central Health Policy and by creating an Indian Health and Medical Service. Would you do that?

SHRI DALIT EZHIMALAI : I have partly answered the question of the hon. Member. In fact, it is a State

subject. We have to just look for the State Governments' response to this. We are given in our answer that of the several States, only five have agreed to this proposal, four have offered their conditional approval and five have given their feedback. So, these are all facts. There is no reason for us to quarrel with the State Governments because it is a State subject.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, please address the Chair.

SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE : I know all this. But I do not want you to push everything to the State. I wanted some coordination from the Centre. That is all.

SHRI P. C. THOMAS : Sir, we do really applaud the services of service-minded good doctors with high quality. But in recent times, a lot of corruption is taking place in several medical institutions of the country including the All India Institute of Medical Sciences where the Medical Superintendent himself was involved in a corruption case. I think that this is a very serious issue. I do not know whether it is because the pay scales are bad. If the pay scales are bad, that has to be looked into. But it is not only a case of pay scales but also it is a matter of corruption which is rampant everywhere. But as far as the medical field is concerned, where the doctors are involved, where their service is very much necessary, where poor patients have to get proper treatment from the medical institutions, I think this type of corruption is something which is to be taken into account very seriously. What is there in the mind of the hon. Minister to see that this type of corruption is uprooted?

SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI : I thank the hon. Member. Corruption as such is not a recent a phenomenon. It has not come just six or eight months back. It has been there. Somebody said that it is a part of the society. But I do not disagree with that. If the hon. Member also helps us in rooting out corruption, I will be grateful to him. As and when this comes to our notice I will come out with the details.

DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL : Government doctors have demanded the pay scales of the level of IAS Officers. I want to know whether the Government is planning to create distinguished professors posts in all the medical colleges. The hon. Minister has already decided to create a distinguished professor's post in the All India Institute of Medical Sciences. I would like to know whether the Government can pass on this message to all the State Governments to create distinguished professors; posts in all the medical colleges.

SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI : Sir, this question concerns only the AIIMS.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDER SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, just now many hon'ble Members have expressed concern about

emigration of doctors to USA and other countries due to lower pay scales here. In our country, the basic work of doctors is to provide medical facilities from villages. Adivasi areas to cities. I also want that their pay-scales should be increased, so that they may not migrate to other countries. After revision of pay-scales of doctors, they should go to villages and Adivasi areas to provide medical facilities, but it has been observed that they do not go to villages and Adivasi areas and get basic medical facilities available to people over there. Whether the Central Government is going to make any legislation in this regard or it would be left as a subject of the State Government.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Virender Singh, please ask your supplementary. There is no time, please.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDER SINGH : If there is no time, then there is no use of making this statement.

MR. SPEAKER : Please ask your supplementary question.

SHRI VIRENDER SINGH : My question is that whether the Central Government would make any legislation which will make it obligatory for doctors to go and provide medical facilities in villages and Adivasi areas?

[English]

SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI : Sir, this question is about the pay and allowances of the doctors community working in urban areas as well as in rural areas. Pay and perks are subjects that are considered by the respective Pay Commissions and the recommendations of the Pay Commission are periodically accepted or reviewed by the Government.

[Translation]

#### Repatriation of Bangladeshi Infiltrators

\*225. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Bangladeshi Infiltrators repatriated from Bihar and West Bengal from 1990 to 1997;

(b) whether it is obligatory to inform the West Bengal Government before repatriating Bangladeshi infiltrators;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Union Government have issued any guidelines to Government of Bihar regarding repatriation of Bangladeshi Infiltrators;

- (e) if so, the details thereof; and  
 (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) (a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) The powers under the Foreigners Act, 1946 to identify, detect and deport foreign nationals regarding illegally in various parts of the country have been delegated to the State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations. The data pertaining to the number of illegal migrants deported, Statewise, is not maintained Centrally. However, the information received from the Government of West Bengal indicates that 50,132 Bangladeshis were deported during the period 1994 to 1998 (upto May).

(b) No, Sir. However, if any foreign national claims to be a resident of a particular State, the concerned State Government may be consulted for purposes of verification, etc.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) to (f) Instructions issued by the Central Government for identification, detection and deportation of foreign nationals have been endorsed to the State Government of Bihar also.

SHRI BRIJ MOHAN RAM : I would like to know whether the Government are considering to form five kilometer wide national security corridor at the border of Bangladesh-West Bengal and Bihar to stop the entry of infiltrators. Whether the State Governments will be assigned any responsibility or not?

SHRI L. K. ADVANI : The people who are having geographical knowledge about the Bangladesh-India border may be aware of the fact, that fencing is not so easy on eastern border. Even then, principally, decision to do fencing over there has been taken. Alongwith decision to construct roads and bridges has also been taken. By September, 1998, the task of constructing 2116 kilometres long roads and fencing 789 kilometres of border has been accomplished. But we are worried about how to stop infiltration. Keeping this fact in mind we are trying to make B.S.F. more powerful and alongwith it we are continuing dialogue with Bangladesh Government. But even then if this problem is not solved, then it will become a little difficult to maintain friendly relations which we have developed in the recent past. In this regard, dialogue is on with them.

SHRI BRIJ MOHAN RAM : In view of the report submitted by the Intelligence Agencies about the Bangladeshi infiltrators, what steps Government propose to take to stop the intrusion in Bihar, West Bengal, Orissa and other States.

SHRI L. K. ADVANI : Whenever, a foreigner infiltrator enters the country without documents, the necessary directions are issued to all the States about it. The hon'ble Member has asked about the number of Bangladeshi infiltrators deported from Bihar and West Bengal after 1990. I have given the reply on the basis of information received from the West Bengal. The details about deported persons are not maintained at Central level, but because a question about it was asked, therefore, the West Bengal Government has informed us that from May 1994 to May 1998, 50132 illegal migrants have been retriated to Bangladesh. The Bihar Government has not provided any information in this regard.

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

#### Implementation of Family Welfare Programme

\*226. SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state;

- (a) whether the family welfare and immunisation programmes are being implemented smoothly in the country;  
 (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;  
 (c) the State where the said programmes are not being run smoothly; and  
 (d) 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 DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) to (d) Immunization programme is part of Family Welfare Programme. Family Welfare Programme for addressing the child survival issues, maternal health issues and contraception issues is being implemented over the whole of the country. Judging by the success in individual States in bringing down the birth rate the programme has been successful in Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Goa, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura and Andaman & Nicobar Island, Chandigarh and Pondicherry where near replacement level birth rates have been achieved. The States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Punjab, West Bengal, Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Delhi and Lakshadweep are at a stage where they can be expected to achieve similar

level in next 5-10 years. The programme is weak in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa.

The outcomes of Family Welfare Programmes are determined by a number of factors e.g. (i) infrastructure and resources available for the programme, (ii) publicly stated support of opinion leaders and support in the community, (iii) efficiency of the State Health System and accountability of health functionaries, (iv) educational status of families particularly of women, women status in society and economic status of families.

In the States where the programme is weak, the above mentioned facilitating factors are also weak.

The Family Welfare is 100% Centrally Funded Programme. The Government has lately given high priority to the programme and allocation of resources has been increased from Rs. 1547 crores in 1996-97 to Rs. 2489.35 crores in 1998-99. The progress of programme is being reviewed with the State Governments periodically and the State Governments are pressed to remove in implementation where these exists.

#### Liberalisation of Petroleum Industry

\*227. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :

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

(a) whether the Government propose to announce a new package for further liberalisation of the petroleum industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PETROLIUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI VAZHAPADY K. RAMAMURTHY) : (a) to (c) Pursuant to Government's decision announced in September, 1997 the dismantling of the Administered Price Mechanism commenced on 1.4.1998. The reforms are phased for completion by 2002. Government have also announced the New Exploration Licensing Policy to encourage oil and gas exploration.

[English]

#### Insurgent Activities

\*228. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

SHRI P. S. GADHAVI :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States which are mostly affected by insurgent activities in the country;

(b) whether the Union Government have reviewed the law and order and insurgency situation in North-Eastern States and Jammu and Kashmir;

(c) if so, the prevailing situation in those States;

(d) whether Bhutan is a Centre of terrorist activities;

(e) if so, the initiative taken for checking such activities;

(f) whether a new action plan has been formulated to bring back normalcy in those States;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the steps taken by the Union Government to remove unemployment and bring the insurgent groups in the national mainstream including the steps connected with providing an economic package in the insurgency affected States?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) The states most affected by insurgency and militancy are Assam, Tripura, Manipur, Nagaland and Jammu & Kashmir.

(b) and (c) The law and order and insurgency situation in these States is constantly reviewed by the Government. There has been a significant improvement in the situation in Nagaland and hill areas of Manipur due to the Cease Fire between the Government of India and the Isak-Muivah faction of the National Socialist Council of Nagaland.

There has also been a significant improvement in the situation in Jammu & Kashmir, particularly in the valley, due to sustained pressure, vigil and concerted actions of security forces and the States administration.

(d) and (e) There are reports that ULFA and Bodo militants have camps/hideouts in Bhutan. The matter has been taken up with the Royal Government of Bhutan through diplomatic channels. The security at the border has also been strengthened.

(f) and (g) Insurgency in the North East has never been looked upon only as a law and order problem. The development and deepening of democratic processes has been the basic framework within which the problems of the North East have been approached. Development strategy since Independence has been pursued within the broad framework of planning with a view to ensure that people develop along the lines of their own genius and

nothing should be imposed on them and that traditional way of life and culture are encouraged. The efforts should be to train and build indigenous teams to do the work of administration and development and that development should come through indigenous social and cultural institutions as far as possible.

The strategy to curb insurgency in the North East includes a willingness to meet and discuss legitimate grievances; resolve that violence would not be tolerated friendly relations with neighbouring countries; accelerated infrastructural development; stress on employment schemes; and good governance and decentralisation.

A multipronged approach has been adopted to tackle the militancy problem sponsored from across the border in J & K, which includes, inter alia, strengthening the border management, neutralising plans of militants by pro-active action against them in hinterland, gearing up intelligence machinery, galvanising the development programmes, deepening the democratic process, etc.

The State Governments have formulated their own Action Plans to fight insurgency. The Union Government monitors, co-ordinates and reinforces these Plans. The steps taken by the Central Government to curb insurgency include, inter alia, deployment of additional units of Central Para Military Forces and the Army, improved co-ordination and sharing of intelligence, modernisation/upgradation of State Police Forces, declaration of the most seriously affected areas as disturbed areas and notification of the major insurgent groups as unlawful associations. There is also a scheme under operation to meet security related expenditure of insurgency affected States by the Centre. The entire insurgency situation is kept under watch and is reviewed from time to time.

(h) A High-Level expert committee was constituted for creation of employment opportunities for educated unemployed in the North-eastern region of the country. The Committee submitted its report on 7th May, 1997. Meetings were held in Planning Commission to devise mechanisms for operationalisation of the report. Recommendations made were incorporated in the form of a New Industrial Policy, which has been approved by the Cabinet. The New Industrial Policy is expected to remove unemployment and bring the insurgent groups in the national mainstream.

The implementation of the economic package announced by the Prime Minister for the North Eastern States is constantly reviewed by the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Prime Minister's Office.

The issue of providing employment to J & K youths has been receiving attention of the Government for quite some time. Special recruitment drives has been undertaken in the past as a result of which more than twelve thousand youths have been employed. The age limit for Government employment has been extended by 5 years for the youths of J & K. Apart from Government employ-

ment, the apex bodies of private sector organisations like CII and FICCI have been approached to provide jobs to youths from J & K on a preferential basis in private sectors.

#### Allocation of Essential Commodities

\*229. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

SHRI D. S. AHIRE :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of wheat, rice, sugar, edible oils and kerosene supplied to each State/UT during 1998 till date;

(b) the actual demand of these commodities and allocation made to each State during the said period, State-wise;

(c) whether requests for enhancing the quota of these commodities have been received from the States;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(e) the quantity of these commodities released to flood affected areas during the said period separately, State-wise;

(f) the requirement consumption of these commodities during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(g) whether the North-Eastern States have been left out so far as foodgrains are concerned for the last six months; and

(h) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA) : (a) to (d) The details regarding quantum of wheat, rice, sugar, edible oils and kerosene allocated to each State/Union Territory under the Public Distribution System (PDS) as well as the actual offtake during 1998 till date are given in the enclosed Statement-I. Demand for these commodities, which are subsidised, is generally higher and requests are received from the States/Union Territories for enhancing their quota. It is not always possible to meet fully such demands on account of constraints of availability, foreign exchange and heavy subsidy involved.

(e) The details of quantity of these commodities released to flood affected areas during 1998 State-wise are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(f) The details of allocation and offtake of these commodities during each of the last three years, State-wise are given in the enclosed statements III, IV and V.

(g) No. Sir.

(h) Does not arise.

## Statement —I

Statewise Allocation and Lifting of Wheat, Rice, Edible Oils, Kerosene, Sugar  
for Year 1998 Distributed Through PDS

Figures in 000 Tonnes

State/Uts	Wheat		Rice		Sugar		Ed Oils		Kerosene	
	Alloc.	Lift	Alloc.	Lift	Alloc.	Lift	Alloc.	Lift	Alloc.	Lift
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Andhra Pradesh	172.20	98.97	2296.40	1630.92	347.19		32.00	36.42	561.63	558.28
Arunachal Pradesh	6.00	3.04	109.20	78.67	4.63				9.54	9.11
Assam	363.60	171.03	645.00	453.01	117.39				225.70	22.71
Bihar	831.04	558.00	507.36	192.96	449.10		0.80	0.06	678.23	671.56
Goa	33.72	27.23	75.96	51.10	6.26		3.50	1.92	23.57	23.52
Gujarat	564.00	347.06	326.00	182.55	215.92		28.00	20.48	709.94	712.42
Haryana	186.60	84.71			86.17		0.40		141.60	141.48
Himachal Pradesh	136.92	108.29	142.98	87.70	26.75		1.60	0.69	51.13	51.87
Jammu & Kashmir	364.56	117.22	386.52	226.22	44.86		0.50	0.17	79.00	81.39
Karnataka	315.00	238.59	940.00	723.97	235.64		8.00	7.48	440.08	439.53
Kerala	182.64	402.57	1783.84	1337.36	148.52				248.68	248.41
Madhya Pradesh	518.88	258.71	417.20	248.62	345.92				527.02	525.05
Maharashtra	1268.16	900.42	692.48	516.26	411.86		27.00	34.81	1314.96	1313.19
Manipur	32.60	25.87	120.20	40.82	10.10		1.60	0.58	19.07	18.84
Meghalaya	29.52	23.08	209.60	146.24	9.45		0.40	0.05	17.57	17.39
Mizoram	24.06	19.04	125.04	102.50	3.82		0.27	0.05	6.94	6.89
Nagaland	44.06	36.31	125.80	95.92	7.13		2.40	1.62	11.97	12.13
Orissa	414.00	321.74	610.48	485.99	164.46		10.50	7.34	247.39	238.37
Punjab	61.56	7.24	11.52	1.53	107.49				285.15	285.77
Rajasthan	775.44	368.59	51.36	3.98	230.79		2.00	0.32	352.63	349.80
Sikkim	10.68	7.07	87.72	47.19	2.09		0.88	0.67	6.67	6.64
Tamil Nadu	390.00	200.63	1260.76	1024.20	291.86		4.00	5.15	596.01	583.94
Tripura	21.60	13.38	194.40	146.41	27.06		0.20	0.01	26.96	26.93
Uttar Pradesh	1299.04	775.00	587.40	346.41	719.36		6.70	1.76	1120.81	1115.98
West Bengal	1102.35	854.43	587.25	178.20	356.89		14.00	9.11	471.89	679.58
Andaman & Nicobar	5.25		22.50		1.69		0.20		6.08	6.02
Chandigarh	21.60	3.34	3.60	2.01	4.85				18.11	15.98
Dadra & Nagar H.	3.00	1.77	6.60	3.30	0.73		0.32	0.29	2.71	2.72

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Daman & Diu	2.40	0.66	7.20	1.33	0.41		0.42	0.46	2.52	2.51
Delhi	703.59	465.48	154.68	81.40	147.25		6.06	5.15	206.53	192.67
Lakshadweep	0.12	0.17	1.59	2.93	0.49		0.29	0.24	0.78	0.41
Pondicherry	9.00	0.08	26.00	0.60	5.46		4.00	2.41	12.82	12.53
<b>Total</b>	<b>10193.19</b>	<b>6439.72</b>	<b>12516.64</b>	<b>8440.30</b>	<b>4531.59</b>		<b>156.03</b>	<b>137.24</b>	<b>8623.80</b>	<b>8578.62</b>

1. Allocation of wheat and rice reported upto December 1998 and Lifting reported upto October 1998.
2. Allocation of sugar reported upto December 1998.
3. Lifting of levy sugar is assumed to be 100%.
4. Allocation and Lifting of edible oils reported upto November 1998.
5. Allocation and Lifting of kerosene reported upto October 1998.

#### Statement-II

##### Details of Allotment of Rice, Wheat and Kerosene for Flood Relief during 1998

Name of State	Months	Quantity Allotted (In Metric Tonnes)		
		Rice	Wheat	Kerosene
Andhra Pradesh	November, 98	-	-	3,891
Assam	April, 98	20,000	-	
	October, 98	25,000	-	
Bihar	September, 98		50,000	
	November, 98		20,000	
Gujarat	June, 98	-	-	15,564
Meghalaya	October, 98	2,000	-	
Uttar Pradesh	August, 98	25,000	30,000	
	September, 98	-	-	7,782
West Bengal	September, 98	10,000	-	
	October, 98	10,000	-	3,891
	November, 98	10,000	-	
Pondicherry	November, 98	1,000	-	
	December, 98	1,000	-	

#### Statement-III

##### Statewise Allocation and Lifting of Wheat, Rice, Edible Oils, Kerosene, Sugar for Year 1995 Distributed Through PDS

Figures in 000 Tonnes

State/UTs	Wheat		Rice		Sugar		Ed Oils		Kerosene	
	Alloc.	Lift	Alloc.	Lift	Alloc.	Lift*	Alloc.	Lift	Alloc.	Lift
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Andhra Pradesh	192.00	109.90	2600.00	2322.21	312.41		52.60	36.81	612.39	610.20
Arunachal Pradesh	7.20	8.80	106.20	89.60	4.00			0.03	9.57	9.75
Assam	360.00	357.00	535.30	410.40	119.89		0.90	0.67	253.65	257.19

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Bihar	705.60	197.50	381.60	19.70	414.07				596.22	595.91
Goa	42.40	19.60	69.00	42.20	6.28		3.50	3.59	27.30	28.55
Gujarat	814.00	426.50	414.00	202.20	202.06		44.89	46.55	814.95	817.03
Haryana	212.92	52.70	51.56	7.20	79.68		0.20	0.02	156.83	157.96
Himachal Pradesh	144.00	109.20	138.80	43.90	24.21		1.50	1.54	41.79	42.14
Jammu & Kashmir	360.00	113.30	528.00	238.90	33.45		0.50	0.34	82.66	91.25
Karnataka	360.00	232.50	1443.12	896.10	221.56		9.00	9.62	462.15	471.89
Kerala	540.00	499.00	1800.00	1148.60	148.04		1.50	1.56	273.69	280.67
Madhya Pradesh	583.92	139.70	582.72	193.40	312.49		2.50		469.44	470.56
Maharashtra	1100.00	602.80	858.00	316.40	373.04		27.50	12.13	1535.07	1521.41
Manipur	32.40	31.50	120.00	29.00	9.06		0.20	0.16	21.21	21.94
Meghalaya	26.50	28.30	166.00	156.40	8.38		0.20	0.07	16.23	16.35
Mizoram	24.00	24.50	95.60	95.73	3.58		0.90	0.46	6.33	6.58
Nagaland	24.40	34.50	77.00	67.40	5.50		4.10	2.81	10.59	11.52
Orissa	420.00	200.80	707.50	325.50	154.52		12.00	4.45	206.78	208.59
Punjab	158.00	2.90	16.20	1.00	99.05				335.67	335.42
Rajasthan	1453.92	484.00	52.00	8.80	211.73		0.30		321.96	319.15
Sikkim	12.00	10.00	57.60	44.90	2.07		0.72	0.63	7.65	7.66
Tamil Nadu	305.00	147.70	1455.00	1402.82	280.83		6.00	5.67	673.59	674.56
Tripura	21.60	8.20	194.40	160.80	12.80		0.50	0.06	22.92	22.92
Uttar Pradesh	1185.60	225.70	549.60	208.40	659.30				1062.49	1058.45
West Bengal	1098.60	845.20	868.00	464.80	324.16		19.00	16.25	754.14	758.73
Andaman & Nicobar	9.00	6.93	30.00	24.30	3.07		0.15	0.05	4.65	4.52
Chandigarh	21.60	0.20	3.60	1.10	4.93		0.10		21.06	19.54
Dadra & Nagar H.	2.60	2.21	6.00	3.81	0.63		0.48	0.48	3.12	3.12
Daman & Diu	2.00		6.40	4.00	0.49		0.81	0.60	2.99	2.73
Delhi	860.00	159.90	240.00	26.40	124.26		3.01	2.96	244.18	244.45
Lakshadweep	0.50		6.30	4.50	0.86		0.24	0.24	0.85	0.21
Pondicherry	9.00		24.00	2.70	4.25		4.70	3.53	14.97	14.48
<b>Total</b>	<b>1088.76</b>	<b>5081.01</b>	<b>14183.50</b>	<b>8962.97</b>	<b>4160.68</b>		<b>198.00</b>	<b>151.31</b>	<b>9087.06</b>	<b>9085.35</b>

\* Lifting of levy sugar is assumed to be 100%.

## Statement-IV

Statewise Allocation and Lifting of Wheat, Rice, Edible Oils, Kerosene, Sugar  
for Year 1996 Distributed Through PDS

Figures in 000 Tonnes

State/UTs	Wheat		Rice		Sugar		Ed. Oils		Kerosene	
	Alloc.	Lift	Alloc.	Lift	Alloc.	Lift*	Alloc.	Lift	Alloc.	Lift
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Andhra Pradesh	180.00	116.60	2520.00	1927.50	354.64		63.00	46.30	636.21	640.57
Arunachal Pradesh	7.20	5.20	105.20	94.60	4.64				11.01	11.07
Assam	355.50	337.50	621.60	469.80	120.98		1.30	0.47	258.03	259.88
Bihar	702.70	399.70	384.50	27.10	461.09		0.90		642.82	641.50
Goa	37.20	30.40	90.00	57.00	6.34		4.00	3.05	27.73	28.27
Gujarat	670.00	595.10	369.50	270.60	213.76		42.00	41.16	824.01	829.29
Haryana	207.60	111.60	54.00	19.50	86.11			0.26	159.62	160.38
Himachal Pradesh	140.00	105.60	116.80	77.10	26.18		1.80	0.96	54.52	52.40
Jammu & Kashmir	360.00	136.40	528.00	302.20	46.25		0.90	0.48	89.80	84.29
Karnataka	356.00	264.50	1447.12	1050.90	240.00		9.50	9.51	506.46	505.52
Kerala	597.00	569.30	1823.00	1418.70	150.75		2.00	0.97	290.19	293.72
Madhya Pradesh	576.60	348.00	561.80	265.10	353.44				513.20	514.79
Maharashtra	960.00	803.60	858.00	522.70	407.35		35.00	35.20	1546.35	1545.91
Manipur	32.40	28.40	120.00	49.20	10.37		2.80	1.44	21.82	21.87
Meghalaya	29.50	28.60	184.00	174.00	9.65		0.90	0.20	19.16	19.07
Mizoram	23.80	23.40	96.02	82.20	3.97		1.80	0.48	7.65	7.31
Nagaland	10.20	10.60	78.20	87.40	7.02		3.60	2.34	13.05	13.06
Orissa	416.00	374.10	927.00	515.40	169.11		9.00	4.00	229.38	227.26
Punjab	125.00	40.24	18.00	2.90	109.87				335.13	334.45
Rajasthan	1444.10	951.50	59.00	14.30	235.80		0.45		351.51	347.67
Sikkim	12.20	12.60	58.60	54.30	2.21		0.99	0.61	8.42	8.44
Tamil Nadu	300.30	213.00	1843.50	1924.80	296.09		9.00	6.44	686.42	684.39
Tripura	21.60	14.10	194.40	136.50	15.01		0.90	0.06	28.96	27.42
Uttar Pradesh	1120.40	664.30	549.60	324.10	743.14				1138.55	1145.22
West Bengal	1031.00	879.30	790.00	489.20	364.75		20.00	18.46	785.17	784.71
Andaman & Nicobar	9.00	7.24	30.00	25.02	3.53		0.26	0.03	4.82	4.80

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Chandigarh	21.80	4.60	3.60	1.70	5.01				37.18	19.75
Dadra & Nagar H.	3.00	2.95	6.00	4.40	0.76		0.72	0.49	3.14	3.09
Daman & Diu	2.40	0.66	7.20	2.78	0.51		1.06	0.52	3.02	2.71
Delhi	760.00	429.20	240.00	88.50	149.67		3.70	2.56	243.06	242.71
Lakshadweep	0.50		6.30	6.40	1.04		0.36	0.23	0.89	0.19
Pondicherry	8.53	2.57	20.70	7.55	5.83		4.50	3.28	15.13	14.49
<b>Total</b>	<b>10521.28</b>	<b>7510.85</b>	<b>14711.64</b>	<b>10513.44</b>	<b>4604.89</b>		<b>220.47</b>	<b>179.48</b>	<b>9472.53</b>	<b>9456.32</b>

\* Lifting of levy sugar is assumed to be 100%.

### Statement-V

*Statewise Allocation and Lifting of Wheat, Rice, Edible Oils, Kerosene, Sugar for Year 1997 Distributed Through PDS*

Figures in 000 Tonnes

State/UTs	Wheat		Rice		Sugar		Ed Oils		Kerosene	
	Alloc.	Lift	Alloc.	Lift	Alloc.	Lift*	Alloc.	Lift	Alloc.	Lift
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Andhra Pradesh	156.20	120.32	2337.90	2000.18	348.80		28.00	10.09	645.10	609.81
Arunachal Pradesh	5.91	4.31	110.35	91.95	4.60				9.90	10.07
Assam	322.18	237.62	615.86	442.49	117.13			0.01	262.02	266.64
Bihar	769.44	495.01	463.46	112.53	450.47		0.30		671.37	668.14
Goa	33.17	27.18	80.31	49.29	6.26		2.00	1.01	27.90	28.16
Gujarat	736.05	543.16	359.00	203.45	215.94		27.00	8.00	843.69	847.55
Haryana	166.52	104.18	14.00	8.70	86.28				163.26	163.22
Himachal Pradesh	134.15	118.73	134.40	83.86	26.31		0.80	0.70	58.58	57.62
Jammu & Kashmir	282.18	170.60	466.12	351.01	45.02		0.40		88.08	92.45
Karnataka	260.00	240.18	1169.30	919.60	235.02		12.50	4.95	509.50	509.04
Kerala	371.38	353.73	1865.40	1645.65	136.16				289.43	286.21
Madhya Pradesh	618.93	345.07	555.45	309.13	346.05				526.67	526.48
Maharashtra	1149.76	935.64	732.28	563.91	411.81		34.00	20.69	1554.57	1549.64
Manipur	25.66	27.56	101.40	50.67	10.04		0.80	1.15	22.53	21.65
Meghalaya	26.65	26.52	198.40	157.84	9.44			0.04	20.13	20.43
Mizoram	16.76	15.78	98.95	89.53	3.84		0.80	0.14	7.86	7.86
Nagaland	16.74	16.66	98.77	88.40	6.95		1.60	0.69	13.71	13.71

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Orissa	340.00	245.19	888.78	566.65	164.41		5.80	1.54	236.57	237.94
Punjab	122.91	38.36	14.22	1.22	107.65				335.85	334.37
Rajasthan	1052.91	674.24	54.10	7.91	230.70				357.73	358.58
Sikkim	4.81	3.56	71.35	93.98	2.16		0.88	0.51	7.92	7.92
Tamil Nadu	201.50	98.89	1557.02	1424.36	291.79		4.00	2.10	899.88	688.30
Tripura	17.95	15.06	167.33	155.10	14.80			0.04	31.23	30.69
Uttar Pradesh	1172.71	905.83	513.49	322.63	722.85				1166.37	1167.53
West Bengal	1195.45	886.94	583.50	417.51	356.90		20.50	2.50	779.87	779.22
Andaman & Nicobar	7.35	2.46	20.60	7.93	5.41		0.14	0.05	6.14	0.15
Chandigarh	17.58	7.27	2.94	2.22	4.11				21.54	18.73
Dadra & Nagar H.	1.90	1.23	4.80	2.89	0.73		0.32	0.34	3.21	3.14
Daman & Diu	1.50	0.80	4.38	3.56	0.49		0.52	0.46	3.00	2.89
Delhi	661.48	561.47	195.63	112.63	147.40		2.62	1.82	245.16	241.75
Lakshadweep	0.86	0.98	13.14	3.78	1.00		0.40	0.13	0.86	0.87
Pondicherry	4.67	0.28	20.34	7.35	5.27		2.00	1.32	15.30	14.41
<b>Total</b>	<b>9895.28</b>	<b>7224.81</b>	<b>13512.97</b>	<b>10297.91</b>	<b>4515.77</b>		<b>145.36</b>	<b>58.28</b>	<b>9624.73</b>	<b>9569.27</b>

\* Lifting of levy sugar is assumed to be 100%.

#### Exemption From the Central Government Pension Scheme

\*230. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether some undertakings have asked for exemption from the Central Government Pension Scheme;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the decision of the Government thereto;

(c) whether any alternate scheme has been proposed and submitted by these undertakings;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reasons for not granting exemption to these undertakings?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) In order to administer pension scheme by themselves M/s Indian Oil Corporation, M/s Indian Petro Chemical Corporation Ltd. and M/s Telco Ltd. have asked

for exemption and submitted to the Government alternate pension schemes providing, inter-alia, payment of pension on retirement, superannuation, death etc. As the provisions of the pension schemes formulated by the applicant establishments are not in accordance with the provisions of the Employees Pension Scheme, 1995, it has not been found possible to grant them exemption.

#### Crimes

\*231. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :

SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR YADAV :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various crimes reported in the country during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the growth rate of crimes in the country, State/UT-wise;

(c) whether socio-economic and psychological factors are responsible for these crimes; and

(d) the special steps taken by the Government to check such crimes in future?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) Available information in regard to incidents of cognizable crimes under the Indian Penal Code reported during the years 1995, 1996 and 1997 is given in the enclosed statement. The crime rate (cases per lakh of population) at All India level during the said period was as follows:-

Year	Crime Rate
1995	185.1
1996	183.4
1997	181.3

(c) and (d) Various factors, including socio-economic and psychological, are responsible for crimes. "Public Order" and "Police" are State subjects as per the Constitution of India. As such, the registration, investigation and detection of crimes as well as the prevention of crimes are primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, the Central Government has been providing financial assistance to the State Governments for improving their policing infrastructure. The Central Government also shares intelligence with the State Governments and sends them advisories from time to time.

#### Statement

##### *Incidents of Cognizable Crimes Reported Under I. P. C. During 1995, 1996 and 1997*

		1995		1996		1997	
		Incidents	Rate	Incidents	Rate	Incidents	Rate
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1,05,016	146.4	1,09,759	150.6	1,14,963	155.3
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1,907	198.6	1,927	194.6	1,776	185.7
3.	Assam	36,494	148.3	36,490	145.3	36,562	142.8
4.	Bihar	1,15,598	121.8	1,17,017	120.8	1,17,401	118.8
5.	Goa	3,545	279.1	2,798	215.2	2,895	217.7
6.	Gujarat	1,23,514	276.9	1,17,821	259.6	1,17,823	255.2
7.	Haryana	33,823	187.2	33,516	181.9	31,981	170.2
8.	Himachal Pradesh	11,147	198.7	10,776	188.4	10,242	105.7
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	15,018	176.5	17,478	201.1	17,192	194.0
10.	Karnataka	1,20,334	250.4	1,14,475	234.9	1,14,863	232.5
11.	Kerala	87,262	282.3	86,141	275.0	92,523	291.0
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1,97,445	273.7	1,96,779	267.8	2,05,026	274.0
13.	Maharashtra	1,94,163	226.0	1,87,471	214.1	1,85,122	207.5
14.	Manipur	2,596	127.9	2,573	123.7	2,974	139.6
15.	Meghalaya	1,773	90.5	1,863	92.7	1,978	94.2
16.	Mizoram	2,396	303.3	2,241	276.7	2,120	252.4
17.	Nagaland	1,395	100.4	1,378	96.4	1,477	98.5
18.	Orissa	50,995	148.8	50,619	45.2	49,843	140.5
19.	Punjab	11,145	51.6	13,922	63.5	15,069	67.8
20.	Rajasthan	1,48,266	307.5	1,16,621	328.9	1,65,469	330.5

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
21.	Sikkim	633	134.7	710	147.9	623	124.6
22.	Tamil Nadu	1,26,761	217.5	1,31,497	223.5	1,41,867	238.9
23.	Tripura	3,731	122.3	3,630	116.3	3,444	108.0
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1,77,992	118.6	1,72,480	113.0	1,92,779	98.5
25.	West Bengal	69,413	94.7	69,118	92.9	65,481	86.7
Total (States)		16,42,362	181.9	16,44,100	179.1	16,51,593	176.9
26.	A & N Islands	464	144.6	376	110.6	477	136.3
27.	Chandigarh	2,032	260.5	2,048	252.8	2,181	259.6
28.	D & N Haveli	436	272.5	410	256.3	347	204.1
29.	Daman & Diu	283	257.3	258	234.5	267	222.5
30.	Delhi	47,686	434.7	59,871	527.0	60,883	517.7
31.	Lakshadweep	31	51.7	44	73.3	26	43.3
32.	Pondicherry	2,402	273.0	2,469	274.3	2,530	275.0
Total (UTs)		53,334	401.3	65,476	476.6	66,711	469.1
Total State/UTs		16,95,696	185.1	17,09,576	183.4	17,18,304	181.3

**Hostels For SC Girls****Statement**

\*232. SHRIMATI BHAVNA DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of hostels for Scheduled Caste girls established so far in various States under the Central Scheme;

(b) the number of SC girls benefited from such hostels as on date State-wise;

(c) whether there had been complaints that SC girls hostels are not getting proper attention in many of these States; and

(d) the remedial measures proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) and (b) The total number of Hostels sanctioned under the centrally Sponsored Scheme of Hostels for SC Girls and the number of beneficiaries covered by these hostels as on date is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement Showing State-wise Hostels and Beneficiaries Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Hostels for SC Girls as on Date

S. No.	State/U.T.	No. of Hostels	No. of Beneficiaries
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	763	74775
2	Assam	88	460
3	Bihar	57	3970
4	Gujarat	100	3882
5	Haryana	7	49
6	Jammu & Kashmir	9	291
7	Karnataka	306	15347
8	Kerala	93	3633
9	Maharashtra	317	13528
10	Madhya Pradesh	454	18505
11	Manipur	7	201

1	2	3	4
12	Orissa	219	4800
13	Punjab	19	317
14	Rajasthan	22	680
15	Tamil Nadu	333	18779
16	Tripura	26	888
17	Uttar Pradesh	50	1506
18	West Bengal	90	3430
19	Himachal Pradesh	19	145
20	Sikkim	6	145
Total		2985	165331

#### De-Addiction Centres

\*233. SHRI NADENDLA BHASKARA RAO :

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH :

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

(a) the full dimension of drugs addiction in the country;

(b) the details and steps taken by the Government;

(c) the number of de-addiction centres established during the last three years, State-wise;

(d) whether proposals for the establishment of de-addiction centres and welfare schemes for the drug addicts have come from different States for approval;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the time by which the approval is likely to be given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) The different studies and reports indicate to a rising incidence of drug abuse amongst certain vulnerable section of the society which include street children, commercial sex workers, unemployed youth, transport workers, slum dwellers, opium growers, border areas etc.

(b) The Ministry is implementing the Scheme for Prohibition and Drug Abuse Prevention which is a community based programme wherein grant-in-aid to the extent of 90 per cent of the approved expenditure is released to the voluntary organisations for a series of

activities such as preventive education and awareness programme, setting up/maintenance of Counselling and Awareness Centres and Deaddiction-cum-Rehabilitation Centres; and for organising Deaddiction Camps, training programmes etc. During the year 1997-98, 278 voluntary organisations were released grant-in-aid for 370 Centres all over the country.

(c) State-wise number of new De-addiction Centres established during the years 1995-96 to 1997-98 as under:

Andhra Pradesh	-	2
Haryana	-	4
Jammu & Kashmir	-	1
Karnataka	-	3
Kerala	-	2
Maharashtra	-	1
Orissa	-	1
Pondicherry	-	1
Total	-	15

(d) to (f) The State-wise details of proposals for setting up of Deaddiction-cum-Rehabilitation Centres recommended by the State Governments which were taken up for consideration in the year 1998-99 is as under:-

Andhra Pradesh	-	5
Assam	-	2
Bihar	-	15
Gujarat	-	3
Haryana	-	4
Himachal Pradesh	-	1
Karnataka	-	9
Kerala	-	2
Maharashtra	-	23
Manipur	-	5
Madhya Pradesh	-	1
Meghalaya	-	3
Mizoram	-	1
Nagaland	-	3

Orissa	-	18
Punjab	-	2
Rajasthan	-	2
Tamil Nadu	-	8
Tripura	-	1
Uttar Pradesh	-	31
West Bengal	-	4
Delhi	-	2
Total	-	145

Out of these, 59 proposals have been sanctioned. The remaining proposals are in different stages of processing for completion of procedural formalities including completion of necessary documents, obtaining clarifications etc.

#### Medical Degrees From Erstwhile USSR

\*234. SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE :

SHRI VITHAL TUPE :

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

(a) whether the Government have recognised the medical degrees of those students who obtained such degrees from erstwhile Soviet Union countries;

(b) if so, the details of those students who have applied to the Medical Council of India for recognition of their degrees obtained from erstwhile Soviet Union;

(c) whether these doctors have been registered by MCI;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not the reasons therefor; and

(f) the fate of those students whose degrees have not been recognised by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) to (f) The medical qualification of 29 institutions in Russia and other C.I.S. countries are recognised qualification. The list of 29 institutions included in Part II of the Third Schedule to Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 is given in the enclosed Statement. However, recognition of the medical qualification M.D. (Physician) granted by two institutions, namely, Daghestan State Medical Institute, Russia and Azarbaijan Medical Institute in Azarbaijan has been limited upto 31st December, 2005.

Individuals who have successfully completed the total six year course and obtained M.D. (Physician) degree from the recognised institutions in the erstwhile USSR and who also meet the eligibility criteria as per the decision of the Medical Council of India are entitled to get registration with the Medical Council of India/State Medical Councils as per the provisions of Section 13(3) of the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956.

Request for recognition of M.D. (Physician) qualifications granted by the following institutions in erstwhile USSR was received in the Medical Council of India:-

1. Saratov State Medical University, Saratov, Russia.
2. Kyrgyz State Medical Academy, Bishkek.
3. North-Ossetian State Medical Academy, Alanla.
4. Semipalatinsk Medical Institute.
5. The Altai State Medical University, Russia.
6. Chelyabinsk State Medical Academy, Chelyabinsk.

The medical degrees of these institutions have not yet been recognised and therefore students from these institutions are not eligible for registration.

Students who have completed their medical degree course of less than 6 years duration from recognised institutions in the erstwhile U.S.S.R. have also applied for registration but MCI have taken a decision that they are not eligible for registration as the duration of M.D. (Physician) course is 6 years after one year preparatory language course.

Students who have obtained M.D. (Physician) qualification from recognised institutions in erstwhile U.S.S.R. but did not have the minimum marks in the prescribed subjects in the qualifying examination for admission i.e. 10+2, have not been considered to be eligible for registration by the Medical Council of India.

In the case of students who were initially admitted in an unrecognised institution and later on migrated and obtained the degree from recognised medical institutions in erstwhile U.S.S.R., MCI have decided that they will not be eligible for registration.

Students who have been refused registration by MCI have filed petitions in the High Court of Delhi and other High Courts and the matter is subjudice.

It is also proposed to introduce Screening Tests for all Indian nationals holding foreign degrees for the purposes of registration by amending the Indian Medical Council Act.

## Statement

S.No.	First Name	Changed Name
1	2	3
1.	M.D. 'Physician' (Patrice Lumumba Friendship University, Moscow) USSR.	M.D. 'Physician' (Russian People's Friendship University.
2.	M.D. 'Physician' (First Moscow Medical Institute), USSR.	M.D. 'Physician' (The Moscow Medical Academy of Russia).
3.	M.D. 'Physician' (First Moscow Leningrad Medical Institute), USSR.	M.D. 'Physician' (Sant Petersburg I. P. Pavlov State Medical Univ.) USSR.
4.	M.D. 'Physician' (Crimea Medical Institute in Simferopol), USSR.	M.D. 'Physician' (The Crimea State Medical Institute) USSR.
5.	M.D. 'Physician' (Vitebsk Medical Institute), USSR.	
6.	M.D. 'Physician' (Volgograd Medical Institute), USSR.	
7.	M.D. 'Physician' (Rostov Medical Institute), USSR.	M.D. 'Physician' (Rostov State Medical Univ.).
8.	M.D. 'Physician' (Starvropol Medical Institute), USSR.	M.D. 'Physician' (Stavropol Medical Academy).
9.	M.D. 'Physician' (Kalinin Medical Institute), USSR.	M.D. 'Physician' (Iver State Medical Instt.) USSR.
10.	M.D. 'Physician' (Kuban Medical Institute in Creasnadar), USSR.	M.D. 'Physician' (Kuban State Medical Academy).
11.	M.D. 'Physician' (Irkutsk Medical Institute), USSR.	
12.	M.D. 'Physician' (Voroshylovga Medical Institute), USSR.	M.D. 'Physician' (The Lugansk Medical Instt.) USSR.
13.	M.D. 'Physician' (Donetsk Medical Institute), USSR.	
14.	M.D. 'Physician' (Zaaporozhye Medical Institute), USSR.	
15.	M.D. 'Physician' (Lvov Medical Institute), USSR.	
16.	M.D. 'Physician' (Vinitsa Medical Institute), USSR.	M.D. 'Physician' (Vinitsa State Pirogov Memorial Medical Univ.).
17.	M.D. 'Physician' (Odessa Medical Institute), USSR.	M.D. 'Physician' (Odessa Pirogov Medical Instt.) USSR
18.	M.D. 'Physician' (Minks Medical Institute), USSR.	
19.	M.D. 'Physician' (Tashkent Medical Institute), USSR.	M.D. 'Physician' (2nd Tashkent Medical Instt.) USSR.

1	2	3
20.	M.D. 'Physician' (Tajik Medical Institute in Dashauba), USSR.	M.D. 'Physician' (Tajik State Abuall-ibn-sino Medical Univ.) USSR.
21.	M.D. 'Physician' (Alma-ata Medical Institute), USSR.	M.D. 'Physician' (Almaty Medical Instt.).
22.	M.D. 'Physician' (Kharkov Medical Institute), USSR.	
23.	M.D. 'Physician' (Yrevan Medical Institute), USSR.	
24.	* M.D. 'Physician' (Azarbaijan Medical Institute), USSR.	M.D. 'Physician' (Azarbaijan N. Narimanov Medical Univ.).
25.	M.D. 'Physician' (State Medical Instt., Kiev), USSR.	M.D. 'Physician' (O. Bogomolets Ukrainian State Med. University).
26.	M.D. 'Physician' (Second Moscow Medical Instt.), USSR.	M.D. 'Physician' (Second Moscow State Pirogov Medical Instt.) USSR.
27.	M.D. 'Physician' (Leningrad Sanitary Hygienic Instt.), USSR.	M.D. 'Physician' (St. Petersburg State Med. Academy) USSR.
28.	M.D. 'Physician' (Moscow Medical Stomatological Instt.), USSR.	
29.	* M.D. 'Physician' (Dagestan Medical Instt.), USSR.	

Note : \* These two colleges are recognised upto 31/12/2005.

[Translation]

#### Demurrage for Diesel Imports

\*235. SHRI SUSHIL INDORA :

SHRI K. PARY MOHAN :

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

(a) whether the ships loaded with crude oil are compelled to remain in the sea itself due to shortage of space and storage facilities at various ports;

(b) if so, whether demurrage for diesel is charged due to the above reasons;

(c) if so, the rate at which demurrage is charged and the amount given as demurrage during the last three years, year wise; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to stop movement of ships loaded with diesel into the country till there is a space to keep the stock?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI VAZHAPADY K. RAMAMURTHY) : (a) to (d)

Imports of petroleum products are made in line with the approved plan to meet the demand. Infrastructural constraints result in congestion at the ports. Demurrage is incurred on this account and due to floating inventory held in the high sea.

The demurrage rate varies from ship-to-ship and the prevailing market conditions including the exchange rate.

The quantum of demurrage incurred on petroleum products during last three years is as under:-

1995-96 — Rs. 369.3 crores

1996-97 — Rs. 565.7 crores

1997-98 — Rs. 448.0 crores

Import of diesel is planned having regard to the processing schedule of the refineries, the demand pattern within the country and the need to maintaining strategic inventory levels including in floating tankers.

[English]

#### Adulteration in Food Items

\*236 DR. SUGUNA KUMARI CHELLAMELLA :

SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE :

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

(a) whether the Government are aware that many cases of adulteration in food items like papaya seeds in pepper, brick powder in chillis and argemone in mustard seeds are causing slow deaths and various diseases for consumers;

(b) if so, the number of such cases registered during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to amend the PFA Act 1954;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to make the laws more stringent for immediate action against adulterators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) According to the available information from the State/UT Governments, the overall extent of adulteration in various food stuffs including pepper, chillies and mustard seeds have been found range between 8 and 11 per cent during the last five years i.e. 1993 to 1997. The recent details due to dropsy were due

to the consumption of adulterated mustard oil is an unusual case of conspiracy, which has also been brought under control by strict enforcement of the provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act (PFA Act), 1954 and allied quality control measures.

The State-wise information indicating the number of samples examined, found adulterated/misbranded, percentage of adulteration and prosecutions launched under the provisions of the PFA Act, 1954 during the years, 1995, 1996 and 1997 is given in the statement enclosed.

(c) to (e) The provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 and Rules made thereunder are amended from time to time in order to make them more effective keeping in view the emerging needs and the concerns of the various stakeholders. The act already provides for summary trial and stringent punishment for adulterators. In cases of proven adulteration, the Act provides for a minimum punishment of six months imprisonment which may extend upto three years with fine. However, in cases where such adulteration is found to cause death or body harm, as would amount to grievous hurt within the meaning of Section 320 of the Indian Penal Code (45 of 1860), the adulterator shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than three years but which may extend to a term of life, and with fine which shall not be less than five thousand rupees.

#### Statement

*Statement indicating State-wise number of samples examined, found adulterated/misbranded, percentage of adulteration and prosecutions launched under the provision of PFA Act, 1954 during the years 1995, 1996 and 1997.*

Name of States/U.Ts	Number of samples examined			Number of samples found adulterated			Percentage of adulteration (%)			Number of prosecutions launched		
	1995	1996*	1997*	1995	1996*	1997*	1995	1996*	1997*	1995	1996*	1997*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1. Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
2. Andhra Pradesh	10564	10756	10734	881	739	748	8.3	6.87	6.96	188	231	243
3. Arunachal Pradesh	74	114	87	11	21	20	14.8	18.42	22.98	3	6	4
4. Assam	1234	1059	963	148	144	135	11.99	13.59	14.01	138	42	135
5. Bihar	2362	N.A.	N.A.	616	N.A.	N.A.	26.08	N.A.	N.A.	188	N.A.	N.A.
6. Chandigarh (UT)	315	436	371	42	33	46	13.3	7.56	12.39	123	147	183
7. Dadra & Nagar Haveli (UT)	6	10	N.A.	Nil	3	N.A.	Nil	30%	N.A.	N.A.	3	N.A.
8. Daman & Diu (UT)	Nil	25	27	Nil	2	Nil	Nil	8%	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
9. Delhi (NCT)	555	594	N.A.	82	124	N.A.	14.77	20.87	N.A.	64	110	N.A.
10. Goa	456	260	320	34	37	15	7.46	14.2	4.68	22	19	18

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
11. Gujarat	9813	9286	7891	690	561	643	7.03	6.04	8.15	596	588	559
12. Haryana	3677	N.A.	N.A.	450	N.A.	N.A.	12.24	N.A.	N.A.	424	N.A.	N.A.
13. Himachal Pradesh	607	N.A.	N.A.	170	N.A.	N.A.	28%	N.A.	N.A.	113	N.A.	N.A.
14. J & K	558	812	N.A.	107	136	N.A.	19.17	16.74	N.A.	74	82	N.A.
15. Karnataka	2190	N.A.	N.A.	104	N.A.	N.A.	4.7	N.A.	N.A.	24	N.A.	N.A.
16. Kerala	7809	N.A.	5404	306	N.A.	161	3.9	N.A.	2.9	94	N.A.	131
17. Lakshadweep (UT)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
18. Madhya Pradesh	5208	N.A.	N.A.	978	N.A.	N.A.	18.78	N.A.	N.A.	961	N.A.	N.A.
19. Maharashtra	26117	27326	N.A.	1644	1802	N.A.	6.29	6.59	N.A.	678	951	N.A.
20. Manipur	N.A.	11	N.A.	N.A.	Nil	N.A.	N.A.	Nil	N.A.	N.A.	Nil	N.A.
21. Meghalaya	199	196	286	8	8	20	4%	4.08	6.9	4	7	18
22. Mizoram	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
23. Nagaland	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
24. Orissa	1261	694	N.A.	266	142	N.A.	21.09	20.4	N.A.	208	114	N.A.
25. Pondicherry	474	219	N.A.	25	15	N.A.	5.27	6.84	N.A.	13	15	N.A.
26. Punjab	3609	N.A.	N.A.	333	N.A.	N.A.	9.2	N.A.	N.A.	252	N.A.	N.A.
27. Rajasthan	2331	4201	160	502	1120	23	21.5	26.66	14.37	472	995	21
28. Sikkim	33	N.A.	22	6	N.A.	5	18%	N.A.	22.7	6	N.A.	5
29. Tamil Nadu	11978	9274	7055	618	443	481	5.16	4.77	6.82	337	275	473
30. Tripura	N.A.	309	N.A.	N.A.	25	N.A.	N.A.	8.09	N.A.	N.A.	22	N.A.
31. Uttar Pradesh	10678	13854	11241	1229	2928	1772	11.5	21.13	15.7	1752	1772	865
32. West Bengal	1530	1700	1564	174	179	174	11.37	10.5	11.1	175	179	174
<b>Total</b>	<b>103638</b>	<b>81136</b>	<b>46125</b>	<b>9424</b>	<b>8462</b>	<b>4243</b>	<b>9.09</b>	<b>10.42</b>	<b>9.19</b>	<b>6909</b>	<b>5558</b>	<b>2829</b>

\*The figures relating to the years 1996 and 1997 are tentative only and compared to a few States only.

### Population Control

\*237. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI :

SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :

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

(a) the details of the policy in regard to population control;

(b) whether the previous population control policies have failed in view of ever-increasing population;

(c) whether the Government propose to issue

instructions for uniform implementation of those measures for all the communities; and

(d) if not, the communities kept out from the purview of such instructions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) In the short term population is controlled by citizens to avoid unwanted pregnancies by use of temporary and terminal methods of contraceptives. In the long term population gets controlled by also looking after survival issues and maternal health issues. Accordingly, Family Welfare Programme seeks to meet the needs of citizens for child survival needs, maternal health needs

and contraception needs. The policy of the Government has been to offer these facilities to citizens in a user-friendly manner while motivating citizens through IEC to use these facilities in an informed manner.

(b) The National Family Welfare programme has been able to bring down the birth rate from 41.7 per 1000 population in 1951-61 to 27.2 in 1997, infant mortality rate from 146 in 1951-61 to 71 in 1997 and fertility rate from 6 in 1951 to 3.5 in 1994. These substantial achievements do not indicate failure of Family Welfare effort though the objective of achieving stable population has not yet been achieved.

(c) and (d) All the schemes under the Family Welfare programme are for use by all the communities. No community or group of citizens has been kept out of the purview of Family Welfare programmes by the Government.

#### Criticism on Draft National Blood Policy

\*238. SHRI S. S. OWAISI :

SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE :

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

(a) whether the Government have released draft of the National blood policy recently;

(b) If so, the details and the main features thereof;

(c) whether this policy has come in for sharp criticism from experts in this field;

(d) If so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have considered the views expressed by the experts in regard to blood policy;

(f) If so, the details thereof; and.

(g) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure that blood is made available to needy persons without any hardships?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) to (g) A draft National Blood Policy has been formulated and it has been widely circulated to all State Governments and Union Territories, Blood Banks, Voluntary Blood Banks/Associations and eminent Doctors; etc. for their views and suggestions. Based on the comments/views from these agencies, the policy will be finalised. The objective of Draft National Blood Policy is to plan for developments of nation-wide system in order to

ensure easily accessible and adequate supply of safe and quality blood and components for all irrespective of economic or social status. The policy would aim to improve the quality of blood transfusion services through a comprehensive and total management approach. The draft National Blood Policy aims at the following strategy for providing safe blood and blood products:

- (i) strengthening the National Blood Transfusion Services making it an integral part of the health care system.
- (ii) Ensuring adequate supply of blood to all blood centres.
- (iii) Ensuring safety of blood and blood products.
- (iv) Developing facilities for production of components.
- (v) Developing and strengthening facilities for Plasma Fractionation.
- (vi) Strengthening quality control of blood and blood products.
- (vii) Undertaking research on Blood Transfusion Services operations to improve safety, efficacy in supply of blood.
- (viii) Developing and strengthening effective management, monitoring and evaluation of the Blood Transfusion Services.

Comments and views have been received from many experts and some are still being received. From the comments received so far, it has been observed that more or less a large number of them are in conformity, and some have also given good suggestions, which will be given due consideration by the National Blood Transfusion Council before finalising. However, up till now, no sharp criticism of the policy has been received.

In order to ensure that blood is made available to needy persons without hardship, the Government of India have taken a number of steps for generating enough blood through Voluntary Blood Donation Programmes such as:

1. A campaign has been launched through Television by specially developed TV spots, telecast through Doordarshan at suitable intervals during Prime Time, for motivating people to donate blood voluntarily.
2. Messages on voluntary blood donation are broadcast through Times FM channel in one of their music programmes.
3. NACO with the help of the Central Health Edu-

cation Bureau have developed prototype IEC material for one to one communication on voluntary blood donation programme in the form of folders, posters and the same have been given to various States and UTs for use and reproduction in the vernacular languages.

4. The National Council of Science and Technology Communication (Department of Science and Technology, Government of India) have initiated a pilot intervention project for generating voluntary blood donation in 50 selected cities, with a view to fill the gap between demand and availability of blood.
5. Blood Banks have been asked to maintain database of Voluntary Donors so that they are kept in regular touch and can be contacted in emergency, in addition to recognising and honouring them by awards, certificates, badges etc.
6. Every year the 1st of October is celebrated as the National Voluntary Blood Donation Day. Special campaigns to educate the masses and special camps for blood collection are organised. Messages from the President of India and Minister of Health and Family Welfare with appeals for voluntary blood donation are telecast and broadcast. These messages also appear in newspapers.

#### Spurious Medicines

\*239. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

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

(a) whether various life saving drugs of inferior quality in the names of reputed companies are available in the market;

(b) if so, whether the Government has failed to check this menace;

(c) the criteria adopted by the Government to check manufacture and sale of spurious drugs in the country;

(d) the total number of persons died during each of last three years due to consumption of spurious medicines in the country particularly in the capital; and

(e) the effective steps the Government propose to take to bring necessary changes in the laws to punish those found manufacturing and selling the spurious drugs/medicines and ensure the sale of genuine medicines in the market at reasonable price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT

EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) Spurious drugs are being detected from time to time by the State drug control administrations as part of their normal sampling and surveillance activities. As per the data available from the States, 132 samples of drugs were found spurious out of 25547 samples tested during 1997-98. The percentage of spurious drugs comes to 0.5% of the total drug samples taken during 1997-98.

(c) Manufacture of spurious drugs is an unlicensed and illegal activity undertaken by unscrupulous manufacturers. The Drug Control authorities raid such establishments with the assistance of the police, based on information received.

Decoy customers are deputed by States to make test purchase of questionable quality of drugs to assist the enforcement staff. Under Section 26 of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act ( D & C Act), 1940, consumer associations have also been authorised to draw any suspicious samples for sending to the approved laboratories for testing. They are also empowered to file complaints in the courts of law under section 32 of the D & C Act, 1940. Chemists and Druggists Associations have been asked to educate consumers with regard to DOs and DONTs for purchase and intake of medicines.

(d) The requisite information for the country is being collected and will be laid in the Table of the House.

(e) The action taken by the Government to deal with the problem is given as under:

(i) Section 36 A was introduced in the D & C Act, 1940 in 1982 to empower the State Governments to summarily try certain offences by a 1st class Judicial Magistrate specially empowered for this purpose by the State Government or by the Metropolitan Magistrate;

(ii) States have been advised to constitute Legal-cum-Intelligence Cells to unearth spurious drugs with police assistance;

(iii) A proposal to augment the drug testing capacity and strengthen the enforcement staff in both the Centre and States with World Bank assistance is under formulation.

[Translation]

#### Medical Facilities

\*240. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether adequate medical facilities have not been provided to all the people even after a long period of independence;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the efforts being made by the Government in this regard during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) to (c) A comprehensive network of rural health infrastructure comprising 1,36,815 Sub-Centres, 22,962 Primary Health Centres and 2,708 Community Health Centres has been established throughout the country to provide preventive, promotive and curative health care in rural areas.

Public health is a State responsibility under the Constitution but to enable them to fill critical gaps external assistance has been mobilised for implementing the National Programmes for AIDS, Leprosy, TB, Malaria, Blindness and the Reproductive Child Health Programme.

Besides, for upgrading the rural hospitals in 6 States. World Bank assistance has been availed of which would further improve delivery of health services.

#### Criteria for Fixing Price of Essential Commodities

2483. SHRI H. P. SINGH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for rapid increase in the prices of consumer goods;

(b) the agency for price determination of consumer goods and the criteria adopted; and

(c) the reasons for not formulating any specific scheme to check the increase in the prices of each commodity after every three months and six months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) and (b) The main reasons for increase in the prices of consumer goods are the increase in the cost of production, gap in their supply and demand, lower production during the year 1997-98 and marketing costs. The prices of consumer goods are determined by the market forces and there is no specific agency to determine the prices of these commodities.

(c) Due to practical and other operational difficulties, it is not possible to prepare any specific scheme to check the increase in the prices of each commodity after every three months and six months.

[English]

#### Gas Agencies in Jammu and Kashmir

2484. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that some persons have been operating LPG agencies and petrol pumps by proxy instead of original licence holders in Jammu and Kashmir;

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

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to make cooking gas available to the people of districts engulfed with militancy in Jammu region, Kashmir Valley and Ladakh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) No retail outlet dealership is reportedly being operated by proxy instead of original licence holders in Jammu and Kashmir. However, one LPG distributorship of BPC allotted in favour of Shri Sunil Razdan, M/s Chinar Gas service at Srinagar, is presently being operated by Shri Aslam Dhar. The distributorship is being operated in the name of M/s Chinar Gas Service. Due to law and order problem in Jammu & Kashmir, Mr. Razdan was forced to flee and take shelter in the house of Mr. Aslam Dhar, landlord of the showroom of the distributorship. Fearing further repiasal, Mr. Razdan handed over the keys of the distributorship to Mr. Dhar and fled to Delhi on 5.6.90.

Though M/s Bharat Petroleum Corp. has requested Mr. Razdan to come back to the valley to take over his distributorship, he has expressed his inability to do so in view of the disturbed conditions in the State. However, in view of the circumstances prevailing in Jammu and Kashmir and its capital Srinagar, it would be extremely difficult to discontinue the operation of the distributorship by Shri Aslam Dhar.

(c) In addition to the locations pending from the previous Marketing Plans, two more LPG distributorships have been included in the LPG Marketing Plan 1996-98 for Jammu & Kashmir. As per existing policy, LPG connections are being released across the counter at the locations situated at the altitude of above 2000 ft. in the State.

#### Demolition in Chandigarh

2485. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the officials of the Union territory of Chandigarh carried out any demolition in any village during October, 1998;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether notices were served on all the affected persons;

- (d) if so, the details thereof; and  
(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A demolition operation was carried out on the 27th October, 1998 by Chandigarh Administration to remove unauthorised structures built over agricultural land at Raipur Kalan.

(c) and (d) As per the information furnished by the Chandigarh Administration, prior notices under section 12(2) of the Punjab New Capital (Periphery) Control Act were issued to all the persons concerned.

- (e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Financial Assistance to Women

2486. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the total financial assistance provided to Bihar State for imparting industrial training to women during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the Government have constituted any monitoring committee to ensure the full utilisation of the said financial assistance;

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

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) The year-wise financial assistance provided for Bihar State for imparting industrial training to women under World Bank Vocational Training Project during the last three years i.e. 1995-96, 96-97 and 97-98 has been Rs. 13.724, Rs. 5.956 and Rs. 19.719 lakhs respectively.

(b) and (c) To ensure proper utilisation of financial assistance, monitoring is done by the State Project Implementation Unit at the State level and the Central Project Implementation Unit at the Central level. Utilization and Audit Certificates are furnished by the concerned State Government. The progress is reviewed jointly by the World Bank Mission and this Ministry in review meetings at regular intervals.

- (d) Does not arise.

#### Natural Gas for China Clay Complex

2487. SHRIMATI KAMAL RANI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to allot natural gas to Uttar Pradesh for the development of China clay complex;

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.

(c) The available natural gas for supply to consumers along HBJ Pipeline is far less than the commitments already made.

[English]

#### LPG Distributorship

2488. SHRI RAJ BANSHI MAHTO :

SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV  
(JHANJIHARPUR) :

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

(a) whether LPG distributorship for Ghoghardila, Karmagh, Jamagar, Benipati and Madhubani in Bihar has been approved for opening of LPG agencies there;

(b) if so, whether any advertisement has been issued for inviting applications in this regard;

- (c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons for delay and the time by which the applications are proposed to be invited for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (c) Oil companies have reportedly advertised the following locations in June 1998, for setting up LPG distributorships:

- 1) Ghoghardila
- 2) Karmagh
- 3) Jamhaur
- 4) Benipati

Madhubani in East Champaran District is reported to be unviable. There is no location by the name Jamagar in Madhubani District.

- (d) Does not arise.

#### Vocational Training Institute for Men

2489. SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to establish Regional Vocational Training Institute for men on the line of RVTIs for women;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Vocational Training facilities are organised by the Government under the aegis of Directorate General of Employment and Training (DGE&T) through a network of Industrial Training Institutes being run by the concerned State Governments/Private Bodies for basic craftsmen training scheme and Central Government Institutes for advanced levels and for Instructional Skills.

The Regional Vocational Training Institutes (RVTIs) for women have been set up to augment Vocational training facilities for women in basic, advanced and instructional skills in selected Engineering and non-Engineering occupations. These institutes have been set up exclusively for skills training of women in view of the fact that women are not adequately represented in general training institutions.

#### Relaxation in Procurement of Paddy

2490. SHRI K. S. RAO:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Paddy crop in Andhra Pradesh has damaged due to unseasonal rains;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have relaxed the maximum acceptable limit of damage to the paddy crops in the case of Haryana and Punjab;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether these instructions have been adhered to by the procuring agencies; and

(f) the quantity of paddy procured by the F.C.I. in Andhra Pradesh during the current season so far and the price at which it is procured?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is too early to assess the extent of damage to paddy crops due to unseasonal rains.

(c) The Government have allowed relaxation in specifications of paddy for current Kharif Marketing Season 1998-99 in Andhra Pradesh. Under the relaxed specification paddy stocks can be procured from the farmers with (i) damaged, discoloured, sprouted and weevilled grains all put together upto a maximum limit of 8%, and (ii) Immature, shrunken and shrivelled grains upto a maximum limit of 4%.

(d) to (f) The FCI has been asked to procure paddy under relaxed specifications under price support scheme. The FCI has set up 124 purchase centres in Andhra Pradesh to extend Minimum Support Price of paddy to the farmers and to avoid distress sale of paddy.

(g) No paddy could be procured so far in Andhra Pradesh in the current Kharif Marketing Season 1998-99 as the market prices of paddy are ruling higher than the MSP of paddy fixed by the Government i.e. Rs. 440 per qtl. for Common variety and Rs. 470 per qtl. for Grade 'A' variety.

#### Domestic Servants

2491. SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a demonstration of child labourers, school children and representatives of voluntary organisations demanding to make the employment of children as domestic servants a punishable offence; and

(b) if so, the details regarding their demand and the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) (a) and (b) There has been a demand from certain quarters to make employment of children as domestic servants a punishable offence.

On the directions of the NHRC the Ministry of Labour has taken up the matter with State Governments. Some States including Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Sikkim have amended their Service Conduct Rules prohibiting Government servants from employing any child below the age of 14 years from working at home.

#### Ban on Admission in Medical College

2492. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have put any ban on the admission of students to the Pariyaram Medical College, Kerala for 1998-99;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have received any request from the Government of Kerala to lift the ban; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) to (d) In view of shortage of teaching staff admissions in the college were stopped in May, 1998. However, on subsequent clarification from the State Govt. on appointment of teaching staff, permission of the Central Government has already been granted for admission of students during 1998-99.

#### **Pillars Installed at Border**

2493. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether out of 33000 pillars installed at Indo-Bangladesh border about 13000 pillars have either disappeared or are being used otherwise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) As per available information, the total number of boundary pillars erected along Indo-Bangladesh border is 33653. Out of this 8762 pillars are damaged and 6736 pillars are either missing or submerged under water. The maintenance of boundary pillars is a continuous on-going process and is attended to by the respective State Governments.

[Translation]

#### **Homes Constructed for Bhopal Gas Victims**

2494. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the manner in which the houses constructed at Govindpura in Bhopal city in the aftermath of the Bhopal Gas Tragedy are being utilised;

(b) whether these houses are being used by the CRPF personnel as their residences;

(c) if so, the authority who gave the permission in this regard;

(d) whether the purpose for which these houses were constructed in the above mentioned area would not be served;

(e) the number of people of the gas affected families provided jobs who were imparted vocational training; and

(f) the number of such people who are carrying on their own business?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICAL AND FERTILIZER (DR. A. K. PATEL) : (a) According to the information furnished by the State Government of Madhya Pradesh, no houses were constructed at Govindpura in Bhopal after the Bhopal Gas Tragedy.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

(e) and (f) According to the information given by the Government of Madhya Pradesh, 152 worksheds were constructed in the special Industrial Area in Govindpura out of which 12 sheds are under the possession of 11 established industries and 32 sheds are in the possession of Hastshilp Vikas Nigam. 46 gas victims have been provided employment by the 11 established industries. 3000 women have been given training jute by Hastshilp Vikas Nigam. 7 societies have been formed of these trained women and 175 women are getting employment through the societies. In addition, 275 trained women are carrying out jute work in the association of Jute Service Centre. 80% women out of 3000 trained women are from gas affected area.

[English]

#### **Training For Labourers**

2495. SHRI A. F. GOLAM OSMANI :

SHRI T. GOVINDAN :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up Training Institutes for the benefit of Labourers of unorganised sector;

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

(c) the details of benefits to be achieved by these labourers?

THE MINISTER LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (c) A number of Government agencies as mentioned below are engaged for the training of Labourers in unorganised sector:

1. DGET in the Ministry of Labour : It is the Apex Organisation responsible for Vocational Training Programmes at National level. Under the craftsman training scheme, as per the latest information available, a network of 4086 Industrial Training Institutes/Centres (Statement-I) are functioning in the country under the State/Private sector, providing training in 42 Engineering and 18 Non-Engineering trades. The aim of the Scheme is to provide

skilled workforce for various sectors of economy. The training programmes conducted under the scheme caters to the needs of both organised and unorganised sectors.

Vocational Training being a concurrent subject, both Central and State Governments share the responsibility. Laying down of policies, standards, norms and guidelines etc. is the responsibility of the Central Government, whereas the implementation of vocational Training Programmes rests with the respective State Government/UT. Opening of ITIs falls under the jurisdiction of State Governments/ UTs.

### 2. Ministry of Rural Employment and Poverty Alleviation

This Ministry is implementing a centrally sponsored scheme for the Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM), which aims at providing basic technical and entrepreneurial skills to the rural youth from the families below poverty line to take up self/wage employment in broad fields of agriculture/allied sector, industries, service and business activities. A component of the scheme is strengthening of training infrastructure under which exclusive TRYSEM Training Centres (ETTCs) are to be established in those blocks which are deficient in training infrastructure. These centres are meant for training the TRYSEM trainees only. A Statewise list of ETTCs sanctioned since the inception of the schemes in 1995-96 is given in the statement-II enclosed.

### 3. Department of Small Scale Industries, Agro and Rural Industries

Under this Department the National Small Industries Corporation is running Training Programmes for unorganised labourers in the trades of Leather Goods Manufacturing at Chennai. Lock Assembly at Sub Centres of Dindigul and Aligarh (UP).

### 4. Khadi & Village Industries Commission (KVIC), Department of Small Scale Industries, Agro & Rural Industries

KVIC is running 45 Training Centres all over the country for traditional Artisans/Craftsmen.

### 5. Ministry of Textiles

Under this Ministry, Development Commissioner, Handlooms Office is implementing "Decentralised Training of Weavers" to generate employment in the handloom sector and to upgrade the skills of handloom weavers through 24 Centres all over the country.

The personnel trained through the above programmes are equipped with the requisite skills to facilitate them to acquire gainful employment in organised or unorganised sectors or for self-employment ventures.

### Statement-I

*Region-wise Number of Government and Private ITIs/ITCs with its Seating Capacity in various States/ Union Territories as on 05.11.1998.*

Sl. No.	Name of State/UTs	No. of Govt. ITIs	Seating Capacity (Govt.)	No. of Pvt. ITIs.	Seating Capacity (Pvt.)	Total ITIs/ITCs.	Total Seating Capacity
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>Northern Region</b>							
1	Haryana	75	12849	22	1172	97	14021
2	H.P.	34	3444	2	48	36	3492
3	J. & K.	36	5978	1	32	37	6010
4	Punjab	103	13871	24	1204	127	15075
5	Rajasthan	112	10236	46	2780	158	13016
6	U.P.	230	43300	84	6700	314	50000
7	Chandigarh	2	868	0	0	2	868
8	Delhi	16	9204	37	1928	53	11132
<b>SubTotal</b>		<b>608</b>	<b>99750</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>13864</b>	<b>824</b>	<b>113614</b>

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>Southern Region</b>							
1	A. Pradesh	81	22328	500	91100	581	113428
2	Karnataka	56	11226	233	20032	289	31258
3	Kerala	40	12284	431	38409	471	50693
4	Tamil Nadu	52	17056	570	73958	622	91014
5	Lakshadweep	1	96	0	0	1	96
6	Pondicherry	7	1100	7	440	14	1540
Sub Total		237	64090	1741	223939	1978	288029
<b>Eastern Region</b>							
1	Aru. Pradesh	2	374	0	0	2	374
2	Assam	24	4488	2	48	26	4536
3	Bihar	34	12560	14	3532	48	16092
4	Manipur	6	648	0	0	6	648
5	Meghalaya	7	606	2	288	9	894
6	Mizoram	1	300	0	0	1	300
7	Nagaland	3	404	0	0	3	404
8	Orissa	24	6408	105	6982	129	13390
9	Sikkim	1	140	0	0	1	140
10	Tripura	7	996	0	0	7	996
11	West Bengal	23	10602	35	2196	58	12798
12	A. N. Islands	1	198	0	0	1	198
Sub Total		133	37724	158	13046	291	50770
<b>Western Region</b>							
1	Goa	10	2268	4	388	14	2656
2	Gujarat	159	51048	79	648	238	58696
3	M.P.	108	23822	65	7048	173	30870
4	Maharashtra	301	66444	264	29048	565	95492
5	D & N Havell	1	228	0	0	1	228
6	Daman & Diu	2	349	0	0	2	349
Sub Total		581	144159	412	44132	993	188291
Grand Total		1559	345723	2527	294981	4086	640704

**Statement-II****Statewise Number of Exclusive TRYSEM Training Centres (ETTCs) Sanctioned**

Name of the States	No. of ETTCs Sanctioned
Andhra Pradesh	91
Assam	44
Gujarat	10
Kerala	28
Madhya Pradesh	99
Maharashtra	30
Manipur	1
Meghalaya	7
Orissa	17
Rajasthan	79
Tamil Nadu	3
Uttar Pradesh	21
Himachal Pradesh	4
Karnataka	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>441</b>

[Translation]

**Employment to Widows**

2496. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :

SHRI AMAN KUMAR NAGRA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the widows are provided employment immediately through employment exchanges;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to provide employment to widows immediately;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (e) The Government has classified certain special types of job seekers into 4 priority Categories namely Category I, Category II (A), Category II(B), and Category III for the purpose of providing employment in

Groups 'C' and 'D' posts through Employment Exchanges. The Widows/Divorced Women have been accorded priority III and the Employment Exchanges are required to make submission accordingly against priority vacancies notified to them.

[English]

**Cases Under Vigilance Wing of Super Bazar**

2497. DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cases registered by the vigilance wing of the Super Bazar during the last five years;
- (b) the number out of those cases pending/cleared so far;
- (c) the reasons for delay in clearing the remaining cases; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government for speedy disposal of these cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) According to the information furnished by the Super Bazar the total number of vigilance cases taken up by the vigilance Wing of Super Bazar during last five years is 170.

(b) The pendency position of cases, category-wise, is as under:-

i) Major penalty	-	6
ii) Minor penalty	-	nil
iii) Cases under processing after inquiry	-	9

(c) The delay in clearing the cases due to non-availability of witnesses in many cases who are outsiders, non-availability of old records and in some cases sickness of the Inquiry Officer etc. Super Bazar has informed that all pending cases would be completed expeditiously. The cases are, however, reviewed at periodic intervals of a month.

(d) These disciplinary cases are reviewed in the Ministry at the end of each month. Quarterly meetings are also held in the Ministry. Instructions are issued by the Govt. from time to time for speedy disposal of cases. Specific cases where the problems are seen, are also discussed to ensure that the cases are disposed off at a faster rate.

**Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940**

2498. SHRI PADMA NAVA BEHERA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the medicinal preparations like weak ginger, Tincture B.P., Tincture of orange I.P., Ashok Liquid extract I.P. are being misused as cheap source of intoxicants in the State of Orissa;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to ban and amend the section 26-A of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940;

(c) if not, whether such drugs containing more than 30% of alcohol can be brought under schedule-H or X so as to make the same available only under prescription from registered medical practitioners by amending the Drugs and Cosmetic Rules, 1945; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to prevent such misuse?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) No such incident has come to notice.

(b) Banning of drugs under Section 26-A of the Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940 is done on the basis of evidence of harmful effects or irrationality and on the recommendation of the experts.

(c) and (d) Alcoholic medical preparations do not fall in the category of narcotic and psychotronic drugs which alone can be considered for inclusion in Schedule 'X'. As regards inclusion of drugs containing more than 30% alcohol in schedule 'H' the matter is to be considered by expert bodies viz, Drug Consultative Committee and Drugs Technical Advisory Board before any action taken.

#### Revised Pay Scale of Radiographers/ X-Ray Technicians

2499. SHRI GANGARAM KOLI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Fifth Pay Commission has revised the pay scale of Radiographers/X-Ray Technicians working in the Directorate of Central Government Health Schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of existing Radiographers/X-Ray Technicians working in CGHS alongwith their scale of pay fixed after the implementation of Fifth Pay Commission Report;

(d) whether any representation for anomaly in fixation of pay has been received by the Government;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(f) if not, the time by which the anomalies is likely to be redressed by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Statement is attached.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. There are 5 posts of Radiographers/X-Ray Technicians sanctioned under CHGS, Delhi, who have been fixed in the revised pay scale of Rs. 4,500-125-7000. Two representations have been received in this regard.

(e) and (f) The Radiographers/X-Ray Technicians have been demanding revision of pay scale to Rs. 5000-150-8000. An Anomaly Committee has been constituted in the Ministry under the Chairpersonship of Additional Secretary. After the above demand is examined and the anomaly established, it will be referred to the Anomaly Committee for consideration.

#### Statement

The 5th Pay Commission recommended scales of pay for the posts of Radiographers/X-Ray Technicians as follows:-

Sl. No.	Existing Designation	Present Scales (Rs.)	Proposed Scales		Proposed Designation
			Pre-revised (Rs.)	Revised (Rs.)	
1	Radiographer Technician Supervisor/Sr. Radiographer	—	2000-3500	6500-10500	Radiographer-I
2	Radiographer Technician Supervisor/Sr. Radiographer	1640-2900	1640-2900	5500-9000	Radiographer-II
3	Radiographer	1350-2200	1600-2660	5000-8000	Radiographer-III
4	—	—	1400-2300	4500-7000	Asstt. Radiographer-I
5	Sr. Dark Room Asst. Technician	1200-2040	1320-2040	4000-6000	Asstt. Radiographer-II
6	Dark Room Asstt. Technician Asstt. (X-Ray)	950-1500	950-1500	3050-4590	Asstt. Radiographer-III

### Pending Schemes in Tamil Nadu

2500. DR. SAROJA V. : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the various SCs/ STs, schemes of the Government of Tamil Nadu pending for clearance with the Union Government;
- (b) the action taken thereon by the Government so far; and
- (c) the time by which these pending Projects are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) No scheme of the Government of Tamil Nadu is pending for clearance with this Ministry.

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

### Inclusion of Sikkim in North-Eastern Council

2501. SHRI BHIM DAHAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government of Sikkim has been demanding for inclusion of Sikkim in the North-Eastern Council;
- (b) if so, whether the Union Government are introducing the requisite Bill during the winter session of Parliament;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. The North Eastern Council (Amendment) Bill 1998 was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 8.12.98.

### Violence in J & K

2502. SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any survey has been undertaken to identify the victims of violence in J & K State particularly Kashmir valley during the last three years; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) No survey has been undertaken to identify the victims of violence in J & K. However, as per the information received from the State Government, 3062

civilians have lost their lives in militant violence in J & K during the last three years; viz. 1996, 1997 and 1998 (upto 30th Nov., 1998).

### Technology for Petroleum Products

2503. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Indian Institute of Petroleum has developed a technology know-how for manufacturing of petroleum products wherein small sector can also be associated;
- (b) if so, the names of such products;
- (c) whether the technologies of the above products has been transferred/given to the organisation/ entrepreneurs on turnkey basis for commercialisation;
- (d) if so, the details product-wise and the terms and norms thereof; and
- (e) the incentives, facilities, Institute has offered to entrepreneurs for their successful development and implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (e) The Indian Institute of Petroleum has developed technologies for petroleum products, which are capital intensive and not suitable for small scale sector. However, IIP has developed the following technologies, which are licensed to the small sector.

- Re-refining of used IC Engine Crankcase Lubricating Oil
- Li/Al Complex Greases.

### Black Marketing of Cylinders

2504. DR. RAVI MALLU : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of LPG distributors of different companies presently working in Faridabad;
- (b) whether most of the LPG distributors are not maintaining proper supply to the consumers and blackmarketing the cylinders;
- (c) if so, whether any checks are maintained on such malpractices of LPG distributors;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action proposed to safeguard interests of consumers in Faridabad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) At present 26 LPG distributorship are in operation in Faridabad.

(b) No, Sir. No backlog or blackmarketing of LPG cylinders has been reported in Faridabad.

(c) to (e) Inspection of LPG distributorships are carried out by oil companies periodically based on Oil Industry norms/policies. In the event of any discrepancies, malpractices/irregularities detected at LPG distributorships, action is based on the LPG Marketing Discipline Guidelines. Further, action is also taken against LPG distributorships based on the investigation of complaints received from customers/prospective customers.

No established case of malpractices/irregularities has been detected at LPG distributorships in Faridabad Town of Haryana State, recently.

#### Production of Sugarcane in Gujarat

2505. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of sugarcane produced in Gujarat between 1993 to 1998;

(b) the crushing capacity of sugar mills in Gujarat, mill-wise;

(c) the target fixed for production of sugar in the State for 1999-2004;

(d) the number of sugar mills opened during each the last five years in the State, location-wise;

(e) whether applications have been received by Union Government for opening of new sugar mills in the State;

(f) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(g) the details of enhancement in grants being given to sugarcane growers/sugar mills during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SING YADAV) : (a) Yearwise production of sugarcane of the State of Gujarat is as under:-

Sugar Year (October-September)	Production of Sugarcane (In Million Tonnes)
1	2
1993-94	10.23
1994-95	10.78

1	2
1995-96	10.51
1996-97	11.40
1997-98	11.15

(b) Statement-I showing the crushing capacity of the sugar mills in the State of Gujarat is enclosed.

(c) No target has been fixed for the production of sugar for the State of Gujarat for the years 1999-2004.

(d) Statement-II showing the details of the sugar mills which have gone into production during the last five years. viz. 1993-94 to 1997-98 (October-September) is enclosed.

(e) and (f) Sugar industry has been delicensed with effect from 11.09.1998. The entrepreneurs are now free to take investment and technology decision for establishment of new sugar factories and expansion in the existing sugar factories.

(g) Ministry of Food and Consumer Affairs grants only loans to the sugar mills for various sugarcane development schemes. As on 30.9.98 an amount of Rs. 637.72 crores has been sanctioned to 590 sugar mills, out of which Rs. 353.97 crores has been disbursed to sugar mills.

Ministry of Agriculture under Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping System provides incentives to the farmers for purchase of identified implements and drip infrastructure as under:-

- (1) Bullock drawn – 50% subject to the limit of Rs. 1500/- per unit.
  - (2) Tractor drawn – 25% subject to the limit of Rs. 10000/- per unit.
  - (3) Drip infrastructure – 90% of the total cost of Rs. 25,000/- per hectare for small and marginal farmers, SC/ST and women farmers.
- 70% of the total cost of Rs. 25,000 per hectare for other farmers.

**Statement-I****Statement Showing the Crushing Capacity of the Sugar Mills in the State of Gujarat**

As on 30.9.98

S. No.	Name and location of Sugar factory	Sector	Daily cane crushing capacity (Tonnes)
1	2	3	4
<b>Gujarat</b>			
1	Sh. Khedut Sahakari Khand Udyog Mandi Ltd., Sardar Bag, Bardoli, Distt. Surat	Coop.	7000
2	Shree Madhi Vibhag S. Khan Udyog Mandi Ltd., P.O. Madhi, Distt. Surat	Coop.	5000
3	Shree Chalthan Vibhag Khand Udyog Sahakari Mandi Ltd. Chalthau, Distt. Surat	Coop.	5000
4	Shree sayan Vibhag Sahakari Khand Udyog Mandi Ltd. Saya, Distt. Surat	Coop.	3500
5	Shree Mahuva Pradesh Sahakari Khand Udyog Mandi Ltd., Zarvavra, Distt. Surat	Coop.	3500
6	Sh. Ukai Pradesh Sahakari Khand Udyog Mandi Ltd. At P.O. Faniari, Distt. Surat	Coop.	2500
7	Shree Khedut Sahakari Khand Udyog Mandi Ltd., At Kosamba, Teh. Mangrul, Distt. Surat	Coop.	2500
8	The Sahakari Khand Udyog Mandi Ltd. Gandevi, Via Billimora, Distt. Valsad.	Coop.	3500
9	Shree Maroli Vibhag Khand Udyog Sahakari Mandi Ltd. Ravannagar, P.O. Maroli Distt. Valsad	Coop.	2500
10	Shree Valsad Sahakari Khand Udyog Mandi Ltd., Parnera-Pardi, Distt. Valsad	Coop.	2500
11	Sh. Bileshwar Khand Udyog Khedut Sahakari Mandi Ltd. Kodinar, Distt. Amreli	Coop.	2600
12	Sh. Una Taluka Sahakari Khand Udyog Mandi Ltd., Una (Sorath, Distt. Junagarh.	Coop.	1250
13	Shree Talala Taluka Sahakari Khand Udyog Mandi Ltd., P.O. Talala, Distt. Junagarh (Glr)	Coop.	1250
14	Sh. Kamraj Vibhag Sahakari Khand Udyog Mandi Ltd., Kamraj, Distt. Surat	Coop.	2500

1	2	3	4
15	Charotar Sahakari Khand Udyog Mandi Ltd., Vill. Palaj Tal. Petlad Distt. Kaira.	Coop.	1250
16	Shree Ganesh Khand Udyog Sahakari Mandi Ltd. Desad, tal. Valia Distt. Bharuch (Vataria)	Coop.	2500
17	Sh. Revakhand Udyog Sahakari Mandi Ltd., At & Pest Amod, Tal Amod, Distt. Bharuch.	Coop.	2500
18	Sh. NarmadaKhand Udyog Sahakari Mandi Ltd., Dharikhada, Tal. Nanded, Distt. Bharuch	Coop.	2500
19	Shree Valod Pradesh Khand Udyog Sahakari Mandi Ltd., At Virpur, Tal. Valod, Distt. Surat	Coop.	2500
20	Sardar Vallabhai Patel Khand Udyog Coop. Societies Ltd., P.O. Dhoraji, Distt. Rajkot.	Coop.	1250

**Statement -II****Statement Showing the Details of the Sugar Mills. which have gone into Production During Last Five Years Viz. 1993-94 to 1997-98 (October-September)**

Name & Location of Sugar Factory	Sector	Daily cane crushing Cap (Tonnes)
1993-94		
Nil		
1994-95		
Nil		
1995-96		
Shree Khedut Sahakari Khand Udyog Mandi Ltd., Kosamba, Distt. Surat	Coop.	2500
1996-97		
Shree Narmada Khand Udyog Sahakari Mandi Ltd., Dharikhed, Distt. Bharuch.	Coop.	2500
1997-98		
Shree Valod Pradesh Khand Udyog Sahakari Mandi Ltd., Dadoria (Virpur) Distt. Surat	Coop.	2500

[Translation]

**Hearing Aid to Poor People**

2506. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJI BHAI :

SHRI JANARDHAN PRASAD MISRA :

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

(a) whether the hearing aids are being provided to poor people by conducting Shravana Shakati Campaign to Delhi;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to issue any directions to start such campaign in the entire country particularly in U.P. and Gujarat; and

(c) if so, the time by which this campaign is likely to be started and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is implementing a Scheme of Assistance to disabled persons for purchase/fitting of aids/appliances, under which various types of aids/appliances are given to needy disabled persons including Hearing Aid through various voluntary organisations, all over the country.

[English]

#### Occupational Classification of Workers

2507. DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the occupational pattern of workers expected in 2000 A.D.;

(b) whether there is any basic change of classification of workers as compared to 1961 position;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYA NARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (d) Occupational pattern of workers as per 1961 census is given in the enclosed statement I. However,

comparative figures of distribution of workers by Occupational Division from 1977-78 to 1993-94 based on National Sample Survey results are available and given in the enclosed statement-II Projections for 2000 A.D. are not available.

#### Statement-I

##### Occupational Classification of Persons at Work Other than Cultivation, 1961

Occupational Division NCO-58	Title	% to the Total
Division 0	Professional, Technical and Related Workers	5.6
Division 1	Administrative, Executive and Managerial Workers	3.1
Division 2	Clerical and Related Workers	5.6
Division 3	Sales Workers	12.0
Division 4	Farmers, Fishermen, Hunters, Loggers and Related Workers	11.2
Division 5	Miners, Quarrymen and Related Workers	1.2
Division 6	Workers in Transport and Communication Occupations	3.3
Division 7-8	Craftsmen, Production Process Workers and Labourers Not Elsewhere Classified	47.6
Division 9	Service, Sport and Recreation Workers	9.7
Division 10	Workers not Classifiable by Occupation	0.7
Total	All Division	100

Source : Office of The Registrar General of India

#### Statement-II

##### Distribution of Working Force by Occupation Division

Occupational Division (NCO-68)		Rural				Urban				All India
		1977-78	1983	1987-88	1993-94	1977-78	1983	1987-88	1993-94	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
0-1	Professional, Technical and Related Workers	1.5	2.1	1.7	2.3	7.3	8.2	8.0	9.0	
2.	Administrative, Executive and Managerial Workers	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.9	3.0	4.0	5.0	5.9	
3.	Clerical and Related Workers	0.9	1.2	1.3	1.4	10.2	9.9	10.2	9.7	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
4.	Sales Workers	3.1	3.3	3.9	4.2	16.3	15.8	16.8	17.0
5.	Service Workers	2.5	2.4	2.3	2.0	11.0	10.4	9.9	9.2
6.	Farmers, Fishermen and Related Workers	82.4	79.8	75.1	76.7	13.7	12.7	10.7	10.7
7-8-9	Production and Related Workers, Transport Equipment Operators and Labourers	9.3	10.8	12.7	12.4	38.5	39.1	38.5	38.7
X.	Workers not classified by Occupation	—	—	2.4	—	—	—	0.8	—
Total		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Figures relate to principal usual status of individuals.

Workforce covers those involved in gainful activity regularly

Totals may not tally due to rounding off.

Source : National Sample Survey Organisation, 32nd, 38th, 43rd and 50th Rounds.

#### India's Demand for Getting Terrorists From Pakistan

2508. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have told Pakistan to hand over top terrorists and under world dons who are hiding in Pakistan and getting protection by that country; and

(b) if so, the response of the Government of Pakistan thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. No response has been received from Govt. of Pakistan in this regard so far. However, as part of the composite India-Pakistan dialogue, it was decided to continue Home/Interior Secretary level talks between the two countries on 'Terrorism and Drug Trafficking' in future.

[Translation]

#### Blackmarketing/Hoarding of Commodities

2509. SHRI MITRASEN YADAV :

SHRI VITHAL TUPE:

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH :

SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL :

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK :

SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL :

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

SHRI N. K. PREMCHANDRAN :

SHRI SHAILDENDRA KUMAR :

PROF. JOGENDRA KAWADE :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the cases of adulteration, hoarding and blackmarketing of essential commodities are on the rise;

(b) if so, the number of such cases detected during raid of premises/godowns by the Government during each of the last two years and till date, State-wise;

(c) the steps being taken by the Govt. against the persons involved in these cases;

(d) whether the Government have called any meeting for taking action against hoarding and black-marketing;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether any directions have been issued to States in this regard;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the stand of the Government on invoking the Essential Commodities Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYAPAL

SINGH YADAV) : (a) to (h) The Essential Commodities Act, 1955 is in force. Under the Act, the State Governments/UT Administrations have been delegated most of the powers to issue Control Orders for regulating the production, supply and distribution of essential commodities and to take enforcement action. The State Governments are also empowered to take action against hoarders and blackmarketeers under the Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980. Information received from the

State Governments/UTs about action taken by them under these two Acts for the years 1997 and 1998 are given in the enclosed statements I, II and III. The Minister for Food and Consumers Affairs had written to the Chief Minister of all States/UTs on 16.7.98 to take action under these two Acts. A meeting of the Chief Ministers was convened under the Chairmanship of Prime Minister on 27.11.98 wherein the State Governments/UTs were inter-alia requested to gear up enforcement action under these two Acts.

**Statement-I**

*Action Taken Under Essential Commodities Act 1955 by State/UTs during the Year 1997 w.e.f. 1.1.97*

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of raids made	No. of persons arrested	No. of persons prosecuted	No. of persons convicted	Value of goods confiscated (Rs. in lakhs)	Reported upto
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	3952	1317	52	7	243.66	August
2	Assam	1041	9	9	-	12.93	December
3	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	December
4	Bihar	749	65	137	41	288.21	December
5	Gujarat	4585	74	90	13	528.38	December
6	Goa	21	-	-	-	-	December
7	Haryana	15	2	4	-	-	January
8	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	Nil	-	-	December
9	Jammu & Kashmir	1204	1249	2	-	0.02	December
10	Karnataka	1368	16	175	110	117.74	December
11	Kerala	3724	-	-	-	0.44	September
12	Madhya Pradesh	2745	9	26	44	85.79	December
13	Maharashtra	627	980	271	122	291.01	December
14	Manipur	1	1	-	-	-	December
15	Meghalaya	50	-	-	-	-	December
16	Mizoram	169	-	5	-	-	December
17	Nagaland	-	-	Nil	-	-	December
18	Orissa	513	2	72	4	10.79	December
19	Punjab	40102	3	1	1	0.22	December
20	Rajasthan	735	25	158	87	123.28	December

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
21	Sikkim	1	1	-	-	-	December
22	TamilNadu	11506	1463	4196	3930	368.13	December
23	Tripura	96	20	32	-	7.38	December
24	Uttar Pradesh	52424	82	184	1951	96.64	December
25	West Bengal	829	523	441	6	210.51	December
26	A & N Islands	100	-	-	-	-	December
27	Chandigarh	8	8	1	-	0.16	December
28	D & N Haveli	-	-	Nil	-	-	December
29	Delhi	1164	76	30	88	-	December
30	Daman & Diu	40	-	-	-	-	December
31	Lakshadweep	-	-	Nil	-	-	December
32	Pondicherry	182	15	5	-	1.22	December
Total		127951	5940	5891	6404	2386.51	

## Statement -II

*Action Taken Under Essential Commodities Act 1955 by  
States/UTs during the Year 1998 w.e.f. 1.1.1998*

Sl. No.	State/Ut	No. of raids made	No. of persons arrested	No. of persons prosecuted	No. of persons convicted	Value of goods confiscated (Rs. in lakhs)	Reported upto
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	9128	2060	48	7	302.56	September
2	Assam	1184	13	-	-	2.63	August
3	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	Bihar	400	31	45	5	4.58	August
5	Gujarat	3683	23	23	-	247.91	September
6	Goa	-	-	Nil	-	-	June
7	Haryana	23	20	9	3	1.26	April
8	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	Nil	-	-	June
9	Jammu & Kashmir	523	455	2	-	-	July
10	Karnataka	367	11	46	1	314.75	May
11	Kerala	4675	-	-	-	0.64	August
12	Madhya Pradesh	1533	13	33	1	56.96	June

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
13	Maharashtra	135	251	52	1	15.4	February
14	Manipur	1	1	-	-	-	August
15	Meghalaya	48	-	-	-	-	October
16	Mizoram	10	-	-	-	-	January
17	Nagaland	-	-	-	-	-	October
18	Orissa	234	15	50	-	5.78	August
19	Punjab	31202	4	3	0	0.18	October
20	Rajasthan	125	2	20	3	7.29	June
21	Sikkim	-	-	-	-	-	September
22	Tamil Nadu	1702	179	648	545	56.86	February
23	Tripura	24	8	9	-	2.76	June
24	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	West Bengal	730	415	375	-	469.01	August
26	A & N Islands	-	-	-	-	-	June
27	Chandigarh	-	-	-	-	-	May
28	D & N Haveli	-	-	-	-	-	September
29	Delhi	722	46	32	71	-	October
30	Daman & Diu	21	-	-	-	-	September
31	Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-	-	October
32	Pondicherry	31	7	8	-	8.14	October
Total		56501	3554	1403	637	1496.66	

Information received upto 30.11.98

### Statement-III

*Number of Detentions Made by Various State Governments Under P.D.S. Act, 1920 during the last two years*

Name of State	1997	1998(Upto Nov.)
Andhra Pradesh	4	2
Assam	11	3
Gujarat	101	114
Maharashtra	2	1
Tamil Nadu	3	3
Total	121	123

### Difference of Opinions on Price Rise

2510. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH :

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to stop export of onion and other agricultural products in view of the decision taken by the Ministry of Commerce;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this policy is likely to hurt the interest of the Indian farmers; and

(d) the farmers in which it is attributable to hoarding of commodities, export and delay in their imports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) and (b) The Government has banned the export of onion with effect from 14.10.98.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The main reasons for the high prices of onions, pulses and edible oils are the decline in their production due to adverse climatic conditions, non-availability of sufficient quantities for import from international markets and the gap in their demand and supply in the country.

#### Hindi as National Language

2511. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to declare Hindi as the National Language in conformity to the constitutional provision and resolution passed in this regard;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) There is no reference in the constitution for making Hindi as National Language.

[English]

#### Creation of Separate Department/ Ministry for Migrants

2512. SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL :

SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :

SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether people are migrating from one State to another for safety and survival due to the continuous spreading of the terrorism in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to create a separate Department/Ministry for the welfare of the migrants;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) Due to terrorism/disturbances, migrations of some people have taken place in Jammu and Kashmir and some North Eastern States.

(b) to (d) There is no such proposal.

#### Import of Potash

2513. SHRI H. G. RAMULU : Will the Minister of CHEMICAL AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that 20,000 tonnes of imported Potash meant for Karnataka were diverted from Mangalore Port to Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL) : (a) and (b) Potash is a decontrolled fertilizer and its imports are decanalised. There are no state-wise allocations made and its movement is undertaken by importers as per their commitments to the States.

#### Vacancies in Intelligence Bureau

2514. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of vacancies are laying vacant in the Intelligence Bureau;

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

(c) the reasons for not filling these vacancies; and

(d) the time by which these vacancies are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (d) A statement indicating the vacancies in various ranks in IB is enclosed. These are normal vacancies and the process for filling up these vacancies is a continuous one.

#### Statement

List Showing the Vacancy Position in  
the Intelligence Bureau

Sl.No.	Rank	Vacancy
1	2	3
1.	Addl. Director	5
2.	Dy. Director	24
3.	Asstt. Director	55

1	2	3
4.	JAD (Exe)	27
5.	DCIOs	27
6.	ACIO-II (G)	380
7.	SA/G	261
8.	Dy. Director (Tech)	1
9.	Technical Officer	60
10.	ACIO-I (Tech)	11
11.	ACIO-II(WT)	36
12.	ACIO-II (Tech)	31
13.	JIO-I (Tech)	2
14.	Asstt. Director (NP)	11
15.	Section Officer	10
16.	Assistants	107
17.	UDCs	15
18.	LDCs	164
19.	PSs	6
20.	PAs	80
21.	Stenographers	44
22.	JIO-I(MT)	4
23.	JIO-II (MT)	26
24.	ACIO-I (EDP)	2
25.	ACIO-II (EDP)	10
26.	ACIO-II (Work-Shop)	5
27.	JIO-I (Work-Shop)	9
28.	ACIO-II (Overseer)	1
29.	JIO-I (Overseer)	2
30.	AFLE	1
31.	ACIO-I (Language)	7
32.	ACIO- I (Cipher)	2
33.	Laboratory Asstt.	3
34.	Library Attendant	9
35.	Compounders	53
36.	Group 'D' Posts	110

### Procurement of Oil Seeds

2515. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the wake of adulteration of mustard oil, the stocks of edible oil has vanished from the market and creating acute shortage for the consumer;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken to meet the oil shortage; and

(d) the present status for the procurement of oil seeds, production, distribution of standard quality oil?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) and (b) In the wake of adulteration of mustard oil and the strict quality measures that followed there was some set-back to the availability of edible oils particularly mustard oil.

(c) Some of the steps taken by the Government to meet the oil shortage are:

i) Testing facilities have been put in place to bring back into circulation safe edible oil.

ii) Ban on use of mustard oil in vanaspati has been lifted;

iii) PDS in edible oil has been strengthened;

iv) State Governments have been advised to take strict measures for dehoarding of edible oils etc.

(d) Government has announced increased Minimum Support Price for various oilseeds for 1998-99 Crop year. However, ruling market prices are much above the MSP.

The edible oil situation has now virtually normalised, this is also corroborated by the declining trend in the prices of edible oils.

The Edible Oils Packaging (Regulation) Order, 1998 has been promulgated on 17th September, 1998 so as to ensure availability of safe and quality edible oils in packed form to the consumers.

[Translation]

### Ayurvedic College Rewa (M.P.)

2516. SHRI CHANDRAMANI TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from Madhya Pradesh regarding construction of Government Ayurvedic College at Rewa;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons for delay in this regard; and

(c) the time by which required assistance is being to be realised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) to (c) A proposal seeking financial assistance of Rs. 23,90,187 (Rupees 12,59,187/- for purchase of Equipment and Rs. 11,31,000 for accommodation under the Scheme for improving and strengthening of the existing Undergraduate Colleges of the Indian Systems of Medicine and Homeopathy was received from Govt. Ayurvedic College, Rewa, Madhya Pradesh duly recommended by State Govt. of Madhya Pradesh during the year 1995-96. A Grant of Rs. 20.00 lakhs (Rs. 10.00 lakhs for Equipment and Rs. 10.00 lakhs for Hospital Building) was sanctioned/released to the college vide Sanction letter Dated the 7th March, 1996. In the absence of Utilization Certificate of the earlier grant, further grant could not be considered.

#### Committee of Handling of Foodgrains

2517. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether huge losses are incurred in grain sector due to old and obsolete method of handling, storing and transporting of foodgrains every year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up any Committee to look into this serious problem and for modernisation of grains handling facilities of foodgrains in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) and (b) Due to adoption of scientific code of storage practices and preservation techniques by Public Sector grain handling Organisations, the foodgrain losses are minimum but some losses are inherent and unavoidable in the process of handling, storage and transportation of foodgrains every year. The details of storage and transit losses in FCI during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 are as follows:-

Year	Storage losses %age	Transit losses %age
1993-94	0.37	1.21
1994-95	0.40	1.18
1995-96	0.53	1.28

(c) and (d) A steering committee was constituted by the Government in the Department of Food and Civil Supplies, M/O Food and Consumer Affairs to examine the question of upgradation of technology particularly for bulk storage, handling and transportation of foodgrains in India. The Committee has since submitted its report. The recommendations given by committee are under consideration of a Task Force set up for the purpose.

[English]

#### Essential Commodities Under O.G.L.

2518. SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA :

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY :

DR. ASIM BALA :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of essential commodities come under Open General Licence;

(b) whether the Government have reduced import duty on some essential commodities;

(c) if so, the details thereof; commodity-wise;

(d) whether the Government have evaluated the impact of its recent decision of allowing duty free import of certain commodities; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) Import of Essential Commodities like pulses, edible oils, onions and sugar are under Open General Licence. Import of Wheat by Roller Flour Mills are allowed freely directly or through STC, PEC and MMTC subject to intimation to APEDA.

(b) and (c) Government reduced import duty on pulses and onions to zero per cent. Import duty on edible oils has free been reduced from 25% to 15%.

(d) and (e) It is too early to assess the impact of duty free imports.

**Ban on the Import of Caustic Soda and Soda Ash**

2519. SHRIMATI BHAVNA KARDAM DAVE : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Govt. are aware that the required quantity of Salt as raw material is available in plenty in the country for the production of Caustic Soda and Soda Ash;

(b) if so, whether the Govt. propose to impose ban on the imports; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL) : (a) Yes, Sir. Adequate quantity of salt as raw material for the production of Caustic Soda and Soda Ash is available in the country.

(b) and (c) Caustic Soda and Soda Ash are basic chemicals finding use in a host of industries. As such, Government do not propose to impose ban on the imports. Also imports of these chemicals are quite small as compared to the domestic production and consumption.

**Consumer Movement**

2520. SHRI K. C. KONDAIAH :

SHRI R. S. GAVAI :

SHRI K. S. RAO :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for amending Consumer Protection Act, 1998 is pending with the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Consumer awareness has lost its momentum during the last year and the current year;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the steps taken to safeguard the interest of the consumers;

(f) whether any directives has been issued to the State Government in this regard; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) and (b) Some proposals for amending the provisions of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 are under consideration of the Government with a view to making the Act more effective and purposetul.

(c) to (e) Consumer awareness is gaining momentum as a result of the continuous efforts by the Government, voluntary consumer organisations, consumer activists and others working in the field of consumer welfare. The Government has taken a number of steps for creating consumer awareness which include, among others, publicity through audio-visual/print media, encouraging voluntary consumer organisations/NGOs to propagate the message of consumer welfare in rural and urban areas as well as to make the consumers aware of their rights and responsibilities.

(f) and (g) The State Governments are advised, from time to time, to strengthen the consumer courts by ensuring that the vacant posts are filled up timely and are provided with adequate infrastructure. They have also been asked to encourage the formulation of voluntary consumer organisations especially in the rural and backward areas and to give publicity to consumer related matters in regional languages etc. The reaction of State Governments has been positive.

**Problem at Ports in Handling Imported Urea and Fertilizer**

2521. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether ports are facing problems in handling of cargo in the import of urea and other fertilizers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have any plans to formulate new policies to solve the problems being faced by the Government in the handling of imported fertilizers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A. K. PATEL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The imports of urea are made on Government account. DAP and MOP are the decontrolled fertilizers which are imported. Their imports have been decanalised and are made on private trade account. The choice of ports for urea imports is made looking to the distribution of demand of different States of the country. However, the importers of DAP and MOP choose ports of discharge according to their commercial convenience. When the vessels arrive in a bunch, they have to some-

times suffer pre-berthing detention even though priority is accorded to them as the demand for fertilizers is seasonal. Recently, vessels carrying DAP and MOP suffered pre-berthing detention at JNPT, Vishakapatnam and Kandla.

(c) and (d) Most of the problems are operational in nature. Ports have taken steps to upgrade facilities for faster discharge and evacuation of cargo. Government has taken a policy decision to permit the captive users to set up their own facilities at the major ports on nomination basis.

#### Security in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

2522. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH :

SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andaman and Nicobar Islands are the most insecure frontiers; and

(b) if so, the precautionary steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) The Andaman and Nicobar Groups of Islands are very strategically located, as, among others, Major Sea Lanes of Communication pass through their vicinity. An Action plan has been prepared after a strategic analysis of the threat perceptions in the region to safeguard the Islands. Coast Guard developments plans also envisage enhancement of force level and infrastructure and procurement of hard-ware and equipment. The Navy and Coast Guard carry out regular surveillance and petrol.

[Translation]

#### NAFED

2523. PROF. JOGENDRA KAWADE : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'NAFED' purchases levied food items in the States and 50 per cent of the amount is borne by the States concerned;

(b) whether loss in such a deal is borne by Centre and State Governments respectively;

(c) whether NAFED does not purchase levied food items in the event of showing result indecline in stock of foodgrains of that State;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to make amendments in this policy; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SING YADAV) : (a) and (b) The NAFED has informed that it is not purchasing levied food items in the States.

(c) to (e) At present there is no proposal to make any amendments in this policy.

[English]

#### Lifting of Ban from Book

2524. SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV :

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to lift the ban on Salman Rushdie's book 'The Satanic Verses';

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the policy of the Government in regard to imposition and relaxation/withdrawal of such bans against writers?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Government's decisions on imposition of ban is taken on the objective assessment of books in question.

#### Purlia Arms Drop Case

2525. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the United Kingdom had prior knowledge of Purlia arms drop;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) The Government is aware of the revelations made by Mr. Peter Bleasby an accused in the Purlia Arms Drop Case, in this regard.

(b) and (c) The matter is subjudice.

#### Raids on Reliance Industries

2526. SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL :

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN :

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CBI has conducted raids at the residences and offices of Reliance Industries Ltd. in Mumbai and Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the details of secret documents found during the raids;

(c) whether the Executives of Reliance have been found involved with the underworld; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) The CBI has conducted raids at the residences and office premises of officials/executives/associates of the Reliance Group of Industries in Mumbai and Delhi recently. Photocopies of two classified documents were recovered during these raids. One of these documents relates to a proposal for long-term gas supply contract while the other document relates to Insat-2C and 2D.

(c) and (d) The investigation of the cases indicates that the Group President, Reliance Industries Ltd., based at Delhi, had links with Romesh Sharma who was recently arrested by the Delhi Police. The cases are still under investigation.

#### Pipeline From Mangalore to Bangalore

2527. SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited has prepared a plan to lay a pipe line from Mangalore to Bangalore for transportation of petroleum products from Mangalore refinery;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the estimated cost of the project;

(c) whether the required land for the pipeline project has been acquired;

(d) if so, whether there is a general objection by the affected land owners in the matter of compensation;

(e) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to resolve the matter; and

(f) the time by which the project is targeted to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The project involves laying of 364 kms. cross pipeline for transport of petroleum products from Mangalore to Bangalore with tap off point at Hassan, at an estimated cost of Rs. 707 crores.

(c) to (f) The rights for laying the pipeline are being acquired under the Petroleum & Minerals Pipeline (Acquisition of Right of Users in Land) Act, 1962. The notifications and notices under Section 3 and 5 of the Act have been issued. The hearing of objections has commenced. Matters relating to objections and award of compensation will be settled in accordance with the provisions of the Act. The project is scheduled for commission by March, 2001.

[Translation]

#### Services of Public Doctors Available to Private Hospitals

2528. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the doctors and specialists working in various Government hospitals, in the country particularly in Delhi are interested to work in private hospitals;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the percentage of senior doctors and surgeons of Government hospitals who have started working in private hospitals during each of the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken to retain the doctors in the Government hospitals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALA) : (a) and (b) The feedback received from the Central Government Hospitals and those under the National Capital Territory of Delhi does not indicate that the doctors are leaving to join private hospitals in significant numbers. However, there are always cases of doctors Leaving for various personal reasons including assignments in the private sector and abroad. Over the last three years about 2% doctors from the total Central Health Services cadre have resigned on personal grounds. No indication has been given by such doctors about their joining private hospitals.

(c) A number of measures have been taken to increase the satisfaction level of doctors by giving them opportunities to travel, widen their knowledge and present research papers at national and international fora, besides improving their working conditions to the extent resources permit.

[English]

**Demand and Availability of Essential Items**

2529. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN AHAMED :

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the annual average domestic availability and demand for potato, pulses, onion, oilseeds, fruits, vegetable during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether the Government have been meeting the gap between demand and supply;

(c) if not, the steps taken by the Government to bridge the gap; and

(d) whether the Government propose to ban the export of these commodities to ensure the availability of these items in the market at reasonable price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) Year-wise precise estimates of demand in respect of potatoes, onion, oilseeds, fruits, vegetables and pulses are not available. However, as per the tentative estimates, the gap between the demand and supply of edible oils is around 13 lakh tonnes and those of pulses is over 20 lakh tonnes per annum.

(b) to (d) Government has banned the export of onion and put the import of edible oils and pulses under Open General Licence (OGL). The import duty on pulses and onion has been abolished and in respect of edible oils the duty has been reduced from 25% to 15%. Import of selected edible oilseeds has been allowed. Besides, the production of edible oilseeds has increased in the country, during the last few years and efforts are being made to step up the production of pulses and potatoes.

**Bomb Blast by People's War Group**

2530. PROF. P. J. KURIEN :

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some persons including policemen were killed in a major time bomb blast triggered by the outlawed People's War Group in Warangal District of Andhra Pradesh recently;

(b) if so, the number of persons including policemen killed;

(c) whether the ISI activities in Andhra Pradesh have been increasing for the last one month; and

(d) if so, the details of help and assistance provided to the Andhra Pradesh to check such activities?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 13 persons, including 10 policemen lost their lives.

(c) No reports suggestive of increase in ISI activities in Andhra Pradesh during the last one month have come to notice.

(d) Ministry of Home Affairs have released the following funds to the Government of Andhra Pradesh under the Scheme for Modernisation of State Police Forces.

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Amount released
1996-97	709.560
1997-98	1209.560
1998-99	104.780

Apart from above, adequate number of companies of Central Para Military Forces and modern weapons have been provided to the State for deployment in Nazalite affected areas.

[Translation]

**LPG Coupons to MPs**

2531. SHRI RIZWAN ZAHEER KHAN :

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY :

SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV :

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

(a) the time upto which the ban has been imposed on releasing LPG gas coupons being given to MPs, alongwith the reasons therefor;

(b) the new suggestions worked out by the Government to stop bungling in issuing coupons to MPs; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to vacate the stay and restore their privilege?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (c) The stay made by the Honourable High Court of Kerala in W.P. No. 11507 of 1998 on issue of LPG connections by the Members of Parliament (Lok Sabha) has been vacated by the Court by its order dated 10.12.98. Accordingly instructions have been issued by the Govt. for starting the distribution of LPG Coupon Books to Members of Parliament (Lok Sabha) from 14.12.1998.

As per the order of the court, the MPs can issue LPG connections subject to the following guidelines:

1. The beneficiary should be a resident of the Constituency of the MP.
2. The person should be in urgent need of an LPG connection.
3. His name should be registered in the Waiting List with an LPG Distributor.
4. LPG supplied should be used only for domestic purpose.

#### Maintenance of Gole Market Park

2532. SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the parks located between the Government quarters in Gole Market area in New Delhi are not properly maintained in spite of lodging complaints by the habitants regularly;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of such complaints received by New Delhi Municipal Council so far; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) The parks in question are maintained by the Central Public Works Department, which has reported that, within the existing financial constraints, the lawns between the Government quarters in the area are being maintained properly.

(c) and (d) The Central Public Works Department had received three requests from the local Residents Welfare Association on which the following action has been taken:

- (i) The financial sanction for an amount of Rs. 73800/- for re-development of one of the parks between Block No. 18 and 42 and provision of a separate water tank in Sector-2, Gole Market, has been obtained;
- (ii) Another park between Block No. 18 and 42 has since been re-developed; and
- (iii) It is envisaged to develop one Model Park in Gole Market area subject to the approval of the competent Authority.

[English]

#### Artificial Limbs For Disabled

2533. SHRI K. PARY MOHAN : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to bring in new technology and making lighter and user friendly artificial appliances for the disabled;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government also propose to introduce liberal and soft loan schemes to encourage new manufacturers of artificial limbs; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(i) Fabrication of composite plastic based Floor Reaction Orthosis(FRO): Such appliance have been developed by Composite Product Development Centre, Hyderabad, and are presently under field trials. The mass manufacturing of such appliances is scheduled to be taken up in Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of this Ministry, after successful completion of field trials.

(ii) ALIMCO has also taken up a Project of Development and manufacture of light weight polypropylene based Lower Limb Prosthesis based on ICRC (International Committee of Red Cross) technology.

(iii) ALIMCO also manufactures and supplies Braille Slate for the visually handicapped which is manufactured out of light weight ABS material (plastic).

(c) and (d) Yes. Loan assistance upto a maximum amount of Rs. 25 lakhs is provided for setting up small scale industries for manufacturing aids and appliances under R & D programmes of Government/Academic Institutions of Repute for Disabled within the country which employ the disabled persons. This assistance would be provided by the National Handicapped Finance & Development Corporation.

[Translation]

#### Review of Working of Intelligence Agencies

2534. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the working of intelligence agencies under Union Government and State Government in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the major incidents and mishaps are faced by the country due to the failure of these intelligence agencies; and

(d) if so, the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government, to make intelligence agencies more dedicated to their duties?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) The Central Government constantly reviews the working of its Intelligence Agencies of the State Governments function under the control of respective State Governments.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Intelligence Agencies of Central Government are dedicated their duties and are fully geared to gather information about any undesirable activities which may lead to any mishap.

#### Oil Refinery Project

2535. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :

SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

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

(a) the number of oil refinery projects whose work have been delayed and the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) 15 projects pertaining to oil refineries and their units have been delayed. The reasons for the delay include late deliveries of plant and equipment, the performance of contractors, delay in finalising licences and engineering packages, non-receipt of statutory clearances, transportation problems associated with heavy equipment, etc.

(b) Regular Project meetings are held both by the companies and by the Government to monitor the progress and to expedite action.

[English]

#### Thyroid Cases

2536. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an alarming rise in the Thyroid problems among urbanites;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to combat the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) There is no scientific data published to demonstrate alarming rise in the incidents of thyroid problem among urbanites. However, Iodine Deficiency Disorders (IDD) are widely prevalent in the country. Surveys conducted by the Directorate General of Health Services, Indian Council of Medical Research, State Health Directorates and other institutions clearly indicated that no State/UT is free from the problem of Iodine Deficiency Disorders. Out of 275 districts surveyed so far in 25 States and 4 UTs, 235 districts are endemic where the prevalence is more than 10%.

(c) National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme formerly known as National Goitre Control Programme is being implemented in the country. The programme strategy includes IDD surveys, supply of iodised salt, monitoring of iodine content of salt as well as Urinary Iodine Excretion and Health Education to increase the public awareness.

#### Refilling Plant in U.P.

2537. SHRI RAGHVENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Oil Corporation of Bharat Petroleum Co. had decided to set up the refilling plant of L.P.G. near Pihani in U.P.;

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay; and

(c) the time by which the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) No, Sir. The demand of U.P. is being met by the existing capacity of Industry LPG bottling plants which is 412 TMTA. As per OCC approval, additional capacity to the tune of 664 TMTA will be added by Industry as part of facilities during VIII Plan and IX Plan in U.P. through bottling plants at different identified locations and this will be sufficient to meet the projected requirement of LPG in U.P. estimated at 1025.315 TMTA by the end of IX Plan.

The LPG bottling plants are set up based on techno-economic study by Industry/OCC.

(b) and (c) Do not arise, in view of (a) above.

#### National Commission for Minorities

2538. SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the views and concern expressed by the Chairman, National Commission for Minorities in the news-item captioned "Anti Minorities Wave" appearing in the 'Time of India' Delhi issue dated November 7, 1998;

(b) if so, the main concerns and suggestions made therein; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The main concern expressed by the Chairman, National Commission of Minorities in the news item mentioned was about communalisation of crime. The suggestions made include the need for special protection of the rights of minorities in a democracy through implementation of the provisions of the Constitution and to break the nexus of crime and community.

(c) To maintain Public Order is the responsibility of the State Governments and the attention of the State Governments is drawn from time to time for taking action against persons spreading ill-will, hatred or disharmony between members of different communities by issuing guidelines. The latest guidelines on communal harmony were issued on 22nd October, 1997 suggesting various measures for controlling the communal situation. The Central Government also assists the State Governments by sharing the intelligence and providing Central Paramilitary forces as and when necessary.

#### Fertilizer Supplied

2539. SHRI K. C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the quantities of fertilizers supplied to Karnataka by the Indian Potash Limited, Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd., National Fertilizers Limited, FACT, KRIBHCO and SPIC to Karnataka during 1998, till-date;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to supply the required quantities of potash and other fertilizers to Karnataka;

(c) whether the Government have agreed to offer subsidy on fertilizers to make up the loss caused due to withdrawing to turn over tax on fertilizers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL) : (a) The quantity of fertilizers supplied by the Indian Potash Limited, Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Limited, National Fertilizers Limited, FACT, KRIBHCO and SPIC to Karnataka between 1.4.1998 to 30.11.1998 is shown in the enclosed statement.

(b) Except urea, potash and other fertilizers are decontrolled and their availability is dependent on market forces operating within the parameters of the Concession Scheme of the Government. However, to reach the potash and DAP to different States in time during Rabi'98-99 Government has accorded priority in berthing of ships and movement of decontrolled fertilizers by rail both from plants and ports. Besides, 55,000 Mts MOP has been arranged through IPL from Jordan.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal for compensating the losses caused to the State Government by the withdrawal of turn-over tax on fertilizers.

#### Statement

*Statement of supply of fertilizers to the State of Karnataka by various companies between 1.4.98 to 30.11.1998.*

Sl. No.	Product	IPL	RCF	NFL	FACT	KRIBHCO	SPIC
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Urea	29.41	200.22	-	31.79	25.6	91.23
2.	Di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP)	2.61	-	-	-	-	74.05
3.	Muriate of Potash (MOP)	54.62	-	-	-	-	12.32
4.	Sulphate of Potash (SOP)	5.91	-	-	-	-	-
5.	Calcium Ammonium Nitrate (CAN)	-	-	16.16	-	-	-
6.	Ammonium Sulphate (AS)	-	-	-	32.07	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

## COMPLEX

7.	15:15:15	-	58.39	-	-	-	-
8.	20:20:0	-	11.55	-	106.81	-	-

IPL	INDIAN POTASH LTD.	FACT	FERTILIZERS AND CHEMICAL TRAVANCORE LTD.
RCF	RASHTRIYA CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS LTD.	KRIBHCO	KRISHAK BHARTI COOPERATIVE LTD.
NFL	NATIONAL FERTILIZERS LTD.	SPIC	SOUTHERN PETROCHEMICAL INDUSTRIES CORPORATION LTD.

**Adulteration in Petrol/Diesel**

2540. DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY :

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT :

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

SHRI MADAN PATIL :

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

(a) whether the Government are aware about the increasing rate of adulteration in petrol, diesel and other petroleum products;

(b) if so, the number of complaints received against oil companies particularly against Reliance Petroleum Ltd. and their associate companies during each of the last three years;

(c) whether the Government have issued guidelines to check adulteration in accordance with the recent orders of the Supreme Court against air pollution caused by vehicles;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) The number of cases suspected adulteration detected during inspection carried out by public sector oil companies was 146 in 1996-97, 185 in 1997-98 and 216 in 1998-99 (upto November, 1998)

(b) 40 complaints regarding adulteration of petrol and diesel by various petrol pumps all over India were received by Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. during 1995-96 to 1998-99 (upto September, 1998). Besides, one complaint was received by the Government regarding adulteration in petroleum by M/s Reliance Petroleum Ltd. recently.

(c) to (e) In the Writ Petition M.C. Mehta Vs. Union

of India and others regarding pollution in the National Capital Territory of Delhi, the Hon'ble Supreme Court issued certain directions regarding quality of fuel etc. vide Order dated July 28, 1998 like Expansion of premix oil dispensers and supply of only 2-T permixed petrol to two stroke engine vehicles at all retail outlets, Ban on supply of bore 2-T Oil at retail outlets and service garages, Establishment of 2 independent fuel testing laboratories for ensuring independent testing of samples, etc. Oil Companies have also laid down detailed guidelines for checking adulteration by means of filter test, furfural doping, taking samples and getting them tested for conformity to prescribed specifications. Necessary directives have been issued to the public sector oil companies to implement the orders of the Supreme Court and other instructions to control adulteration of petroleum products and punish the defaulters in accordance with Marketing Discipline Guidelines.

**Production of Condoms**

2541. SHRI P. C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the use of condoms is being encouraged as a prevention of aids;

(b) if so, the details of consumption of condoms during each of the last three years;

(c) whether production of condoms has been stepped up in the country during the above period;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the quality has also been improved;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the steps taken by the Government to increase the production and improve the supply of condoms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of consumption of condoms during the last 3 years as per data of Department of Family Welfare, Govt. of India, are as under : (figure in million pieces) :-

Scheme	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
Free Distribution	891.22	741.70	677.72
Social Marketing	162.92	263.25	324.43
Commercial Sales	199.33	239.35	203.81
Total	1253.47	1244.30	1205.96

(c) and (d) The quantum of production is based on the demand projected by States/UTs and various other marketing outlets, which varies from year to year.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. the quality of condom has been improved by bringing it under Schedule-R, of Drugs and Cosmetic Rules, to bring it in line with W.H.O. Specifications, and simultaneous phasing out of non-lubricated variety of condoms.

(g) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Demand for Natural Gas

2542. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :  
 SHRI TEJVEER SINGH :  
 SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :  
 SHRI VITHAL TUPE :  
 SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE :  
 SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL :  
 SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHARY :  
 SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :  
 SHRI D. S. AHIRE :  
 SHRI RANJIB BISWAL :  
 SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :  
 SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SAHU :  
 SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL :

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

(a) the present stock of oil and natural gas in the country and the position of demand and supply of each state;

(b) whether present stock is sufficient to fulfil the demand;

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to import oil and natural gas to fulfil the demand;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the country is likely to become self-reliant alongwith the steps being taken for fulfilling the demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) (a) to (e) The Demand of Petroleum Products in 1998-99 is estimated to be 93.297 MMT. Crude oil processing requirement is 67.858 MMT. The indigenous crude production during 1998-99 is estimated to be 32.792 MMT. To meet the balance demand, 36.953 MMT of crude oil and 28.07 MMT of petroleum products are expected to be imported during current year. The demand is worked out keeping in view of crude inventory holding of 10 days in refineries and 30 days of products in the country. The existing refinery capacity is 67.55 MMTPA including Panipat Refinery. 64.4 MMTPA capacity addition approved by the Government as grassroots refineries and expansion of existing refineries are under, various stages of implementations. With the materialization of these LOI, country would be self-sufficient in the Refining.

Natural gas reserves as on 1.4.98 is 669.14 Billion cubic Metres (BCM). A statement on the demand for natural gas and supply position thereon is enclosed.

Steps are being taken to increase crude oil production in the country through application of improved technologies, better understanding of reservoir behaviour, development of new fields, additional development of existing fields and by inviting foreign and private capital in the upstream sector. the refining capacity is also being increased in the country by expansion of existing refineries in the public sector and setting up of refineries in joint sector and private sector to minimise the product imports.

As regards the Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG), it is now open General Licence (OGL) and the Government have permitted its imports. Government have also approved the formation of Petronet LNG Ltd. with the Public Sector Undertakings holding 50% of the equity and the balance to be given to financial institutions, private parties and others.

#### Statement

In Million Standard Cubic Meter Per Day (MMSCMD)

Sl. No.	State	Registered* Demand	Current Demand (Existing Consumers)	Current Supply
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	23.60	3.70	3.49
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.14	—	—
3.	Assam	10.91	6.55	3.38

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Delhi	3.45	0.63	0.79
5.	Gujarat	45.13	20.71	17.05
6.	Haryana	6.76	0.73	0.63
7.	Himachal Pradesh	0.01	—	—
8.	Karnataka	9.36	—	—
9.	Madhya Pradesh	21.34	4.83	4.38
10.	Maharashtra	47.07	15.63	11.47
11.	Orissa	0.49	—	—
12.	Punjab	0.02	—	—
13.	Rajasthan	15.95	4.33	4.18
14.	Tamil Nadu	12.82	0.11	0.04
15.	Tripura	1.80	1.33	0.90
16.	Uttar Pradesh	30.17	16.90	14.68
17.	Pondicherry	0.33	0.25	0.07
Total		229.35	75.76	61.06

\* Registered demand includes demand beyond the year 2000.

#### Infrastructure of Indian Oil Sector

2543. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to bring a total change in the infrastructure of Indian Oil Sector in view of the increasing challenge of multinational companies in foreign oil exploration basins;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which such changes are likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (c) No such total change is contemplated. However, steps have been taken to empower and encourage National oil Companies in the upstream and downstream Sectors for seeking opportunities for equity oil abroad.

[English]

#### Shortage of Items Under PDS

2544. DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA :

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is shortage of wheat, rice and sugar under PDS in various States as reported in the Statesman dated October 17, 1998;

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

(c) whether the fair price shops in the country are not provided with adequate stocks of FPS items resulting inconvenience to beneficiaries;

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

(e) the total shortage felt and the steps taken by the Government to regulate the prices and to ensure adequate of these items to States at PDS;

(f) if so, whether the Union Government propose to take up the matter with the State Government to ensure adequate supplies of items at FPS shops;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the mechanism adopted to supply good quality foodgrains at FPS shops throughout the country particularly in Delhi by FCI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) to (d) The news report titled 'Fair Price Shops run Short of Stock' in the Statesman dated 17.10.1998 has referred to shortage of wheat, rice and sugar in Delhi only. The Government of National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi have reported that in October '98 ban on plying of 15 year old commercial vehicles in Delhi due to a Supreme Court order, affected timely delivery of these commodities as most of the vehicles used for the purpose were old and could not be plied. At present, there is no shortage of wheat, rice and sugar in Delhi. There have been no major complaints of shortages of these items under PDS in other States except in some North-Eastern States due to movement constraints during the last monsoon.

(e) to (g) It is not always possible to meet the demand for wheat, rice and sugar in full because of limited availability through procurement and the subsidy constraints. Additional allocations are being made to the extent possible under the Public Distribution System (PDS) keeping in view the price trend. A decision also has been taken to release upto 40 lakh tonnes of wheat to the State Governments for open sale. However, PDS is not a substitute for the open market but only a supplement to it.

(h) The following mechanism has been adopted to supply good quality foodgrains at Fair Price Shop (FPS) throughout the country including Delhi:

- (i) The representatives of the State Governments are allowed to check the quality of foodgrains before lifting the stocks from the godowns of Food Corporation of India (FCI) for distribution under PDS through FPS.
- (ii) Type sealed samples of foodgrains from the issuing lots are displayed at FPS for benefit of consumers.
- (iii) Surprise checks by the Government agencies are carried out at FPS to check the quality of foodgrains.

Government of NCT of Delhi have reported that the quality of foodgrains supplied to FPS in Delhi is ensured by requiring FCI and the Delhi State Civil Supplies Corporation to draw samples jointly from each consignment and to supply one part of the joint sample to the FPS for enabling cardholders to compare supplies being made to them by visual comparison with the sealed sample.

#### Pilferage of Oil

2545. SHRI P. S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cases of pilferage of oil and diesel detected during the last two years, year-wise; and
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to stop such pilferage in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) As reported, the cases of crude oil pilferage during the last two years are as under :-

1996-97	—	17
1997-98	—	33

Keeping in view the volume of sales of Diesel, in the country, the number of Diesel thefts is very negligible.

(b) In addition to joint inspections by security and production personnel, fencing of oil wells with barbed wires, laying of flow lines underground instead of exposed ones and deploying of armed guards in theft prone areas, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC)/Oil India Limited (OIL) have inducted CISF personnel for the purpose and also introduced air surveillance of oil fields/pipelines by helicopters.

#### Reorganisation of States

2546. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal for the reorganisation of States;

(b) whether any new State is proposed to be created under the above proposal; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) to (c) The Government is not contemplating any general reorganisation of States. However, the Bills providing for reorganisation of the existing States of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh so as to create the new States of Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Uttarakhand/Uttaranchal were referred to the respective State Legislatures in August'98 for expressing their views thereon as required under article 3 of the Constitution of India. The views of the State Legislatures have since been received and the matter is under further examination.

#### Production of Sugarcane

2547. SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether sugarcane production in Maharashtra has surpassed the target and creating problem of the farmers;

(b) if so, the directions issued by the Union Government for proper utilisation of cane crushing capacity in the State; and

(c) the steps proposed by the Government to compensate the farmers endeavour?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) to (c) According to the Government of Maharashtra during the current season 1998-99 (October-September) 53 million tonnes of sugarcane is expected to be produced, out of which about 48 million tonnes is expected to be available for crushing by the sugar mills in the State, producing about 52 lakh tonnes of sugar. Against this, during the season 1995-96, 46.68 million tonnes of sugarcane were produced and the cane crushed by the sugar mills was of the order of 51.46 million tonnes producing 53.76 lakh tonnes of sugar. Thus the sugar mills of the State had crushed more sugarcane than the production of their State. In other words, some quantity of cane brought from the neighbouring States was also crushed. As such, there is enough capacity available in the State for crushing sugarcane likely to be produced during the current crushing season. In addition, 11 new sugar mills have gone into production and 11 existing sugar factories have completed their expansion of capacity since 1995-96.

#### Transportation of Oil to Coastal States

2548. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) has been aware of the delay in transporting oil to coastal States;

- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any effort has been made to transport oil to these States through coastal routes; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) There is no delay in transporting oil to IOC's port locations.

(c) and (d) Coastal movement is being undertaken as per requirement. Stock position of such controlled products at the coastal States is comfortable.

[Translation]

#### ISI Activities in Agra

2549. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Agra cantonment is the target of Pakistani Intelligence Agency. I.S.I. and a conspiracy to mix poison in the water or cyanides in the food articles supplied to army through Kashmiri terrorists; and

(b) if so, the details thereof:

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) Government have no report of Agra cantonment particularly being the target of Pak ISI.

However, based on reports that Pak ISI planned to use cyanide in food prepared for troops in cantonments of J & K, necessary precautions have been taken by all cantonments.

#### Prices of Diesel

2550. DR. A K. PATEL :

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :

SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :

SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHARY :

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

(a) whether the Government propose to bring down the prices of diesel in view of fall in its prices in the international market; and

(b) if so, the time and extent to which the prices are likely to reduce?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH

KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) The Government has decided that hence forth the prices of HSD would be on import parity basis. Accordingly, the ex-storage point price of HSD has been revised as under :

Effective Dates	Ex-storage point price (excluding excise duty etc.) Rs./KL
07.11.97	7918.04
25.12.97	7996.84
01.03.98	7839.24
04.04.98	7645.47
20.05.98	7536.89

[English]

#### National Finance and Development Corporation

2551. SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the authorised share capital of National Finance and Development Corporation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have been raised recently;

(b) if so, the details of such increase made thereof;

(c) whether the amounts released by the National Finance Corporation to the States Finance and Development Corporation for SCs/STs are not being utilised properly and in time especially in the State of Orissa; and

(d) if so, the details of the scheme/projects sanctioned by the State Finance and Development Corporation of SCs/STs Bhubaneshwar during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Authorised Share Capital of NSFDC has been enhanced from Rs. 300 crores to Rs. 1000 crores.

(c) No such case has been reported to NSFDC so far.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Ration Allowance to Police Personnel

2552. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of States where ration allow-

ances is given to their police personnel indicating the rate of allowance being paid, State-wise;

(b) the names of States where such allowances is not being paid to police personnel;

(c) the reasons for this disparity; and

(d) the time by which this disparity is likely to be removed?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) to (d) Since 'Police' is a State subject as per the Constitution of India, it is primarily for the State Governments to provide such pay and allowances, including ration allowances, as well as other facilities to their police personnel as they consider appropriate. Detailed information in this regard is not maintained at the Central Level.

[Translation]

#### Terrorist Organisations

2553. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the terrorist organisations active in the country alongwith the number of such organisations out of them being supported by foreign countries;

(b) the number of terrorists killed during the current year;

(c) the number of persons killed by the terrorists; and

(d) the steps taken to contain terrorism alongwith the success achieved so far?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) Names of the major organisations active in the country are indicated below :-

#### Jammu and Kashmir Organisations

1. Hizbul Mujahideen
2. Harkat-ul-Ansar
3. Laskar-e-Toiba
4. Al-Burg
5. Tehreek-ul-Mujahideen
6. Al-Jehad
7. J & K Liberation Front
8. Al-Umar-Mujahideen

9. Hizbullah

10. Dukhtran-e-Milat

#### Sikh Organisations

1. Babbar Khalsa International
2. International Sikh Youth Federation
3. Khalistan Commando Force
4. Khalistan Liberation Force
5. Dal Khalsa International
6. Babbar Khalsa
7. Khalistan Zindabad Force

#### North-East Organisation

1. United Liberation Front of Assam
2. Bodo Security Force
3. Achik Liberation Matgrik Army
4. Peoples Liberation Army
5. United National Liberation Front
6. Hmar People Convention
7. National Socialist Council of Nagaland (Issac Suw)
8. Naga National Council (Khodao Yanthan)
9. Naga National Council (Adinho)
10. Naga Federal Government
11. National Socialist Council of Nagaland (Khaplong)
12. All Tripura Tribal Force
13. National Liberation Front of Tripura

#### Tamil Organisation

1. Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam

As per available reports, most of the above organisations are either based in foreign countries or are supported and financed by foreign countries.

(b) As per available reports, the number of terrorists killed in the country, during the current year is 1289.

(c) Reports available indicate that 2145 persons have been killed by terrorists during the current year.

(d) 'Public Order' and 'Police' being State subjects, it is for concerned State Governments to devise various methods and take concrete steps in this regard. At the Central Level, action is taken to facilitate coordination of the anti-terrorists operations of different States and to improve flow of information useful to control of their activities among the States. Further, help is being provided to the State Governments in terms of financial assistance for modernisation of police, supply of improved weapons, deployment of para-military forces etc. In certain special circumstances, financial assistance has also been given to some of the affected States over and above the on-going allocations for modernisation of police and supply of weapons.

Due to the coordinated efforts of the Central and State Governments, a large number of terrorist modules have been neutralised.

[English]

#### *Sale of Dimethyl Fuel*

2554. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Government has signed a Memorandum of Undertaking with Indian Oil Corporation, GAIL and AMOCA development and sale of dimethyl fuel (DMF) in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether IOC, GAIL and Indian Institute had entered into an agreement with US based oil major Amoca to study techno-economic feasibility to manufacture and distribute DMF in July, 1998; and

(d) if so, the extent to which the State is likely to be benefited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Andhra Pradesh Government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Dimethyether (DME) group consisting of IOC, GAIL, IIP and AMOCO India Development Company on 22nd September, 1998 for exploring the possibility of promoting DME as an alternative source of fuel in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(c) Yes, Sir. IOC, GAIL, IIP and AMOCO India Development Company signed a Joint Collaboration Agreement (JCA) on 20th July, 1998 for evaluation, development, production, transportation, distribution (including storage facilities, pipelines and other distribution facilities in India) and marketing to end users of DME as fuel source for use in India.

(d) DME is emerging as environment friendly multi-purpose fuel, which can be produced utilizing natural gas an alternative fuel to Naphtha, LPG and HSD etc. As power plant fuel, DME can meet the anticipated short supply of Naptha for meeting power need of the State at competitive price, which may ultimately result in industrial and infrastructural development in Andhra Pradesh.

#### **Child Workers**

2555. SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAT :

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases registered against mill owners for illegal employment of child workers in the country, State-wise;

(b) the number of raids conducted in the carpet belt against the exporters of carpet for employing child labour; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (c) As per the information received from Government of Uttar Pradesh, 6500 cases have been registered against employees for illegal employment of child workers during the last 4 years. Raids were conducted in the carpet belt against the employment of child labourers and prosecutions have been launched against the offending employers. An intensive survey has also been carried out for identification of child labour in the carpet belt.

Employment of children below the age of 14 is prohibited in certain occupations and processes (including the carpet industry) under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986. The employment conditions of children in other occupations and processes is regulated under the Act. Employers employing children in occupations and processes prohibited under the Act are liable for prosecution. All the State/UT Governments have an enforcement machinery to enforce child related provisions of the laws. The Central Government monitors implementation of the provisions of the Act through periodical returns.

#### **Import of Crude Oil**

2556. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :

DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

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

(a) whether the Government have suffered financial losses during the current year in making the payments for imported crude oil due to fall in the exchange rate of rupee against American dollar after March 1998; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) Prices of oil in the international market are highly volatile and are subject to wide fluctuations and any movement in the international prices is bound to have an impact on our import cost. Due to variation in exchange rate of Rupee against US Dollar, an additional outgo in terms of Rupees for the period April-September, 1998 (Provisional) for import of crude oil and petroleum products is Rs. 730.64 crores.

#### Setting up of Anti-ISI Squads

2557. SHRI JANARDAN PRASAD MISRA :

SHRI VIJAY GOEL :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set-up an anti-ISI squads to tackle the growing terrorist attacks;

(b) if so, the number of ISI supported terrorists arrested during the last one year;

(c) the details of instructions of Central and State Government to the military/para-military and police force with respect to dealing and disposal of terrorist matter;

(d) whether the Union Government have given evidence to the Government of Pakistan about ISI's activities in the country;

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

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) Central and State Governments are already engaged in detecting and neutralising ISI sponsored terrorist activities.

(b) Number of ISI supported terrorists arrested during the year 1997 and 1998 is as under:-

1997 - 37 Indians, 5 Pak nationals

1998 - 29 Indians, 15 Pak nationals,  
4 Bangladeshis

In J & K where the militancy is aided and abetted by Pak ISI number of militants arrested is as given below:-

1997 - 2557 Indians, 8 Pak nationals,  
1 Bangladeshi, 10 Afghans

1998 - 1293 Indians, 12 Pak nationals,  
1 Afghan

(c) The Central/State Government agencies including Military and Para Military and Police Forces are under instructions to keep a close watch on the situation and to take all necessary steps including sustained operations against terrorist and subversive elements.

(d) to (f) During the Home Secretary level talks between India and Pakistan held on 12th November, 1998, Indian side drew attention of the Pakistani delegation to Pakistan's sponsorship of terrorism and presented a document containing material evidence of Pakistan's involvement in terrorism. It was mentioned that Pakistan should give up its futile sponsorship of terrorism, hand over militants/underworld operators of Indian origin being sheltered by Pakistan, and close down training camps in Pakistan/POK and to deny use of their territory or other facilities to fundamentalist and militant organisations, who have been propagating violence.

Pakistani delegation, however, did not respond to specific instances of their involvement in sponsoring terrorism in India except as a general denial.

As a part of the composite India-Pak dialogue process Indo-Pak talks are held periodically.

[Translation]

#### Special Funds to Terrorism Affected States

2558. SHRI CHETAN CHAUHAN :

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are providing special funds to terrorism affected States to equip the Police Forces with latest modern weapons and activate the police machinery;

(b) if so, the amount of assistance provided by the Union Government to various States during 1997-98 and proposed to be provided during 1998-99; and

(c) the type of weapons demand by the States?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) to (c) 'Police' being a state subject as per the Constitution of India. It is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments to equip their police forces properly. The Central Government, however, supplements the efforts of the State Governments by providing them

financial assistance under the scheme for Modernisation of State Police Forces. During the year 1997-98, an amount of Rs. 57.50 crores was released to the State Governments under this scheme. This comprised Rs. 30.00 crores under normal allocation and Rs. 27.50 crores as special assistance. For the year 1998-99, an amount of Rs. 50.00 crores is available for disbursement to the State Governments under the said scheme. This comprises Rs. 30.00 crores under normal allocation and Rs. 20.00 crores as special assistance.

Besides assistance under the scheme for Modernisation of State Police Forces, North-East States were provided vehicles, weapons and equipment worth Rs. 34.99 crores during the year 1997-98. The weapons included SLRs, carbines, pistols, etc.

The Central Government also reimburses security related expenditure to the Government of Jammu & Kashmir for tackling militancy in the State. The amount reimbursed in this regard was Rs. 154.96 crores during the year 1997-98 and Rs. 75.00 crores during the current year so far. In addition, Rs. 20.00 crores has also been provided in the form of advance as special case under the Action Plan, for the purchase of arms and ammunition etc.

#### **Cancellation of Recognition of Medical Colleges**

2559. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of medical colleges in Bihar recognised by Indian Medical Council (IMC);
- (b) the dates on which these were recognised;
- (c) whether these medical colleges were fulfilling the requisite conditions at the time of their recognition;
- (d) if so, the number of medical colleges in Bihar as on October 31, 1998 whose recognition have been cancelled and the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether there is any hindrance in the restoration of recognition of these colleges; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the time by which these colleges are likely to be recognised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI):  
(a) to (c) The list of eight recognised medical colleges in Bihar is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(d) to (f) The following three medical colleges in Bihar are yet to be approved by the Medical Council of India:-

- 1) Patliputra Medical College, Dhanbad
- 2) Mata Gujuri Memorial Medical College, Kishanganj.
- 3) Katihar Medical College, Katihar.

The recognition status of these colleges are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

#### **Statement-I**

##### *List of Eight recognised Government Medical Colleges in Bihar*

Sl. No.	Name of the University	Name of the medical colleges	Year of inception
1.	L.N. Mithila University, Darbhanga.	Darbhanga Medical College, Laheriasarai.	1946
2.	Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar Bihar University, Muzaffarpur	Sri Krishna Medical College, Muzaffarpur	1970
3.	Patna University, Patna	Patna Medical College, Patna	1925
4.	Ranchi University, Ranchi	Rajendra Medical College, Ranchi	1960
5.	Ranchi University, Ranchi	M.G.M. Medical College, Jamshedpur	1961
6.	Bhagalpur University, Bhagalpur	Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College, Bhagalpur	1971
7.	Magadh University, Bodh Gaya	A.N. Magadh Medical College, Gaya	1970
8.	Magadh University, Bodh Gaya	Nalanda Medical College, Patna	1970

**Statement -II***Statement showing the recognition of three unrecognised Medical Colleges in Bihar*

Sl. No.	Name of the University College	Remarks of M.C.I.
1	2	3

**Vinoba Bhava University**

1. Patliputra Medical College, Dhanbad
- The college was recognised upto 30.4.1982. Inspection for standard of examination will be carried out in Dec. 1998 and the report when received will be placed before Executive Committee in its ensuing meeting.

**B.N. Mandal University, Madhipur**

2. Mata Gujuri Memorial Medical College, Kishanganj
- Inspection was carried out by the Council on 29/12/98 under the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. The Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its order dated 25.3.96 directed the State Govt. and the University to grant provisional affiliation to the applicant institution within a period of five weeks.

The Registrar, B.N. Mandal University, Madhipur vide notification dated 10.4.96 has given provisional affiliation to the college. The College authorities vide this office letter dated 18.10.97 were requested to send the formal request for inspection under section 11(2) of the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956. The college authorities have also been requested to intimate when their final MBBS batch will appear for University examination. The Chief Administrator vide letter dated 17.8.98 has informed that the 1st batch of their institutions is going to appear in the final MBBS examination in the month of Nov./Dec., 1999. They are admitting 50 students annually. The request under 11(2) is awaited till date.

1	2	3
3.	Kathihar Medical College, Kathihar	<p>Inspection was carried out by the Council on 27th/28th June, 1995 under the direction of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. The inspection report was submitted to the court on 17.7.95. The Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its order dated 27.2.96 has directed that the steps for grant of affiliation to the applicant's instt. may now be expedited and directed the respondent to issue the necessary order without loss of time.</p> <p>The Registrar, B.N. Mandal University, Madhipur vide order dated 2.4.96 has given affiliation to the college from the session 1987-88 in MBBS course and allowed for publication of the results of the MBBS previous examinations, at the University level. The college is admitting 60 students annually.</p>

**Oil Exploration Contracts**

2560. PROF. RITA VERMA :

SHRI RANJIB BISWAL :

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

(a) whether maximum three months time is taken in completing the formalities to provide contracts of oil explorations blocks in the oil sector of many countries of the world;

(b) if so, the reasons for taking four to five years for the same work in India;

(c) whether an assessment has been made for various type of losses being incurred due to such delays;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the names of the companies to whom contracts for oil exploration blocks have been awarded during the last three years;

(f) the names of such companies which took more than one year in awarding the contracts and the reasons therefor; and

(g) the action proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Time taken varies from country to country. Indicated time varies from two months to several months. It also depends upon licensing system.

(b) Average time taken for signing of contracts from bid closing date in the case of 22 contracts signed for exploration blocks since 1992 has been about three and half years.

The reasons for delays have been :-

- (i) Long time taken by the bidders to respond to the clarifications.
- (ii) Repeated rounds of negotiations with the representatives of the companies since they seek to consult their headquarter before formally responding.
- (iii) Multiple levels of clearances and approvals.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.
- (e) During last three years (1995, 96, 97 and 98) Govt. have signed 19 contracts for exploration blocks with Shell International, Hardy Oil, Hindustan Oil Exploration Company, Tatapetrodyne Ltd., Essar Oil Ltd., Polish Oil & Gas Company, Okland International, Tullow Oil PLC, L & T Ltd., Joshi Technology Inc., Cairns Energy Asia, Videocon International, General Fibres Dealers Ltd., Phoenix Overseas Ltd.
- (f) All the contracts with the companies mentioned in para (e) above have taken more than one year time due to the reasons given in para (b) above.

(g) Under the New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) for offering exploration acreages, some of the provisions of the Model Contract have been made non-negotiable. Further comprehensive bid documents including detailed bid format etc. have been prepared in order to finalise the bids quickly. These are expected to reduce the time taken in finalisation of contracts.

[English]

#### Sick Sugar Mills

2561. SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL :  
SHRI VITHAL TUPE :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Maharashtra has submitted any plan requesting to rehabilitate the sick sugar cooperative mills in the States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of sick sugar cooperative mills proposed to be rehabilitate;
- (d) the financial assistance likely to be provided by the Union Government to the State for implementation of said plan;
- (e) whether the Government propose to direct the other States also to launch such plans;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (g) Do not arise.

#### National Aids Prevention and Control Policy

2562. SHRI M. BAGA REDDY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have formulated a National Aids Prevention and Control Policy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government propose to set up one HIV testing Centre in each district in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which this policy is likely to be set up; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to control AIDS and arrest its spread under the time frame programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) Yes Sir, a draft policy has been prepared and is in the process of Finalisation.

- (b) The draft policy document is given in the enclosed statement.
- (c) Yes, Sir.
- (d) One HIV Testing Centre in each district is being planned in a phased manner to be completed within the next 5 years (1999-2004).

(e) In order to prevent and control the spread of HIV/AIDS in India, a comprehensive programme is currently under implementation throughout the country as a centrally sponsored scheme. The main strategy consists of :-

- Strengthening Programme Management Capabilities at Central and State Level.  
Creation of awareness amongst high risk behaviour groups and general public about HIV/AIDS.
- Control of Sexually transmitted Diseases.
- Promoting blood safety and rational use of blood through proper licensing of blood banks and encouraging voluntary blood donation.
- Strengthening capacity for surveillance and diagnosis; and
- Extending training in Clinical Management of HIV/AIDS.

#### Statement

#### *National Aids Prevention and Control Policy*

#### 1. Introduction

1.1 In India HIV/AIDS epidemic is now 11 years old. Within this short period it has emerged as one of the most serious public health problems in the country. The initial cases of HIV/AIDS were reported among commercial sex workers in Mumbai and Chennai and injecting drug users in the north-eastern State of Manipur. The disease spread rapidly in the areas adjoining these epicentres and by 1996 Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Manipur together accounted for 77 per cent of the total AIDS cases with Maharashtra reporting almost half the number of cases in the country. Even though the officially reported cases of HIV infections and full-blown AIDS cases are in thousand only, it is realised that there is a wide gap between the reported and estimated figures because of the absence of epidemiological data in major parts of the country. The overall prevalence in the country for a population of 970 million is still, however, very low, a rate much lower than many other countries in the Asia-Pacific region.

1.2 The available surveillance data clearly indicates that HIV is prevalent in almost all parts of the country. In the recent years it has spread from urban to rural areas and from individuals practising risk behaviours to the general population. Studies indicate that more and more women attending ante-natal clinics are testing HIV-positive thereby increasing the risk of perinatal transmission. About 75 per cent of the infections occur from the sexual route (both heterosexual and homosexual), about 8 per cent through blood transfusion, another 8% through

injecting drug use. About 89% of the reported cases are occurring in sexually active and economically productive age group of 18-40 years. One in every 4 cases reported is a woman. The attributable factors for such rapid spread of the epidemic across the country today is labour migration and mobility in search of employment from economically backward to more advanced regions, low literacy levels leading to low awareness among the potential high risk groups, gender disparity, Sexually Transmitted Infections and Reproductive Tract Infections both among men and women. The social stigma attached to sexually transmitted infections also holds good for HIV/AIDS, even in a much more serious manner. This, coupled with lack of awareness results in reporting of full-blown AIDS cases in cities like Mumbai and Chennai causing severe strain on the hospital infrastructure. There have been cases of refusal of AIDS patients in hospitals and nursing homes both in Government and private sectors. This has compounded the misery of the AIDS patients. More often it is mistaken to be a contagious disease and patients are isolated in the wards creating a scare among the general patients. In the workplace there were cases of discrimination leading, in some occasions, to loss of employment. The active part played by some non-Governmental organisations in bringing out public interest litigations against such cases of discrimination and the judicial pronouncements by courts in support of the rights of such people has helped in alleviating the misery of the affected persons. The treatment options are still in the initial trial stage and prohibitively expensive. While there is no vaccine in sight at least till the year 2000 AD, multi-drug protease inhibitor therapy, popularly known as 'cocktail therapy', is not a cure to the disease and may help only in prolonging the life of the patient. Therapeutic trials of these drugs are still in an elementary stage and there are fears of patients developing drug resistance and side effects if the therapy is not administered under proper medical supervision. There were instances of quacks taking advantage of the situation and promising cure through so-called herbal treatment and defrauding unsuspecting people who are infected with the virus of large sums of money.

1.3 Transmission of the disease through blood, though limited to 8% of the cases, is also a serious issue as unsuspecting population can get infected through this route if safe blood is not ensured. Existence of a large number of small and medium blood banks, many of them in the private sector, also compounds the problem. The Supreme Court directive of May 1996 has helped in phasing out unlicensed blood banks by May 1997 and the prospective phasing out of professional blood donors by December 1997. Compulsory testing of blood for HIV along with Syphilis, Malaria and Hepatitis B, which has now been introduced throughout the country will help in checking transmission of HIV virus through blood transfusion.

1.4 The problem of injecting drug users is not

universal and is restricted to the north-eastern States and the urban pockets of metropolitan cities. The injecting needles which are the principal cause of transmission in such cases are used repeatedly by the drug users. The twin problem of drug addiction and HIV transmission pose a serious ethical and moral problem in the HIV prevention programme. Needle exchange programmes which have been taken up in other countries to ensure availability of sterile needles for drug users are frowned upon in India because of ethical and moral implications.

1.5 Alongwith transmission of HIV through use of needles, razors and other cutting instruments in the thousands of beauty parlours, hair-cutting saloons and dental clinics is insignificant, lack of hygienic practices in majority of these establishments also poses a health risk to the unsuspecting general population who visit these places every day. There is a great necessity in bringing these establishments to acceptable standards of hygiene to minimise and almost eliminate the chances of HIV transmission through the use of needles and sharp cutting instruments.

1.6 With about 14 million TB cases existing in India, HIV/AIDS also poses a twin challenge of HIV/TB coinfection. Nearly 60% of the AIDS cases are reported to be opportunistic TB infection cases. Treatment of TB among the HIV-infected persons is a new challenge to the National TB Control Programme which has now adopted DOTS strategy for complications in cases of HIV-infected persons and had to be withdrawn in areas of high HIV prevalence. At the same time looking for HIV among TB infected persons will also cause the problem of scaring away of a large number of TB infected cases in the country from seeking treatment under the DOTS strategy. There is no risk of any TB patient getting infected with HIV unless he or she practices high risk behaviours or gets infected from transfusion of HIV-infected blood.

1.7 HIV/AIDS is not a disease which spreads randomly and is transmitted as a consequence of a specific behavioural pattern and has strong socio-economic implications. It not only costs huge sums of money in terms of controlling the opportunistic infections such as TB, Pneumonia and cryptococcal meningitis, but seriously affects individuals in their prime productive years causing serious economic loss to them and their families.

1.8 All these aspects provide an unusual challenge of HIV infection through various routes which comes with its long period of invisibility and does not show out with opportunistic infections till a few years. In India with a large population and population density, low literacy levels and consequent low levels of awareness, HIV/AIDS is one of the most challenging health problems ever faced by the country.

## 2. Response

2.1 Soon after reporting of the first HIV/AIDS case in the country, the Government recognised the seriousness of the problem and took a series of important measures to tackle the epidemic. A high-powered National AIDS Committee was constituted in 1986 itself and a National AIDS Control Programme was launched a year later. In the initial years the programme focussed on generation of public awareness through mass communication a comprehensive multi-sectoral strategy for the prevention and control of AIDS in India. It is implemented through the National AIDS Control Organisation at the national level and State AIDS Cells/Societies at the State/UT levels. The programme concentrated on the following areas which conform to the global AIDS prevention and control strategy:-

- i. Programme Management
- ii. Surveillance and research
- iii. Information, Education & Communication including social mobilisation through NGOs
- iv. Control of Sexually Transmitted Diseases
- v. Condom Programming
- vi. Blood Safety; and
- vii. Reduction of impact.

2.2 Five years into the programme, the Government can look back with a certain measure of satisfaction for its success in important areas like generation of awareness about HIV/AIDS among the urban and rural population of the country. Awareness levels which were almost insignificant have increased to about 70-80% in urban areas even though the level of awareness in rural areas remains low at about 30%.

2.3 Several important actions have been taken to ensure safe blood by modernisation and strengthening of blood banks, introduction of licensing system of blood banks and gradual phasing out of professional blood donors. Introduction of component separation facilities has also helped in reducing the use of whole blood for transfusion. Some very successful intervention programmes among the high risk groups like commercial sex workers in the Sonagachi area of Calcutta, men having sex with men in Chennai and injecting drug users in Manipur were carried out through the dedicated involvement of non-Governmental organisations. Availability of good quality condoms of condoms through social marketing has made a significant increase in the last 3 years.

2.4 There are still many gaps left in the programme and many lessons have been learnt during the last 11 years. The inexorable spread of the disease from

the initial epicentre to the rest of the country underscores the immediate need to have a paradigm shift in the response against HIV/AIDS at all levels making it imperative to formulate a comprehensive national policy on HIV/AIDS in order to cope effectively with the changed nature of the HIV/AIDS problem. The entire programme of prevention and control of HIV/AIDS needs a shift towards a more holistic approach looking at AIDS as a developmental problem instead of a mere public health issue.

2.5 For this purpose a series of deliberations have been held with representatives of doctors, scientists, social workers, NGOs and other eminent personalities working in the field of HIV/AIDS prevention and control. Technical Working Groups constituted to address various aspects of HIV/AIDS prevention and control strategy have given valuable output. Finally the National AIDS Committee held deliberations on the policy guidelines and given their valuable input towards formulation of the policy document.

### 3. Objectives

3.1 The general objective of the policy is to prevent the epidemic from spreading further and to reduce the impact of the epidemic not only upon the infected persons but upon the health and socio-economic status of the general population at all levels. The specific objectives of the policy are:

- (i) to reiterate strongly the Government's firm commitment to prevent the spread of HIV infection and reduce personal and social impact.
- (ii) to generate a feeling of ownership among all the participants both at the Government and non-Government levels, like the Central Ministries and agencies of the Govt. of India, State Governments, city corporations, industrial undertakings in public and private sectors, panchayat institutions and local bodies to make it a truly national effort.
- (iii) to mobilise support a large number of NGOs/CBOs for an enlarged community initiative for prevention and alleviation of the AIDS problem.
- (iv) to promote a more supportive socio-economic environment for prevention of HIV/AIDS.
- (v) to prevent women, children and other socially weak groups from becoming vulnerable to HIV infection by improving health education, legal status and economic prospects.
- (vi) to provide adequate and equitable provision of health care to the HIV-infected people and to draw attention to the compelling public health rationale for overcoming stigmatisation

and discrimination against them in the society.

- (vii) to promote better understanding of HIV infection among the people at large, to generate awareness about the nature of its transmission and to adopt safe behavioural practices to prevent the disease from spreading.
- (viii) to provide proper health care both in the hospitals and at homes for the care and support of people ill with AIDS; and
- (ix) to constantly interact with international and bilateral agencies for support and cooperation in the field of research in vaccines, drugs, emerging systems of health care and other financial and managerial inputs.

### 4. Strategy

4.1 The national AIDS control policy principally aims at the following strategy for prevention and control of the disease:-

- i. Prevention of further spread of the disease by making the people at large and specially the high risk groups, aware of its implications and provide them with the necessary tools for protecting themselves from getting infected. Control of Sexually Transmitted Diseases among sexually active, economically productive groups together with promotion of condom use as a measure of prevention from HIV infection will be the most important component of the prevention strategy.
- ii. To provide an enabling socio-economic environment so that individuals and families affected with HIV/AIDS can manage the problem themselves with their family and community support.
- iii. Improving services for the care of people living with AIDS in times of sickness both in hospitals and at homes through community health care.

### 5. Policy Initiatives

For this purpose the policy addresses the following components of the national AIDS control programme for bringing in a paradigm shift in the response to HIV/AIDS at all levels both within and outside the Government.

#### 5.1 Programme Management

5.1.1 AIDS control programme has hitherto been seen as a public health matter dealt by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. However, because of the

behavioural nature and the strong socio-economic implications, the disease requires to be treated as a developmental issue which impinges on various economic and social sectors of Governmental and non-Governmental activity. As economically productive sections of the population are the most susceptible to the disease, participation of Ministries like Railways, Heavy Industry, Steel, Coal and other public sector undertakings employing large workforce require to be actively involved in the programme. Organised and unorganised sector of industry needs to be mobilised for taking care of the health of the productive sections of their workforce. Social Ministries like Welfare, Women and Child Welfare, Education, etc. should devise and own up the HIV/AIDS control programmes within their own sectoral jurisdiction. There should be strong budgetary and managerial support to these sectoral programmes from within these Ministries.

5.1.2 The State Governments at their levels should develop strong ownership of the HIV/AIDS prevention and control programme. As the prevalence of the disease and its implications vary from State to State, the State Governments should devise their own strategies and action programmes for tackling the disease keeping the national objectives in view. It has been observed that wherever there is strong ownership of the programme from the State Govt. side, it has been immensely successful. As high prevalence of the disease is directly related to the degree of urbanisation and consequent high risk behaviour among groups like commercial sex workers, drug users, men having sex with men in these communities, the municipal corporations of large metropolitan cities should be encouraged to draw up their own programme strategy for AIDS prevention and control. Direct funding of programmes undertaken by the municipal corporations can go a long way in reducing the administrative bottlenecks and help in effective control of the disease.

5.1.3 As HIV/AIDS is relatively new to the country, there has been no effective field organisation at the district or sub-district level to tackle the problem. In diseases like leprosy, TB, etc. the district level Societies play a very active role in implementing the programmes and receive funds directly from the national programmes. There is an urgent need to create a similar infrastructure at the district level for prevention and control of HIV/AIDS. This will not only help in quick channelisation of funds but also bring in participation of elected representatives of the people from the 3-tier panchayati raj system and urban municipalities. The district administration headed by the District Magistrate/Collector and the Chief Medical Officers of Health should be able to provide the necessary administrative and technical infrastructure for supporting the programme.

5.1.4 It is felt that only a large scale mobilisation at the Centre, State, District and sub-district level through organised sections of the community including non-Gov-

ernmental organisations can help in effectively prevent further spread of the disease. There is also a great need to strengthen the AIDS Control Organisation at the national and the State levels by providing more number of qualified technical and managerial personnel.

## 5.2 *Advocacy and Social Mobilisation*

5.2.1 In spite of the strong IEC campaign on HIV/AIDS, there is still inadequate understanding of the serious implications of the disease among the legislators, political and social leaders, bureaucracy, media, leaders of trade and industry and professional agencies not to speak of the medical and paramedical personnel engaged in health delivery system. A strong advocacy campaign needs to be launched at all levels for these opinion leaders, policy makers and service providers to make them understand and feel motivated about the need for immediate prevention of the disease and also for adopting a human approach towards those who have already been infected with HIV/AIDS. The Government emphasises the need to start advocacy from the topmost level in Government and spread it down throughout the country.

5.2.2 There is still a serious information gap about the causes of spread of the disease among a large number of medical and para-medical personnel both within the Government and outside. This occasionally leads to situations of discrimination of HIV/AIDS-infected persons in hospitals, dispensaries and workplaces, not to speak of the community at large. There is a strong need for advocacy at all these levels to eliminate such discrimination and overreaction by the public against HIV/AIDS infected people.

5.2.3 In educational institutions AIDS education should be imparted through curricular and extracurricular approach. The programme of AIDS education in schools and the 'Universities Talk AIDS' (UTA) programme should have universal applicability throughout the country in order to mobilise large sections of the student community to bring in awareness among themselves and as peer educators to the rest of the community. Non-student youth should also be addressed through the large network of youth organisations, sports clubs and Nehru Yuvak Kendras spread across the country. AIDS prevention education should also be integrated into the programmes of worker education and schemes of social development.

5.2.4 Electronic and print media has almost reached universal coverage for dissemination of information in India. The impressive rise in the levels of awareness about HIV/AIDS in the general community can be partly attributed to the electronic media which has taken this message right upto the village level. While there is a general awareness about the disease, specific aspects like mode of transmission, method of protecting oneself from getting infected, etc. are still not known to a large section of the population. There is therefore an urgent

need to have tailor-made programmes for targeted sections of the populations like students, youth, women, children, migrant workers, etc. The electronic media should evolve a well-coordinated media policy for dissemination of information on all aspects of HIV/AIDS including reinforcement of positive cultural values and social values like love, warmth and affection within the family. The newspapers, magazines and other print media should be used for conducting campaigns for social mobilisation to generate awareness about prevention and for sharing information and experience. The media should in general play a positive role in generating an enabling environment for AIDS prevention and control and care of HIV-infected people. The best communication talents available in the Govt. and private sector should be utilised in designing these media campaigns which should be developed in local languages and in tune with local needs and ethos. Media campaigns in rural areas should lay emphasis on local cultural values and should be conducted through folk dances, jatras puppet shows, etc.

5.2.5 The corporate sector should be encouraged to undertake AIDS prevention activities including provision of services for their employees both at the work place and outside as a part of their responsibility. The large network of ESI hospitals and dispensaries under the Employees State Insurance Scheme should be effectively used for spread the message of prevention of the disease and providing service to HIV/AIDS infected workers and families.

### 5.3 Participation of NGOs/CBOs

5.3.1 The non-Governmental organisations has made significant contribution in the health sector by using their innovative genius in the areas of health, family welfare and in arresting the spread of communicable diseases. It is essential to continue to encourage the involvement of the voluntary sector in HIV/AIDS. The National AIDS Control Programme has recognised the importance of NGO participation in the Programme for providing community support to people living with AIDS and their families and for providing the required care and counselling. NGOs bring with them their experience of community work in enhancing people's participation, interpersonal approach and sensitivity, creativity and feasibility and thus benefit the HIV/AIDS programme tremendously. NACO formulated specific guidelines for the involvement of NGOs in the NACP.

5.3.2 In view of the need to expand the responses to the new challenges thrown by the spread of the disease across the country, it is necessary to update and revise the guidelines for involvement of NGOs in programme. The experience of both sides has been mixed so long. While there have been a number of successful programmes undertaken by NGOs for generation of awareness, provision of counselling facilities and intervention projects

among, commercial sex workers and other groups, there have also been occasions of failures by newly formed NGOs due to lack of proper perspective. Very few grass-roots NGOs are coming forward to participate in the AIDS Control Programme.

5.3.3 On the Government side NGOs have been encountering the problem of structural and other constraints like lack of reciprocation from officials at various levels. There is also lack of uniformity in the approach and performance of various State Governments and adequate orientation among Govt. officials towards the role of NGOs in the NACP. There are delays in handling NGO cases which sometimes leads to decline of interest and withdrawal on the part of the NGOs. Delay in disbursement of funds and over-emphasis on utilisation of finance rather than on impact assessment of the work done are also some of the serious flaws in the system of NGO financing.

5.3.4 Government recognises all these constraints and commits itself to large scale involvement and participation of NGOs/CBOs in NACP in the following manner:-

- i. Involvement of NGOs at the policy making level through regular interaction and adequate representation at the National AIDS Committee.
- ii. Enlarging their participation to new areas like provision of medical facilities including home-based care, opening of hospices, etc. apart from the conventional areas of awareness and counselling.
- iii. Government will put in greater efforts to undertake training and capacity building programmes for the NGOs to empower them to take up these additional responsibilities.
- iv. Guidelines issued by NACO for involvement of NGOs will be revised and updated to facilitate greater participation of NGOs in NACO programmes and for reduction of bureaucratic delays in NGO financing.
- v. Govt. will encourage networking among NGOs to avoid duplication of efforts in some of the areas. Efforts will be made to identify nodal NGOs in different States for coordinating the work of all the NGOs working in that area. State Governments also need to address the problem of motivation among Govt. officials towards involvement of NGOs in the programme.

5.3.5 Government will address all these issues to ensure and enhance collaboration between NGOs and the Government at the Central and State levels to ensure greater participation of non-Governmental sector in the NACP.

#### 5.4 H.I.V. Testing

5.4.1 There is an active debate in the country on the issue as to whether there should be mandatory testing of people suspected of carrying HIV infection. Considerable thought has been given to this issue. The Government feels that there is no public health rationale for mandatory testing of a person for HIV/AIDS. On the other hand, such an approach could be counter-productive as it may scare away a large number of suspected cases from getting detected and treated. HIV testing carried out on a voluntary basis with appropriate pre-test and post-test counselling is considered to be a better strategy and is line with the WHO guidelines on HIV testing. Govt. of India has earlier issued a comprehensive HIV testing policy and the following issues are reiterated here:-

- i. No individual should be made to undergo a mandatory testing for HIV.
- ii. No mandatory HIV testing should be imposed as a precondition for employment or for providing health care facilities during employment.
- iii. Adequate voluntary testing facilities with pre-test counselling should be made available throughout the country in a phased manner. There should be at least one HIV testing centre in each district in the country which can be done in a phased manner.
- iv. In case a person likes to get his HIV status verified through testing, all necessary facilities should be given to that person and results should be kept strictly confidential and should be given out to the person and with his consent to the members of his family. Disclosure of the HIV status to the spouse of the person will entirely depend on the person's willingness to share the information. However, the person should be encouraged to share this information with the spouse and family as it helps the person in getting proper home-based care when he is afflicted with AIDS.
- v. In case of marriage, if one of the partners insists on a test to check the HIV status of the other partner, such tests should be carried out by the contracting party to the satisfaction of the person concerned.

5.4.2 The HIV testing policy adopted in the National AIDS Control Organisation is found to be appropriate for the different types of testing that have to be done. At present people are tested for:

- a) Screening in blood banks
- b) epidemiological surveys; and

c) confirmatory testing for clinical management and voluntary testing.

5.4.3 In the case of screening for blood donation, a single test by Rapid/ELISA is done to eliminate the possibility of HIV-positive blood. In the case of epidemiological surveys also the same procedure is adopted, i.e. with one or two tests either with ELISA or Rapid or Simple with high sensitivity. In both the above cases the testing is anonymous and the result is not given to the person concerned unless asked for. In the case of clinical management and for confirmatory testing of HIV status of persons who voluntarily ask for it, the sample will be tested with at least two ELISA and one Rapid/Simple by a different antigen preparation. The result is given out with proper pre-test and post-test counselling.

#### 5.5 Counselling

Counselling services for suspected cases of HIV infection and for people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWAs) should be expanded to increase their reach to those who need them. All hospitals, HIV testing centres, blood banks, STD Clinics and organisations formed by PLWAs should have counselling services manned by trained and professional counsellors. Government will extend all necessary help in training counsellors in large numbers to man these counselling centres and also for creating necessary infrastructure for establishment of these centres. Group counselling among PLWAs which has proved to be very effective will be encouraged by giving necessary financial and other incentives.

#### 5.6 People Living With AIDS (PLWAs)

5.6.1 With the spread of the infection across the country, there will be a sharp increase in the number of HIV-infected persons in the society. They will be belonging to different social strata and from various economic backgrounds. Apart from providing counselling before declaring the HIV status, the Government would try to ensure the social and economic well being of these people by ensuring (a) protection of their right of privacy and other human rights, and (b) proper care and support in the hospitals and in the community.

5.6.2 The HIV-positive person should be guaranteed equal rights to education and employment as other members of the society. HIV status of a person should be kept confidential and should not in any way affect the rights of the person to employment, his or her position at the workplace, marital relationship and other fundamental rights.

5.6.3 HIV-positive women should have complete choice in making decisions regarding pregnancy and child birth. There should be no forcible abortion or even sterilisation on the ground of HIV status of women. Proper counselling should be given to the pregnant women for

enabling her to take an appropriate decision either to go ahead with or terminate the pregnancy.

5.6.4 The Government would actively encourage and support formation of self-help groups among the HIV-infected persons for group counselling, home care and support of their members and their families. Social action through participation of NGOs would be encouraged and supported for this purpose.

5.6.5 As regards the treatment, care and support for PLWAs, the policy is to build up a continuum of comprehensive care comprising of clinical management, nursing care, counselling and socio-economic support through home-based care. Resources from Government and private sectors will be mobilised for this purpose.

5.6.6 Government would initiate intensive advocacy and sensitisation among doctors, nurses and other paramedical workers so that PLWAs are not discriminated, stigmatised or denied of services. Govt. expresses serious concern at instances of denial of medical treatment by doctors in their clinics, nursing homes and in hospitals which is causing enhanced stigmatisation to the PLWAs. With updated knowledge available on the risks or absence of risk of HIV transmission, such denial of medical care to needy victims is regrettable. The Government would expect the health service sector to rise to the occasion and display necessary concern for the welfare of the community of PLWAs and ensure proper medical care and attention. The professional organisations of medical and paramedical health workers should disseminate information about HIV/AIDS to their members up to the field level. Training of health personnel in diagnosis, rational treatment and for follow up of HIV-related illness should continue with greater vigour.

5.6.7 An efficient referral system would be established starting from testing centres and counseling sites to hospitals or clinics, community-based and home-based care. PLWAs would be given adequate information for home care in the form of books and documents to enable them to lead a healthier life and to promote self-help.

5.6.8 Clinical management of HIV/AIDS requires strict enforcement of biosafety and infection control measures in the hospitals as per the universal safety precaution guidelines. Treatment of AIDS cases do not require any specialised equipment than what is necessary for treatment of the opportunistic infections arising out of HIV/AIDS. Hospitals are required to keep adequate supply of biosafety equipments to be utilised by medical and paramedical personnel while treating HIV-infected persons. Government would ensure adequate supply of these equipments and also essential drugs for treatment of the opportunistic infections. Adequate facilities would also be created for proper disposal of plastic and other wastes and injecting needles used for treatment of HIV-infected persons.

## 5.7 Surveillance and Monitoring

5.7.1 To adopt the right strategy for prevention and control of HIV, it is necessary to build up a proper system of monitoring of the epidemic through surveillance activities. The Government would enlarge and refine the sentinel surveillance system for obtaining data on HIV infection rates in both high risk as well as low risk groups of the population and for monitoring the trends. A quality control mechanism through an independent agency will be evolved and adopted in order to have good quality data. Government is aware of the inadequacy of a comprehensive epidemiological data on the prevalence of HIV/AIDS in India. This gap in information would soon be filled through a proper sentinel survey mechanism covering both the high risk groups and general population. Special surveys indicator survey and study of the risk behaviour of targeted groups will be undertaken for specified information on the prevalence of HIV/AIDS in the community.

## 5.8 Control of Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs)

5.8.1 The large prevalence of STDs in Indian population is cause for concern as presence of STDs, specially with ulcer or discharge, facilitates transmission of HIV infection. The risk of transmission is 8 to 10 times higher in case of persons with STDs compared with others. As the risk behaviour of persons with STDs and HIV is the same, Govt. of India attaches top priority to the prevention and control of STDs as a strategy for controlling the spread of HIV/AIDS in the country. The following approach will be adopted by the Government for STD control :-

- i. Management of STDs through syndromic approach would be incorporated into the general health service. Once the STD case management is integrated in peripheral health system, unnecessary referral could be avoided leaving the specialised services free for management of complicated cases and operational research and supervision of sites where STD patients are treated.
- ii. STD among women though highly prevalent, is suppressed because of the social stigma attached to the disease. It has therefore been decided to incorporate services for treatment of reproductive tract infections (RTIs) and sexually transmitted infections (STIs) at all levels. Department of Family Welfare and the National AIDS Control Organisation would coordinate for an effective implementation of such integration. STD clinics at district/block/FRU level would function as referral centres for treatment of STDs referred from peripheries. STD clinics in all district hospitals, medical colleges and other centres would be strengthened by providing technical equipment, rea-

gents and drugs. A massive orientation training programme would be undertaken to train all the medical and paramedical workers engaged in the providing STI/RTI services through a syndromic approach. All STD Clinics would also provide counselling services and good quality condoms to the STD patients. Services of NGOs would be utilised for providing such counselling services at the STs clinics.

#### 5.9 *Use of Condoms as a HIV/STD Prevention Measure*

5.9.1 In the absence of proper cure or prevention by vaccination, the only effective physical barrier against transmission of HIV is the use of condoms. Condoms have been advocated earlier as a safe method of population control under the Family Welfare programme. Use of condoms now assumes special significance in the AIDS-related scenario as it is the only effective method of prevention of HIV/AIDS through the sexual route apart from total abstinence. Government feels that there should be no moral, ethical or religious inhibition towards propagating the use of condoms amongst sexually active people specially those who practise high risk behaviour.

5.9.2 The Government has adopted a conscious policy of use of condoms through the social marketing and community-based distribution system. It has been observed that the social marketing strategy has helped in increasing use of condoms in the country at large. There is greater need to ensure availability of condoms at places and times where they are needed. Hospitals, STD clinics, counselling centres, nursing homes and even private clinics of medical practitioners should have adequate supply of condoms for use of the patients. General availability of condoms in the community in drug stores, important road and railway junctions, public places, luxury hotels, etc. should also be ensured for use among sexually active people. This will help in achieving the twin purposes of control and prevention of HIV and as a useful tool for promoting the small family norm. Government would promote development of culturally acceptable information packages about the efficacy of condoms to achieve both these objectives.

5.9.3 While ensuring availability of condoms, it is equally necessary to see that the quality and reliability is also guaranteed. Scheduled 'R' of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act has been amended recently to include condoms for ensuring adequate quality control in their manufacture and distribution. There are adequate number of manufacturers both in the public and private sectors in the country to take care of the increased demand for condoms among sexually active people.

#### 5.10 *Policy on Blood Safety*

5.10.1 Till recently about 6-8 per cent of HIV infec-

tions occurred through transfusion of blood and blood products in the country. To minimise the risk of transmission of HIV through blood, Government has taken a series of measures:

- i. Testing of all blood unit in the blood banks for HIV, Hepatitis B, Malaria and Syphilis has been made mandatory.
- ii. Under the Supreme Court's directive, a proper licensing system has been introduced for licensing of all blood banks and stopping operation of all unlicensed ones.
- iii. Government has undertaken large scale mobilisation efforts to increase voluntary blood donation through involvement of Governmental and non-Governmental agencies. Simultaneously the system of collection of blood through professional blood donors will be phased out by December, 1997 under the Supreme Court Order.
- iv. Government would ensure establishment of adequate blood banking services at the State/District levels including provision of trained manpower.
- v. To ensure rational use of blood, more and more blood component separation facilities would be established in the country for availability of blood products instead of whole blood.
- vi. Government has set up National and State Blood Transfusion Councils to oversee blood transfusion services as independent autonomous bodies. The facility of tax exemption for contributions to these Councils has also been given. These Councils will play a very important role in augmenting blood transfusion services in the country and to ensure safe blood to the people. To ensure generation of adequate medical and paramedical personnel specialised in blood banks, States are required to open separate departments of Haematology and Transfusion Medicine in the medical colleges.

5.10.2 With the modernisation of blood bank services it is expected that the demand for blood will be fully met through the small but more modernised and efficient network of blood banks in the public, private and voluntary sectors thus minimising the risk of HIV transmission through blood.

#### 5.11 *Research and Development*

5.11.1 The research and development efforts in the

field of HIV/AIDS have been very limited in the country. With the possibility of a vaccine emerging by the turn of the century, Government recognises the need to encourage and support research and development in the following areas:-

- i. The Government will look out for collaborative research with scientific groups in developed countries for development of vaccines suitable for the strains of HIV virus prevalent in India. It is also necessary to develop protocols for vaccine trials in the country. At present R & D in HIV vaccine is regarded as an expensive proposition but because of the enormity of the problem involved, the effort is worth the investment.
- ii. Development of anti-retroviral drugs in the USA and other developed countries has also given hope to the large number of HIV-infected persons for greater longevity and a possible cure for the disease. However, these drugs are extremely expensive even by the standard of the developed world. The Government is at present following a policy of allowing these drugs to be imported freely into the country to ensure their free availability to those who can afford. Efforts will be made to indigenise manufacture of these drugs by encouraging the private sector drug industry to get into collaborative arrangements. The efficacy of anti-retrovirals like AZT in prevention of perinatal transmission from mother to the child has also raised the hope of saving children from getting the infection from their mothers. However, pilot studies have to be conducted on the use of these drugs on expectant mothers before they can be officially introduced for treatment at the pre-natal stage. Government will be sponsoring pilot studies on the efficacy of anti-retrovirals for clinical trials among HIV-infected persons including pregnant women.

5.11.2 Government would also encourage indigenisation of the HIV-related equipment like test kits which will help in reducing the cost of service to a considerable extent.

#### 5.12 *Indigenous Systems of Medicine*

5.12.1 In a scenario where anti-retroviral drugs are extremely expensive, there is a great need to look into the indigenous system of medicine like Ayurveda, Unani and Siddha apart from Homoeopathy. Some of the medicines in these systems have the potential of reducing the viral load in the body of the patient thus ensuring a healthier and longer life with the infection. The Government has

sponsored research projects in Homoeopathic and Siddha systems of medicine and is receiving encouraging response. It will pursue a policy of sponsoring research in the indigenous systems of medicine and Homoeopathy for development of drugs which can serve the purpose of anti-retrovirals, if not for a total cure from the infection.

5.12.2 At the same time it is necessary to be vigilant against unscrupulous persons claiming to have invented a cure for HIV/AIDS by magic herbs. Any medicine or system of treatment which cannot stand the test of scrutiny by the professional organisations like the Ayurveda Council or the Homoeopathic Council cannot be accepted as a drug or a system of treatment in the country. The Drugs and Magic Remedies Act requires amendments to stringently deal with cases of unscrupulous persons taking advantage of the misery of HIV-infected persons and defrauding them of huge sums of money. A massive awareness campaign has also been launched to make people aware of the dangers of such medication by unqualified persons indulging in quackery.

#### 5.13 *Bilateral And International Cooperation*

5.13.1 Government notes with satisfaction the active support provided by international agencies of the UN system and bilateral agencies from different countries in the developed world. The World Bank has participated in funding a major part of the national AIDS control programme during the last five years. It has also shown interest in continuing this policy of active participation in future. The organisations which are constituent units of the UNAIDS Theme Group have all done work in India on various sectoral programmes for quite some time. These organisations will have to take a relook at their programmes and priorities in the context of the increased prevalence of HIV/AIDS among the economically productive and socially exploited sections of the population. The Joint United Nations programme on HIV/AIDS known as UNAIDS will be required to assume a larger role both in terms of providing financial as well as technical expertise to the programme. The Theme Group of UNAIDS consisting of six UN-based organisations will have to play a very effective role in acting as a coordinating agency between the Government and the UN agencies in formulation and implementation of programmes for prevention of HIV/AIDS. Government's policy is to promote international cooperation to ensure optimal utilisation of resources to avoid unproductive duplication of efforts.

5.13.2 Bilateral cooperation which has been developed with countries like USA, UK, European Union and others will be extended further to take up specific intervention programmes where the technical and managerial input from these countries can be put to optimum use. Government will promote mutual information sharing with these countries as well as the neighbouring countries in

the South Asian region on their national AIDS control plans. Areas of interest which are common to the neighbouring countries like drug use, labour migration, socio-economic status of women and socially handicapped persons, etc. could be the common ground for regional cooperation among the neighbouring countries. Government will be actively looking for technical inputs for development of vaccines, drugs and equipment for prevention and control of HIV/AIDS and would explore bilateral and multi-lateral collaboration towards this end.

#### 6. Conclusion

Just as the HIV infection is transcending the boundaries of high risk population and spreading into the general populace, prevention and care programmes have also reached a critical phase. Govt. of India is fully committed to prevent the HIV/AIDS epidemic at the initial stage itself before it emerges into a catastrophic epidemic. Instead of a simple public health measure, the Government looks at HIV/AIDS prevention and control programmes as a socio-economic issue touching all sections of the population irrespective of their regional, economic or social status. A concerted effort will be made to expand the national programme through larger ownership, participation and involvement both at the Governmental and societal level. Govt. of India reiterates its firm resolve to confront the key issues by committing adequate financial and other resources for this important national programme. By following a concerted policy and an action programme that emerges out of it, the Government hopes to control the epidemic and arrest its spread within the next five years. Government hopes that all participating agencies whether in the Governmental or non-Governmental sectors, international and bilateral agencies, would adopt policies and programmes in conformity with this national policy in their effort to prevent and control HIV/AIDS in India.

[Translation]

#### Reservation for SCs/STs in Medical Colleges

2563. DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL :

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :

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

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to make provision for reservation for other backward classes in education and commercial institutions including medical and dental colleges;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) to (c) The matter relating to reservation for Other Backward Classes in Educational institutions is under consideration.

#### Production of Fertilizer

2564. SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of fertilizer produced by each factory during the last six months in the country;

(b) the total quantity of fertilizer distributed, State-wise;

(c) whether the farmers have suffered losses due to the shortage of fertilizers; and

(d) if so, the details of assistance provided to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL) : (a) The requisite information in respect of total quantity of fertilizer produced by each factory during the last six months in the country is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) State-wise despatches of major fertilizers namely Urea, DAP and MOP in the last six months is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(c) and (d) Urea is the only fertilizer for which State-wise allocations are made. No reports of shortages of urea have been received from any part of the country during Kharif 1998 and the current Rabi season. The availability of DAP and MOP being decontrolled fertilizers is regulated by the market forces of demand and supply operating within the parameters of concessions scheme of Department of Agriculture and Cooperation. The imports of DAP and MOP are decanalised.

There were no shortage of DAP reported by the State in the country during Kharif 1998. However, localised shortages are currently being experienced during the Rabi season in the States of Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh in respect of Diammonium Phosphate (DAP). This is mainly due to increase in the peak demand due to increase in area under sowing of wheat.

There were shortages of MOP during Kharif due to non-finalisation of rates of concession of MOP which affected its imports. However, during Rabi 1998-99, no shortages are anticipated as the imports during the season are estimated to exceed 15 lakh tonnes.

## Statement - I

## Unit-wise Production of Fertilizers During the Last Six Months

(000' MT)

Name of Plants	Name of Product	Production (June-November, 98)		
		Qty	N	P
1	2	3	4	5
<b>PUBLIC SECTOR</b>				
<b>VIABLE UNITS</b>				
<b>NFL:</b>				
Nangal-I	CAN	123.4	30.9	0.0
Nangal-II	Urea	196.3	90.3	0.0
Bhatinda	Urea	270.1	124.2	0.0
Panipat	Urea	280.6	129.1	0.0
Vijaipur	Urea	406.6	187.0	0.0
Vijaipur Expn.	Urea	463.8	213.3	0.0
<b>Total (NFL) :</b>		<b>1740.8</b>	<b>774.9</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>FACT :</b>				
Udyogamandal	A/S	103.2	21.7	0.0
	20:20	80.8	16.2	16.2
Cochin-I	Urea	112.1	51.6	0.0
Cochin-II	20:20	296.1	59.2	59.2
	DAP	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Total (FACT) :</b>		<b>592.2</b>	<b>148.6</b>	<b>75.4</b>
<b>RCF :</b>				
Trombay	Urea	0.0	0.0	0.0
	15:15:15	198.2	29.7	29.7
Trombay-IV	20.7:20.7	126.6	26.2	26.2
Trombay-V	Urea	169.7	78.1	0.0
Thal	Urea	825.3	379.6	0.0
<b>Total (RCF) :</b>		<b>1319.8</b>	<b>513.6</b>	<b>55.9</b>
<b>MFL :Chennai</b>				
	Urea(Sale)	109.9	50.6	0.0
	17:17:17	283.8	48.2	48.2
	DAP	21.8	3.9	10.0
	19:19:19	1.1	0.2	0.2
	14:28:14	14.9	2.1	4.2
<b>Total (MFL) :</b>		<b>431.5</b>	<b>105.0</b>	<b>62.7</b>
SAIL : Rourkela	CAN	50.9	12.7	0.0
NLC : Neyveli	Urea	24.1	11.1	0.0
PPL : Paradeep	DAP	432.6	77.9	199.0

1	2	3	4	5
	12:32:16	3.1	0.4	1.0
	10:26:26	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Total : (PPL) :</b>		<b>435.7</b>	<b>78.2</b>	<b>200.0</b>
By-Product	A/S	58.6	12.3	0.0
SSP	SSP	12.3	0.0	2.0
PPCL : Amjhore	SSP	49.2	0.0	7.9
PPCL : Saladipura	SSP	21.6	0.0	3.5
HCL : Khetri	SSP	5.8	0.0	0.9
<b>Total (Viable) :</b>		<b>4742.5</b>	<b>1656.5</b>	<b>408.2</b>
<b>LOSS MAKING UNITS</b>				
<b>FCI :</b>				
Sindri Modn.	Urea	110.9	51.0	0.0
Gorakhpur	Urea	0.0	0.0	0.0
Ramagundam	Urea	17.0	7.8	0.0
Talcher	Urea	39.8	18.3	0.0
<b>Total (FCI)</b>		<b>167.7</b>	<b>77.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>HFC:</b>				
Namrup-I	A/S	0.0	0.0	0.0
Namrup-II	Urea	0.0	0.0	0.0
Namrup-III	Urea	51.9	23.9	0.0
Durgapur	Urea	0.0	0.0	0.0
Barauni	Urea	9.9	4.6	0.0
<b>Total (HFC) :</b>		<b>61.8</b>	<b>28.4</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Total (Loss Mkg.) :</b>		<b>229.5</b>	<b>105.6</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Total (PUBLIC SECTOR) :</b>		<b>4972.0</b>	<b>1762.1</b>	<b>408.2</b>
<b>COOPERATIVE SECTOR</b>				
<b>IFFCO :</b>				
Kandla	10:26:26	89.5	9.0	23.3
	12:32:16	91.8	11.0	29.4
	DAP	407.0	73.3	187.2
Kalol	Urea(Sale)	256.2	117.9	0.0
Phulpur	Urea	296.7	137.4	0.0
Phulpur Expn.	Urea	399.9	184.0	0.0
Aonia	Urea	409.7	188.5	0.0
Aonia Expn.	Urea	433.5	199.4	0.0
<b>Total (IFFCO) :</b>		<b>2386.3</b>	<b>920.3</b>	<b>239.9</b>
KRIBHCO : Hazira	Urea	783.0	360.2	0.0
<b>Total (COOP. SECTOR):</b>		<b>3169.3</b>	<b>1280.5</b>	<b>239.9</b>
<b>Total (PUB+COOP) :</b>		<b>8141.3</b>	<b>3042.5</b>	<b>648.0</b>

1	2	3	4	5
<b>PRIVATE SECTOR</b>				
GSFC : Vadodra	Urea	156.7	72.1	0.0
	A/S	129.9	27.3	0.0
	DAP	88.8	16.0	40.8
<b>Total :</b>		<b>375.4</b>	<b>115.3</b>	<b>40.8</b>
CFL : Vizag	DAP	15.0	2.7	6.9
	28:28	98.3	27.5	27.5
	14:35:14	32.2	4.5	11.3
	16:20	7.3	1.2	1.5
	20:20	34.4	6.9	6.9
<b>Total :</b>		<b>187.2</b>	<b>42.8</b>	<b>54.0</b>
SFC : Kota	Urea	210.6	96.9	0.0
DIL : Kanpur	Urea	369.5	170.0	0.0
ZIL : Goa	Urea(Sale)	162.7	74.8	0.0
	19:19:19	38.2	7.3	7.3
	28:28	3.2	0.9	0.9
	20:20	7.7	1.5	1.5
	DAP	65.8	11.8	30.3
<b>Total:</b>		<b>277.6</b>	<b>96.4</b>	<b>40.0</b>
SPIC: Tuticorin	Urea	265.9	122.3	0.0
	DAP	301.9	54.3	138.9
	<b>Total</b>	<b>567.8</b>	<b>176.7</b>	<b>138.9</b>
MCF : Mangalore	Urea	178.5	82.1	0.0
	DAP	93.5	16.8	43.0
	<b>Total :</b>	<b>272.0</b>	<b>98.9</b>	<b>43.0</b>
GNFC :Bharuch	Urea	346.5	159.4	0.0
	CAN	81.9	20.5	0.0
	20:20	74.0	14.8	14.8
	<b>Total :</b>	<b>502.4</b>	<b>194.7</b>	<b>14.8</b>
EID-Parry :Ennore	16:20	104.3	16.7	20.9
DFCL : Talaja	23:23	77.5	17.8	17.8
TAC : Tuticorin	A/C	26.9	6.7	0.0
PNF : Nangal	A/C	0.0	0.0	0.0
HLL : Haldia	DAP	127.2	22.9	58.5

1	2	3	4	5
GSFC : Sikka	DAP	224.1	40.3	103.1
GFC : Kakinada	DAP	310.8	55.9	143.0
	20:20	17.3	3.5	3.5
<b>Total</b>		<b>328.1</b>	<b>59.4</b>	<b>146.4</b>
NFCL : Kakinada	Urea	325.6	149.8	0.0
NFCL : Kakinada Expn.	Urea	244.6	112.5	0.0
IGCL : Jagdishpur	Urea	522.5	240.4	0.0
CFCL : Gedepan	Urea	502.8	231.3	0.0
TCL : Babrala	Urea	426.5	196.2	0.0
OCF : Shahjahanpur	Urea	486.0	223.6	0.0
By-Product	A/S	8.5	1.8	0.0
SSP Units	SSP	1365.0	0.0	218.4
<b>Total (PRIVATE SECTOR) :</b>		<b>7532.1</b>	<b>2311.0</b>	<b>896.6</b>
<b>Total (PUB+COOP+ PVT) :</b>		<b>15673.4</b>	<b>5353.5</b>	<b>1544.7</b>
	UREA	9867.4	4539.0	0.0
	A/S	300.2	63.0	0.0
	CAN	256.2	64.1	0.0
	A/C	26.9	6.7	0.0
	DAP	2088.5	375.9	960.7
	SSP	1453.9	0.0	232.6
	20:20	510.3	102.1	102.1
	15:15:15	198.2	29.7	29.7
	20.7:20.7	126.6	26.2	26.2
	17:17:17	283.8	48.2	48.2
	10:26:26	89.5	9.0	23.3
	12:32:16	94.9	11.4	30.4
	14:35:14	32.2	4.5	11.3
	14:28:14	14.9	2.1	4.2
	19:19:19	39.3	7.5	7.5
	28:28	101.5	28.4	28.4
	23:23	77.5	17.8	17.8
	16:20	111.6	17.9	22.3
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>15673.4</b>	<b>5353.5</b>	<b>1544.7</b>

**Statement-II****State-wise Despatches of Urea, DAP and MOP in the last Six Months**

(Figures in 000 MTs)

Sl. No.	States	Urea	D.A.P.	M.O.P
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	941.85	399.92	75.99
2.	Karnataka	570.37	181.07	69.91
3.	Kerala	72.26	6.01	30.83
4.	Tamil Nadu	380.64	144.41	184.26
5.	Andaman & Nicobar	0.41	—	—
6.	Lakshadweep	—	—	—
7.	Pondicherry	9.21	3.43	2.70
8.	Gujarat	706.66	299.47	44.48
9.	Madhya Pradesh	650.72	286.65	21.91
10.	Maharashtra	937.25	236.26	73.41
11.	Rajasthan	542.43	203.28	3.80
12.	Dadra & Nagar Hav.	0.72	—	—
13.	Goa	2.14	0.32	1.77
14.	Daman & Diu	0.16	—	—
15.	Haryana	652.22	270.54	2.31
16.	Himachal Pradesh	28.32	—	2.33
17.	Jammu & Kashmir	38.40	11.57	1.51
18.	Punjab	1042.23	386.64	23.07
19.	Uttar Pradesh	2339.63	626.23	106.67
20.	Chandigarh	0.41	—	—
21.	Delhi	18.97	1.98	0.60
22.	Bihar	722.83	231.12	51.46
23.	Orissa	220.47	50.75	29.18
24.	West Bengal	394.31	216.04	84.08
25.	Assam	52.29	6.98	6.57
26.	Manipur	20.27	—	0.34
27.	Meghalaya	2.75	—	0.20

1	2	3	4	5
28.	Nagaland	0.36	—	—
29.	Sikkim	0.55	2.33	—
30.	Tripura	10.65	—	0.15
31.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.42	—	0.22
32.	Mizoram	0.44	—	—
<b>Total</b>		<b>10360.34</b>	<b>3565.00</b>	<b>817.75</b>

*[English]***Ravva Oil Fields**

2565. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY :

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :

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

(a) whether production of crude oil at Ravva Oil fields in Andhra Pradesh has declined;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to normalise the production from the oil field?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) There was disruption in production from the field due to SPM failure during August-November, 1998.

(c) Production has ben resumed with effect from 28.11.98.

**Dealerships For Petroleum Products**

2566. SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR:

SHRI JAYASINHJI CHAUHAN:

SHRI GORDHANBHAI JADAVBHAI JAVIYA:

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

(a) the number of diesel/petrol pumps functioning at present in Gujarat along with locations;

(b) whether applications have been called for allocation of dealerships for various petroleum products in Western Zone, particularly in Gujarat;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the dealerships are proposed to be allocated and their locations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) As on 1.10.1998, 1078 retail outlet dealerships were in operation in Gujarat.

(b) to (d) 1395 retail outlet dealerships, LPG distributorships and SKO/LDO dealerships are pending for selection in the Western Region comprising of Gujarat, Daman and Diu, Dadra Nagar Haveli, Maharashtra, Goa and Madhya Pradesh. Oil Companies have already advertised most of these locations, and the remaining are also to be advertised in a phased manner. Four Dealer Selection Boards for Madhya Pradesh and one for Gujarat have already been constituted for making selection of dealers and distributors. It generally takes about 1-2 years for commissioning of the dealerships/distributorships from the date of advertisement.

#### Running of Fun and Food Village Without Licence

2567. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Fun and Food Village is being run in Kapashera, Delhi without getting any licence from the licencing authority;

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

(c) the details of such other institutions that are being run in Delhi without licences?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no similar institution operating without licence in the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

[Translation]

#### Amendment in Trade Union Act

2568. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GELHOT : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the Trade Union Act in order to accord recognition to only those Trade Unions which are elected by secret ballot; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) Amendments to the Trade Unions Act are made from time to time keeping in view their requirement of social partners. At present the code of Discipline

in industry requires managements to recognise unions in accordance with the criteria for recognition of unions evolved at the 16th Session of the Indian Labour Conference in 1958.

[English]

#### Appointment of Non-Muslim in Wakf

2569. ER. SHANKAR PANNU : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a non-Muslim has been appointed as administrator of Wakf Board in contravention of rules; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) and (b) It is a fact that a non-Muslim has been appointed as administrator of the Punjab Wakf Board. Since the Wakf Act, 1995 provides that during the supersession of a Wakf Board, the powers and duties of the Board are to be exercised by a person (designated by the Government as Administrator) without specifying that he should be a Muslim, the appointment of a non-Muslim as Administrator of the Board is not in contravention of the Act or Rules framed thereunder. However this appointment was only a stop-gap arrangement and a decision has already been taken to appoint a Muslim as the Administrator of the Punjab Wakf Board.

#### Seats in TB Health Visitor Training in TB Centre

2570. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of seats available for TB Health Visitor Training in TB Centre during each of the last three years and current academic year;

(b) whether Government have any proposal to increase the seats;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the criteria laid down in this regard.

(d) the total number of scheduled castes/scheduled tribes and other backward castes candidates admitted in the course during each of the last three years;

(e) whether there is any fixed number of seats for candidates from Uttar Pradesh; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) The total number of seats available for

TB Health Visitor Training Course at New Delhi TB Centre during each of the last three years and current academic year is 20.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The total number of scheduled castes/schedule tribes and other backward class candidates admitted in TB Health Visitor Course during the last three years is as under:

Year	SC	ST	OBC
1995-96	Nil	Nil	Nil
1996-97	1	Nil	1
1997-98	1	1	Nil

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Vohra Committee Report

2571. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of action taken by the Government so far on the Vohra Committee report which was set up to enquire into the politicians-mafia links;

(b) whether the Government propose to setup any new Committee to expose such links; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) The Vohra Committee inter-alia recommended setting up of a nodal agency headed by the Home Secretary to collect and collate information/intelligence from various Intelligence Agencies and to act through identified organisation(s) so that the nexus of criminals with the politicians, bureaucrats and businessmen is broken. Accordingly, a Nodal Group was set up on 2.8.1995 with Home Secretary as the Chairman and Secretary (Revenue), Secretary (R & AW), Director (IB) and Director (CBI) as Members. The Nodal Group was reconstituted with effect from 05.1.1996 with Cabinet Secretary assuming the charge of Chairman and with Home Secretary, Secretary (Revenue), Secretary (R & AW), Director (IB) and Director (CBI) as Members.

Subsequently, in compliance of the directions given by the Hon'ble Supreme Court, the Nodal Group was reconstituted in January 1998 with Home Secretary as its Chairman; Member Investigation, CBDT, Director General

(Revenue Intelligence), Director (Enforcement) and Director (CBI) as Members Secretary (Personnel & Training), Secretary (Revenue), Secretary (R & AW) and Director (IB) were made special invitees to the Nodal Group by the Government. The Nodal Groups meets every month.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

#### Research on Anti Cancer Drug

2572. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any research or study has been undertaken by the Indian Council of Medical Research on the Texol as an anti cancer drug; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) The Indian Council of Medical Research has not support any study in Texol.

#### Production of Sun Flower

2573. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :

SHRI ANUP LAL YADAV :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4017 dated July 14, 1998 regarding Sun Flower and state:

(a) the total production of sun flower in Bihar during each of the last three years;

(b) whether NAFED has been assigned to lift the stock of sun flower from the State; and

(c) if so, the procurement made by the NAFED during the each last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) The total production of sunflower in Bihar during the last three years is as under :

(000 Tonnes)	
Year	Production
1994-95	4.7
1995-96	4.6
1996-97	5.0

(b) and (c) NAFED is the nodal agency to carry out

the purchase operations of Oilseeds including Sunflower on Minimum Support Price (MSP) declared by the Government of India from time to time. Since the prices have not fallen below MSP in Bihar, procurement through NAFED could not take place in the last three years.

#### Christian Population

2574. SHRI VAIKO : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage of Christian population in Madhya Pradesh;
- (b) the number of Christian nuns and ladies physically assaulted and raped; and
- (c) the steps taken to check such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) As per the 1991 Census of Christian population in Madhya Pradesh is 0.65%.

(b) As per information available Four (4) nuns were allegedly gangraped in Madhya Pradesh (Jhabua Distt.).

(c) 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects as per the Constitution of India. The registration, investigation and detection of crimes as well as the prevention of crime are primarily the responsibility of the State Governments.

Even as it is essential for the State Governments to deal with crime prevention and detection, the Central Government have been providing assistance to the State Government for improving their policing infrastructure, besides sharing intelligence with them.

After the recent incidents involving minorities, the Chief Secretaries of the concerned States have been advised to issue suitable instructions to the district law and order enforcing authorities to respond immediately to the complaints of atrocities/harassment of the minorities and initiate prompt and effective action to identify and punish the guilty persons. The Government is clear that acts of violence against the minority communities, whenever and in whatever form they occur, must be dealt with sternly and exemplary punishment awarded to the perpetrators.

#### Unemployment Problem

2575. SHRI N. DENNIS :

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA :

SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have taken note of the observations made in the 'World Employment Report 1998-99' published by International Labour Organisation recently emphasising education and training as the tools for combatting unemployment;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (c) the fresh steps taken/proposed to be taken to solve the problem of unemployment in the country during the current year and for the Ninth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) The Government is aware that upgradation of knowledge and skills through education and training has a positive impact on productivity and employment. In order enhance productivity and employability of the workers, education and training is being imparted through various educational/vocational training institutions.

(c) The strategy of the Ninth Plan envisages adoption to technologies which are labour intensive, simple, cost effective and easily adaptable in regions characterised by high rate of unemployment and underemployment, improvement in the quality of employment with Special thrust on productivity.

[Translation]

#### Policy for Production of Fertilizers

2576. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have formulated any latest policy for the production of fertilizers during the Ninth Plan;
- (b) if so, the target for production of fertilizers is likely to be achieved through the implementation of the said policy; and
- (c) the progress achieved so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A. K. PATEL) : (a) to (c) No new policy has been formulated by Government of India for the production of fertilizers during the Ninth Five Year Plan. The achievement vis a vis the target of production of these nutrients during 1997-98 and 1998-99 is as follows:

Nutrient	Year 1997-98		Year 1998-99	
	Target	Actual Production	Target	Actual Production (estimated)
Nitrogen	96.11	100.85	106.82	104.26
Phosphate	28.60	29.76	30.26	29.97

[English]

#### Implementation of New Central Guidelines

2577. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Vidarbha LPG Distributors Association has submitted a memorandum on implementation of New Central Guidelines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken for redressal of genuine grievances of gas distributors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (d) The Vidarbha LPG Distributors Association filed a writ petition before the High Court Judicature at Mumbai (Nagpur Branch) seeking the quashing and setting aside of the Marketing Discipline Guidelines being implemented by public sector oil companies with effect from 12th May, 1998. An ex-parte order dated 15.10.1998 was passed by the Court granting interim stay. The matter is presently sub-judice. However, the public sector oil companies have put on hold the implementation of the revised Marketing Discipline Guidelines, 1998 and are also reviewing the said guidelines for redressal of genuine grievances of LPG distributors.

#### Welfare of the Mentally Retarded Persons

2578. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK :

SHRI VAIKO :

SHRI P. SANKARAN :

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

(a) the number of mentally retarded persons in the country; States/UT wise;

(b) the number of mentally retarded persons rehabilitated during the last three years;

(c) the details of welfare schemes implemented and the funds allocated for the upliftment of mentally retarded persons; and

(d) the number of welfare centres being run by the Government in the country, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) to (d) The required information is being collected.

#### Capitation Fees Charged From Medical Students

2579. SHRI JAYARAMA I. M. SHETTY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the medical education in the country have become commercialised and the medical colleges throughout the country are charging exorbitant capitation fees;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the genuine and hardworking students are denied admissions in medical colleges due to lack of funds with them; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to bring transparency in the functioning of various medical colleges throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) to (d) With a view to prevent the commercialisation of medical colleges and also to prevent Private medical colleges from charging capitation fee, the Supreme Court of India in the case of Unnikrishnan J.P. versus State, evolved a scheme for regulating admission in private medical colleges and also fixed a specific fee structure to be charged by these medical colleges. As per the scheme, in all private medical colleges 50% of the total seats will be merit seats, 35% are payment seats and the remaining 15% are seats earmarked for NRI. The admissions to the first two categories i.e. merit and payment seats is to be done by a competent authority in the respective States, on the basis of merit to be determined either on the basis of a competitive entrance test or on the basis of the merit determined in the qualifying examination. Since merit is the sole criteria for obtaining admissions, hard-working students have been benefited by this scheme evolved by the Supreme Court. As regards the fee structure, this has been fixed by the Supreme Court from 1993-94 to 1996-97. Subsequently, the Central Government has fixed the upper ceiling of fee for merit and payment seats in private medical colleges from 1997-98.

#### Hydro Carbon Deposits

2580. SHRI T. R. BAALU : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any seismic survey was conducted during 1996-97 in Bay of Bengal to identify the Hydro Carbon deposits along the East Coast and around Andaman Nicobar Islands;

(b) if so, the data collected pertaining to Hydro Carbon deposits;

(c) the progress made so far in extraction in these areas;

(d) whether any multinational company has come forward to invest under New Exploration Licensing Policy; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. During 1996-97, ONGC conducted seismic survey and acquired 3383 line kms. of 2D seismic data in the area of Vizag, Yanam and mouth of river Krishna in KG Offshore along the East Coast. Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH) also acquired a total of 11035 line kms. of 2D seismic and gravity-magnetic data in the Eastern Offshore and Andaman Nicobar deep water areas of Bay of Bengal.

(c) The seismic data acquired by ONGC is under interpretation. One location has been identified for drilling based on earlier acquired data. The data acquired by DGH has been processed, interpreted and integrated with some of the earlier data acquired by National Oil Companies in the adjoining shallow water areas. Several large structures and, new geological plays have been mapped. As a result, twelve deep water blocks have been carved out for offer under first round of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP).

(d) and (e) NELP is yet to be operationalised. However, deep water data has been seen by 23 foreign and domestic oil companies. Seven companies have purchased the data.

### LPG Supply

2581. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide any LPG dealership in Assam particularly in Jalpaiguri District;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. 38 LPG distributorships have been included in the LPG Marketing Plan

1996-98 for Assam. 4 LPG distributorships have been included in the Marketing Plan 1996-98 for district Jalpaiguri, West Bengal.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

### Base Depot of FCI

2582. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of base depots of Food Corporation of India in Madhya Pradesh for supplying foodgrains under targetted Public Distribution system/general public distribution;

(b) whether these depots are sufficient to meet the requirement of the State;

(c) the names of the districts of the State where base depots have not been setup so far;

(d) whether there is any proposal to open more base depots in the State;

(e) if so, the details thereof; location-wise;

(f) the details of the base depots where the foodgrains are not being supplied simultaneously; and

(g) the time by which the supply of these foodgrains is likely to commence therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) There are 61 nominated issue points in Madhya Pradesh for storage and supply of foodgrains under Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS). Out of these 61 storage issue points, 39 Centres are used for issuing foodgrains under both APL and BPL while 22 Centres are used for issuing foodgrains under BPL, only.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) There are no FCI Depots in Districts of Bhind, Shivpuri, Rajgarh, Raisen, Panna, Mandsaur, Shajapur, Sehore, Korla, Umaria, Neemuch, Kawardha, Janjgir, Korba, Dantewada, Badwani and Harda.

(d) and (e) In Dhamatari of Arjuni, FCI has already constructed a 10,000 MT godown and the operations will commence shortly. A proposal to construct godowns at Katni and Kapa of 20,000 and 25,000 tonnes capacity, respectively, is under consideration.

(f) and (g) There are at present 22 issue points from where foodgrains under only BPL are being issued (statement enclosed).

The conversion is subject to overcoming the constraints of lack of railheads and the cost of road transportation of foodgrains which is about Rs. 60 lakhs per month.

**Statement**

List of Issue Centres For Issue of Foodgrains Under BPL only.	Extra Expenditure to be incurred in APL Scheme if Stock Issue from BPL Centre (per month) in Rs.
1. Sheopurkalan	4523
2. Dhamnod	172179
3. Khargone	217951
4. Alirajpur	240321
5. Dhamtari	14972
6. Sidhi	160804
7. Balaghat	653328
8. Mandla	2207409
9. Dindorj	
10. Sahapura	
11. Seoni	669934
12. Lakhnadone	513520
13. Chhindwara	137208
14. Kanker	178949
15. Narayanpur	11273
16. Bijapur	24696
17. Sukma	16662
18. Katghora	14778
19. Kargiroad	11734
20. Jashpumagar	20559
21. Ramanujganj	19300
22. Najakpur	3373

[English]

**Missionaries Operating in North-Eastern States**

2583. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of missionaries operating in the North-Eastern States and the number out of them foreign missionaries;

(b) whether these missionaries are involved in creating insurgency in North-Eastern States;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government against these missionaries?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Property of WAKF**

2584. SHRI R. S. GAVAI : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of leasing Wakf properties to private individuals at below market rate brought to the notice of Government;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) It has been brought to the notice of the Government that in Punjab Wakf Board certain Wakf properties have been leased out to private individuals at below market rate. Similar cases in respect of other Boards and/or State Governments have not so far come to the notice of the Government.

(b) The details are not available with the Government and have been called for from the respective State Governments/State Wakf Boards and will be laid on the Table of Parliament as soon as it is received.

(c) On the advise of the Government, the leasing system in Punjab Wakf Board is being reviewed with a view to increasing the lease amount at par with the prevalent rates.

**Freedom Fighters Pension**

2585. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY :

SHRI MOTILAL VORA :

KUMARI KIM GANGTE :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to constitute any Advisory Committee to finalise the pending cases of Freedom Fighters for Pension;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of applications for the Freedom Fighters Pension rejected during 1996-97, and 1997-98 and the number of cases out of them recommended by the State Government;

(d) the number of cases of them pertaining to more than 75 years old are pending; and

(e) the action taken by the Government to dispose of all these applications?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The number of applications received during 1996-97 and 1997-98 were 34,048 and 29,669 respectively. Most of these were review cases which had been rejected once or more earlier.

Reports from the State Governments were received in 2713 cases in 1996-97 and in 2810 cases in 1997-98. However, information in regard to cases recommended by the State Governments is not maintained separately. Similarly, information about the age of applicants is not maintained.

(e) Efforts are made to dispose of all applications expeditiously. No fresh applications, duly verified and recommended by any State Government, is pending.

#### PF Pension Scheme

2586. SHRI N. K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to discontinue 1.16% Government contribution towards the PF pension scheme;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government are considering to restore the contribution;

(d) whether the Government have decided to pay 4% interim relief to PF pensioners;

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

(f) if not, the reasons therefor;

(g) whether the Government have any proposal to revise the provident fund pensionary benefits as per the relevant provisions of the Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provision Act, 1952;

(h) if so, the details thereof; and

(i) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) to (f) An increase of 4% on pension in payment has since been sanctioned to the beneficiaries w.e.f. 16.11.1996.

(g) to (i) Revision of pensionary benefits under the Employees' Pension Scheme is an ongoing process. Therefore, the benefits under the scheme are revised as and when considered actuarially feasible.

[Translation]

#### Fertilizer Policy

2587. SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHRY :

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no fresh investment in the fertilizer sector due to frequent changes in the Fertilizer Policy by the Government;

(b) if so, whether the Government have formulated any scheme encouraging the investment in this sector; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICAL AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A. K. PATEL) : (a) to (c) As per the Industrial Policy Statement issued by the Government on 24.7.91, no industrial licence is normally required for setting up a fertilizer plant.

During the period from 1991-92 to 1997-98, projects involving additional production capacity of 22.48 lakh MT of Nitrogen (N) and 2 lakh MT of Phosphate (P) were commissioned. Besides, six major fertilizer projects involving an investment of approx. Rs. 4120 crore are under implementation in the country. These projects when commissioned, will provide an additional annual capacity of 9.75 lakh MT of urea, 23.07 lakh MT of DAP and 8.90 lakh MT of complex fertilizers.

The following incentives are available for encouraging investment in fertilizer sector:-

(i) Duty free import of capital goods for setting up of new plants/modernisation of existing units.

- (ii) Deemed export benefits to indigenous suppliers of capital goods to fertilizer projects provided such supplies are made under the procedure of international competitive bidding.
- (iii) Duty free import of fertilizer raw materials and intermediates.
- (iv) Reasonable return on investment to the entrepreneurs under the Retention Price-cum-Subsidy Scheme, at present applicable to urea.
- (v) Concession of decontrolled phosphatic and potassic fertilizers to promote the balanced use of plant nutrients.

[English]

#### Standard of Medical Education

2588. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the standard of medical education is deteriorating;

(b) if so, whether any views has been expressed by professionals on the state of affairs;

(c) if so, whether the best of teaching talents are leaving medical colleges seeking better professional avenues outside; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to overcome the concern in medical education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) The Medical Council of India is the statutory body under the Indian Medical Council Act which is mainly responsible for maintaining standards of medical education. The Council has framed regulations on Graduate Medical Education, Minimum Standards Requirement for Medical College, Teachers eligibility criteria, etc. to maintain standards of medical education. The Council conducts inspections of medical colleges at various periods of time. Further, in order to ensure maintenance of standards and to contain the mushroom growth of medical colleges, the India Medical Council Act was amended in 1993 to provide for the establishment of medical colleges, increase of admission capacity or introduction of new courses only with the prior permission of the Central Government. All such colleges are subjected to annual inspections by the MCI till such time the qualification awarded by these colleges is recognised by the Central Government.

(c) and (d) The exact number of teachers leaving medical colleges for seeking better professional avenues outside the country is not available. However, any marginal exodus of teachers for better prospects abroad has not materially affected teaching in medical colleges.

#### Sugar Development Fund

2589. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether many sugar mills have taken low interest loans from the Sugar Development Fund;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these loans have been guaranteed by the respective State Governments;

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

(e) whether some of these Sugar Undertakings have defaulted such State guaranteed loans;

(f) if so, the particulars of such units and the amount of outstanding loan. State-wise;

(g) whether the Governments have revoked such State Government guarantee;

(h) if so, the details thereof; and

(i) the steps taken by the Government to recover these dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS : (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) and (b) Loans at low interest are available to sugar mills from the Sugar Development Fund for (i) Cane Development and (ii) Modernisation/Rehabilitation. The details indicating the number of mills given such loans yearwise are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) and (d) Loans on State Government guarantee are given only in the case of sugar mills in the cooperative sector who avail of loans for cane development (except short terms loans). Details of loans given on State Government guarantee are given in the enclosed Statement -II.

(e) and (f) The position of cooperative sector Sugar Units who have defaulted in payment of loan sanctioned on Government Guarantee and amount outstanding against each unit is given in the enclosed Statement-III.

(g) and (h) No State Government guarantee has been revoked so far.

(i) The matter regarding expeditious settlement of outstanding dues is constantly pursued with the respective State Governments. No fresh loan from SDF is sanctioned to such units till the dues are cleared.

**Statement-I***Loans Sanctioned to Sugar Units From Sugar Development Fund*

Year	Cane Development (No. of Mills)	Modernisation/ Rehabilitation (No. of Mills)
1	2	3
1985-86	—	2
1986-87	37	5
1987-88	64	8
1988-89	63	24
1989-90	82	25
1990-91	21	18
1991-92	21	29
1992-93	17	15
1993-94	22	11
1994-95	6	6
1995-96	—	10
1996-97	13	10
1997-98	128	19

1	2	3
1998-99	116	5
(upto 30.9.98)		
Total	590	187

**Statement-II***Cane Development Loan Sanctioned to Cooperative Sector Sugar Units on Government Guarantee*

Andhra Pradesh	23
Assam	02
Gujarat	06
Haryana	13
Karnataka	13
Madhya Pradesh	03
Pondicherry	01
Punjab	13
Tamil Nadu	15
Maharashtra	108
Uttar Pradesh	36
Goa	01
Total	234

**Statement-III***SDF Dues Outstanding As on 30.06.1998**Sugarcane Development Fund*

Sl. No.	Name of the Unit	Amount Disbursed (Rs. in lakhs)	SDF dues as on 30.6.98 (in rupees)
1	2	3	4
<b>Assam</b>			
1.	M/s. Assam Cooperative Sugar Mills Ltd., Bar-Vabamangaon Dist. Jorhat.	47.43	51,85,080.00
2.	M/s. Nowgong Coop. Sugar Mills Ltd.,Kampur, distt. Nowgong.	56.88	66,94,553.00
<b>Maharashtra</b>			
1.	M/s. Shirpur Shetkar SSK Ltd. Shivajinagar, Dahivad Distt. Dhule.	79.38	26,90,401.00
2.	M/s. Gima SSK Ltd., Bhansahed Hiray Nagar, Dist. Nasik.	46.76	48,59,454.00

1	2	3	4
3.	M/s. Balganga SSK Ltd., Chalisgaon, Dist. Jalgaon.	79.20	59,02,294.00
4.	M/s. Shriram SSK Ltd., Babyraoji, Dist. Nagpur	45.01	61,21,360.00
5.	M/s. Sideshwar SSK Ltd., Dist. Aurangabad.	134.93	30,85,244.00
6.	M/s. Vishwas SSK Ltd., Dist. Sangli	89.46	1060.00
7.	M/s. Shri Someshwar SSK Ltd., Dist. Pune	58.50	16,98,064.00
8.	M/s. Manjara Shetkari SSK Ltd., Dist. Latur.	92.79	4,82,979.00
9.	M/s. Parvara SSK Ltd., Parvara Nagar, Dist. Ahmednagar.	319.49	1,07,66,854.00
10.	M/s. Shree Gajanan SSK Ltd., Sonajinagar, Dist. Beed.	69.30	73,79,582.00
11.	M/s. Vinayak SSK Ltd., Parsoda Aurangabad	83.88	1,13,42,115.00
12.	M/s. Godavari Dudhana SSK Ltd., Devnadra, Dist. Parbhani.	70.74	52,76,807.00
13.	M/s. Shri Sant SSK Ltd., Paithan Aurangabad.	31.50	23,47,749.00
14.	M/s. Shriram SSK Ltd., Paltan, Dist. Satara.	90.09	80,50,757.00
15.	M/s. Shri Dnyaneshwar SSK Ltd., Dnyaneshwarnagar, Dist. Ahmednagar	133.11	5,72,400.00
16.	M/s. Shetkari SSK Ltd., Kilar, Dist. Latur.	72.15	41,25,867.00
17.	M/s. Ambajogai SSK Ltd., P.O. : Ambasakhar, Dist. Beed.	61.83	65,86,178.00
18.	M/s. Shri Panzarakhan SSK Ltd., Bhadna, Dist. Dhulia.	55.16	47,80,051.00
19.	M/s. Kopargaon SSK Ltd., Gautamnagar, Koplewadi, Dist. Ahmednagar.	130.45	7,21,860.00
20.	M/s. Ashok SSK Ltd., Ashoknagar Koregaon, Dist. Ahmednagar.	76.87	74,190.00
21.	M/s. Shree Satpuda Tapi Parisar SSK Ltd., Purushottamnagar, Dist. Dhulia.	101.99	8,16,750.00
22.	M/s. Nasik SSK Ltd., Palse Sant, Dist. Nasik.	60.62	60,47,625.00

1	2	3	4
23.	M/s. Kada SSK Ltd., Kada, Dist. Beed.	37.95	45,55,056.00
24.	M/s. Chatrapati Rajaram SSK Ltd., Kasoda, Dist. Kolhapur.	70.06	31,20,341.00
25.	M/s. Wainganga SSK Ltd., Devhada, Tumsar, Dist. Bhandara.	36.09	46,91,700.00
26.	M/s The Sanjay SSK Ltd., Vijayanagar Dhule.	62.10	80,73,000.00
27.	M/s. Sheklari SSK Ltd., Deogaon, Dhamangaon, Dist. Amravati.	68.35	79,81,899.00
28.	M/s. Manganga SSK Ltd., Atpadi, Dist. Sangli.	12.85	4,16,129.00
29.	M/s. Shri Balaji SSK Ltd., Masalapan, Akola.	60.46	63,87,763.00
30.	M/s. Shri Chatrapathi Sahu SSK Ltd. Kagal, Dist. Kolhapur.	101.83	338.00
31.	M/s. Vasantrao Dada Patil SSK Ltd. Vithewadi, Dist. Nasik.	59.45	27,82,237.00
32.	M/s. Tuljabhavani SSK Ltd., Tuljapur Dist. Osmanabad.	156.39	1,54,88,694.00
33.	M/s. Jalna SSK Ltd., Samnagar, Dist. Jalna.	82.57	51,83,268.00
34.	M/s. Yeshwant SSK Ltd., Khanapur, Nagawadi, Dist. Sangli.	42.104	17,72,696.00
35.	M/s. Sahakar Maharshi Rao Mohite Patil SSK Ltd., Shankarnagar, Solapur.	159.09	5,59,890.00
36.	M/s. Gangapur SSK Ltd., Raghunathnagar, Gangapur, Dist. Aurangabad.	48.96	24,13,987.00
37.	M/s. Shankar SSK Ltd., Waghawada, Dist. :	53.17	47,36,728.00
38.	M/s. Bhagwati SSK Ltd., Tulsinagar Barsi, Dist. Solapur.	74.34	37,74,927.00
39.	M/s. Parner Taluka SSK Ltd., Devi Bhoysare, Parner Dist. Ahmednagar.	219.46	1,49,23,280.00
40.	M/s. Kopargtaon SSK Ltd., Kopargaon, Dist. Ahmednagar	269.94	1,54,23,050.00
41.	M/s. Padmashri Dr. Vithal Rao Patil SSK Ltd., Pravaranagar, Dist. Ahmednagar.	80.68	41,95,360.00
42.	M/s. Samarth SSK Ltd., Ankushnagar, Ambad, Dist. Jalna.	128.34	93,66,064.00
43.	M/s. Shri Shankar SSK Ltd., Sadashivnagar Dist. Sholapur.	136.58	38,80,207.00

1	2	3	4
44.	M/s. Shree Satpuda Tapi Prisar SSK Ltd., Purushottamnagar, Shahda, Dhule.	267.66	1,22,36,106.00
45.	M/s. Jaikisan SSK Ltd., Bodegoon Darwaha, Dist. Yavatmal.	107.95	90,40,813.00
46.	M/s. Parner Taluka SSK Ltd., Devi Bhoyare Taluka, Dist. Ahmednagar.	219.46	1,49,23,280.00
47.	M/s. Karamvir Kakasaheb Wagla SSK Ltd., Nasik.	101.84	67,74,383.00

*Andhra Pradesh*

1.	M/s. Palechole Coop. Sugars Ltd., Pullapali.	64.35	69,09,075.00
2.	M/s. Nanapaneni Venkatarao Coop. Sugars Ltd., Zonipani, Guntur.	30.33	23,38,884.00
3.	M/s. Nandyal Coop. Sugars Ltd., P.O. Poonapuram, Nandyal.	70.28	68,43,438.00
4.	M/s. Sri Hanuman Coop. Sugars Ltd., Hanuman Jn. Dist. Krishna	72.00	3,31,783.00
5.	M/s. Chittor Coop. Sugars Ltd., Chittor.	199.86	59,253.00
6.	M/s. Pillair Coop. Sugars Ltd., Rajeshwarapuram, Dist. Khammam.	97.41	96,22,079.00
7.	M/s. Sri Venkateshwara Coop. Sugars Ltd., Tirupati, Dist. Chittor.	66.07	65,07,305.00
8.	M/s. The Kovur Coop. Sugar Factory Ltd., Nellore.	55.76	22,44,580.00
9.	M/s. Sri Vijayrama Gajapathi Coop. Sugar Ltd. Bhimsinghi, Dist. Vizianagaram.	97.64	25,95,700.00
10.	M/s. Nagarjune Coop. Sugars Ltd., Dist. Guntur.	22.47	19,32,420.00
11.	M/s. Chodavaram Coop. Sugars Ltd., Govada, Vishakhapatnam.	58.07	387.00
12.	M/s. Anakapalle Coop. Sugars Ltd., P.O. Thummapala, Anakapalle, Visakhapatnam.	66.07	65,07,305.00

*Uttar Pradesh*

1.	M/s. The Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd., Tifhar, Shahjahanpur.	26.26	42,975.00
2.	M/s. Ramala Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd., Ramala, Dist. Meerut.	80.32	530.00
3.	M/s. The Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd., Sitarganj, Dist. nainital.	91.44	1,17,140.00

1	2	3	4
4.	M/s. The Bazpur Coop. Sugar Factory Ltd., Bazpur, Dist. Nainital.	83.31	4,236.00
5.	M/s. The Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd., Puranpur, Dist. Pilibhit.	128.97	30,19,863.00
6.	M/s. The Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd., Sathion, Dist. Azamgarh.	108.41	24,67,885.00
7.	M/s. The Bisalpur Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd., Bisalpur, Dist. Pilibhit.	155.41	26,12,415.00
8.	M/s. The Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd., Sultanpur.	143.42	23,39,350.00
9.	M/s The Bagpat Coop. Sugar Mills Ltd., Bagpat, Dist. Meerut.	120.24	10,83,029.00
10.	M/s. Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd., Powayan Dist. Shahjanpur.	138.29	12,82,372.00
11.	M/s. The Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd., Anoopsahar, Dist. Bulandsahar.	84.74	4,26,158.00
12.	M/s. Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd., Kaimganj, Dist. Farrukhabad.	67.71	7,11,203.00
13.	M/s. The Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd., Ghosi, Dist. Azamgarh.	134.95	18,40,986.00
14.	M/s. Rudra Bilas Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd., Bilaspur, Rampur.	80.66	63,085.00
15.	M/s. Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd., Tilhar, Dist. Shahjahanpur.	24.17	2,50,113.00
<i>Punjab</i>			
1.	M/s. Fazilka Coop. Sugar Mills Ltd., Fazilka, Dist. Ferozepur.	237.34	2,51,39,701.00
2.	M/s. The Morinda Coop. Sugar Mills Ltd., Morinda, Dist. Ropar.	307.29	49,08,313.00
3.	M/s. The Janta Coop. Sugar Mills Ltd., Bhogpur, Dist. Jalandhar.	185.79	2,41,21,800.00
4.	M/s. Patiala Coop. Sugar Mills Ltd., Rakhra, Dist. Patiala.	113.57	32,57,184.00
5.	M/s. Suttlej Cop. Sugar Mills Ltd., Nakedar, Dist. Jalandhar.	144.73	1,255.00
6.	M/s. Tarn Taran Coop. Sugar Mills Ltd., Tarn Taran. Dist. Amritsar.	171.65	1,50,83,424.00
7.	M/s. Doaba Coop. Sugar Mills Ltd., Nawan Shahar, Dist. Jalandhar.	36.44	5,23,809.00
8.	M/s. The Ajanala Coop. Sugar Mills Ltd., Bhala Pind, Dist. Amritsar.	84.76	36,36,141.00

1	2	3	4
9.	M/s. Faridkot Coop. Sugar Mills Ltd., Faridkot.	159.03	1,32,69,496.00
10.	M/s. Jagraon Coop. Sugar Mills Ltd., Jagraon.	113.54	97,64,440.00
11.	M/s. Batla Coop. Sugar Mills Ltd., Batla, Dist. Gurdaspur.	83.85	90,46,070.00
12.	M/s. Budhalada Coop. Sugar Mills Ltd., Budhalada, Bathinda.	133.65	1,14,93,900.00
<i>Gujarat</i>			
1.	M/s. Charotar Sahakari Khand Udyog Nabdku Ltd., Tal : Petlad, Dist. Heda	12.60	5,42,252.00
<i>Karnataka</i>			
1.	M/s. Kampli Coop. Sugar Factory Kampali, Dist. Bellary.	47.99	65,26,640.00
2.	M/s. Shreerama SSK Ltd., Chunchanakarte. Dist. Mysore.	40.63	53,09,093.00
3.	M/s. Bidar S.S.K. Ltd., Bidar, P.O.: Halikhed, Bidar.	41.02	49,30,611.00
4.	M/s. Shree Doodhganga Krishna S.S.K. Niyamit, Naradi, Belgaum Dist.	156.38	1,44,138.00
5.	M/s. Ghatprabha S.S.K. Niyamit Gogak, Dist. Belgaum.	89.01	9,97,023.00
6.	M/s. Shri Halasidhanath S.S.K. Ltd., Nippani, Belgaum Dist.	96.52	8,68,982.00
7.	M/s. Bhadra S.S.K. Niyamit, Davangere. Chitradurga Dist.	164.38	14,35,578.00
<i>Tamil Nadu</i>			
1.	M/s. Ambur Coop. Sugar Mills Ltd., Vidapudupet, Dist. North Arcot.	154.55	65,838.00
2.	M/s. Amaravathi Coop. Sugar Mills Ltd., Krishnapuram.	101.1	7,20,005.00
3.	M/s. Dharampuri Coop. Sugar Mills Ltd., Pakode, Dist. Dharmapuri.	181.60	3,00,683.00
4.	M/s. The Salem Coop. Sugar Mills Ltd., Mohanur, Salem.	272.96	13,73,347.00
5.	M/s. Vellore Coop. Sugar Mills Ltd., Ammundi, Dist. North Arcot.	263.46	4,83,986.00
6.	M/s. The Madurantakam Coop. Sugar Mills Ltd., Padalam, Dist. Chengalpatu.	230.63	83,62,888.00

1	2	3	4
7.	M/s. Cheyyar Coop. Sugar Mills Ltd., Annabonoor, Thiruvannamalai, Sumbavaryaru.	195.73	56,327.00
8.	M/s. M.R. Krishnamurthy Coop. Sugar Mills Ltd., Sethiathope, South Arcot Dist.	141.45	41,72,775.00
<i>Haryana</i>			
1.	M/s. Panipat Coop. Sugar Mills Ltd., Panipat.	182.65	1,74,76,340.00
2.	M/s. Bhuna Coop. Sugar Mills Ltd., Bhuna.	69.00	78,24,443.00
3.	M/s. Meham Coop. Sugar Mills Ltd., Meham, Rohtak.	38.61	20,92,976.00
4.	M/s. Kaithal Coop. Sugar Mills Ltd., Kaithal, Dist. Kaithal.	86.30	46,62,095.00
5.	M/s. Haryana Coop. Sugar Mills Ltd., Rohtak.	269.91	32,44,834.00
<i>Goa</i>			
1.	Sanjivini Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Dayanandnagar, Post Tiska, Goa	23.72	5,93,202.00

[Translation]

**Identification of Tribals**

2590. SHRI ARVIND KAMBLE : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any detailed assessment so far to ascertain the number of local tribes region-wise;

(b) if so, the total number of Banjara Community and other tribes in Kutch, Mrathwada and Vidarbh region;

(c) whether such tribals have been identified by the Government in these regions;

(d) whether there has been any change in the number of these tribes during the last one decade; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINSITER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) to (e) Information is being collected from the State Governments and the office of the Registrar General of India and will be placed on the table of House on receipt of the same.

[English]

**Consumer Information Centres**

2591. SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up Consumer Information Centres in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under the scheme, a Consumer information Centre will be run by a reputed consumer organization and will function as a library, guidance centre, a resource centre and a testing centre. All consumer related information in possession of the National Informatic Centre would be made available to the Centre.

(c) No time limit has been fixed for setting up of the Consumer Information Centres. It is dependent upon the response from reputed voluntary Consumer Organizations, which fulfill the eligibility criteria, to take up the task for setting up the Centres.

### Production of Rice

2592. SHRI DINSHAW PATEL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether production of rice has been badly affected due to unseasonal rain in manu rice producing States of the country;

(b) if so, the extent of loss suffered in each State;

(c) whether scarcity of rice in domestic market is anticipated by the Government; and

(d) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure availability of rice in the domestic market at reasonable price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) and (b) Some of the standing crops of paddy, as also the paddy lying in the mandis, have reportedly been damaged in the States of Punjab, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh due to unseasonal rains.

It is too early to assess the fall in production of rice and loss of paddy crops.

(c) and (d) The stock position of rice with the Government is comfortable. There is no reason to anticipate scarcity of rice in the country.

The Government constantly reviews the availability of foodgrains in the country and exercises the option, as and when considered necessary, to import foodgrains and release rice and wheat from Central Pool under open sale to augment their availability in the market.

### Population Control Programme

2593. SHRI DINSHAW PATEL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a team of United Nations Population Fund has recently cited lack of political will as the main reason for Government's failure to control population in the country;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the details of various population control programmes undertaken by the Government during the last five years and their effectiveness;

(c) whether the United Nations Population Fund team had expressed concern over the failure of majority of the States in tackling population control programmes;

(d) if so, the details of those States;

(e) whether the Government propose to issue fresh guidelines to these States urging them to see more vigilance in this matter and demonstrate greater political will to tackle this grave problem;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to check the growing population in the country and strengthen the on-going programme on population control?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) to (g) United Nations Population Funds India has organised a series of consultations to review and appraise progress in implementing the Programme of Action adopted at the International Conference on Population and Development held at Cairo in 1994. Low status of women, low level of female literacy, inadequate political commitment for social and economic empowerment of women, etc. were cited by participants in these consultations as having a bearing on the population programmes. The Government has taken several steps in the last five years to improve the quality and expand the coverage of the services. Following the recommendations of the Cairo Conference, it has launched the Reproductive and Child Health Programme. With a view to improve quality of services, the system of setting contraceptive targets from the top have been replaced by a system of decentralised planning. Funding for the programme has also been substantially increased. The performance of the poor performing States in receiving greater attention. The programme has been able to bring down birth rate from 29.2 in 1992 to 27.2 in 1997 and infant Mortality from 79 in 1992 to 71 in 1997.

### Assistance for T.B. Eradication Programme

2594. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JADAVBHAI JAVIYA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have provided any Central assistance to the Municipal Corporation of each State for the eradication of T.B.;

(b) if so, the funds provided during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether some Corporations have shown poor performance on this account;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to eradicate this disease from the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) National Tuberculosis Control

Programme is being implemented through 446 District TB Centres in rural areas and 330 Chest Clinics in urban areas. Whereever the Corporations are running, the chest clinics the anti TB drugs are provided to them by Central Govt. either directly or through the respective DTC as commodity assistance. No funds are provided to any Municipal Corporation. However under the revised strategy, the funds are released directly from the Central Government to District TB Societies some of which do function in the Municipal Corporation areas also.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

(e) To control Tuberculosis, National TB Control Programme is being implemented in the country since 1962. Under the Prog. the DTCs and Chest Clinics provide free of cost, diagnostic and treatment facilities, to the community. To cut short the period of treatment, short course chemotherapy has been introduced in 292 DTCs.

In order to improve the performance of National Tuberculosis Control Programme, the Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme (RNTCP) was evolved with the objective of achieving 85% cure rate of all new sputum positive cases detected. This strategy was pilot tested in 20 project sites in 15 States covering a population of 20 million. After providing the technical and operational feasibility of RNTCP, it was decided to implement RNTCP in 102 districts covering a population of 271.21 million over a period of 5 years with World Bank assistance. In addition, 203 " Short Course Chemotherapy (SCC)" districts will be strenghtened by providing Binocular Microscopes and other inputs as a preparatory step for facilitating RNTCP at a later date.

#### Family Welfare Workers in NGO

2595. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representations from Non-Governmental Organisations operating in the field of family welfare especially in Maharashtra through Members of Parliament and others;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of disparities pointed out regarding disparities in the salaries and other benefits between family workers of NGOs and in the Government; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to redress the grievances of these workers working in Non-Government organisations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Several such representations have been received. The main plea of these

representations is that the personnel working for NGOs should be allowed parity with State Government officials in terms of emoluments and service conditions.

(c) and (d) The staff engaged by voluntary organisations are governed by the service conditions of the concerned NGOs. Therefore, such staff working with NGOs cannot be treated at par with Government servants and they are entitled to service benefits of Government servants.

[Translation]

#### Leprosy Hospitals

2596. SHRI AJIT JOGI :

SHRI A. C. JOS :

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :

SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAY  
(JAHANABAD) :

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN :

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

(a) the number of leprosy hospitals/centres functioning at present in each State;

(b) the details of voluntary organisations providing leprosy treatment in the country, State-wise;

(c) the assistance provided by the Government to each hospitals/centres/voluntary organisation during each of the last three years;

(d) whether any foreign assistance has been provided to these hospitals during the said period;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government have reviewed the National Leprosy Eradication Programme;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the steps taken by the Government to eradicate this disease and provide more financial assistance to these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) The number of Leprosy Hospitals/Centres and Voluntary Organisations providing leprosy treatment in the Country is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) The assistance is provided to the State Government hospitals/ Centres by the respective States/UTs

out of the Central cash assistance released to them. The Voluntary Organisations engaged in Survey Education and Treatment activities and recommended by the State Government and given grant-in-aid directly by Central Government. A list of such Voluntary Organisations who have been provided assistance during the last 3 years is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(d) and (e) Some of the Leprosy Hospitals only manned by Voluntary Organisations are getting assistance directly from International Voluntary Organisations which are governed by FCRA rules.

(f) and (g) Yes, Sir. The progress of programme is reviewed at National level from time to time in order to assess the progress/shortfall of the programme. A mid term review of World Bank supported National Leprosy eradication Programme has also been undertaken jointly by Government of India and World Health Organisation to assess the progress and identify areas/activities requiring high priority for accelerating to attend goal for elimination of leprosy at National and State level by the year 2000. While the progress of leprosy programme was observed to be satisfactory at the National level the

progress has been uneven in some States. The mid term review report therefore, suggested following steps:

- Intensive campaign approach for increasing community awareness.
- Involvement of peripheral general health care staff for detection of hidden cases.
- involvement of part time supervisor and full time NLEP Consultant for improving supervision and monitoring of the programme.
- Appointment of vacant contract staff through district leprosy societies.
- Improvement in disability ulcer care services.

Action on the above recommendations have been undertaken and intensive campaign has been implemented in 25 States/UTs and for the remaining States it is planned during the current year.

(h) Does not arise.

#### Statement-I

##### Leprosy Eradication Centres Functioning in the Country

SNo.	State/UT	LCU/ MCU	ULC	SET	DLU	THW	SSAU	VO	MLTU
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	Andhra Pradesh	91	91	164	31	53	3	45	-
2	Arunachal Pradesh	2	-	31	-	1	-	3	8
3	Assam	9	16	250	6	5	1	6	22
4	Bihar	89	71	1044	22	29	3	22	36
5	Goa	1	2	31	1	1	-	-	1
6	Gujarat	21	21	369	7	9	2	17	13
7	Haryana	-	3	2	-	-	1	1	14
8	Himachal Pradesh	6	1	15	5	1	1	1	15
9	Jammu & Kashmir	8	2	37	-	2	-	1	14
10	Karnataka	41	50	673	20	22	3	22	14
11	Kerala	20	45	254	8	5	3	11	10
12	Madhya Pradesh	54	72	530	23	14	5	7	40
13	Maharashtra	42	258	970	24	23	1	27	21
14	Manipur	4	1	17	4	1	-	2	9

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
15	Meghalaya	2	1	16	—	2	—	1	7
16	Mizoram	2	1	7	2	1	1	—	3
17	Nagaland	2	2	30	3	2	—	—	6
18	Orissa	55	16	140	10	11	1	17	—
19	Punjab	0	17	—	1	1	1	1	17
20	Rajasthan	5	5	8	4	4	—	7	39
21	Sikkim	2	6	13	1	1	—	1	2
22	Tamil Nadu	102	82	26	22	52	7	31	—
23	Tripura	3	4	20	1	1	1	1	3
24	Uttar Pradesh	122	60	1023	65	17	1	48	44
25	West Bengal	91	71	35	15	30	4	14	3
26	A & N Islands	—	3	10	1	1	1	—	1
27	Chandigarh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
28	D & N Haveli	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1
29	Daman & Diu	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
30	Delhi	—	3	—	—	—	—	3	2
31	Lakshadweep	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
32	Pondicherry	1	3	24	2	1	—	1	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>778</b>	<b>907</b>	<b>5744</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>350</b>

LCU/MCU	Leprosy Control Unit/Modified Control Unit	THW	-	Temporary Hospitalization Ward
ULC	- Urban Leprosy Centre	SSAU	-	Sample, Survey cum Assessment Unit
SETC	- Survey, Education and Treatment Centre	VO	-	Voluntary Organization
DLU	District Leprosy Unit	MLTU	-	Mobile Leprosy Treatment Unit

#### Statement-II

*List of Voluntary Organisations Who were Released Set Grant-In-Aid During 1995-96 to 1997-98*

Sl. No.	Name of Organisations	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1	2	3	4	5
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>				
1.	Leprosy Mission Hospital, Chelluru, Vizianagaram	3,94,248/-	—	2,50,460/-
2.	Gram Nava Nirman Samity, Hyderabad	3,87,875/-	—	—
3.	Hind Kusht Nivaran Sangh, Karimnagar	4,93,011/-	90,068/- (for 95-96) 3,18,481/- (for 96-97)	3,90,921/-
4.	Good Samaritan Evangelical & Social Welfare Association, Sattivedu	65,944/-	1,04,010/- (for 94-95)	—

1	2	3	4	5
5.	GRETNALTES, Guntur	3,14,076/-	—	—
6.	Gram Nava Nirman Samity-II, Hyderabad	—	2,95,185/- (for 94-95)	—
<i>Bihar</i>				
1.	Singhbhum Navjeevan Niketan, Ghatsila	4,61,119/-	—	—
2.	Swami Vivekanand Seva Trust, Jamshedpur	2,87,400/-	90,996/- (for 95-96) (2,38,657/- for 96-97)	3,18,210/-
3.	Bharat Sevashram Sangh, Jamshedpur (Rural Centre)	4,17,612/-	—	1,01,663/-
4.	Bharat Sevashram Sangh, Jamshedpur (Urban Centre)	2,25,000/-	—	1,96,243/-
5.	Gram Nirman Mandal Kusht Seva Samiti, Kapasias Nawadah	3,71,980/- (for 95-96) 3,68,530/- (for 96-97)	—	—
<i>Assam</i>				
1.	Sreemanta Shankar Mission, Assam	48,445/- (for 93-94) 43,531/- (for 94-95)	—	—
<i>Karnataka</i>				
1.	Gandhi Memorial Leprosy Foundation (T. Narsipur), Mysore	3,15,170/-	44,415/- (for 93-94) 2,37,239/- (for 96-97)	2,54,406/-
2.	Shanta Jeeva Jyoti, Bangalore	1,25,737/-	41,913/- (for 95-96) 1,49,407/- (for 96-97)	1,87,260/-
<i>Kerala</i>				
1.	Damien Institute Thrissur	5,97,681/-	1,32,980/- (for 95-96) 3,35,497/- (for 96-97)	3,83,027/-
2.	Poor Leprosy Hospital, Shertalley	3,85,806/-	1,05,628/- (for 95-96) 2,02,537/- (for 96-97)	2,77,715/-
3.	St. Francis Leprosy Centre, Pattanakad	2,15,550/- (for 95-96)	91,643/-  1,89,982/- (for 96-97)	2,53,330/-

1	2	3	4	5
<b>Maharashtra</b>				
1.	Kushtarog Nivaran Samiti, Panval, Raigarh	33,622/-	2,81,638/- (for 94-95) 2,58,323 /- (for 95-96)	—
2.	Ahmednagar District Leprosy Relief Association, Ahmednagar	1,64,300/-	1,52,967/- (for 93-94) 1,71,230/- (for 94-95) 1,99,143/- (for 95-96) 1,59,172/- (for 96-97)	0,43,312/-
3.	Vadala Leprosy Control Unit, Ahmednagar	56,125/-	3,00,186/- (for 94-95) 2,86,277/- (for 95-96) 2,50,717/- (for 96-97)	—
4.	Gurudev Kusht Seva Mandir, Amravati	98,605/-	—	—
5.	Richardson Leprosy Hospital, Miraj	1,87,388/-	—	2,19,901/-
6.	Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Medical Trust, Pune	69,180/-	1,45,269/- (for 93-94)	3,93,086/-
7.	Maharogi Seva Samiti, Dattapur	—	62,557/- (for 92-93) 63,704/- (for 93-94) 75,217/- (for 94-95)	—
8.	Ramdeobaba Manav Seva Leprosy Centre, Yavatmal	—	13,669/- (for 94-95) 54,910/- (for 95-96)	1,23,012/-
9.	Ashwin Medical Foundation, Pune	—	—	3,03,262/-
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>				
1.	Kumbakonam Hindu Mission Hospital, (Kubakonam Centre)	7,23,541/-	83,620/- (for 95-96) 2,26,777/- (for 96-97)	0,75,593/-
2.	Kumbakonam Hindu Mission Hospital, (Nannilan Centre)	6,31,981/-	69,533/- (for 95-96)	2,32,410/-
3.	Kumbakonam Hindu Mission Hospital, (Papanasam Centre)	7,18,521/-	—	2,79,690/-
4.	Hindu Mission Hospital, Tambaram, Madras	4,06,279/-	41,203/- (for 95-96) 1,25,632/- (for 96-97)	0,32,299/-

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Christian Fellowship Leprosy Hospital	—	54,493/- (for 92-93) 2,50,909/- (for 93-94)	2,75,000/- (for 94-95) 2,75,000/- (for 95-96)
6.	The Leprosy Mission Hospital, Vadalathorasalur	—	86,876/- (for 90-91) 1,66,796/- (for 92-93) 1,73,261/- (for 93-94)	3,46,542/-
7.	Dayapuram Leprosy Mission Hospital Manmadurai	—	—	3,68,875/-
8.	Swedish Mission Hospital, Tirupputtur	—	—	2,56,850/- (for 94-95) 2,58,590/- (for 95-96)
<i>Uttar Pradesh</i>				
1.	Purvanchal Seva Sansthan, Deoria	—	—	0,36,095/-
2.	Swargiya Lal Bahadur Shastri Kushta Seva Ashram, Azamgarh	—	—	2,07,472/-
<i>West Bengal</i>				
1.	Calcutta Urban Service (24 North Parganas)	1,01,738/-	1,34,992/- (for 94-95)	—
2.	Calcutta Urban Service (Municipal Unit)	11,842/-	1,52,760/- (for 94-95)	—
3.	Grameen Sarbatmak Kalyan Kendra (Khadakpur Centre)	5,83,820/-	—	3,71,277/-
4.	Grameen Sarbatmak Kalyan Kendra (Calcutta Unit)	2,86,479/-	—	1,90,319/-
5.	Grameen Sarbatmak Kalyan Kendra (Midnapore Urban)	3,85,345/-	—	—
6.	Mahakuma Kusht Nivarani Samiti (Midnapore Urban)	69,956/-	93,377/- (for 94-95) 79,087/- (for 95-96)	—
7.	Mahakuma Kusht Nivarani Samiti (Calcutta Unit)	2,38,235/-	29,834/- (for 95-96)	2,10,237/-
8.	Mahakuma Kusht Nivarani Samiti (Sadar Rural)	88,521/-	—	—
9.	Garden Reach Community Health Programme	2,63,910/-	63,713/- (for 95-96) 1,89,427/- (for 96-97)	0,63,143/-

1	2	3	4	5
10.	Bhatpara Leprosy Eradication Programme	2,38,050/-	61,763/- (for 95-96) 1,95,457/- (for 96-97)	0,65,153/-
11.	Gandhi Memorial Leprosy Foundation Balrampur Centre	2,10,572/-	1,26,072/- (for 95-96) 2,60,077/- (for 96-97)	0,44,995/-
12.	Hind Kusht Nivaran Sangh (Paschim Bangiya Shakha)	1,89,805/-	34,398/- (for 95-96) 1,12,942/- (for 96-97)	1,29,515/-
13.	Greater Calcutta Leprosy Treatment & Health Education Scheme (Behala Centre)	—	1,71,410/- (for 95-96)	—
14.	Greater Calcutta Leprosy Treatment & Health Education Scheme (Khidirpur Centre)	—	2,02,915/- (for 95-96) 1,64,962/- (for 96-97)	—
15.	Greater Calcutta Leprosy Treatment & Health Education Scheme (Khidirpur Centre)	—	—	0,54,988/-
16.	Jhargram Leprosy Project, Jhargram	—	3,01,110/- (for 95-96)	2,51,070/-
17.	Bankura Leprosy Control Programme Bankura	—	—	3,21,140/-

[English]

#### Financial Assistance from Foreign Institutions

2597. SHRI K. P. NAIDU :  
SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA :  
SHRIMATI KAMAL RANI :  
SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN :  
SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of such institutions which are getting financial assistance from abroad during the last three years, State-wise, Country-wise alongwith the details of its utilisation;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to monitor the activities of these Organisations;

(c) whether the Government have received any complaints regarding the misuse of this assistance by some of these Organisations;

(d) if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(e) if so, the findings thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) These details are contained in the Annual Report on the 'Receipt of foreign contribution by voluntary associations' for these years, copies of which are available in the Parliament Library. Details about the utilisation of the foreign contribution are, however, not maintained in a centrally compiled form.

(b) Associations granted prior permission/registration under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976 are required to furnish to the Central Government intimation of the receipt and utilisation of foreign contribution received by them in each financial year, duly certified by a Chartered Accountant. The Central Government is also empowered under the Act to order an inspection of accounts or records/audit any books of accounts of such Associations.

(c) Yes, Sir. Such complaints are received from time to time.

(d) to (f) Such complaints, as and when received, are inquired into departmentally as well as by the CBI and appropriate action taken against the association concerned based on the results of the inquiry. This includes placing the association in the prior permission category, prohibiting it from receiving foreign contribution, freezing its bank account and prosecuting it in a court of law.

[Translation]

#### CBI Enquiry Against IPS

2598. SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV (JAHANABAD) : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of IPS officers against whom CBI and vigilance enquiry is going on, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : As per information available CBI enquiry is going on against 8 IPS officers and vigilance enquiry is going on against 123 IPS officers. The State-Cadre-wise break-up is given in the enclosed statement.

#### Statement

List of IPS Officers-State-Cadre-Wise Against Whom CBI/Vigilance Enquiry is Going On

Sl. No.	Cadre	CBI Enquiry	Vigilance Enquiry by Govt.
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Nil	7
2.	Assam-Maghalaya	Nil	10
3.	AGMU	Nil	Nil
4.	Bihar	Nil	9
5.	Gujarat	Nil	10
6.	Himachal Pradesh	Nil	1
7.	Haryana	Nil	6
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	Nil	Nil
9.	Kerala	Nil	11
10.	Karnataka	Nil	5
11.	Manipur-Tripura	1	3
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1	5
13.	Maharashtra	Nil	7

1	2	3	4
14.	Nagaland	Nil	Nil
15.	Orissa	1	9
16.	Punjab	2	4
17.	Rajasthan	Nil	4
18.	Sikkim	1	Nil
19.	Tamil Nadu	Nil	17
20.	Uttar Pradesh	2	10
21.	West Bengal	Nil	5
Total		8	123

[English]

#### Cadre Review in AIIMS

2599. SHRI UPENDRA NATH NAYAK : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which the Cadre Review in AIIMS was notified in the Gazette;

(b) the date on which the Cadre Review in All India Medical Institute of Medical Sciences was implemented;

(c) whether it was circulated among the staff members; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) In the Institute, Cadre Review Report in respect of Group 'B', 'C' and 'D' employees with some posts of Group 'A' was implemented w.e.f. 1.4.1984 and for remaining Group 'A' non-faculty posts w.e.f. 1.3.1992 with the approval of the competent authority.

(c) and (d) During the formulation of the Cadre Review Report, various categories of staff, recognised unions and associations and Head of the Departments were consulted for rationalisation of categories and cadres.

#### Registration Fees for Booking Gas Connections

2600. SHRI GEORGE EDEN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the absence of registration fee for booking of cooking gas, the gas agencies play havoc

with the practice followed now as a result of which people who have registered 15 years ago have yet to get gas connections; and

(b) If so, the steps proposed to be taken to stop this practice and prescribe some procedure in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) It is mandatory for the PSU Oil Company's distributors to maintain a waitlist register for registration of prospective customer wishing to avail of an LPG connection. As per the existing practice, no registration fee for booking a gas connection is being charged. On examining the alternative of charging fee for registration, it has not been found feasible.

New LPG connections are released strictly on the basis of seniority in the waitlist maintained by distributors within the allocation given by the PSU Oil Companies. The waitlist maintained by the distributor is periodically scrutinised/checked by the field officers while carrying out the quarterly inspections/annual audits.

Oil companies conduct elaborate regular/surprise checks and inspections of functioning of their LPG distributors and also investigate complaints. Suitable action is taken against the distributors who are found to be indulging in malpractices including out of turn release of LPG connections as per the revised LPG marketing discipline guidelines.

In April 1997, Govt. decided to release LPG connections on demand to all the persons registered prior to 1.1.1991 progressively by September, 1997 and the entire pending waiting list prior to 1.1.1991 has been liquidated by the oil industry.

#### Supply of Substitutes Against Indented Medicines to CGHs Deneficiaries

2601. SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH :

SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL :

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

(a) whether CGHS beneficiaries are getting indented medicines prescribed by specialists within 24 hours;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the dispensaries are accepting the substitutes of the medicine prescribed by the specialist doctors;

(d) if so, the number of complaints received by the Government in this regard during the each of the last three years; and

(e) the action taken by the Government to provide

the prescribed medicines to the beneficiaries within the time limit prescribed for indented medicines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) Generally, indented medicines including those prescribed by the Specialists are supplied to the CGHS beneficiaries within 24 hours or on the next working day. In the case of emergency, an Authority Slip is issued permitting the beneficiaries to collect the medicines from the authorised local chemists directly, without making any payment.

(b) In view of (a) above, question does not arise.

(c) In accordance with the instructions issued in this regard, the CGHS dispensaries should not accept the substitutes of medicines prescribed by the Specialists.

(d) A total of 15 complaints were received during the last three years under CGHS, Delhi.

(e) Procedure followed for providing prescribed medicines within the time limit is as at (a) above.

#### Foreigners Cheated by Custom Officials and Travel Agents

2602. SHEI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of foreigners have been cheated by the Custom officials and travel agents at Indira Gandhi International Airport and elsewhere in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of Indian travellers cheated by the custom officials and travel agents during the last three years;

(d) whether a large number of travel-counters have been functioning in the name of helping foreigners/tourists at Indira Gandhi International Airport;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether any arrangement has been made to protect innocent foreigners/tourists/Indian travellers from custom officials and travel agents;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the number of custom officials and travel agents who have been arrested or suspended for this offence during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (c) While there was no case of cheating of foreign/Indian travellers by Customs officials reported to Delhi Police at Indira Gandhi International Airport during the last three years (upto 30.11.98), the number of cases in which the travel agents were alleged to have cheated such travellers during the same period is indicated below:

	1996	1997	1998 (upto 30.11.98)
Foreign travellers	5	1	2
Indian travellers	73	73	72

Delhi Police does not maintain any information about persons cheated elsewhere in the country.

(d) and (e) There are at present six travel counters functioning at the Air Port which are managed by India Tourist Development Corporation, Delhi Tourism, Punjab Tourism, Nitin Jain Taxi Counter/Service, Ex-Servicemen Airlink Transport Service Ltd., and Rental Car Service respectively.

(f) and (g) Yes, Sir. The steps taken at Indira Gandhi International Airport to protect the foreign/Indian travellers from unscrupulous elements include the following :-

- Boards have been installed at the Airport giving names and telephone numbers of supervisory officers who could be contacted by the travellers;
  - Facility for free telephone has been provided at the Airport;
  - The Vigilance staff of Customs as well as Delhi Police keep a watch over activities of suspicious elements;
  - Anti-touring staff has been deployed at parking lots and near Pre-paid Taxi Booths.
  - Traffic as well as local police maintain constant watch at Pre-paid Booths and check Reliability Certificates of the Taxis.
  - The police personnel on duty regularly take rounds at vulnerable points during peak traffic hours; and
  - District police has been alerted to intensify checking of violation of rules by Hotels and Guest Houses.
- (h) While there was no case in which a Customs official was arrested in connection with the offence of cheating during the last three years (upto 30.11.98) the number of travel agents arrested in Delhi during the same period is as under:-

Year	Number of persons arrested
1996	90
1997	82
1998 (upto 30.11.98)	101

#### Inclusion of Territorial Boundary of Manipur in Cease-Fire

2603. SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the territorial boundary of Manipur is included in the cease-fire area specified in the on-going negotiation between the Union Government and the National Socialist Council of Nagaland (M);

(b) if so, whether it was done with the consent of the Government of Manipur; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) to (c) The current cease fire is between the Government of India and the NSCN (IM) as an organisation. The decision has been taken by the Government of India.

#### Literacy Among Girl

2604. DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have approved Kasturba Gandhi Swatantrata Vidyalaya Scheme to improve literacy among girl children in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) to (d) The Kasturba Gandhi Swatantrata Vidyalaya Scheme formulated by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, which is meant to improve the literacy rate among women belonging to backward communities such as Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, other backward communities and Minorities in Districts where their literacy rate is less than 10% is still under process for obtaining final approval of Government for its various elements and for deciding on the Ministry/Department which should take up its implementation.

#### Environmental Clearance for Oman Refinery Project

2605. SHRI SHANKER PRASAD JAISWAL :

SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI :

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

- (a) whether the Bharat Oman Refinery Project at Bina has been given environmental clearance;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the details of cost escalation of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (c) Bharat Oman Refinery Project has been accorded environmental clearance for its Refinery Block and for the crude import SPM facility. Clearance for laying the crude pipelines under Forest Conservation Act and Wild Life Protection Act is awaited.

The project was approved by the Government in December, 1995 at an estimated investment of Rs. 5277 crores.

#### Class IV Employees

2606. SHRI AMAN KUMAR NAGRA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government is aware that in Government and Semi-Government offices employees specially Class IV employees are kept on muster rolls for a period of three to four years;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government propose to eliminate such practice; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Leaching of Aluminium in Food Items

2607. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TROPATHY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware about the leaching of aluminium into the water and food items while cooking in aluminium utensils thereby causing cerebral disorder and also aggravating of alzheimer patients; and
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) Studies carried out in India indicate that food preparation like dal sambhar, green

leafy vegetables which are acidic in nature, when cooked in Aluminium vessels, can leach out aluminium, while other such as rice, chapati, curds, etc. do not cause leaching of aluminium. There are no studies to indicate that aluminium which leaches out of vessels is the cause for cerebral dis-orders and also aggravation of alzheimer patients.

#### CGHS Ayurvedic dispensary in Rohini, Delhi

2608. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware that a lot of inconvenience is being faced by the Government employees residing in Rohini or nearby areas in Delhi due to non-availability of CGHS Ayurvedic dispensary;
- (b) if so, the time by which this dispensary is likely to be opened; and
- (c) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) The beneficiaries of CGHS dispensaries in Rohini have been attached for availing Ayurvedic treatment with the CGHS Ayurvedic Dispensary, Dev Nagar, which is a full-fledge dispensary.

(b) and (c) Due to manpower and resource, constraints, it is not feasible to open an Ayurvedic dispensary in Rohini at present.

[Translation]

#### Vocational Centres For Handicapped

2609. SHRI PRABHASH CHANDRA TIWARI : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of vocational rehabilitation centres for handicaps in the country;
- (b) the details of vocational centres connected with the Industries for imparting practical training of them;
- (c) the time by which practical training is likely to be started in these centres; and
- (d) the steps being taken to attract more handicaps for availing the benefits of these centres?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) to (d) Required information is being collected from Ministry of Labour.

**Ban on Pan Masala**

2610. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI :

SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE :

SHRI S. S. OWASI:

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

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Ministries divided over ban on Pan Masala' appearing in the Hindu dated August 17, 1998;

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

(c) whether DGHS has asked the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations for a massive education and public awareness campaign against use of gutka;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether some Ministries of Government have voiced against ban on pan masala; and

(f) if so, the main reservations put forward by them and decision taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b), (e) and (f) In an interministerial meeting held under the Chairmanship of the then Union Health Secretary in May, 1998 divergent views were expressed by various Ministries/Departments which interalia included issues adverse impact on labour and tobacco farmers industry and exports in case ban was imposed on chewing tobacco/Gutka. The Government is seized of the entire matter with a view to evolving short, medium and long term plan for dealing with the problem.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Food (Health) authorities of States/UTs have been sensitized for initiating action to promote mass awareness programmes through advertisements, lectures, exhibitions and hoardings including video shows in Schools/Colleges for discouraging consumption of Chewing tobacco/Gutka Pan Masala. A proposal is under consideration to bring forward a comprehensive legislation on Tobacco which is expected to reduce the use of tobacco in the country.

[English]

**Prison Reforms**

2611. SHRI BHARTRAHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Human Rights Commission has launched a project on 'human rights' and 'prison management' to bring about prison reforms;

(b) whether this project is being funded by a foreign agency;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which this project is likely to be implemented in each State?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) The National Human Rights Commission is collaborating with the British Council in a Project on Human Rights and Prison Management being implemented by the latter organisation. The Bureau of Police Research and Development; Penal Reform and Justice Association "PRAJA" (an Indian NGO) and the international Centre for Prison Studies, King's College, University of London, U.K. are the other project partners.

(b) to (d) While a total amount of \$85,000 is proposed to be spent on the project by the British Council, the cost of travel within India and subsistence expenses of the trainer group and the 320 participants are expected to be met by NHRC and BPR&D.

The project is likely to be implemented from January, 1999 onwards.

**Supply of Essential Commodities to Manipur**

2612. KUMARI KIM GANGTE : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the transportation of essential commodities to Manipur is severely hampered due to frequent road blockade resorted to by the Naga militants; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure regular supply of essential commodities to the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) Transportation of essential commodities to Manipur has been sometimes hampered due to road blockade resorted to by various Naga organisations.

(b) Movement of essential commodities to the State of Manipur was severely hampered during the period from 23rd May, 1998 to 24th June, 1998 due to blockade of National Highways Nos. 39 and 53 and during a 50 hours bandh organised by the United Naga Council from 3rd of December, 98. The Government of Manipur have been taking suitable necessary action in co-ordination with the Government of Nagaland and the Government of India to ensure regular supply of essential commodities in Manipur.

**Dengue Epidemic**

2613. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN AHAMED :

SHRI AJAY MUKHOPADHYAY :

PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :

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

(a) whether in its recent order of the Delhi High Court has blamed both the Delhi and the Central Governments for the Dengue epidemic in 1996 causing hundreds of deaths in the city;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have been asked to set up a High Level Coordination Committee for formulating a National Dengue Control Programme;

(d) if so, the progress made so far in this regard; and

(e) the action taken by the Government for the serious lapses on the part of the concerned authorities for not taking adequate preventive measures to check the epidemic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) to (c) The High Court of Delhi which made several recommendations had interalia directed that a High Level Coordination Committee may be set up to examine efficacy of the Dengue Action Programme implemented by the Municipal Committee of Delhi, New Delhi Municipal Council and Central Government and to suggest definite measures to make the programme meaningful, efficacious, comprehensive and adequate. The court had also commented on the lack of preparedness on the part of various agencies and directed the Government to prepare a National Dengue Control Programme and organise training sessions for volunteers and health officers to be in a state to preparedness in case of a sudden epidemic.

(d) and (e) A High Level Committee was set up under the Union Health Secretary 1996. The Committee has met regularly to review the action taken to control dengue and in the last meeting held on 20.11.1998 it was observed that the measures were meaningful and adequate.

A draft National Dengue Control Programme has also been formulated. However, the introduction of any new programme requires consultation with the State Governments as vector borne disease programme like Malaria are financed on a 50:50 sharing basis and the States have to accept the responsibility to fund the spraying operations and staff costs. Meanwhile, all State Govern-

ments have been given the benefit of detailed technical advice and clinical guidelines for the management of cases. Several training sessions have been organised especially for the staff of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi and NDMC by the National Institute of Communicable Diseases and the Directorate of National Malaria Eradication Programme. Commodity and technical assistance is being provided in keeping with the needs of the concerned State Governments and action taken by them have been reviewed in detail.

**Encounters Made by Security Forces**

2614. SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Tripura has requested the Union Government for deployment of additional forces for curbing insurgency in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of encounters made by the security forces after the introduction of Disturbed Area Act in Tripura;

(d) the number of extremists arrested/killed and seizure of arms and ammunition alongwith the loss of the security personnel; and

(e) the number of encounters made within the area of three kilometres from the Indo-Bangladesh Border?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of Tripura have been requesting for deployment of additional units of army and Central Para Military Forces to curb the insurgency in the State.

(c) and (d) Available information regarding incidents, number of extremists arrested/killed, seizure of arms and ammunition and loss of the security personnel between March 1997 and 1998 (upto November) is as follows :

No. of encounters	64
Extremist arrested	345
Extremist killed	31
Arms Seized	234
Ammunition Seized	238
Security forces killed	75

(e) 11 encounter took place within three kilometres from the Indo-Bangladesh border.

### Expenditure on Army

2615. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Defence has demanded that the expenditure on Army should be met out of the Budget of Ministry of Home Affairs when army is deployed for internal security or insurgency;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry do not expend any money on the Army when it is deployed on the request of his Ministry;

(c) if so, the reasons for not making adequate provisions for the Army in the budget of his Ministry;

(d) whether the Government are contemplating to make adequate budgetary provisions for the Army in the Budget of his Ministry; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

### Smuggling of Cattle to Bangladesh

2616. SHRI RAMCHANDRA MALLICK : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the smuggling of cattle to Bangladesh from Bihar; and

(b) if so, the action taken to check it?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Several measures have been taken to prevent smuggling of cattle across the border. These include, Inter alia, strengthening of the Border Security Force, intensive patrolling, erection of observation post towers along the international border, construction of border roads/ fence and supply of night vision devices, binoculars etc. for observation and patrolling in both land and riverine areas of the border. The matter has also been taken up with the Government of Bangladesh.

### Corrupt and Illegal Activities by DG of CISF

2617. SHRI SATNAM SINGH KAINTH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bhraastachar Virodh Morcha has brought the corrupt and illegal activities of Director General of Central Industry Security Force in the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Delhi High Court has also asked to Government to enquire into the several grave charges against the Director General of CISF;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the findings of the enquiry made; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Hon'ble High Court, Delhi observed that as investigation against alleged misconduct is already on the same should be completed within a reasonable time.

(d) and (e) On the findings in the preliminary enquiry, the explanation of the officer has been called for.

### Activities of NSCN (K)

2618. SHRI RAJKUMAR WANGCHA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether NSCN (K) is actively operating in Tirap and Changlang of Arunachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government are considering for special economic package in these two districts and also to start bilateral talks with NSCN (K); and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) There are reports that the NSCN (K) is active in parts of Tirap and Changlang districts of Arunachal Pradesh.

(b) and (c) No separate economic package for Tirap and Chaglang districts of Arunachal Pradesh is under consideration of the Government.

Government of India have entered into a Cease-fire with the Isak-Muivah faction of the National Socialist Council of Nagaland and Political talks have been initiated. Other insurgent groups, including the NSCN (K) have not yet responded to offer for talks by the Government.

### Sale of Foodgrains in Open Market by FCI

2619. SHRI RAJ NARAIN PASSI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of Wheat and Rice sold by the Food Corporation of India in the open market during each of the last three years;

(b) the quantity of wheat transported to ports alongwith the actual shipment made to the foreign countries during the said period and the foreign exchange earned;

(c) the quantity of wheat diverted for internal sale from various ports;

(d) whether losses incurred in export during the said period;

(e) if so, the reason therefor;

(f) whether the handling charges of wheat, rice and sugar increased during the said period;

(g) if so, the steps taken to reduce the handling charges; and

(h) number of vigilance cases reported against the various officials in the F.C.I. for misappropriation of funds and irregularities committed during the last three years, year-wise and group-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) The details of wheat and rice sold by the FCI under the Open Market Sales Schemes (OMSS) domestic as well as export during the last three years are as under:

(Qty. in lakh MT)

Year	Qty. Sold under OMSS (domestic & Export)	
	Wheat	Rice
1995-96	64.19	21.26
1996-97	43.68	3.04
1997-98	00.30	0.10

(b) FCI has not directly exported any foodgrains during the period. However the Corporation had sold the following quantities of wheat and rice under the OMSS (Export) to various buyers in the public and private sectors for the purpose of exports during the last three years.

(Qty. in lakh MT)

Year	Qty. Sold under OMSS (Export)	
	Wheat	Rice
1995-96	0.81	14.90
1996-97	4.30	0.50
1997-98	-	-

(c) to (e) As no export has been directly done by Food Corporation of India the question of diversion/loss does not arise.

(f) and (g) Rice and wheat were sold under the OMSS (domestic and export) at the prices fixed by the Government of India and the expenditure, if any on handling for export are borne by the buyers. However the charges incurred by the FCI for handling of foodgrains as agent of Central Government for the Public Distribution System (PDS) were as under:-

Year	Rate Rs./Qtl.		
	Wheat	Rice	Sugar
1995-96	112.60	127.34	215.07
1996-97 (P)	115.06	158.29	215.49
1997-98(RE)	175.62	189.50	225.42

(P- Provisional) ( RE - Revised Estimates)

The Corporation has taken the following measures to reduce the cost of handling:

- i) The Corporation is trying to achieve average capacity utilisation of 75% even though the procurement of grain is seasonal to reduce storage cost.
- ii) The procurement and movement ratio is being kept to the norm of 1:1.35 as fixed by Government of India to reduce the expenditure in freight.
- iii) Continuous efforts are being taken to reduce storages in handling of foodgrains.
- iv) Steps are being taken to reduce the incidence of demurrage charges.
- v) Release of stocks in the open market at prices above the Central Issue Prices.
- vi) The Corporation is controlling the Administrative cost by following a ban on recruitment of resultant entry level posts except in exceptional cases and has been reducing its staff strength by around 800 persons yearly though the work load has increased. Thus, the increase in establishment cost is mainly due to payment of DA and impact of annual increments etc.

(h) Desired information is given in the enclosed statement.

## Statement

Statement Showing the Number of Vigilance Cases Reported Against The Various Officials in FCI for Mis-Appropriation of Funds and Irregularities Committed During the Last Four Years Group-wise/Category-wise.

Year	Opening Balance		No. of cases initiated in FCI for mis-appropriation of funds & irregularities committed		Total		Cases finalised during the year		Closing balance at the end of the year		Groupwise/ Category wise details of employees involved Category/Group			
	Major	Minor	Major	Minor	Major	Minor	Major	Minor	Major	Minor	I	II	III	IV
1995	418	127	292	349	710	476	296	351	414	125	20	168	321	30
1996	414	125	304	573	718	698	312	532	406	166	36	253	269	14
1997	406	166	338	443	794	609	248	425	546	184	37	390	276	27

[Translation]

**Police Wireless Organisation**

2620. SHRI ADITYANATH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of teleprinters in various offices of the police wireless organisation;

(b) the number of Hindi and English teleprinters separately out of them;

(c) the year by when the question of sending wireless messages to Hindi speaking regions in Devnagri was first considered;

(d) the number of teleprinters with facility to work in Devnagri script installed in the police wireless organisations till date; and

(e) the reasons for not installing the adequate number of Devangri teleprinters?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (e) 139 Electronic Teleprinters (ETPs) are installed in various offices of the Central Government's Directorate of Coordination (Police Wireless) located in various States. Out of these, 23 ETPs are bilingual (English and Hindi). The remaining ETPs are English.

The question of sending wireless messages to Hindi speaking regions in Devnagri script was considered and accepted in the All India Police Radio Officers' Conference held in 1996. The bilingual teleprinters are gradually being installed as per requirement.

Information pertaining to teleprinters in various offices of the State police organisations is not maintained at the Central level.

**Non Implementation of Consumer protection Act**

2621. SHRI RAMPAL UPADHYAY : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Governments are not effectively implementing the Consumer Protection Act;

(b) whether complaints have been received in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) to (c) State Governments are effectively implementing the provisions of the Consumer Protection Act. However, some incidents of non-functioning of State redressal fora due to vacancy in the posts of Presidents/Members, etc. have come to the notice of the Central Government. The Central Government, in such cases, advises the State Governments, who are responsible for implementing the Act, to take appropriate remedial action.

[English]

**Official Secret Act, 1923**

2622. SHRI SURESH KURUP :

SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :

SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :

SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cases registered by CBI under the Official Secret Act, 1923 during the last three years, till date;

(b) the present status of these cases;

(c) whether the Government propose to amend Officials Secrets Act, 1923; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) During the period of last three years i.e. 1995 to 1998 (upto 30.11.98), a total of 6 cases were registered by the CBI under official Secret Act, 1923 for investigation.

(b) Out of the above, investigation has been finalised in three cases and the remaining three are still under investigation. Out of three cases finalised, in one case charge sheet has been filed in the Court of Law, while in another, such action as deemed appropriate by the Department has been recommended. The third case has been closed for want of sufficient evidence.

(c) and (d) The issue relating to amendments to officials Secrets Act, 1923 is clubbed with formulation of Right to information Bill, which is under consideration of the Govt.

#### Shortage of Storage For Paddy

2623. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether FCI has been purchasing paddy from Andhra Pradesh;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Food Corporation of India has been facing difficulty for storing it due to shortage of storage capacity; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to have proper storage capacity in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) and (b) FCI procures paddy in Andhra Pradesh price support scheme. 124 paddy purchase centres have been set up so far for procurement of paddy. However, there has been no arrival of paddy till 9.12.98 as the prevailing market prices of paddy in the State are ruling much higher than the Minimum Support Price.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to part (c). It is, however, stated that generally paddy procured in Andhra Pradesh is kept in CAP (Cover and Plinth) storage.

[Translation]

#### Welfare Schemes

2624. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FAITMI : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated to the Government of Bihar for all types of welfare schemes during each of the last three years;

(b) the amount utilised out of the total allocated amount; and

(c) the manner in which the unutilised amount is likely to be used?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) The amounts released to the Government of Bihar during the last three years is as follows:-

	(Rs. in lakhs)
1995-96	1248.80
1996-97	7205.89
1997-98	3923.98

(b) Full details regarding utilisation of amounts released have not become available.

(c) Utilised balances of earlier years are adjusted against releases due in subsequent years.

[English]

#### Exemption of Tax on Sugarcane

2625. SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether sugar Cooperative Societies in Maharashtra are being asked to pay income tax on the price of sugarcane being paid to growers which is an excess of Statutory minimum sugarcane price;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor when Supreme Court rejected the taxation demand by the Government in 1973;

(c) whether the Government propose to exempt agricultural goods under section 80P of Income Tax Act; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) and (b) In the Income Tax assessments of some sugar cooperative societies in Maharashtra, claim for deduction on account of excess price of sugarcane over the statutory minimum price, paid to sugarcane growers and members has been disallowed.

(c) and (d) The income of a cooperative society engaged in the marketing of the agricultural produce of its members is already allowed deduction in computing the taxable income under Section 80P of the Income Tax Act.

[Translation]

**Family Welfare Programme**

2626. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the amount provided for family welfare programme by Union Government to voluntary organisations of Bihar during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the Government are aware that these organisations are not utilising this fund properly;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government have conducted any inquiry in regard to the utilisation of this amount;

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

(f) the steps taken by the Government for the proper utilisation of this fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) A sum of Rs. 1,60,65,469/- was provided to voluntary organisations of Bihar (statement enclosed).

(b) and (c) The Ministry from time to time gets the work done by field-level NGOs evaluated by independent organisations. The evaluations carried out so far indicate that the working of most of the NGOs has been generally satisfactory.

(d) The accounts of each NGO are audited by a Chartered Accountant and utilisation certificates are issued only on the basis of audited accounts.

(e) Under the Ninth Plan, as part of the Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Programme, the Government has thoroughly revamped the NGO scheme and introduced a system of appraisals, including pre-appraisals and mid-term appraisals, of the working of major NGOs.

**Statement****1995-96**

Sl.No.	Name of the Organisation	Amt. Released
1	2	3
<b>BIHAR</b>		
1.	Sidharth Gyan Kendra, Samastipur, Bihar	1,05,435/-
2.	Daroga Prasad Rai Mahila Prashikshan Avam Audhyogik Kendra, Saran, Bihar.	2,06,175/-
3.	Chetna Vikas Parishad, Samastipur, Bihar	77,085/-

1	2	3
4.	Pioneer Society for Training and Development, Muzaffarpur, Bihar	1,48,680/-
5.	Children Welfare Association of India, Patna, Bihar	62,280/-
6.	Patel Mahila Vikas Sewa Sansthan, Patna, Bihar	46,585/-
7.	Nagar Yuva Vikas Sangh, Sitamarhi, Bihar	1,09,230/-
8.	Smt. Manorama Mahila Mandal, Vaishali, Bihar	1,03,388/-
9.	PAHAL, Bhojpur, Bihar	38,542/-
10.	Jan Jagaran Bureau, Vaishali, Bihar	80,885/-
11.	Nutan Vikas Vihar, Samastipur, Bihar	1,49,530/-
12.	Dr. Gosh's Nursing Home, Muzaffarpur, Bihar	1,17,150/-
13.	Shorya, Vaishali, Bihar	46,585/-
14.	Jyoti Sewa Sadan, Champaran, Bihar	80,885/-
15.	Suvidha International, Vaishali, Bihar	1,09,230/-
16.	Pragati Foundation, Muzaffarpur, Bihar	1,83,875/-
17.	Vaishali Kala Kunj, Vaishali, Bihar	1,49,530/-
18.	Adarsh Mahila Shilp Kala Samastipur, Bihar	2,18,175/-
19.	Gravis, Bihar, Vaishali, Bihar	46,485/-
20.	Mahila Haijan Pichra Varg Utthan Samiti Muzaffarpur, Bihar	1,05,435/-
21.	Janata Vikas Sansthan, Ranchi, Bihar	80,885/-
22.	Atma Seva Sansthan, Vaishali, Bihar	46,585/-
23.	Lok Chetna Foundation, Vaishali, Bihar	46,585/-
24.	Jainendra Foundation, Vaishali, Bihar	80,885/-
25.	Helping India, Vaishali, Bihar	46,585/-
26.	Kala Vihar, Vaishali, Bihar	80,885/-
27.	Lord Buddha Mission, Vaishali, Bihar	2,18,175/-
28.	Chandrika Service Sadan, Vaishali, Bihar	46,585/-
29.	Child India, Patna, Bihar	80,885/-

1	2	3
30.	Chetna Vikas Parishad, Samastipur, Bihar	85,650/-
31.	Siddhartha Gyan Kendra, Samastipur, Bihar	2,64,250/-
32.	Chand Sewa Foundation, Vaishali, Bihar	46,585/-
33.	Dalit Chetna Parishad, Vaishali, Bihar	46,585/-
34.	Sarwangik Vikas Samiti, Jehanabad, Bihar	46,585/-
35.	Bhartiya Jana Manch, Vaishali, Bihar	2,18,175/-
36.	Kasturba Manav Vikas, Darbhanga, Bihar	46,585/-
37.	Madyam, Patna, Bihar	80,885/-
38.	Jan Chetna Foundation, Madhepura, Bihar	80,885/-
39.	Deep Shikha Seva Sansthan, Sitamarhi, Bihar	1,15,230/-
40.	Mahila Bal Utthan Kendra, Muzaffarpur, Bihar	2,29,750/-
41.	Berojgar Sangh, West Champaran, Bihar	46,585/-
42.	Vishal Kala Niketan, Saran, Bihar	80,885/-
43.	Abhinandan, Muzaffarpur, Bihar (Swasthya Mela)	2,80,730/-
44.	Pahal, Bhojpur, Bihar	3,74,310/-
45.	Shaheed Maheswar Smarak Sanstha, Bihar	3,74,310/-
46.	Dr. Shanker Dayal Singh, Bihar	2,80,730/-
47.	Samagra Vikas Samiti, Munger, Bihar	2,16,750/-
48.	Shahed Maheswar Smarak Sansthan, Saran, Bihar	2,16,250/-
		66,44,935

**1996-97**

1.	Nutan Vikas Vihar, Samastipur, Bihar	Rs.1,41,530/-
2.	Gram Swarajaya Abhiyan Sansthan, Vaishali	Rs.44,585/-
3.	Lord Budhna Mission, Vaishali, Bihar	Rs.2,18,175/-
4.	Child India, Patna, Bihar	Rs.80,885/-

1	2	3
5.	Janata Vikas Sansthan, Ranchi, Bihar	Rs.80,885/-
6.	Bhartiya Jan Manch, Vaishali, Bihar	Rs.2,18,175/-
7.	Magadh Rehabilitation and Welfare Society, Chapra, Bihar	Rs.80,885/-
8.	All India Santal Welfare and Cultural Society, New Delhi (Project area Sahibganj, Bihar)	Rs.80,885/-
9.	Bijrauli Seva Sangh, Vaishali, Bihar	Rs.46,585/-
10.	Divya Kala Niketan, Vaishali, Bihar	Rs.80,885/-
11.	Shakuntala Prabha Bal Avam Mahila Seva Kendra, Vaishali, Bihar	Rs.80,885/-
12.	Mahila Bal Utthan Kendra, Muzaffarpur	Rs.4,13,550/-
13.	Janhit Vikas Samiti, Nawada, Bihar	Rs.2,06,175/-
14.	Manorma Mahila Seva Sansthan, Vaishali	Rs.1,49,530/-
15.	Shashwat Seva Sansthan, Begusarai	Rs.64,135/-
16.	Bhaskar, Patna, Bihar	Rs.46,585/-
17.	Chandrasekhar Yaba Kendra, Patna, Bihar	Rs.1,03,387/-
18.	Devanandan Seva Sadan, Vaishali, Bihar	Rs.1,15,230/-
19.	Abhinaya Prashikshan Sansthan, Vaishali, Bihar	Rs.1,03,387/-
20.	Lok Rang, Patna, Bihar	Rs.80,885/-
21.	Adarsh Mahila Shilp Kala Kendra, Samastipur, Bihar	Rs.2,06,175/-
22.	Jana Jagarana Bureau, Vaishali, Bihar	Rs.76,885/-
23.	Suvidha International, W. Champaran	Rs.1,09,230/-
24.	Siddhartha Gyan Kendra, Samastipur	Rs.2,34,825/-
25.	Samadhan, Madhubani, Bihar	Rs.46,585/-
26.	Haribansh Narayan Singh Economic Development and Social Change cum Educational Study Institute, Samastipur, Bihar	Rs.2,18,175/-
27.	Patel Mahila Vikas Seva Sansthan, Patna City, Bihar	Rs.42,785/-
28.	Dr. Ghose's Nursing Home cum Urban Family Welfare Centre, Muzaffarpur	Rs.1,05,435/-

1	2	3
29.	GRAVIS, Bihar (Gram Vikas Samiti Bihar) Vaishali, Bihar	Rs.44,585/-
30.	Shahpur Vikas Samiti, Saran, Bihar	Rs.80,885/-
31.	SHOURYA, Patna, Bihar	Rs.44,585/-
32.	Anant Institute of Development and Social Welfare, Sitamarhi, Bihar	Rs.80,885/-
33.	Social Advancement for National Care and Economic Treatment, Dharbhanga	Rs.1,15,230/-
34.	Nav Jeevan Vikas Sansthan, Madhubani	Rs.80,885/-
35.	Dr. Deo Sevashram, Muzaffarpur, Bihar	Rs.1,91,880/-
36.	Shaheed Maheshwar Smarak Sansthan Saran, Bihar	Rs.2,80,730/-
37.	Rural Development Environment Protection Forestation and Research Organisation, Patna, Bihar	Rs.2,06,775/-
38.	Shapur Vikas Samiti, Saran, Bihar	Rs.80,885/-
39.	Chetna Vikas Parishad, Samastipur	Rs.76,685/-
40.	Patliputra Vikas Parishad, Araria	Rs.1,49,530/-
41.	Deepshikha Seva Sansthan, Sitamarhi, Bihar	Rs.1,09,230/-
42.	Bajjikanchal Vikas Sansthan, Vaishali	Rs.38,443/-
43.	Kasturba Manav Vikas, Darbhanga, Bihar	Rs.44,585/-
44.	Alp Sankhyak Mahila Prashikshan Sansthan Patna, Bihar	Rs.2,18,175/-
45.	Mahila Harizan Pichra Varg Utthan Samiti Muzaffarpur, Bihar	Rs.1,05,235/-
46.	Deep Shikha Sewa Sansthan, Sitamarhi	Rs.1,09,230/-
47.	Patliputra Vikas Parishad, Araria	Rs.1,49,530/-
		56,85,287

## 1997-98

1.	Dr. Deo Sevashram, Muzaffarpur, Bihar	Rs.3,83,760/-
2.	Mahila Bal Utthan Kendra, Muzaffarpur, Bihar	Rs.2,06,775/-
3.	Shashwat Sewa Sansthan, Begusarai, Bihar	Rs.62,135/-
4.	Alp Sankhyak Mahila Prashikshan Sansthan Patna, Bihar	Rs.2,06,175/-

1	2	3
5.	Harijan Sevak Sangh, Madhepura, Bihar	Rs.46,585/-
6.	Berojgar Sangh, W. Champaran, Bihar	Rs.44,585/-
7.	Scientific Educational Promotion and Medical Aid Foundation, Patna, Bihar	Rs.5,75,000/-
8.	Vidyapati Samajik Evam Shikshan Vikas Sansthan, Madhubani, Bihar	Rs.2,16,750/-
9.	Pragati Foundation, Muzaffarpur, Bihar	Rs.1,73,875/-
10.	Jainendra Foundation, Vaishali, Bihar	Rs.76,885/-
11.	Lok Rang, Patna, Bihar	Rs.76,885/-
12.	Pustkalya Seva Sansthan, Chapra, Bihar	Rs.2,06,175/-
13.	Jan Chetna Foundation, Madhepura, Bihar	Rs.75,885/-
14.	Bajjikanchal Vikas, Vaishali, Bihar	Rs.38,442/-
15.	Siddhartha Gyan Kendra, Samastipur	Rs.1,91,880/-
16.	Kala Vihar, Vaishali, Bihar	Rs.76,885/-
17.	Divya Kala Niketan, Vaishali, Bihar	Rs.76,885/-
18.	Vaishali Kala Kunj, Vaishali, Bihar	Rs.1,41,530/-
19.	Lok Chetna Foundation, Vaishali, Bihar	Rs.44,585/-
20.	Devnandan Seva Sadan, Vaishali, Bihar	Rs.1,09,230/-
21.	Helping India, Vaishali, Bihar	Rs.44,585/-
22.	Manorma Mahila Seva Sansthan, Vaishali	Rs.1,41,530/-
23.	Jyoti Sewa Sadan, East Champaran	Rs.76,885/-
24.	Harizan Adiwasi Seva Sansthan, Bihar	Rs.44,585/-
25.	Bhartiya Jaj Manch, Vaishali, Bihar	Rs.2,06,175/-
26.	Lord Budha Mission, Bihar	Rs.2,06,175/-
27.	Janta Vikas Sansthan, Bihar	Rs.76,885/-
28.	Shakuntala Mahila Bal Evam Seva Kendra	Rs.76,885/-

1	2	3
29.	Atma Seva Sansthan, Bihar	Rs.44,585/-
30.	Bahujan Hitay Amar Jyoti, W. Champaran Bihar	Rs.46,585/-
31.	Siddhartha Gyan Kendra, Bihar	Rs.1,91,880/-
32.	Gramin Samagra Seva Sanstha, Madhubani, Bihar	Rs.46,585/-
		43,35,247

[English]

### Oil Exploration

2627. SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Oil and Natural Gas Corporation and Reliance Industries Ltd. have jointly won a contract to develop the Tuba Oil Fields in Iraq;

(b) if so, whether there is any hinderance in implementing this joint venture due to US sanctions against Iraq;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps proposes to be taken by the Government to resolve this deadlock?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (d) The Indian consortium of ONGC Videsh Ltd. and Reliance Industries Ltd., has completed the technical evaluation of Tuba field and submitted an initial commercial bid to the Ministry of Oil, Iraq in July, 1998, for further consideration and negotiation.

### Gastlitand Enquiry

2628. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Gastlitand enquiry in Bharat Cooking Coal Limited has been terminated without coming to any conclusion; and

(b) if so, the facts and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) No, Sir. The Court of Inquiry has submitted its report to the Government on 29.6.98.

(b) Does not arise.

### Development of Health System in Kerala

2629. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received

any proposal from Kerala for development/improvement of Health system in Kerala; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) A project proposal has been received from the Government of Kerala for financing the upgradation of the Secondary Health System with World Bank assistance.

Selection of States for consideration under this projects depends upon a number of factors including interalia the lack of adequate facilities for medical care at Primary and Secondary levels, epidemiological situation in the State, commitment of the State Government to undertake Health reforms and provide adequate funding for the Health Sector as a whole, socio-economic backwardness of the State including SC/ST population etc.

Accordingly, States with low health indices are currently being given priority for consideration. Further prejects can be posed only after the suitability for negotiation of these projects which are already in the process of scrutiny has been established.

The State Projects are developed through detailed discussions with the World Bank and past experience has shown that they take anywhere from 12 to 24 months to fructify, depending on the time taken on the design and formulation of the project by the State.

### Polio Vaccine

2630. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any programme to intensify administering of Polio Vaccine all over the country; and

(b) the details of those States which are reporting maximum number of cases of Polio?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) The Pulse Polio Immunization Programme was launched in 1995-96 with the objective of eradication of poliomyelitis. The programme is being implemented annually for the last three years and the first round of PPI for 1998-99 has been completed on 6.12.98. The States have been advised to intensify the Pulse Polio Immunization in all areas from where confirmed cases of polio were reported during 1998 through house to house immunization to ensure 100% coverage. The second round of Pulse Polio Immunization this year will be held on 17.1.99.

(b) The reported number of poliomyelitis cases from all States and Union Territories during 1998 (upto November) 98 are given in the enclosed statement.

**Statement**

*Reported Poliomyelitis Cases 1998*

Sl.No.	States/UTs	1998
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	137
2	Arunachal Pradesh	2
3	Assam	7
4	Bihar	172
5	Goa	4
6	Gujarat	141
7	Haryana	51
8	Himachal Pradesh	6
9	Jammu & Kashmir	1
10	Karnataka	101
11	Kerala	7
12	Madhya Pradesh	112
13	Maharashtra	122
14	Manipur	0
15	Meghalaya	2
16	Mizoram	0
17	Nagaland	5
18	Orissa	77
19	Punjab	8
20	Rajasthan	94
21	Sikkim	0
22	Tamil Nadu	94
23	Tripura	2
24	Uttar Pradesh	667
25	West Bengal	52
26	A & N Islands	0
27	Chandigarh	1
28	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1

1	2	3
29	Daman & Diu	1
30	Delhi	36
31	Lakshadweep	0
32	Pondicherry	2
Total		1905#

# Data upto 3rd Nov., 1998

[Translation]

**Treatment of MPs and Ministers Abroad**

2631. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state the details of amount sanctioned for treatment in abroad to Members of Parliament and Ministers by the Government each of the last three years, MP-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : Information is given in the attached statement.

**Statement**

*Statement of Expenditure on MPs and Ministers Abroad*

Sl. No.	Name & Designation	Expenditure incurred
<b>During the year 1995-96</b>		
1.	Shri P. Upendra, M.P.	Rs. 5,36,181.00
2.	Shri A.K. Panja Minister of State for Coal	Rs. 47,94,263.00
3.	Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief Minister for Railways	Rs. 4,74,860.00 UK £ 54,885.88
4.	Shri M. M. Hashim M.P. (Rajya Sabha)	Rs. 1,01,513.00
5.	Shri Kanshi Ram, M.P.	Rs. 9,90,653.00
6.	Shri Sukh Ram Minister of State	Rs. 26,99,471.00
7.	Shri Ankush Rao R. Tope M.P. (Lok Sabha)	UK £ 18,950.19 Rs. 2,14,082.00
8.	Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha M.P. (Lok Sabha)	Rs. 15,88,241.00
9.	Shri Kailash Narain Sarang M.P. (Rajya Sabha)	Rs. 13,55,906.00
10.	Shri Taj Narain Rao Bhonsle M.P.	Rs. 6,32,399.00

During the year 1996-97 and 1997-98 : Nil

[English]

### Smuggling

2632. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a huge consignment of goods from Pakistan was smuggled through the Wagah-Attari railway check-post;

(b) if so, whether the Government have asked CBI to investigate the matter; and

(c) if so, the time by which CBI is expected to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) to (c) According to information received from the Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue, a consignment consisting of goods valued at Rs. 69,98,060 was seized by the officers of DRI Regional Unit, Amritsar at Attari Railway Station on 20.6.1998. This consignment had arrived by Samjhauta Express from Pakistan on 18.6.1998. The CBI has been requested to take up the investigation of the case.

[Translation]

### LPG Outlets and Petrol Pumps

2633. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for setting up of L.P.G. outlets and petrol pumps in the country during the Ninth Five Year Plan, State-wise;

(b) whether the number of these outlets/petrol pumps are less in Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan as compared to the other States;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) No target has been fixed for setting up LPG distributorships and the RO dealerships in the country during the Ninth Five Year Plan. However, 1702 LPG distributorships and 435 RO dealerships have been included in the approved LPG and RO Marketing Plans 1996-98.

(b) No, Sir. As on 1.10.1998, 2289 retail outlets and 680 LPG distributorships in Uttar Pradesh and 996 retail outlets and 226 LPG distributorships in Rajasthan, were in operation as against 16981 retail outlets and 5560 LPG distributorships all over the country.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) In addition to the locations pending from the previous Marketing Plans, 87 retail outlets and 351 distributorships for Uttar Pradesh and 29 retail outlets and 94 LPG distributorships for Rajasthan have been included in the approved Marketing Plan 1996-98.

[English]

### Difference Between CGHS and ISM&H

2634. DR. SAROJA V. : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of differences between CGHS dispensary in Delhi and outside Delhi;

(b) whether the Government have decided to open the units of Indian System of Medicine and Homeopathy in Delhi and outside Delhi instead of fullfledged CGHS dispensary;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether there is any proposal to convert units of CGHS into dispensary after the work study of Staff Inspection Unit of Ministry of Finance; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) In view of (a) above question does not arise.

(d) and (e) The Staff Inspection Unit (ISU) of the Ministry of Finance is presently conducting work study of only the Allopathic dispensaries under CGHS. Thereafter a similar study related to Indian System of Medicine and Homeopathy units will be taken up. As such, any conversion of unit into a full fledged dispensary depends upon workload/number of patient beneficiary norms being met.

### Proxy War in J & K

2635. SHRI AJAY KUMAR S. SARNAIK : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Inter-Service Intelligence Agency of Pakistan spends over Rs. 60 crore to fight "Proxy War" in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are aware that at present five major and many small militant groups are operating in J & K;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps the Union Government propose to take to check these disguised militants?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) Available reports indicate that Pak ISI is spending huge funds to sustain militancy in J & K. The Pak ISI is sending mercenaries into the State, spending huge amounts for providing sophisticated weapons and communication equipment to them and to local militants. Funds are also being funneled through various clandestine channels.

(c) and (d) There are at present around twelve militant organisations in Jammu & Kashmir, which are as under:

1. Hizbul Mujahideen
2. Harkat-ul-Mujahideen
3. Laskar-e-Toiba
4. Al-Burg
5. Tehreek-ul-Mujahideen
6. Al-Jehad
7. J & K Liberation Front
8. Al-Umar-Mujahideen
9. Hizbullah
10. Durktrn-e-Milat
11. J & K Islamic Front
12. Hizbul-Momin

(e) with a view to tackle the militancy problem, sponsored from across the border in J & K Government have adopted a multi-pronged approach which includes inter-alia strengthening the border management, neutralising plans by militants by proactive action against them in the hinterland, gearing up intelligence machinery, increased interaction with border population etc.

#### **Medical Facilities for Retired Government Employees**

2636. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently withdrawn medical facilities for treatment and hospitalisation of senior citizens;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of medical facilities available earlier to the said decisions of the Government for the retired Government Servants in various hospitals under the CGHS scheme;

(d) the details of medical/hospitalisation facilities available for CGHS Senior Citizens beneficiary retired from Central Government services; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to provide adequate medical facilities to those Government employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) In view of (a) above questions do not arise.

(d) and (e) The senior citizens are given the same medical facilities as are given to the serving employee beneficiaries in all Central Government/State Government/Railways/ESI/ Municipal hospitals in addition to the private hospitals recognised under CGHS, for obtaining both General purpose and Specialised treatment in CGHS covered areas.

#### **Hindustan Steel Works Construction Limited**

2637. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the workers of the Hindustan Steel Works Construction Ltd., specially for Bokaro and Durgapur unit, are not getting their salaries for four months;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) It is a fact that workers of Hindustan Steel Works Construction Ltd., especially at Bokaro and Durgapur units have not been paid their salaries for the last 3-4 months. This is due to the acute financial condition of the company, owing to dearth of work orders from the steel plants during the current year.

(c) The Department of Steel, as a short-term measure, has been assisting Hindustan Steel Works Construction Ltd., in obtaining more work orders. A financial restructuring-cum-financial assistance package is also under consideration.

#### **Indian Red Cross Society**

2638. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Central assistance released during the last three years to the Indian Red Cross Society, J & K;

(b) the details of the assistance relief given to Jammu region and Kashmir region separately by IRCS;

(c) whether the IRCS of Jammu demanded the increase share for the Jammu region due to increase in muttancy activities in Jammu region;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Licence of Revolvers

2639. SHRI D. S. AHIRE :

SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE :

SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL :

SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL :

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the persons with criminal background have been getting licence for revolvers/arms by illegal means from other states;

(b) if so, the number of such cases reported during the current year so far; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government against the persons found guilty for giving licences to the persons with criminal background by illegal means?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected from State Governments/Union Territory Administrations and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Pak Sponsored Insurgency

2640. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

SHRI SISHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the hands of Pakistan in insurgency in India has been established from the arms seized from

the militants as shown in the exhibition held in Parliament House Annexe in July, 1998;

(b) if so, the details of the arms seized from militants indicating the countries of their origin; and

(c) the manner in which the situation is likely to be handled?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) The involvement of Pakistan in insurgency in India has been established beyond doubt from a variety of evidences including the weapons captured from the militants, even though the arms captured are of different origins, including those from Pakistan.

(b) A statement indicating the details of arms seized is annexed.

(c) Pakistan sponsored militancy in India has been accorded the highest priority and Govt. have accordingly adopted a multi-pronged strategy for tackling the situation, which included inter-alia strengthening of border management, gearing up intelligence machinery, countering militancy in hinterland by proactive actions, protection to minorities, modernisation/upgradation of State Police and other Security Forces.

#### Statement

##### Type of Foreign Weapons Seized From Militants

S. No	Type of Weapons	Origin	Calibre
1	2	3	4
1.	AK 47/56 Rifles	China/Russia	7.62mm
2.	Rifle Dragnov Sniper	Russia	7.62mm
3.	UMG (Universal Machine Gun)	China	7.62mm
4.	BMG (Bren Machine Gun)	Not known	7.62mm
5.	RPG-7	Russia	Launcher-40mm Projectile-85mm
6.	Gun Pika	China	7.62mm
7.	SBBL Gun	Not Known	—
8.	LMG (Light Machine Gun)	-do-	—
9.	GMPG (General Purpose Machine Gun)	-do-	—
10.	Rocket Launcher	-do-	—
11.	Pistol	Pak	7.62mm

1	2	3	4
12.	Pistol Auto	China	9mm
13.	Pistol Unique	France	9mm
14.	Pistol Pocket	Spain	.22
15.	Pistol Mauser	German	7.65mm
16.	Pistol .22	Spain	.22mm
17.	Pistol 12 bore Katta	Pak	12mm
18.	Pistol Revolver	Pak	.38mm
19.	Pistol M-20	Not known	—
20.	Revolver .32	Not known	.32mm
21.	Grenada Launcher	Not known	—
22.	SLR (Self Loading Rifle)	Not known	—
23.	Missile Chinese HN-5 (Surface to Air Missile)	China	Improved version of Russian SAM-7
24.	Grenades 40mm	Not known	—

[Translation]

#### Displaced Persons

2641. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have assessed the problems of those who displaced from West Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details of problems being faced by the displaced persons; and

(c) the efforts made for providing employment to these displaced persons?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) to (c) 47.40 lakh displaced persons had migrated from the erstwhile West Pakistan after the partition of the country in 1947. 5,07,133 applications were received for payment of compensation/rehabilitation grants. All these applications stand disposed of.

It may, however, be pointed out that at the time of partition of the country, 2768 families of displaced persons from West Pakistan were settled in Jammu region. These displaced persons are Indian citizens. However, they are not permanent residents of the State of Jammu & Kashmir in terms of the Constitution of Jammu & Kashmir. In this context, a write petition was also filed in the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court observed that it was up to the State Legislature to make suitable amendments in the State laws to provide relief to these persons without

having to amend the Constitution of Jammu & Kashmir. The Central Government is of the view that it would be most appropriate if the amendment to the State laws is left to the Jammu & Kashmir State Assembly.

[English]

#### Inter State Council

2642. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be please to state :

(a) the number of meetings of Inter State Council held during the last six months;

(b) whether the meetings of the Council have been held as per the established practice; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (c) No meeting of the Inter State Council has been held during the last six months. The Council has been reconstituted only recently, i.e., on 28.10.1998. Since its inception in 1990, the Council has held four meetings so far. These meetings were held on 10.10.1990, 15.10.1996, 17.7.1997 and 28.11.1997.

#### Dunlop India Ltd.

2643. SHRI VITHAL TUPE :

SHRI D.S. AHIRE :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Dunlop India Ltd. has been closed in February, 1998;

(b) if so, whether the management of the company has paid due wages, bonus and pension to its employees;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure payment of dues to the employees?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (d) Management of Dunlop India Ltd. by notice 7.2.98 declared suspension of work at the factory at Sahaganj, Dist. Hooghly, West Bengal with immediate effect. The Sahaganj unit has paid dues to their employees of the factory upto Oct. 97 whereas at head office located at Calcutta, employees have been paid salaries upto April, 98. Bonus for the last accounting year has not been paid. Management were persuaded for the payment of legal dues and it has been reported that one of the two union operating at the factory at Sahaganj (West Bengal) has already moved the High Court for direction to the Management to pay their earned wages.

[Translation]

**Import of Oil Seeds**

2644. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM :

DR. RAVI MALLU :

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

SHRI DATTA MEGHE :

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of oil seeds imported during each of the last two years;

(b) the total demand of oil seeds at present;

(c) whether the Government propose to import oil seeds instead of oil to meet the shortage of edible oil;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the quantity of oil-seeds likely to be imported; and

(e) the extent to which the import of oil seeds is likely to reduce the prices and short-fall of edible oil in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) As per available information there is no import of oil seeds during the last two years.

(b) The total demand of oil seeds computed in terms of edible oils for the year 1998-99 is estimated at 82 lakh MTs.

(c) In addition to vegetable oil, Government has allowed import of certain oilseeds namely soyabean, sunflower and rapeseed to meet the shortage of edible oils.

(d) The import of soyabean is allowed in split/cracked form. Import of sunflower and rapeseed is allowed subject to quarantine requirements. A duty of 45% is applicable to import of oil seeds. At this level of duty negligible import of oilseeds is visualised.

(e) Since sizeable import of oilseeds under the current circumstances is considered unlikely, its impact, if any is unlikely to be perceptible.

[English]

**Import of Pulses**

2645. SHRI K. S. RAO : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the type, quantity and countries from which

pulses have been imported during each of the last three years;

(b) the foreign exchanges spent during the above period;

(c) whether the Government propose to ensure that the pulses maintain the quality; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Preservation of Water Bodies**

2646. VAIDYA VISHNU DATT : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of amount provided for preservation of the water bodies including the Dal Lake in J & K;

(b) whether these funds are likely to be used for preserving and developing water bodies in Jammu region; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (c) The following funds have been released up to 1997-98 by the Central Govt. to the Govt. of J & K, for conservation and management of wetlands and lakes in J & K:-

Wullar Lake	Rs. 92.154 lakhs
Tsomorari	Rs. 34.00 lakhs
Tisgoltso	Rs. 7.00 lakhs
Dal Lake	Rs. 2500 lakhs

In addition, Rs. 25 crores has been provided for Dal Lake in the Annual Plan 1998-99.

Funds have also been released so far for research activities in respect of the lakes and wetlands in J&K as indicated below:-

(i) Wullar Lake	Rs. 6.34 lakhs
(ii) Lake Manasar	Rs. 4.45 lakhs
(iii) Dal and Nagin Lakes	Rs. 2.49 lakhs
(iv) Shivalik lakes, Sunisar and Gharana Wetland	Rs. 2.63 lakhs
(v) Hokarsar Wetland	Rs. 2.17 lakhs

**Juveniles Homes**

2647. SHRI A. C. JOS : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have asked the Tata Institute of Social Sciences to study various aspects of all inmates of juveniles homes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to adopt the juvenile homes under the "adopt a home scheme" for the comprehensive development of these helpless kids; and

(d) if so, the details of the final decision taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Question does not arise in view of (a) above. However, under the Ministry's scheme for Prevention and Control of Juvenile Social Maladjustment upto 50 per cent financial assistance is extended to State Governments and Union Territory Administrations for establishing and maintaining different types of home for juveniles.

[Translation]

**Gas Based Power Stations**

2648. SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA :

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH :

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

(a) the daily requirement of gas for gas based power stations of the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the supply is being made as per their requirements;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to fulfil the requirement of power stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) The total allocation to the existing gas based power plants in the country is 27.97 Million Standard Cubic Metres Per Day (MMSCMD). However, the requirement of the power plants fluctuated on a day-to-day basis.

(b) to (d) Based on the availability of gas from region to region and the actual day to day requirement of individual powerplants, gas is being supplied at an average of 23.34 MMSCMD. Despite shortfall in availability of gas in some areas, priority is being given in gas supplies to the power sector.

[English]

**Raids on FCI Godowns**

2649. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

SHRI D. S. AHIRE:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted raids on the FCI godowns during 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99;

(b) if so, the details of food articles seized during the said period; State-wise;

(c) the loss suffered by the Government as a result thereof;

(d) the details of the action taken against the persons found guilty; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to check such irregularities in the FCI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) No, Sir

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

(e) As a preventive measure, surprise/regular checks are undertaken by Quality Control/Vigilance and other wings of the FCI and Government. In addition to this, complaints of verifiable nature relating to serious allegations of corruption are investigated and departmental action is taken against the delinquent officers/officials.

**Specialists Deputed in CGHS Dispensary**

2650. SHRIMATI BHAVNA DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether specialists are deputed to each CGHS dispensary;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any criteria has been fixed by the Government in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the steps taken by the Government to depute specialists in each CGHS dispensary?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) The services of Specialists are made available at nodal dispensaries by clubbing 2 to 3 dispensaries.

(b) The information in respect of CGHS, Delhi is given in the statement attached outside Delhi is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) to (f) Due to paucity of availability of specialists, it is difficult to depute Specialists to all dispensaries.





**National Fertilizers Limited**

2651. SHRI NADENDLA BHASKARA RAO : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- whether the National Fertilizers Limited has achieved capacity utilisation during the last three years;
- if so, the details thereof; and
- the sales turnover and profit earned during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A. K. PATEL) : (a) to (c) The details of production, capacity utilisation, sales turnover and profit achieved by National Fertilizers Limited during the last three years are as under:-

Sl. Financial No Year	Actual Production (In terms of Nitrogen) (lakh MT)	Capacity utilisation (%age)	Sales turnover (Rs./crore)	Net Profit tax (Rs./crore)
1. 1995-96	11.39	109.97	1516.37	54.06
2. 1996-97	10.12	97.61	1435.45	11.20
3. 1997-98	15.60	113.87	2221.60	189.01

**Allotment of Petrol Pumps and LPG Agencies**

2652. SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE :  
SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL :

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

- the number of petrol retail outlets and LPG agencies allotted under the discretionary quota in Maharashtra since 1994 till date, location-wise;
- the names of places under consideration of the Government for the allotment of petrol pumps and LPG agencies in the State; and
- the basis of selection of sites for the allotment of new agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Four LPG distributorships and two retail outlets dealerships were allotted on compassionate grounds under discretionary quota in Maharashtra since 1994-95. Discretionary quota has been abolished in 1996.

(b) and (c) Retail outlet dealerships and LPG distributorships are opened at different locations all over the country including in Maharashtra based on the feasibility and economic viability of locations. Accordingly, based on the above criteria, 34 retail outlet dealerships and 89

LPG distributorships have been included in the Marketing Plan 1996-98 for Maharashtra.

[Translation]

**Assets of Ministers**

2653. DR. SUSHIL INDORA :  
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- whether there is delay in publishing the details about the assets of those who have already declared their assets;
- if so, the reasons therefor; and
- the time by which the remaining details about assets are likely to be published?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) to (c) The details in this regard will be published shortly.

[English]

**Pending Cases in Labour Courts**

2654. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI :  
DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- the details of labour dispute cases pending in the Labour Courts/High Court in Gujarat, district-wise;
- whether the number of pending cases have constantly been increased in the State;
- whether the increase in pending cases is due to the fact that many vacant posts of the presiding judges have not so far been filled up; and
- if so, the steps taken by the Government for filling up the vacant posts and speedy disposal of the pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (d)

*Statement showing the number of Pending Cases, District-wise before the labour courts in the State of Gujarat as on 31.12.1997.*

Sl.No.	Name of District	Number of Pending Cases
1	2	3
1.	Ahmedabad	32095
2.	Gandhinagar	113
3.	Kheda	5867

1	2	3
4.	Sabarkantha	1580
5.	Banaskantha	2282
6.	Mehsana	5865
7.	Rajkot	9095
8.	Bhavnagar	5874
9.	Surendranagar	4645
10.	Amreli	1250
11.	Junagadh	4824
12.	Jamnagar	6893
13.	Kachh	1921
14.	Vadodara	11128
15.	Panchmahal	3893
16.	Bahruch	5374
17.	Surat	12575
18.	Dang	—
19.	Valsad	6507
	Total	121851

7044 cases relating to labour disputes are pending in the High Court of Gujarat as on 30-6-98.

There has been an increase in the pendency of cases between 1998 and 1997. As per the information furnished by the State Government of Gujarat there are 41 posts of Presiding Officers out of which 13 posts of Presiding Officers are vacant. It has been reported by the State Government of Gujarat that they have taken expeditious steps to fill up the vacant posts. 16 New Labour Courts have been sanctioned during the Seventh and Eighth Five Year Plan. In the Ninth Five Plan one Labour Court at Amreli had been sanctioned for the year 1997-98.

#### Identification of Bonded Labour

2655. SHRI S.S. OWAISI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether some foreign countries have banned the import of some Indian products on the ground that they have been made by children;

(b) if so, the details of the countries who have banned the products;

(c) whether Union Government have directed the States to identify the bonded children;

(d) whether the Government have issued notification recently to include more hazardous occupation and process within the purview of Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Under the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976 no distinction for identification or rehabilitation is made on the basis of age or sex. The Ministry of Labour has been advising State Governments on issuing guidelines from time to time, highlighting the methodology for identification and procedure for rehabilitation of bonded labourers including bonded children. However, no specific instructions/guidelines have been issued for identification and rehabilitation for bonded child labourers.

(d) and (e) A Notification has been issued on 23rd July, 1998 to add one more occupation and 36 processes to the schedule to the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 bringing the total to 8 occupations and 54 processes respectively.

#### WHO Fellowships

2656. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :

SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE :

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

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Political links decide WHO Fellowship" appeared in the 'Statesman' dated November 15, 1998;

(b) if so, the criteria fixed for sending the Government doctors to other countries on a WHO fellowship training;

(c) the details of Government doctors sent abroad for WHO fellowship during each of the last three years; and the total expenditure incurred thereon by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether the Government have also ascertained the facts to which extent the doctors attended the various lectures abroad during the training period and achievements made by them; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The criteria fixed for sending Government doctors is that (a) the candidate should not have less than five years experience; (b) candidate should be below 50 years of age; (c) the candidate should not have availed the fellowship during the last five years. Due consideration is also given to ensure adequate representation to SC/ST and women applicants.

(c) WHO Fellowships are awarded on a Biennium basis. The number of officers sent on WHO Fellowships abroad during the last 2 biennia viz. 1994-95 and 1996-97 is as under:

Period	Number
1994-95	334
1996-97	318

The expenditure on fellowship is met from the WHO country Budget. Hence there is no outgo from the Government budget on this account.

(d) and (e) A WHO Fellow is required to submit a Termination of Study Report to WHO within a period of two months of the completion of studies. An evaluation of WHO Fellowship programme conducted by NIHFV for Biennia 1990-91, 1992-93 and 1994-95 showed that in most cases the Fellowships had been useful and implementation of knowledge and skills gained had improved the quality of services in the relevant areas.

#### Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore

2657. PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd. (FACT) Udyogmandal, Ernakulam, Kerala has submitted any proposal for its revival to overcome its present crisis;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL) : (a) to (c) Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT) has submitted a proposal seeking inter-alia interest relief for a period of three to four years on Government loans with moratorium for one year for the Ammonia Replace-

ment Project. Besides, they have asked for re-scheduling of repayment of the principal. No decision has been made on the request of FACT so far.

Separately, a request for enhancing the basic custom duty on caprolactum was also made. This has not been found to be tenable.

[Translation]

#### Hindustan Vegetable Oil Corporation Ltd.

2658. SHRI RIZWAN ZAHEER KHAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Vegetable Oil Corporation Limited has awarded packaging work to a licence holder company on a commission basis;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government against the officials involved in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) and (b) HVOC undertakes packing of palmolein in Delhi on behalf of the Delhi Government for distribution through PDS. Due to recent edible oil shortage in Delhi, in order to increase supply in consumer packs, at the instance of Delhi Government, HVOC entered into an agreement with a private packager to get imported palmolein packed in consumer packs on job work basis.

(c) Since the arrangement was made in pursuance of a decision taken by Delhi Government on whose behalf the oil is being packed, the question of taking action against any official for ipso facto entering into such an agreement does not arise.

[English]

#### Quality of Diesel

2659. SHRI K. PARY MOHAN :

SHRI M. RAJIAH :

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

(a) whether the diesel manufactured by the public sector oil refineries is much impure than manufactured by oil refineries in other countries; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to improve the quality of diesel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) The HSD manufactured by the public sector Indian Refineries conforms to BIS Specifications.

(b) The steps proposed to be taken by Government to improve diesel quality are as under:-

- 1) Projects for reduction of Sulphur in diesel from 1.0% to 0.25% by weight are at advanced stage of implementation at various refineries.
- 2) Increase of Cetane number from present specifications of 42 to 48 is also planned.

[Translation]

#### Coconut Bomb in Jhandewalan Temple

2660. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an attempt was made to blow out the Jhandewalan temple in the Capital by placing a coconut bomb;

(b) if so, whether the Government have identified the persons involved in this conspiracy;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken against them; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check each activities in future?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) A hand grenade was recovered from one of the rooms of Badri Bhagat Jhandewalan temple on the 30th September, 1998 and defused by the Bomb Disposal Squad.

(b) The investigation carries out so far in this case has not established the identity of the person(s) involved.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[English]

#### Opening Of CGHS Dispensaries

2661. SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL :

SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL :

SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH :

SHRI U.V. KRISHNAMRAJU :

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

(a) the details of places where allopathic/Homoeopathic/Unani CGHS dispensaries are functioning at present, State-wise;

(b) the total number of beneficiaries per dispensary earmarked by the Government;

(c) whether these dispensaries are sufficient to meet the requirement of beneficiaries;

(d) if not, whether the Government have received any request from the State Governments particularly from the Governments of Maharashtra, Assam and Andhra Pradesh;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard;

(f) the amount allocated for opening of CGHS dispensaries during the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(g) the places where CGHS dispensaries likely to be opened during the next two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) The details of CGHS dispensaries are given in the statement attached.

(b) A minimum of 2,500 Central Government Employees/Pensioners are required for opening of a new CGHS dispensary subject to availability of resources.

(c) to (e) In view of the inadequacy of CGHS dispensaries, the Government has been receiving requests for opening new CGHS dispensaries from the State including Pawai in Maharashtra and Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh. As soon as the Report of the staff Inspection Unit which is under finalisation is received and accepted by the Government, proposals for opening of New CGHS dispensaries will be processed.

(f) An amount of Rs. 50.00 crores has been allocated to opening of new CGHS dispensaries/on going CGHS Schemes.

(g) The CGHS dispensaries are likely to be opened at Chandigarh, Bhopal, Shillong, Vijayawada, Visakhapatnam, Varanasi and Jodhpur etc. during the next two years after the finalisation of the SIU Report.

## Statement

S.No.	Name of city	Date of Starting	Existing Dispensaries System wise (as on 31.3.98)					Total	Poly Clinics	CGHS labs	Dental Units	No. of Cards	No. of Beneficiaries
			Allo.	Ayur.	Homeo.	Unani	Sidha						
1.	Ahmedabad	April, 1979	5*	1	1	-	-	7	1	1	08805	38634	
2.	Allahabad	March, 1969	7	1	1	-	-	9	1	1	31100	171483	
3.	Bangalore	Feb., 1976	10	2	1	1**	-	14	2	1	54492	211538	
4.	Bombay	Nov., 1963	28	2	4	-	-	34	2	17	107941	433917	
5.	Calcutta	Aug., 1972	17	1	2	1	-	21	1	4	43924	151929	
6.	Delhi	July, 1954	87	13	13	4	1	121	4	31	353323	1595459	
7.	Hyderabad	Feb., 1976	14*	2	2	2	-	20	2	2	72338	308543	
8.	Jabalpur	Oct., 1991	3	-	-	-	-	3	-	1**	13638	68342	
9.	Jaipur	July, 1978	5	1	1	-	-	7	1	2	22539	107693	
10.	Kanpur	July, 1972	9	1	2	-	-	12	1	3	26308	115988	
11.	Lucknow	March, 1979	6	1	1	1	-	9	1	1	15916	85750	
12.	Chennai	March, 1975	14	1	1	-	1	17	2	2	38588	160755	
13.	Meerut	July, 1971	6	1	1	-	-	8	0	1	10481	51501	
14.	Nagpur	Oct., 1973	10*	2	1	-	-	13	1	0	34682	156711	
15.	Pune	July, 1978	7	1	2	-	-	10	1	1	37915	134261	
16.	Patna	Nov., 1976	5*	1	1	-	-	7	1	2	26969	122591	
17.	Guwahati	April, 19.	3\$	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	6335	29484	
18.	Trivandrum	April, 1995	3\$	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	4226	14609	
19.	Ranchi	Oct., 1992	1#	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2705	11258	
20.	Bhubneshwar	Aug., 1988	1#	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2137	9476	
	<b>Total</b>		<b>241</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>914362</b>	<b>3979922</b>	

\* Including two sub-dispensaries.

# Only for A.G.'s employees including one sub-dispensary.

\*\* Sanctioned but not yet started functioning.

**Subsidy on Petroleum Products**

2662. SHRI VILAS MUTTEWAR :

SHRI CHETAN CHAUHAN :

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :

SHRI RAJINDRA AGNIHOTRI :

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

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to phase out subsidy on petroleum products and natural cooking gas during the current year;

(b) if so, the extent of subsidy per unit on petroleum products and cooking gas and long term plan to phase out subsidy alongwith implications thereof; and

(c) the details of policy changes effected during the last one year to do away with heavy mounting burden of subsidy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (c) The Government had decided in November, 1997 that subsidy on LPG (Domestic) and SKO (PDS) will be reduced in phases to reach the level of 15% and 33.33% of the import parity price by 2000-01 and 2001-02 respectively. The subsidy will be transferred to the fiscal budget from the year 2002 onwards.

The estimated subsidy on SKO (PDS) and LPG (packed Domestic) during 1997-98 was as under:

Subsidy		
SKO (PDS)	Rs./Crs.	5820
	Rs./Ltr.	4.62
LPG (packed Domestic)	Rs./Crs.	1660
	Rs./Cyl.	53.33

The details of phased programme of reforms are given in the enclosed statement.

**Statement***Phased Programme of Reforms*

Particulars	Model
1	2
Transition Phase	4 years
Year 1 (1998-99)	
i) Removal of cost plus formula and payment to crude producers as percentage of weighted average FOB price of actual imports	75 per cent
ii) Products to be controlled during transition period	MS, HSD, Kerosene, ATF and LPG
iii) Withdrawal of retention margin concept for the refineries and refinery gate prices for controlled products	Adjusted import parity prices to existing refineries and tariff adjusted import parity prices to new refineries.
iv) Products to be decontrolled	Naphtha, FO, LSHS, Bitumen, Paraffin wax
v) Exim Policy	Decanalisation of imports/exports of all petroleum products except crude (slop crude and crude condensate), NGL, ATF, MS and HSD
vi) Sourcing of crude	Sourcing of crude to be liberalised and import to be allowed for joint and private sector refineries under actual user licence
vii) Customs duties	Rationalisation done in phased manner.
viii) Increase in prices of Kerosene (PDS) LPG (Domestic)	30 per cent of existing exstorage point price. 33 per cent subsidy to be passed on.
ix) Freight and other under-recoveries	33 per cent to be passed on, in an equated manner
x) Shipping of crude oil	Withdrawal of cost plus formula for shipping of crude oil and move towards market related rates.

1	2
<b>Year 2 (1999-2000)</b>	
Payment to crude producers as percentage of weighted average of FOB	77.5 per cent
ii) Increase in prices of : Kerosene (PDS)	30 per cent of revised exstorage point price at the end of year 1
LPG (Domestic)	A further 33 per cent of subsidy to be passed on
iii) Freight and other under recoveries	A further 33 per cent to be passed on in an equated manner
iv) Rationalisation of duties	to continue
<b>Year 3 (2000-01)</b>	
i) Payment to crude producers as percentage of weighted average of FOB price	80 per cent
ii) ATF	Deregulation of imports and pricing
iii) Increase in prices of : Kerosene (PDS)	20 per cent of revised exstorage point price at the beginning of the year.
LPG (Domestic)	Suitable adjustment in prices to reach subsidy level at 15% of import parity
iv) Freight and other under recoveries	Balance subsidy to be passed on, in an equated manner.
<b>Year 4 (2001-02)</b>	
i) Payment to crude producers as percentage of weighted average of FOB price	82.5 per cent
ii) Increase in prices of : Kerosene (PDS)	suitable adjustments in prices to reach subsidy level at 33.33% of the import parity.
2000 onwards	Full Deregulation. Transfer of subsidy on SKO PDS), LPG (Domestic) and freight subsidy on supplies to far-flung areas to the fiscal budget of the Government.

[English]

#### Purchase and Sale of Oil

2663. SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether oil tankers are making supplies in the name of Jute Batching Oil in Delhi every month;

(b) if so, the number of tankers coming to Delhi and since when and whether oil is purchased and sold by all major oil companies including Indian Oil Corporation;

(c) if so, the purpose for which it is purchased;

(d) whether the Government have allowed import of this oil under O.G.L.; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to enhance quality and proper utilisation of this imported oil?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (c) Indian Oil Corporation and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation have reported that they do not have any customer of Jute Batching Oil (JBO) in Delhi and hence no supply of JBO was made by them in Delhi.

(d) and (e) Jute Batching Oil (JBO) is a deregulated product. The import of JBO is under OGL. JBO imported into the country has to meet product specification as per BIS/International quality control authorities and obtain their inspection/quality certification as per import policy of the Government.

[English]

#### Fire in IOC Depot in Assam

2664. SHRI C. D. GAMIT :

SHRI AJAY KUMARS SARNAIK :

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

(a) whether a major fire broke out in an Indian Oil Corporation depot at Thekeriguri in Nagaon district (Assam) on August, 11 1998;

(b) if so, the details thereof and loss suffered in this regard;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted into the cause of the fire;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) if not, the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) There was a massive explosion on 11/8/98 at Indian Oil Corporation depot at Thekeriguri in Nagaon district (Assam) leading to a fire which spread and engulfed all the seven storage tanks. About 11.941 KL of Petroleum Product were lost in the fire besides damage to the seven tanks and 4 tanks under fabrication. The total loss is estimated at around Rs. 13 crores.

(c) to (e) A Departmental investigation was carried out by IOC. The State Govt./Police have also taken up investigation. The preliminary indication from internal investigation, etc. is that the most probable cause of the fire appeared to be an explosive device, planted by miscreants. Security measures have been beefed up in the North-Eastern Sector and round-the-clock strict vigil is maintained.

#### Child Mortality

2665. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have identified the States where child mortality rate is on the increase;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the position in this regard state-wise; and

(d) the strategy adopted by the Government to check the rise in the death rate of children during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) (a) to (c) A statement showing the Child Mortality Rate for India and the Major States in the years 1993, 1994 and 1995 as estimated by the Sample Regis-

tration System is annexed. A marginal increase in the Child Mortality Rate has been reported in Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal in 1995 as concerned to 1993.

(d) Immunization against six vaccine preventable diseases, control of mortality due to diarrhoeal disease and acute respiratory infection, essential care of the newborn and prophylaxis and treatment of Vitamin A deficiency and Iron deficiency anaemia are being implemented to reduce child mortality.

#### Statement

*Estimated Child Mortality (0-4 Years) Rate India and Major States, 1993, 1994 and 1995.*

Sl. No.	States	1993	1994	1995
	India *	23.7	23.9	24.2
1	Andhra Pradesh	17.1	17.0	19.1
2	Assam	29.7	24.7	24.7
3	Bihar	25.3	24.9	28.3
4	Gujarat	20.7	22.2	19.9
5	Haryana	20.3	22.3	22.7
6	Himachal Pradesh	16.1	16.0	17.2
7	Karnataka	20.0	18.6	18.2
8	Kerala	3.4	3.4	4.3
9	Madhya Pradesh	36.9	34.8	33.0
10	Maharashtra	14.1	14.4	14.9
11	Orissa	33.7	31.6	32.2
12	Punjab	16.1	15.7	14.9
13	Rajasthan	26.2	27.4	29.3
14	Tamil Nadu	13.6	13.4	14.5
15	Uttar Pradesh	32.9	33.0	30.8
16	West Bengal	17.0	19.8	18.6

\* Excludes J & K and Mizoram

Source : Sample Registration System

#### Creation of India Reserve Battalions

2666. SHRI ANNASAHEB M. K. PATIL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Maharashtra for creation of India Reserve Battalions;

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

(c) the number of Indian Reserve Battalions raised and proposals pending with the Union Government, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) A statement is attached.

#### Statement

*List of Details of India Reserve Battalions raised/sanctioned and requests pending for raising*

Sl.No	Name of State/ Union Territory	No. of Bns. sanctioned so far	Request pending (No. of Bns.)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4	-
2.	Assam	4	-
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	-
4.	Himachal Pradesh	1	1
5.	Haryana	-	2
6.	J & K	4	3
7.	Mizoram	1	1
8.	Manipur	2	1
9.	Meghalaya	1	1
10.	Orissa	-	2
11.	Punjab	5	5
12.	Rajasthan	2	-
13.	Sikkim	1	-
14.	Tripura	2	-
15.	Tamil Nadu	2	-
16.	Uttar Pradesh	-	3
17.	Bihar	2	-
18.	Nagaland	1	1
19.	Lakshadweep	1	-
		<b>35</b>	<b>20</b>

#### Quota of Wheat/Rice in Delhi

2667. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have raised the quota of rice and wheat under PDS in Delhi from November 1998;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to raise the similar allocation for other States; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) to (d) Under targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) implemented from 1st June, 1997, monthly foodgrains (Wheat/Rice) quotas of States/UTs are based on the average annual lifting for the past 10 years taking into account the requirement of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families at the rate of 10 kg. per month per family. Over and above the TPDS monthly allocations, additional allocations of rice and wheat at Central Issue Prices applicable for APL families are also made to States/UTs including Delhi keeping in view their requests/needs and the availability of foodgrains in the Central Pool.

An additional allocations of 30,000 MT wheat and 10,000 MT rice has been given Delhi at APL rates for November, 98. Statewise details of the additional allotments made over and above the monthly TPDS allocations in November, 98 are given in the enclosed statement.

#### Statement

*Additional Allotment of Rice and Wheat to States and UTs Under Targeted P.D.S. for November, 1998*

(In 000 Tonnes)			
Sl.No	States/UTs	Rice	Wheat
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	10.000
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2.540	-
3.	Assam	15.000	10.000
4.	Bihar	-	20.000
5.	Delhi	10.000	30.000
6.	Goa	2.500	1.000
7.	Gujarat	0.000	-
8.	Haryana	-	5.000

1	2	3	4
9.	Himachal Pradesh	7.000	4.410
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	15.000	21.540
11.	Karnataka	25.000	20.000
12.	Kerala	40.000	15.000
13.	Madhya Pradesh	5.000	0.000
14.	Maharashtra	20.000	30.000
15.	Manipur	7.000	0.990
16.	Meghalaya	6.338	1.460
17.	Mizoram	3.083	0.950
18.	Nagalands	1.000	1.000
19.	Orissa	25.500	40.000
20.	Punjab	—	—
21.	Rajasthan	3.890	25.000
22.	Sikkim	4.000	0.790
23.	Tamil Nadu	45.000	20.000
24.	Tripura	4.770	0.520
25.	Uttar Pradesh	15.000	10.000
26.	West Bengal	20.000	0.900
27.	A & N Islands	—	—
28.	Chandigarh	0.110	0.670
29.	D & N Haveli	0.250	0.170
30.	Daman & Diu	0.470	0.150
31.	Lakshdweep	—	—
32.	Pondicherry	2.060	0.730
Total		280.511	310.280

[Translation]

**Violation of Labour Laws**

2668. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA :  
 SHRI JANARDAN PRASAD MISRA :  
 SHRI T. R. BAALU :  
 SHRI AJIT JOGI :  
 SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of Secretaries of various Ministries has been convened regarding payment of statutory dues/minimum wages to workers/mine workers in the country, State-wise;

(b) if so, the outcome of the meeting; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken for prompt payment of the dues/minimum wages to these workers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) An inter-ministerial meeting was convened on 7.8.98 to discuss the strategy for liquidation of outstanding statutory dues of workers employed in Central Public Sector Undertakings. The Department of Mines was also represented in the meeting.

(b) and (c) A Note on strategy for liquidation of outstanding statutory dues of workers in CPSUs has been prepared by the Ministry of Labour.

As far as Payment of Minimum Wages to the workers in the country is concerned, enforcement of Payment of Wages Act, 1936 is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. The Central Government is responsible for enforcing the Minimum Wages Act only in mines, railways, oil fields and air transport services. The enforcement machinery of Central Government and State Governments/Union Territory Administrations take necessary steps to deal with defaults in payment of the minimum wages as per the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1936 and other Acts relating to payment of other statutory dues of the workers.

[English]

**Review of Law and Order Situation**

2669. SHRI RAJ BANSHI MAHTO :  
 PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :  
 SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV  
 (JHANJIHARPUR) :  
 SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have sent a number of special teams to various States to assess the law and order situation;

(b) if so, whether these teams have submitted their reports;

(c) if so, the details and findings of those teams;

(d) whether the attitude of State Government towards these teams was co-operative;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) the details of crimes and its comparison with the corresponding period of three years alongwith the number of persons killed/injured during the current year due to such activities;

(g) the details of action taken report on the recommendations of National Police Commission; and

(h) the concrete measures taken by the Government to check violence in the affected States?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) to (c) Central team were deputed to Tamil Nadu, Bihar and West Bengal. The reports of these teams have been received and these relate to prevailing law and order situation in the said States.

(d) and (e) Reservations were expressed by some political leaders, particularly from West Bengal, about the constitutionality of sending Central teams to the States.

(f) According to available information, cognizable crimes under the Indian Penal Code committed during the years 1995, 1996 and 1997 were 16,95,696, 17,09,576 and 17,18,304 respectively. Information in regard to cases of murder and hurt/grievous hurt during the said period is given below:

Year	Murders	Hurt/Grievous Hurt
1995	37,464	2,03,812
1996	37,671	2,23,977
1997	37,565	1,99,344

'Police' is a State subject. Complete data pertaining to the year 1998 have not been received from the State Government as yet.

(g) According to available information, most of the States/Departments of the Government of India have examined the recommendations of the National Police Commission (NPC) and have taken action to implement them to the extent considered appropriate. In the light of certain observations of the Supreme Court of India on the question of implementation of some of the recommendations of the NPC, a High Powered Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri J.F. Ribeiro has been constituted to review the recommendations of the NPC, Law Commission, etc. and to suggest measures for implementation of the pending recommendations.

(h) 'Police' being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments to take necessary action to curb crimes, including violence. The Central Government, however extends financial assistance to the State Governments for improving their policing infrastruc-

ture. The Central Government also shares intelligence with them and sends them advisories from time to time.

#### Demand of Employees of Chandigarh, UT

2670. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representation from various employees of union Territory of Chandigarh demanding that those employees, whole were transferred from Chandigarh Administration to Municipal Corporation of Chandigarh, be treated as permanent employees of the Administration and not of the Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken to redress their grievances; and

(d) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L .K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There has been a demand from the employees transferred to the Municipal Corporation, Chandigarh that they should be allowed to retain status of Government servants.

(c) and (d) It has been decided to treat the employees of Chandigarh Administration transferred to the Municipal Corporation of Chandigarh as on deemed deputation without deputation allowance subject to the condition that the vacancies which may arise in future shall be filled up by the Corporation on its own.

#### Post Matric Scholarship

2671. SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Post-matric scholarships scheme for SCs/STs has been revised in order to provide scholarships to the disabled; and

(b) if so, the details of the scheme made thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPWERMEN (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship to students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes even prior to modifications was applicable to such SC and ST students with disabilities who were covered under the Scheme. The Scheme as modified w.e.f. 1.4.1998, however, provides additional provisions for such SC and ST students with disabilities. The students other than those belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are not covered under the Scheme.

(b) The details of additional provisions for such SC and ST students with disabilities are given in the enclosed statement.

#### Statement

*Additional Provisions for SC and ST students with disabilities covered under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship to students belonging to SCs and STs.*

(A) Reader allowance for blind scholars

* Level of course	Reader Allowance (Rs. per month)
Group A, B, C.	150
Group D	125
Group E	100

(B) Provisions of transport allowance upto Rs. 100/- per month for disabled students, if such a student does not reside in the hostel, which is within the premises of educational institution.

(C) Escort Allowance of Rs. 100/- per month for severely handicapped day scholar students with low extremity disability.

(D) Special Pay of Rs.100/- per month be admissible to any employee of the hostel willing to extend help to a severely orthopaedically handicapped student residing in hostel of an educational institution, who may need the assistance of a helper.

(E) Allowance of Rs. 150/- per month towards extra coaching to mentally retarded and mentally ill students.

The provisions in (B) to (D) will also apply to such leprosy-cured students.

The disabled students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes covered under the Scheme can also get such additional benefits from other schemes, which are not covered under the scheme. The disability has to be certified by competent medical authority of the State Govt./UT Administration.

\*Details of courses under groups A to E under the Scheme.

Groups	Courses in brief
1	2
'A'	Degree and Post Graduation level courses in Medical (including B.A. M&S. etc.). Engineering, Agriculture, Veterinary Science, Fisheries etc.
'B'	Diploma level courses in Medical, Engg. etc.

1

2

Commercial Pilot Licence courses, Degree and Post Graduation level course in Business Admn, Nursing./Pharmacy etc. Post graduate courses in Science subjects. Other diploma courses in Professional and technical subjects.

'C' Certificate courses in Engg./Technology etc. Diploma courses in Agriculture, Pharmacy, Veterinary Science, Fisheries, Dairy Development etc. Degree/Post-graduate and Diploma courses in Teacher's Training Library Science, Physical Education etc. Post-graduate courses in arts and commerce subjects.

'D' General courses upto Graduate level (2nd year and onwards)

'E' Classes XI and XII in 10+2 system, Intermediate courses and first year of general courses upto graduate level.

#### Information to Acupuncture Therapy

2672. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question No. 1305 dated 3.3.97 regarding Acupuncture system and state:

(a) whether the information has so far been collected by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the requisite information is likely to be collected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) to (d) Requests have been received by the Government for recognition of Acupuncture as a system of therapy. It has been decided that issues relating to alternative therapies including Acupuncture would be examined by a Committee of Experts.

#### National Internal Security Network

2673. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to create a National Internal Security Network to strengthen the police force and all other internal security agencies; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) 'Public Order' and 'Police' being State Subjects it is for the concerned State Governments to devise appropriate methods and take concrete steps in this regard. Financial assistance is provided to the State

Governments for modernisation of their police forces and procurement of improved weapons. Assistance is also provided with regard to training of the State Police Personnel in the Central Training Institutions. Apart from this, Central assistance is provided to the State Governments for raising IR Battalions and wherever necessary Central Para-Military Forces are also deployed to assist the State Police. Action is also taken to facilitate coordination of the anti-terrorists operations of different states and to improve flow of information useful for control of terrorist activities in various States.

#### Integrated Policy on Law and Order

2674. SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR :

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have considered the desirability of formulating an integrated policy on law and order in consultation with the States particularly in the context of the rising graph of criminal activities;

(b) if so, the steps taken in this direction; and

(c) the response of the State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (c) Under the Constitution 'Public Order' and 'Police' being State subjects, it is for the concerned State Governments to devise appropriate methods and take concrete steps to maintain law and order. At the Central level action is taken to facilitate coordination of anti-terrorist operations in different States and improve flow of information useful for maintaining law and order in the States. Intelligence inputs are invariably shared by the Central Government with State Governments in order to enable them to take appropriate measures well in time. Review of internal security situation in the country with the State Governments is a continuous process and appropriate measures for streamlining and strengthening the arrangements are taken in consultation with the concerned State Governments, wherever found necessary.

#### Shortage of NPK

2675. SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL : Will the Minister of CHEMICAL AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is acute shortage of NPK fertilizers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether due to depreciation of rupee value, import of NPK is being difficult;

(d) if so, whether the Government are taking any steps to provide adequate NPK to farmers; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL) : (a) and (b) NPK fertilizers are decontrolled fertilisers and their availability is dependent on market forces operating within the parameter of Concession Scheme of Government of India. During Rabi'98-99, localised shortages have been experienced in some of the States in respect of Di-ammounium Phosphate (DAP ) and 12:32:16 and 10:26:26 grade of complex fertilisers.

(c) Amongst NPK fertilizers, imports are made mainly of DAP. The production capacity for other grades of NPK fertilisers is adequate in the country. The depreciation of Rupee vis-a-vis Dollar has increased the cost of imported DAP but there is no problem regarding its imports.

(d) and (e) In respect of DAP, the Government has taken following steps for reaching it in time to the States and for meeting problem of localised shortages:

(i) Priority has been accorded in berthing of DAP vessels at the ports.

(ii) Priority has been accorded for movement of DAP by rail both from plants and ports.

(iii) Nearly 55,000 MTs of DAP has been arranged additionally from Jordan through Indian Potash Limited (IPL).

The NPK grade fertilizers i.e. 12:32:16 and 10:26:26 are mainly produced by IFFCO, which has been advised to optimise their production and make available to the States in time and according to their requirement.

[Translation]

#### Multinational Companies

2676. DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL :

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been made to find out the effect over unemployment after the entry of multinational companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to generate more employment in the country?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR.SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) Ministry of Labour is not aware of any study conducted so far to find out the effect of multinational companies on the employment situation in the country.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Organised Sector employment in the country is around 8 to 9 % of the total employment and out of this only about one-third is in the private sector. Multinational companies which operate primarily in the Organised sector may not have any substantial contribution to the overall employment situation.

(d) The strategy of the Ninth plan envisages adoption of technologies which are labour intensive, cost effective, easily adaptable in regions characterised by high rate of unemployment and under employment, and result in improvement in the quality of employment with special thrust on productivity.

#### Violation of Labour Laws in Industries

2677. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of industries found violating of labour laws during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) if so, the action taken against those industries; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

#### Plight of Blind Women

2678. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a conference of the World Committee on Status of Blind women was held in New Delhi during November, 1998;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the recommendations made by the Committee;

(d) the Committee had expressed that visually handicapped women face greater discrimination as compared to men;

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(f) the specific plans proposed to ameliorate the plight of such women, particularly in rural areas; and

(g) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) to (g) Required information is being collected from the concerned Ministries/Depts.

#### Women Labourers

2679. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of women labourers in the country particularly in Maharashtra, as on date;

(b) the number of women labourers employed in hazardous industries particularly in Maharashtra;

(c) whether continuous work in such hazardous industries is likely to damage their reproduction power; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to ban to employ women labourers in hazardous industries?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR.SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) According to 1991 census, the total female work force in the country, including women labourers, is 8,97,67,563. The number of such workers in Maharashtra is 1,26,17,454.

(c) and (d) There are special protective provisions, prohibiting/regulating the working conditions of women workers in hazardous industries/areas in various statutes. This includes the Factories Act,1948 and Model Rules framed thereunder which prohibit employment of women workers in dangerous processes/operations and the Mines Act,1952, which prohibits employment of women workers below ground. No specific study has been conducted to assess whether female workers are losing their reproductive power as a result of being employed in hazardous industries.

[Translation]

#### Ban on Lotteries

2680. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have discussed with Chief Ministers of various States to impose ban on lotteries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the time by which a meeting in this regard is likely to be convened;

(d) whether the Government proposed to introduce a Bill to ban all type of lotteries in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (e) The matter was placed before the Conference of Chief Ministers held on the 27th November, 1998. Though the Chief Ministers from the North-Eastern States expressed concern about the adverse impact that the ban would have on their revenues, the general consensus was that lotteries should be statutorily banned. Further necessary action in the matter is being taken.

#### Scrap Subsidy on Fertilizers

2681. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any scheme is under consideration of the Government to scrap subsidy on fertilizers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A. K. PATEL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise

[English]

#### Supply of Damaged Wheat to PDS

2682. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA:

SHRI MOHAN SINGH:

SHRI T. GOVINDAN:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India has been supplying its damaged wheat stock to the Public Distribution System;

(b) If so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the quantity of damaged wheat supplied to Fair Price Shops so far;

(d) the number of complaints received from various States during 1997-98; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check this practice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) No Sir, only good quality wheat, free from insect infestation and strictly conforming to PFA standards is supplied by FCI under PDS.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) No specific complaint has been received from any State during 1997-98 in this regard.

(e) The following steps have been taken by the Government to check the quality of foodgrains including wheat distributed under PDS.

- i. The representatives of the State Governments are allowed to check the quality of foodgrains before lifting stocks from the godowns for distribution under PDS/TPDS.
- ii. Type, sealed samples of foodgrains from the issuing lots are displayed at fair price shops for the benefit of consumers.
- iii. Surprise checks by the Government agencies are carried out at fair price shops to check the quality of foodgrains.

#### Oil Exploration Contract Between India and China

2683. DR. RAVI MALLU : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and China have decided to establish a long-term partnership to tap oil and gas in the rich resources region;

(b) if so, whether any agreement has been signed between the two countries in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the main features of the agreement; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be made effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (d) A memorandum of Understanding was signed on 14.10.97 between ONGC Videsh Ltd. and China National Oil & Gas Exploration & Development Corporation (CNODC) to jointly review the petroleum opportunities in upstream and downstream sectors.

As a follow up, in petroleum exploration in China, an

independent farm out opportunity from Chevron in block 63/15. Quiogdongnau Basin in South China Sea was recently analysed and found not attractive.

The validity of the MOU expired in October, 1998.

[Translation]

#### Import of Urea from Libya

2684. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL : Will the Minister of CHEMICAL AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to import urea from Libya on the long term contract basis;

(b) if so, whether any agreement has been signed by both the countries;

(c) if so, the quantity of urea imported during 1997-98;

(d) the prices offered by Libya; and

(e) the other countries with which agreement has been signed for import of urea?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICAL AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A. K. PATEL) : (a) to (e) Imports of urea on Government account are made through designated canalising agencies namely, MMTC Ltd., State Trading Corporation of India (STC) and Indian Potash Limited (IPL). There is no proposal for long term agreement for its imports from Libya or any other country. The canalising agencies make purchases on the basis of global tenders.

In 1997-98, MMTC had purchased 0.81 lakh MT at US\$ 145 per MT FOB from National Oil Corporation, Libya which had been quoted against the tender.

[English]

#### Gandhar oil and Gas Field at Ankaleswar

2685. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Steel is posing a major problem for ONGC in delaying and development of phase II as a result of delay in construction of Gandhar Oil and gas field at Ankaleswar;

(b) if so, the facts thereof alongwith estimated loss of production incurred by ONGC on this account;

(c) the reasons for delay in execution of contract; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) The completion of phase-II of the Gandhar Development Project has been delayed due to delay in construction of a Group Gathering Station namely GGS-VI bt M/s Lloyd Steel.

(b) It is difficult to assess the exact loss and quantify the same. However, the production of oil and gas has been maintained through temporary/contingency facilities to some extent below optimum level.

(c) The work for GGS-VI contract got delayed due to continued poor resource mobilisation by the contractor M/s Llyod Steel.

(d) In order to expedite completion of the project, regular management review meetings are held with the contractors. The contractors are regularly persuaded for timely completion of the work.

#### Working of Super Bazar

2686. SHRI RAVI SITARMA NAIK : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have asked the Super Bazar to improve and consolidate its working including procurement system of good in a planned way;

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

(c) whether any perceptible change has been brought therein;

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

(e) the details of the slow moving articles whose purchase have been discontinued; and

(f) the time by which these items are likely to be introduced in the Super Bazar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) and (b) The Super Bazar, Delhi is an autonomous Cooperative society having its own board of Directors to decide about its day-to-day working, business policy including procurement of goods. Govt. of India do not interfere in these matters. The Govt., however, reviews the functioning of the Super Bazar from time to time and suggestions are given for improvement thereof.

(c) and (d) Super Bazar has informed that they make

periodical changes in procurement system, marketing strategy etc. as per their business requirements and market situations.

(e) and (f) According to the information furnished by the Super Bazar they have since discontinued procurement of all slow moving items in all the Departments dealing with Groceries, Toiletries, Household, Stationary etc. The slow moving items are procured only against confirmed orders received from the customers.

#### Construction of Vocational Rehabilitation Centre

2687. SHRIMATI KAMAL RANI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Delhi Development Authority has allotted some plots for the construction of Vocational Rehabilitation Centre for the handicapped;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the construction work has been completed so far;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the estimated cost of buildings during the allotment year and the present estimated cost; and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to complete the construction work in time?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has allotted 4.272 acres of land at Karkarduma (Delhi) for construction of the building for the Vocational Rehabilitation Centre for Handicapped (VRC) Delhi.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. However, the boundary wall has already been constructed. The construction of the building could not be completed first due to want of No objection certificate/grant of extension from DDA and thereafter for want of sufficient funds.

(e) The present estimated cost indicated by CPWD is about Rs. 7,89,60,000. As no estimate was worked out during the year of allotment, no comparison can be made.

(f) Based on the approval of Standing Finance Committee of Ministry of Labour, the administrative approval and financial sanction have already been issued. CPWD is finalising the drawings for submission to DDA and Delhi Urban Arts Commission for their approval. CPWD has been asked to complete the project within 20 months.

#### Tamil Nadu's Quota in PM Forces

2688. SHRI T. R. BAALU : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the allotted Quotas in the employment list for Tamil Nadu in the Para Military Forces, National Security Guard, Indo Tibetan Border Police Force, Central Reserve Police Force, Central Industrial Security Force, General Assam Rifles and Border Security Force;

(b) whether the Quota for Tamil Nadu for employment opportunities in these forces has been fulfilled as stipulated;

(c) if so, whether the Department concerned has taken any action to fill up the quota;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) to (e) NSG being a 100% deputationist Force, there is no question of specifying quota in recruitment. In recruitment to the post of Constable/Riflemen in other Central Para Military Forces, vacancies are allotted on the basis of population ratio of the States/UT and also taking into consideration the special need and circumstances of different areas. As and when shortage of representation in any State/UT is observed, steps are taken to increase the representation by allotting more vacancies. In order to make up the deficiency in the representation of Tamil Nadu, BSF had allotted 500 vacancies to Tamil Nadu in the year 1998. Recruitment of 1884 Constables from Tamil Nadu in CRPF is planned in Jaury 1999. ITBP also conducted a special recruitment from Tamil Nadu in November 1998.

#### Usage of Incinerators

2689. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have monitored the usage of incinerators in the hospitals;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government are aware of the fact that improper handling of incinerators leads to the spread of hazardous elements to the nature; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) and (b) The Central Pollution Control Board has monitored the performance of incinerators installed in hospitals of Delhi. It observed that the incinerators set up earlier by the hospitals were not meeting the prescribed specifications and some of these incinerators have now been modified as per specifications laid by under the Bio-Medical Waste (Handling & Management Rules, 1998.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. In order to ensure that the hospitals set up proper incinerator to dispose the Bio-Medical usage, the specifications for incinerators and the standards which the incinerators are to meet, have been specified under the Bio-Medical Waste (Handling Management), Rules 1998.

#### Vacant Posts in Para Military Forces

2690. SHRI R. S. GAVAI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vacancies of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes lying vacant in Central Para Military Forces, till-date; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to fill up these vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) As on date, the number of vacancies of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes which are lying vacant in the Central Para Military Forces are as under:

Scheduled Castes	1323
Scheduled Tribes	763
Other Backward Classes	3522

(b) Action for filling up of vacancies in the Para-Military Forces is an ongoing process. As and when, the vacancies get accumulated, special drives for recruitment from these categories are also conducted from time to time.

#### Population Control Policies

2691. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to create a fully autonomous population Commission to make and implement short and long term policies to control the burgeoning population in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government also propose to raise the marriageable age of female and males under the law and also promote the "one child family norm" in place of the "two children family norms" ;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) There is no proposal at present to increase the marriageable age of female and male.

#### Maternal Child Health Schemes

2692. SHRI A. F. GOLAM OSMANI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Health Organisation has planned new schemes for maternal child health in the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether integrated approach aimed at improving the health status of young women and children has been evolved for the Ninth plan;

(d) if so, the total amount earmarked for the purpose; and

(e) the extent upto which WHO extended help is implementing this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) to (e) The World Health Organisation (WHO) allocates funds for a period of 2 years (biennium), whereas the current 9th Plan period of Government of India is for 5 years. The allocation of funds for WHO assisted activities for Family Welfare Programmes during the calendar years 1998-99 (current biennium) is as follows:

S. No.	Name of the project	Allocation (amount in US \$)
1	2	3
1.	IND DHS 001- Strengthening of Primary Health Care Infrastructure	930,000

1	2	3
2.	IND RPH 041— Family Planning Services And Quality Assurance	620,000
3.	IND HRH 002—Traning in Primary Health Care and Reproductive Child Health	735,000
4.	IND VID 002—Immunisation	15,000

The WHO activities are in integral part of the current Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Programme of Government of India.

The outlay for the Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Programme under the current 9th Five Year Plan period is Rs. 5112.53 crores. This programme envisages integration of maternal and child health programmes. It has provisions for the following activities: namely, ante-natal care; post-natal care; Tetnus Toxid Immunisation to pregnant women; supplementary Iron Folic Tablets to all pregnant women; promotion of institutional deliveries; strengthening of emergency obstetric services; services for reproductive tract infections/sexually transmitted infections; immunisation of children against 6 vaccine preventable diseases; to reduce death due to diarrhoea and acute respiratory infection and prophylaxis against iron deficiency anaemia and blindness due to Vitamin A deficiency.

#### Shortage Damage to Onions

2693. SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have received advanced information regarding shortage and damage to onion crop;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons for not taken cognisance of the imminent shortages and timely action thereto;
- (d) whether the Government have any mechanism regarding crop forecasts;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the steps being contemplated to develop appropriate mechanism in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) and (b) Government has not received any advance information regarding shortage and damage to onion crop.

(c) The rabi and kharif onion crops of 1998 has been damaged due to adverse climatic conditions. The Government has put a ban on the export of onions. Import of onions has been placed under OGL at zero percent duty.

(d) to (f) The Government has set up a National Crop Forecasting Centre in the Ministry of Agriculture, which would make full use of satellite based remote sensing capabilities of the Department of Space and the Computer Network set up by the National Informatics Centre covering all the districts, for making forecasts relating to various agricultural crops and disseminating information thereof.

#### Civil Defence Organisation

2694. DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Civil Defence Organisation was set up in the 60s in the wake of a civil war has become redundant in the present day scenario;
- (b) if so, the manner in which the Government propose to deal with the situation and to utilise the services of the officials working in that organisation;
- (c) whether those officials are being paid their salaries and other allowances; and
- (d) if not, the action taken by the Government to pay them the subsistence allowance?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) Civil Defence is a voluntary organisation and has been organised as an integral part of the defence of the country. Its activities in various States ensure that citizens are aware of Civil Defence measures necessary for protecting not only themselves but also vital installations in case of an enemy attack. Besides, the training of Civil Defence volunteers is such that their services can be utilised in natural and other calamities. The State Governments are authorised to use Civil Defence volunteers during such calamities.

(c) and (d) While permanent staff looking after Civil Defence work is on the pay roll of respective State Governments, Civil Defence volunteers are paid training allowance during their training period, and duty allowance, whenever they are called out for performing various duties.

#### Recruitment in Delhi Police

2695. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Hindi and English typists and stenographers recruited in various offices in Delhi Police during the last three years;

(b) whether orders issued by the Department of Official Language of Union Government were kept in view while making these appointments; and

(c) if not, the action taken or proposed to be taken against the officers violating the policy of the Government involved for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) During the years 1996 to 1998 (upto 4.12.98), 11 English and 3 Hindi Asstt. Sub-Inspector (stenographers) were recruited in Delhi Police. Though there is no post of 'Typist' in Delhi Police, this work is discharged by Head Constable (Ministerial). During the period from 1996 to 1998 (upto 4.12.98), 203 Head Constables (Ministerial) knowing English Typing and 36 knowing Hindi Typing were recruited in Delhi Police.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Crimes in Mumbai

2696. DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is increase in crimes in Mumbai region;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have called for any report from the Government of Maharashtra; and

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government to book the foreign based mafia dons?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) to (c) Available information in regard to cognizable crimes under the Indian Penal Code in Mumbai during 1996, 1997 and 1998 (upto October) is given below:

Year	Incidents
1996	32,503
1997	32,654 (Provisional)
1998 (upto October)	24,621 (Provisional)

'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects under

the Constitution of India. As such, the prevention of crimes as well as the investigation and detection of crimes are primarily the responsibility of the State Governments.

The Central Government, however, extends financial assistance to the State Governments for improving their policing infrastructure. The Central Government also shares intelligence with the State Governments and sends them advisories from time to time. Seeking reports from the State Governments on matters of public importance is also a continuous process.

#### Public Health Guide Scheme

2697. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH :

SHRI SURESH CHANDEL :

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

(a) whether any Committee has been constituted by the Government to review the public health guide scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Committee has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the main recommendation made by the Committee;

(e) whether the Government have examined the recommendation made by the committee; and

(f) if so, the number of recommendation implemented, it is not the time by which these recommendations are going to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of the composition of the committee and its terms of reference are given in this Ministry's Order No. P.17019/2/93 RHS dated 15th July, 1997 a copy of which is enclosed as statement-I.

(c) Yes.

(d) The enclosed statement-II gives the recommendations of the committee.

(e) and (f) The report is under examination of the Government. The Government will take a decision on the recommendations of the committee as soon as possible.

**Statement-I****ORDER**

*Subject : Constitution of a Committee of experts to assess the Village Health Guide Scheme.*

With a view to assessing the usefulness of Village Health Guides in the context of programmes of the Department of Health and Family Welfare, it has been decided to constitute the following Committee:-

- |                                                                                                            |                  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Sh. P. K. Umashankar, M.A.,<br>Ex-Director<br>Indian Institute of Public Administration                 | Chairman         |
| 2. Dr. (Mrs.) R. Baweja,<br>Administration & Medical<br>Superintendent, Kamla Nehru<br>Hospital, Allahabad | Member           |
| 3. Dr. Ajay Mehta,<br>Sewa Mandir, New Fatehpura,<br>Udaipur                                               | Member           |
| 4. Deputy Secretary (RHS)<br>M/o Health & F.W.                                                             | Member Secretary |

The terms of reference of the Committee will be as follows:

(a) The Committee will make the assessment of the work done by the VHGs in various States and will advise the Government as to what extent the original objective of the scheme has been fulfilled.

(b) The Committee will assess the capabilities of the VHGs as a group in the context of the institutional arrangements available in the country and will advise whether they can be made more useful for promoting Health and Family Welfare. If so, the Committee may also suggest the specific measures for improving the capability of the VHGs.

(c) The Committee will examine the honorarium and other facilities available to the VHGs in different States and may advise an appropriate level of honorarium and other facilities in the context of its recommendations in (b) above.

The Committee should obtain feedback from the State Governments about the experience of work performed by the VHGs and may visit some of the States to make first hand assessment of the work done by VHGs. The member secretary will be responsible for facilitating the work of the Committee and for making necessary arrangements for its logistics and assistance.

The Committee is expected to submit its report within a period of six months.

This issues with the approval of Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare.

Sd/-  
(Dr. Parvinder Kaur)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India

P.S. : After the transfer of the then DS(RHS), Dr. V.K. Manchanda, Assistant Commissioner (CH) has designated as the Member Secretary of the Committee.

**Statement -II****7. Recommendations of the Committee**

7.1 In the terms of reference of the Committee, the Committee has been asked to advise the Government to what extent the original objectives of the Scheme of VHGs have been fulfilled and whether the Scheme can be made more useful in promoting health and family welfare. The Committee has also been asked to suggest measures of improving capability of the VHGs and also advise on appropriate level of honorarium and other facilities.

7.2 The Committee has perused all the concerned and relevant documents and evaluation reports on the subject. It has also had the benefit of visiting the States and gaining first hand impression of the implementation of the Scheme.

7.3 It is the considered view of the Committee that the original objective of the Village Health Guides scheme has remained mostly unfulfilled. The major objective of providing link between the community and the health infrastructure in regard to the total health care system has not been achieved. The Committee views with concern the fact that most of the State Governments which are responsible for the operationalisation of the scheme on the ground have lost their confidence in the scheme. The Committee is also of the considered view that it may not be possible either through institutional arrangement or appropriate revamping efforts to activate the present scheme and make it useful for promoting health and family welfare programmes. In the light of these views, the Committee feels that it will not be useful to make any recommendations in regard to honorarium and other facilities associated with the Scheme. The Committee is of the view that most of the States have tended to ignore the presence of VHGs in their States and they have failed to a considerable extent to utilise their services for promotion of health and family welfare programmes.

It would appear that Panchayati Raj institutions to whom these services were transferred in selected States have also not been able to utilise their services in any significant manner. The Committee feels that while the scheme was intrinsically sound, the inability to organise its functioning in an effective manner through appropriate periodical interventions has contributed to the present state of affairs. However, it is now at a stage when in the opinion of the Committee, it would not be possible to rejuvenate or revamp it.

7.4 In conclusion the Committee must most regretfully recommend that the Scheme must be closed and should be discontinued as early as possible.

7.5 The Committee while making these observations is aware that there have been individual voluntary health guides who have made remarkable contribution to the promotion of health and family welfare programme in their jurisdiction. This has been acknowledged by the health functionaries at different levels and by the State Governments. The State functionaries have particularly felt that some of the female village health guides have been of immense support to the programme. However, such contributions have been few and far between and have been more individualistic in their results.

7.6 While recommending the closure and discontinuation of the Scheme, the Committee notes that it should be left to the States to take a final decision in regard to the continuation of the Scheme on their own or its discontinuance and disbanding of VHGs. In case Government of India accept the recommendations of the Committee, they may then advise the State Governments on appropriate lines besides ceasing allocation of funds for this purpose. The Committee is aware that one or two State Governments are of the view that the Scheme is useful. The Central and State Government orders may have to take into account the orders of Courts in this regard. This decision need not imply that the States are not free to continue the scheme on their own. The Committee would also recommend that as this scheme has been on for nearly more than 20 years, it may be appropriate for Government of India in consultation with the State Governments and other agencies to confer on the serving VHGs at the time of their disbanding appropriate recognition in terms of financial rewards and certificates in acknowledgement of the services rendered by them.

7.7 The Committee was impressed by the fact that during its interaction with the States and State agencies, the need for a link worker linking the community with health infrastructure was felt widely. Many non-governmental organisations have also provided similar health programmes through link workers. Hence, it would appear

that the concept of link worker providing communication between the health infrastructure and the community still remains valid.

7.8 The Committee recognise that the health infrastructure in the country has undergone vast changes in the last 20-30 years. Urban areas have developed considerable health and medical infrastructure including even sophisticated medical facilities. Similarly, semi urban areas, large cities and towns have also seen the development of modern medical and health facilities both in public and private sectors. A number of Government, NGO, private and corporate institutions and medical colleges have come up which provide both health and medical infrastructure facilities but even in these areas there are some pockets like slums, ghettos and other areas where deprived population live where these facilities are still inaccessible. The Centre, States and NGOs are designing new forms of link worker systems through which facilities are being taken to these deprived sections of the population.

7.9 In the rural area also the infrastructural facilities in regard to health have grown and multiplied but there still remain habitations, tribal belts, inaccessible areas and areas where people of weaker sections live which require link with health infrastructure facilities. The States are attempting to design various programmes by which these communities are provided link with the health and infrastructure facilities. The States also recognise that new schemes would have to be local specific and not even district specific and they need to provide flexibility in their components for ensuring adaptability to the needs of the situation. The Committee would recommend that the Centre and States must encourage such schemes. We are also of the view that increasingly Panchayats, NGOs, medical colleges, medical institutions should be encouraged to develop such schemes to reach out their facilities and services to the deprived sections of people in their jurisdiction thus responding to the needs of the deprived sections of population and enabling also the community to assume responsibilities in regard to the management of these services. The Committee in this regard noted the anxiety of some State Governments not to contemplate payment of honorarium in such cases but to develop forms of self-earning practices which would be monitored and controlled by the community. The Committee also noted that States were adopting programmes for continuing education of these workers and also their involvement in wider programmes of development than in the limited health context for the development of the community. The Committee would recommend that this may be the correct approach in regard to efforts to develop link between the community and health infrastructure. We would recommend that States may be encouraged to develop their

own programmes which should be location specific, community specific and should have large measure of flexibility and the form of support for such States could be decided in mutual consultation. Such programme should be adequately supported both in regard to training inputs and continuing education and infrastructural and backup support. The assistance to such programmes may be programme and project specific and the Centre-State-Community sharing must be designed to develop involvement of and stake for the participating groups. The Central Government would need to continue to take leadership in providing encouragement, financial support and incentives for such efforts.

#### Use of Religion for Political Gains

2698. DR. PRABHA THAKUR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in lieu of tension, violence and insecurity prevails in the country due to use of religion for political gains;

(b) if so, whether there is not a strong possibility of civil war in such situation; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to prevent misuse of religion for political ends?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Murders of VIP's and Common Persons

2699. SHRI MITRASEN YADAV : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of cases of murders of ordinary persons and the VIPs alongwith the cases of dacoities committed in Delhi and other metropolitan cities during the last six months;

(b) the concrete steps taken to check the incidents of murders and dacoities; and

(c) the steps being taken to ensure the security of the persons in future?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) The number of cases of murder and dacoity

reported in the National Capital Territory of Delhi during the last six months (June- November,1998) was 326 and 40 respectively. The information in respect of the metropolitan cities of Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai is being collected.

(b) and (c) The steps taken to check crime and ensure security of the persons in Delhi, inter-alia, include intensification of patrolling especially from 6 P.M. to 10 P.M. ; surveillance over the activities of known criminals; improved intelligence gathering; raids over the places of ill repute and suspected hideouts of criminals; high visibility of police in the vulnerable areas; and constitution of regional coordination group comprising police officers of Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Rajasthan to exchange information about the criminals.

"Public order" and "police" being State subjects, the registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. The information relating to steps taken from time to time by the State Governments to improve the law and order situation is not, therefore maintained at the level of the Central Government.

[English]

#### Complaints Against CGHS Dispensaries

2700. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE :

SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH :

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

(a) whether any the Government have received any complaints against the CGHS dispensaries functioning in Delhi/New Delhi during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details of nature of such complaints thereof, dispensary-wise and year-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Statement attached.

(c) The cases have been examined and appropriate action initiated such as reference to Vigilance Cell, carrying out of surprise inspections, issued of warnings for disciplinary action, etc.





	1996					1997					1998				
	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
44. Wellesly Road															
45. New Rajinder Nagar										1					
46. R.K. Puram			1			1	1								
47. Hauz Khas	1	2		3		2	1				2				
48. Mayapuri (Hari Ngr.)	2										1				
49. Shahdara	1	2	2			1	1				3				
50. R.K. Puram III															
51. Chitra Gupta Road						1		1			1				
52. R.K. Puram IV						1		1					1		
53. Rajouri Garden	3	1	1							1	2				
54. Shakur Basti	1			1						1	3				1
55. Inderpuri		1								1	1	1			
56. Naraina															
57. G.K.G.					1	1	3				1	1			
58. R.K. Puram V	1	1				1	1	1			1	1			
59. Nangal Raya					1										
60. Rajpura Road															
61. Kingsway Camp	3	1				1	1			2	1				
62. Janakpuri I		1								1		2			1
63. Ashok Vihar						1	1	1							
64. Sadiq Nagar	2							2			1				
65. Tri Nagar				1											2
66. Mehrauli Badarpur											1	1			
66. Palam Colony															
67. Laxmi Nagar	2	1	1			2	1	1	1	1	1				1
68. Ghaziabad	1	2	2			3		1		6					





**Amendment in CR. P.C.**

2701. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to bring necessary amendments in the Cr. P.C. to allow the complainant to emerge a prosecutor at par with the State prosecutor in all respects; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) The existing Section 302 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, empowers the Magistrate to permit the prosecution to be conducted by any person or by a pleader.

**Tapti Gas To Pipavav Project**

2702. SHRI HARIN PATHAK :

SHRI MAGANTI BABU :

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

(a) the present production of Natural Gas from Tapti Gas fields;

(b) whether production from these fields is expected to be increased in near future; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the gas projects of reliance to be taken upwith ONGC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Tapti field is currently producing gas at the rate of about 5 million cubic metres per day.

(b) and (c) Based on preliminary assessment of the geological and geophysical data, there is possibility of increase in reserves, but the exact potential will be known after interpretation and processing of data is completed.

The field is under development and production by Joint Venture partners comprising ONGC, ENRON and Reliance Industries Ltd. under Production Sharing Contract.

**Boundary Dispute Between Orissa and Adjacent States**

2703. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the boundary dispute between Orissa and adjacent State has been resolved;

(b) if so, the details thereof and since when the dispute was pending;

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government to settle the difference for the betterment of the people of disputed villages so far; and

(d) the socio-economic development measures undertaken by the Government in disputed villages?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) According to information received from the Government of Orissa, the State of Orissa had boundary disputes with its neighbouring States in respect of 89 villages at the beginning of 1996. The disputes in respect of 11 villages have since been resolved. The break-up of the pending disputes, State-wise, is given below:

Name of the State with which Disputes are pending	Number of villages involved
Andhra Pradesh	63
Bihar	7
Madhya Pradesh	3
West Bengal	5

(c) The Government of Orissa has not asked for any Central intervention at this stage. At present negotiations at official levels are going on between the States concerned. Some cases are also sub judice.

(d) The Government of Orissa has reported that inspite of the boundary dispute, all sorts of socio-economic development measures are being taken for the benefit of the people of the disputed villages.

**Premature Deaths Rate**

2704. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether premature deaths, before 50 years are on the rise this year despite increasing life expectancy;

(b) whether the premature deaths are more in India as per WHO report than in any other country;

(c) if so, the reason therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) The sample Registration system estimates the age specific death rate for India. As per the latest available results for 1995, percentage of deaths for the age groups below 50 remained almost same in 1995 compared to that in 1994.

(b) to (d) In terms of proportion of premature deaths out of total deaths, as per WHO report, there were 48% premature deaths in India in 1997 which is lower than that of Bangladesh (60%) and Pakistan (64%). Promotion of preventive and curative health care is provided through a vast network of service outlets in rural/urban areas, with the support primary, secondary and triary level health care system. In addition, under Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Programme launched in 1997, the objective is to provide high quality health services to the beneficiaries especially mothers and children.

#### Micro-Projects

2705. SHRI BIKRAM DEO KESHARI : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- the micro-projects for the development of tribes functioning at present in Orissa;
- the total allocation of funds from the Central Government made since its inception; and
- the details of the activities both infrastructural and economic poverty eradication proportions and the number of N.G.O.'s involved in these activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) Seventeen micro projects for 12 identified primitive tribal groups are at present functioning in Orissa.

(b) Total Special Central Assistance released to the State Government of Orissa from this Ministry for tribal development since Fifth Five Year Plan is of the order of Rs. 358.72 crores. Out of this amount, the State Government provides a part of funds for the development of primitive tribal groups (PTGs) in the micro project areas.

(c) Activities under the micro projects include construction of roads, electrification, etc. for infrastructural development and agriculture, horticulture, sericulture, small and cottage industries for eradication of poverty among the PTGs. NGOs are not involved in the implementation of micro projects.

#### Rashtriya Mahila Kosh

2706. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- the details of non-Governmental and Social Welfare Organisations in U.P. received assistance for helping poor and the needy women from Rashtriya Mahila Kosh during 1998-99; and
- the assistance given to Agra Lok Sabha Constituency for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) A statement-I is attached.

(b) Information is given in the statement-II attached.

#### Statement-I

*List of NGOs assisted by RMK under its schemes during 1998-99 upto 30.11.98 in Uttar Pradesh*

**A- Main Scheme:** Under the Scheme loans are provided to poor women for taking up income generation activities.

				Rs. in Lakhs
S.No.	Name and Address of the NGO	No of Beneficiaries to be assisted	Amount sanction	Amount disbursed
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Pahal, Gola Bairaj Road, Kathgodam, 263 126 Nainital, (UP)	60	2.00	--
2.	New Public School Samiti, (NPSS), 504/21-D Krishna Bhawan, Tagor Marg, Daliganj, Lucknow (UP)	300	10.00	5.00
3.	Gyan Bharti Mahila and Bal Vikas Parishad, Gopal Ganj, Rath Road, Oral-0285 001, Jalaun Distt. (UP)	30	0.80	--

1	2	3	4	5
<b>B- Loan Promotion Scheme :</b>				
4.	All India Women's Conference, 3/1351, New Bhagat Singh Colony, Bajaria Road, Saharanpur (UP)	70	2.00	--
5.	Jan Jati Vikas Samiti, Raliway Station Road, Purab Mohalla, Robertsang-231 216, Sonbhadra, (UP)	100	2.00	--
6.	Unnayan Sansthan, 251 Tekour, Chunar, Mirzapur-231 304, (UP)	25	0.50	0.50
<b>C-Revolving Fund :</b>				
7.	Shramik Bharti, 392 Vikas Nagar, Lakhanpur, Kanpur-208 024	2000	20.00*	20.00
8.	Avadh Lok Seva Ashram, Jawahar Marg Chauraha, Main Road, Lalganj, Rai Bareilly (UP)	2000	20.00	10.00

\* Sanctioned during previous year 1997-98, released Rs. 10.00 lakhs last year and another Rs. 10.00 lakhs during this year 98-99.

**D- SHGs Development Scheme :**

Under the scheme Interest Free Loan of Rs. one lakh is provided to the NGO for formation and stabilisation of 25 women self help Groups; involving about 500 women members.

1	2	No. of SHGs to be formed	4	5
9.	Mahila Kalyan Samitee, Khajuria, P.O. Bariyarpur, Deoria-274001, (UP)	25	1.00	0.50
10.	Manav Kalyan Ewam Vikas Samiti, H.O.E. 1/16, Kailash Puri, Mathura Road, Agra, (UP)	25	1.00	1.00
11.	Tewaria Sewa Ashram, Vill. Tewaria Khurd, P.O. Khurma, Allahabad, (UP).	25	1.00	--
12.	Gramin Vikas Sansthan, Laxmipur, P.O. Hata Janpad, Padrauna-274 203	25	1.00	1.00
13.	All India Women's Conference 3/1351, New Bhagat Singh Colony, Bajoria Road, Saharanpur	25	1.00	--
14.	Bal Mahila Avam Gram Vikas Sewa Samiti, 58/300/I B/1, Ayodhyaking, Main Road, Arjun Nagar, Agra.	25	1.00	1.00
15.	Rashtriya Utthan Samiti, Gram Divya Vihar, P.O. Nehru Gram, Dehradun	25	1.00	--
16.	Gram Niyozan Ashram, Chharre, Aligarh-202 130	25	1.00	--
17.	Om Seva Sansthan, Raj Street, Chandausi, Moradabad-202 412	25	1.00*	0.50
18.	Action for women & Rural Devp. 454, "Y" Block Kidwai NAgar, Kanpur-208 011	25	1.00*	1.00

1	2	3	4	5
19.	Navchetan, A-1345/10, Indira Nagar, Lucknow-226 016	25	1.00*	1.00
20.	Manav Sewa Sansthan, (SEVA) LIG-1, 198, Vikas Nagar P.O. Jungle Beni, Madhava, Vaya F.C.I. Gorakhpur-273 007	25	1.00*	1.00
21.	Mahila Chetana Samiti, N-6/2, B-83, Indira Nagar, Chaitapur, Post Sundarpur, Varanasi.	25	1.00*	1.00

\* Sanctioned during last year 1997-98.

**E- Marketing Support Scheme :** Under the scheme loans are provided for assisting marketing of produce of women beneficiaries SHGs.

22.	People's Society of Socio-Economic, Development (PSSD), 266/162 "Sarlakunj" Naibasti, Bhadewan, Lucknow.	—	2.00	2.00
-----	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---	------	------

#### Statement-II

*A list of NGOs assisted by RMK in Distt. Agra (UP) during the year 1998-99 (upto 30.11.98)*

**SHGs Development Scheme :** Under the scheme Interest Free Loan of Rs. one lakh is provided to the NGOs for formation and stabilisation of 25 women Self Help Groups; involving about 500 women members.

S.No.	Name & Address of the NGO	No of SHGs to be formed	Amount sanctioned	Amount disbursed
1.	Bal Mahila Avam Gram Vikas Sewa Samiti, 58/300/I B/1. Ayodhyaking, Main Road, Arjun Nagar, Agra.	25	1.00	1.00
2.	Manav Kalyan Evam Vikas Samiti, H.O.E.-1/16, Kailash Puri, Mathura Road, Agra	25	1.00	1.00

#### Term Loan Assistance to the Backward Classes

2707. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Will the Ministry of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh State Backward Classes Finance Corporation has requested NBCFDC to sanction a term loan for purposed of land scheme in the approved schemes of National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) Andhra Pradesh Backward Classes Corporation had submitted a proposal for loan from National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation for purchase of agriculture land from Nizam Sugar Factory in Nazamabad District of Andhra Pradesh.

(b) The National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation (NBCFDC) can assist wide range

of income generating activities, however, it does not finance infrastructure development schemes. Since the purchase of land does not fall within the purview of the National Corporation, the proposal of Andhra Pradesh State Backward Classes Cooperative Finance Corporation was returned to the State Corporation on 26th November, 1996.

#### SKO/LDO Dealers

2708. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of S.K.O./L.D.O. Dealers functioning at various places in Gujarat;

(b) the quantity of Kerosene Oil and light diesel and petrol allotted to these agencies during each of the last three years;

(c) whether complaints have been received regarding corporation mismanagement, less supply, adulteration against some of the above dealers;

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

(e) the number of applications received from Gujarat for the opening of new SKO/LDO dealerships; and

(f) the action taken and the target fixed for 1999 and 2000 for the opening of new dealerships there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) At present 674 SKO/LDO dealerships are in operation in Gujarat.

(b) The quantity of kerosene allocated to Gujarat during the last three years is indicated below :

1995-96	-	806280 M.T.
1996-97	-	826562 M.t.
1997-98	-	849378 M.T.

Petrol and diesel are not allocated to SKO/LDO dealerships. However, there is no restriction on supply of petrol/diesel from the retail outlets.

(c) and (d) Some complaints are received from time to time against SKO/LDO dealerships. In established cases of malpractice, suitable penal action is taken in line with the Marketing Discipline Guidelines against the erring dealers.

(e) Eight SKO/LDO dealerships are pending for commissioning in the State of Gujarat from the approved Marketing Plans.

(f) No target has been fixed for setting up SKO/LDO dealerships in Gujarat. The actual commissioning of the dealerships/distributorships depends on various factors such as number of locations advertised, number of applications received, number of interviews conducted by the Dealer Selection Boards, etc. One Dealer Selection Board for Gujarat has already been constituted for making selection of dealers.

[Translation]

#### Indian Penal Code

2709. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the provision of regarding anticipatory bail under the Indian Penal Code is being misused by the criminals; and

(b) if so, the step proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) Provision for granting anticipatory bail is provided in the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 and not in the Indian Penal Code. Under the provisions for anticipatory bail in the Code of Criminal Procedure (Section 438), the Court may give directions in the light of the facts of the particular case. In the case of Balchand Jain vs. State of M.P. (AIR 1977 SC 366), the Supreme Court has laid down that the power under section 438 of the Code of Criminal Procedure is of an extraordinary character and must be exercised sparingly and in exceptional cases only.

2. The Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 1994, introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 9.5.1994 seeks to amend section 438 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 to the effect that the power to grant anticipatory bail should be exercised by the court after taking into consideration *inter-alia*, the nature and gravity of the accusation, the antecedents of the applicant and the possibility of the applicant to flee from justice. The amendment also proposes that the courts may give notice to the Public Prosecutor and the Superintendent of Police while considering the application for anticipatory bail. The presence of the applicant seeking anticipatory bail shall be obligatory if on an application made to it by the Public Prosecutor, the Courts consider such presence necessary on the interest of justice.

#### Security to VIPs

2710. SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV (JAHANABAD) : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Intelligence Bureau is strongly opposing the idea of reducing the security of various very important persons;

(b) if so, the points of discontent; and

(c) the steps taken to solve the problem?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

#### Purchase of Paper

2711. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Super Bazar/NCCF/Kendriya Bhandar are purchasing paper from sources other than the Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd.;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to direct the institutions to make purchase from Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd., directly or their authorised distributors in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by the Super Bazar, Delhi, the National Cooperative Consumers Federation of India (NCCF) and Kendriya Bhandar they are purchasing their requirement of paper from sources other than the Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd., as these organisations supply papers to the Govt. Departments as per their choice, specifications and requirements. The Super Bazar has informed that though they had approved M/s. Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd. to supply various kinds of paper but the terms of supply offered by them were not found suitable to Super

Bazar and therefore no paper could be purchased by the Super Bazar from them.

(c) These three cooperative organisations have no objection in purchasing the paper from M/s. Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd. or their authorised distributors in Delhi, if specific requirement are received by them from the purchasing Departments and M/s. Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd. agree to abide by the purchase policies of these organisations.

#### Implementation of Official Language Act

2712. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV :

SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the arrangements made for effective implementation of the official Language Act in Government Departments;

(b) the reasons for failure in implementation of the Official Language Act despite several ambitious programmes;

(c) whether the Government are contemplating to constitute an Official Language Commission to implement the Official Language Act and to monitor its proper implementation alongwith the features of the Commission proposed to be set up in this regard;

(d) whether the Union Government have formulated any special scheme for the promotion of Hindi in the State of Maharashtra; and

(e) if so, the details in regard thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) Hindi Salahkar Samities under the Chairmanship of Ministers concerned of various Ministries/Depts. review the progressive use of Official Language Policy in their respective Ministries/Depts. and suggest measures for progressive use of Hindi in Official work and for implementation of Official Language Policy, Departmental Official Language Implementation Committees have also been constituted to review quarterly progressive reports of Official Language and to suggest measures to achieve the targets fixed in Annual Programme.

In addition, Hindi Posts of various categories have been created by the Ministries/Depts. Various awards and incentives scheme are being run for implementation of Official Language Policy.

(b) Implementation of Official Language Policy of Union is done through motivation, incentives and goodwill. Accordingly, all Ministries/Depts. are implementing the provisions of Official Language Act and Official Language Rules and use of Hindi in Official work is increasing gradually.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Central Government gives grant to the voluntary organisations, engaged in propagation of Hindi in other non-Hindi speaking States including Maharashtra.

At present nine such voluntary organisations are functioning in Maharashtra.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now we shall take up Item No. 10 - statement by the hon. Prime Minister .

12.00 hrs.

#### STATEMENT BY PRIME MINISTER

Re : Bilateral Talks With United States

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): Sir, since the May 11 and 13 tests, the Government has, from time to time, taken the House into confidence and sought views of the hon. Members. This was done through statements and discussions in the House on 27-29 May, 8 June and on 3-4 August. Nevertheless, I wish to re-emphasise some salients of our policy.

I take this opportunity to reiterate that India's commitment to global nuclear disarmament remains undiluted. As hon. Members are no doubt aware, India had consistently maintained that a nuclear-weapon-free-world would enhance not only our security but the security of all nations. That is why numerous initiatives in this direction were taken during the last fifty years; such steps as would encourage decisive and irreversible measures for the attainment of this objective. Regrettably, the international community, particularly countries that have based their security on nuclear weapons or a nuclear umbrella, have been reluctant to embrace this objective. Keeping open our nuclear option, therefore, became a national security imperative three decades ago, an imperative equally valid for India in the post-Cold War period. The option that was exercised in May, 1998 was thus a continuation of a decision taken nearly 25 years earlier; during which period India had demonstrated an exemplary nuclear restraint, given the exceptional security related complexities of our region. I wish to place on record that successive governments continued to safeguard this option, demonstrate our capability and take such steps as were necessary to ensure the viability of the option through weaponisation.

Just as our conventional defense capability has been deployed in order to safeguard the territorial integrity and sovereignty of India against any use or threat of use of force, the adoption of our nuclear deterrent posture has also followed the same logic. We have announced our intention to maintain a minimum nuclear deterrent, but one that is credible. Mindful of our global and enhanced responsibility to address concerns of the international community, and in order to reassure all countries about the defensive nature of our nuclear capability, we have engaged in bilateral discussions with key interlocutors. In international forums, like the United Nations, India is the only country possessing nuclear weapons to raise a call for negotiating a gradual and progressive elimination of all nuclear weapons, within a time-bound framework.

We also have an established tradition of consultation with friendly countries on all important international issues. Successive Governments have pursued an open, positive and constructive approach in our foreign relations. This is in keeping with our national ethos. It is

within this framework that India had been engaged, even before May, 1998, in a wide-ranging and broad-based dialogue with the United States. This included discussions on disarmament and non-proliferation and on larger strategic issues.

Following the May 11 and 13 nuclear tests, apprehensions were expressed in some quarters. It was, therefore, decided to have more focussed and intensive discussions. Accordingly, Shri Jaswant Singh, the then Deputy-Chairman, Planning Commission was designated as our representative to carry forward this dialogue. Similarly, President Clinton designated Deputy Secretary of State, Strobe Talbott, as the US interlocutor.

This dialogue has been conducted on the bases of a set of comprehensive proposals, put forward by India, to the international community, soon after the May tests. As the House would recollect, these proposals comprise: a voluntary moratorium on underground nuclear tests explosions; our willingness to move towards a *de jure* formalisation of this commitment, a decision to join negotiations on a treaty for a ban on future production of fissile material for weapons purposes; and, our determination to make more stringent the existing system of export controls over sensitive materials and technology.

Since the 11 June, 1998 Washington meet, six rounds of discussions between Shri Jaswant Singh and Mr. Talbott have been held. Both teams have worked purposefully to narrow gaps of perception and to establish common ground. These exchanges have been marked by a sense of responsibility, candour and a sincere attempt to understand each other's concerns and points of view. The Government is entirely mindful that the issues involved touch upon matters of vital interest to both countries. In these talks, we have firmly put across our security concerns and the imperative of maintaining a minimum, credible, nuclear deterrent. I wish to inform the House that the talks are premised on this basis. Also there now exists some understanding of our security concerns and requirements.

The talks have focussed on issues related to disarmament and non-proliferation. It is agreed that regional issues shall be kept distinctly apart. As hon. Members are well aware, India's concerns in these matters go beyond the South Asian region, and involve a wider perspective.

After six rounds, talks have narrowed and are now focussed on the following four issues.

**CTBT :** India remains committed to converting our voluntary moratorium into a *de jure* obligation. In response to the desire of the international community, as expressed to us in our bilateral and multilateral interactions, that the Treaty should come into effect in September, 1999, in my address to the United Nations General Assembly on 24 September, I reiterated broadly what I had said in Parliament, that : "India is now engaged in discussions with our key interlocutors on a range of issues, including the CTBT. We are prepared to bring these discussions to a successful conclusion, so that the entry into force of the CTBT is not delayed beyond September, 1999. We expect that other countries, as indicated in Article XIV of the CTBT, will adhere to this Treaty without conditions".

That remains our positions. For the successful con-

clusion of the talks, creation of a positive environment by our interlocutors is a necessary ingredient.

The House will be reassured that in the assessment of our scientists, this stand does not come in the way of our taking such steps as may be found necessary in future to safeguard our national security. It also does not constrain us from continuing with our R&D programmes, nor does it jeopardise in any manner the safety and effectiveness of our nuclear deterrent in the years to come.

**FMCT :** We have expressed our willingness to join the FMCT negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament at Geneva. It is our understanding, as that of many other countries, who have confirmed this to us, that the objective of these negotiations is to arrive at a non-discriminatory treaty, that will end the future production of fissile material for weapons purposes, in accordance with the 1993 consensus resolution of the U.N. General Assembly. We are willing to work for the early conclusion of such a treaty.

It was suggested to us that we might examine announcing a moratorium on fissile material production. We have conveyed that it is not possible to take such steps at this stage. We will, of course, pay serious attention to any negotiated multilateral initiatives in the course of the FMCT negotiations.

**EXPORT CONTROLS :** Discussions in this area have registered progress. As expert-level meeting of officials from both sides was held in New Delhi on 9-10 November. In light of our additional capabilities, as a responsible State possessing nuclear weapons, and as earlier announced, we are taking steps to make more stringent our laws in this regard. We have also conveyed that India should be provided better access to dual-use and high technologies in view of India's impeccable record of effective control over sensitive technologies. The expert-level meeting was categorised as helpful by both, India and the United States, to the prospects of continuing cooperation in this area.

**DEFENCE POSTURE :** As hon. Members are, no doubt, aware, matters relating to defence postures are sovereign functions, not subjects for negotiations. In fact, our talks are based on the fundamental premise that India will define its own requirements, for its nuclear deterrent, on its own assessment of the security environment. The US and other interlocutors, are interested in understanding our positions and our policies better.

We have formally announced a policy of No-First-Use and non-use against non-nuclear weapons States. As hon. Members are aware, a policy of no-first-use with a minimum nuclear deterrent, implies deployment of assets in a manner that ensures survivability and capacity of an adequate response. We are also not going to enter into an arms race with any country.

Ours will be a minimum credible deterrent, which will safeguard India's security—the security in one-sixth of humanity, now and into the future. The National Security Council, with the assistance of its subsidiary bodies, the establishment of which has been announced, will make important contributions to elaborating these concepts.

We have expressed our reservations about provisions of certain export control regimes that ostensibly seek to promote non-proliferation objectives, but are discriminatory in application. India's missile development programme is an indigenous programme, that was launched almost 15 years ago. This programme is regularly reviewed, taking into account our security environment, particularly missile acquisitions and deployments in our region. We have announced that a new version of the Agni, with an extended range is under development. Flight-testing of such an enhanced range Agni will be conducted fully in accordance with established international practice. While our decision is to maintain the deployment of a deterrent which is both minimum but credible, I would like to re-affirm to this House that the Government will not accept any restraints on the development of India's R&D capabilities. Such activity is an integral of any country's defense preparedness and essential for coping with new threat perceptions that may emerge in the years ahead. This Government remains unequivocally opposed to any suggestions that seek to place India at a technological disadvantage through intrusive or sovereignty violative measures.

At the same time, we will continue to take initiatives in the international forums towards fulfilling the objective of complete eliminations of all nuclear weapons. At this year's U.N. General Assembly, we had taken the initiative for, what could be an important first step, through a resolution on 'Reducing Nuclear Danger'. This initiative was intended to urge countries to move back from the nuclear hair-trigger response postures of the Cold War. If such initiatives are multilaterally accepted by other nuclear weapon States, they will, of course, be accordingly reflected in our own positions, too.

In the course of these discussions with the United States and other countries, I have kept in touch with leaders of various political parties. We have issued statements from time to time on procurements and declarations by various countries. This corpus of Statements in Parliament and through Official Spokesman conveys our position and is well-known to Hon. Members. These issues have also been discussed, at considerable length, in meeting of the Standing Committee and the Consultative Committee of Parliament. The viewpoints expressed by hon. Members in these discussions, have provided us valuable guidance in conducting discussions with the United States and other countries.

The dialogue with the United States will be continued at the next meeting scheduled to be held in the second half of January, in New Delhi.

While there is no time-frame for the conclusion of these talks, it is the intention of both countries, that a stable understanding should be reached on the remaining issues at an early date. This would provide a further momentum to bilateral relations, which is desired by both countries.

In addition to the talks between Shri Jaswant Singh and Mr. Strobe Talbott, we have had detailed exchanges with France and Russia. Discussions have also taken place with UK and China at the level of Shri Jaswant Singh and at official level with Germany and Japan as well

as with other non-nuclear weapon States. I have been in regular correspondence with President Clinton. Our correspondence has touched not only upon issues under discussions between our Representatives but also on larger aspects of Indo-US relations. It is my view that the future of Indo-US relations is much larger than the four issues under consideration. President Clinton has also expressed to me, his desire for a broad-based relationship with India that befits the two largest democracies of the world. I have fully reciprocated these sentiments. Indeed, our on-going dialogue with the United States is geared towards that end. I am confident this House will want to wish it all success.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR (BARAMATI) : Sir, after six rounds of talks with the United States, what is the hard assessment of the hon. Prime Minister? Is it leading to a conducive atmosphere for the full implementation of the CTBT after September, 1999? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA) : Sir, there have been six rounds of talks....*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the discussion on it be held.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Acharia, you should not create problems like this.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : We would like to know as to what transpired in these meetings ...*(Interruptions)*  
The House should not be kept in dark...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : We would have a discussion on CTBT at a later stage.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (DAUSA) : Sir the leader of the Opposition has asked a question on CTBT ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MURLI DEORA (MUMBAI SOUTH) : Sir, there is no ban asking question...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

PRIME MINISTER (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE) : The Government is ready to hold discussion on this important matter. Instead of giving separate answer to every question, it would be better, if a collective discussion on it is held so that you as well as we should get an opportunity to express our views in detail.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : Now, we would take up Papers to be laid on the Table.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (HOOGLY) : Sir, I have given a notice ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : No. Not now.

....(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Sir, a very serious situation has arisen; there is a cultural emergency...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, the Home Minister should make a statement...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please raise this issue after the Papers are laid on the Table.

12.20 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

**Copy of the Minister's (Allowance, Medical Treatment and other Privileges) (Amendment) Rules 1998**

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) A copy of the Ministers' (Allowance, Medical Treatment and other Privileges) (Amendment) Rules, 1998 (Hindi and English versions) published in Draft Notification No. F.No. 10/32/98-M&G. under sub-section (2) section 11 of the Salaries and Allowances of Ministers Act, 1952.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-1849/98]

- (2) A copy of the Border Security Force Air Wing Non-Gazetted (Combatised Group 'C' posts) Amendment Rules, 1998 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 407 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 24th July, 1998, under sub-section (3) of section 141 of the Border Security Force Act, 1968.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-1850/98]

**Annual Report and Review of the working of the Hindustan Organic Chemicals Ltd. Rasayani for the year 1997-98**

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA) : Sir, I beg to lay:

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-
- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Hindustan Organic Chemicals Limited, Rasayani, for the year 1997-98.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Organic Chemicals Limited, Rasayani for the year 1997-98. alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-1851/98]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Fertilizers Limited, Noida, for the year 1997-98.

- (ii) Annual Report of the National Fertilizers Limited, Noida for the year 1997-98. alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-1852/98]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Farmers Fertilizers Cooperative Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-1853/98]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-1854/98]

- (4) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 :-

- (i) The Edible Oils Packaging (Regulation) Order, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 584 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 17th September, 1998 together with a corrigendum thereto published in Notification No. G.S.R. 702 (E) dated the 26th November, 1998.

- (ii) The Edible Oils Packaging (Regulation) (First Amendment) Order, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 710 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th November, 1998

[Placed in Library See No. LT-1855/98]

- (5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Food Corporation of India for the year 1996-97 and 1997-98 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the Accounting years.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-1856/98]

**Copy of Employees State Insurance (Central) Amendment Rules, 1998**

[Translation]

THE MINISTER FOR LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAIN JATIYA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy of the Employees' State Insurance (Central) Amendment Rules, 1998 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 185 in Gazette of India dated the 19th September, 1998, under sub-section (4) of section 95 of the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-1857/98]

- (2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 37 of the Apprentices Act, 1961 :-

- (i) The Apprenticeship (Amendment) Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 614 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th October, 1998.
- (ii) The Apprenticeship (Amendment) Rules 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 534 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 28th August, 1998.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-1858/98]

**Annual Report and Review of the Working of the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation for the year 1997-98.**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : Sir, I beg to lay :

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.

- (ii) Annual Report of the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-1859/98]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 97-98.

- (ii) Annual Report of the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-1860/98]

- (2) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) on the Protection for Civil Rights Act, 1955 for the year 1994, under sub-section (4) of section 15A of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955.

- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-1861/98]

**Annual Report and Review of the working of Cancer Hospital and Research Institute, Gwalior for the year 1997-98**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : Sir, I beg to lay :

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Indian Medicines Pharmaceutical Corporation Limited, Mohan, for the year 1994-95.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Indian Medicines Pharmaceutical Corporation

Limited, Mohan, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above:-

[Placed in Library See No. LT-1862/98]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Cancer Hospital and Research Institute, Gwallor, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Cancer Hospital and Research Institute, Gwallor for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-1863/98]

**Copy of Notification regarding Environment (Protection) Act, 1986**

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST (SHRI BABULAL MARANDI) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Notification No. S.O. 1508 (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st August, 1998 regarding recognition of environment Laboratory, issued under section 12 and 13 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library See No. LT.-1864/98]

**Annual Report and Reveiw of the Working of the Bureau of Indian Standards New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Bureau of Indian Standards, New Delhi, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Bureau of Indian Standards New Delhi, for the year 1996-97.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-1865/98]

12.22 hrs.

[English]

**ESTIMATES COMMITTEE**

**Third Report**

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR (MUMBAI NORTH-WEST) : Sir, I beg to present the Third Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Estimates Committee on Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs—Banking Division) Public Sector Banks—Bad Debts.

12.22½ hrs.

**STATEMENTS BY MINISTER**

**Grant of out-of-turn allotment of gas/telephone connections by Members of Parliament**

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the matter relating to grant out of turn allotment of gas/telephone connections by Members of Parliament was raised in the House. I said that I would like to read the judgement dated 10th December, of the Kerala High Court given after the injunction order. As you and hon'ble Members are aware, the Kerala High Court had banned the grant of out of turn allotment of gas/telephone connections by Members of Parliament in a case brought before it.

The Government of India has urged the hon'ble High Court to lift this ban.

According to the Additional Solicitor General of India, Ernakulam, the High Court has lifted this ban in its verdict dated 10th December, 1998. However, the Court has inter-alia laid down the following conditions for the grant of out-of-turn allotment of gas/telephone connections by Members of Parliament....(Interruptions) please listen. I am reading out the verdict.

1. The consumer, who is given this facility should be a resident of the constituency of the Member of Parliament.

2. Gas/Telephone connection should be given for domestic use and not for commercial use.

3. The person who is getting the facility of gas/telephone connection should be registered with the concerned authority on the date of the allotment of such connection.

4. The names of the persons who are given the facility should be widely published.

The copy of the verdict is awaited because the hon'ble Court has vacated the stay order in this regard. Therefore, there should be no difficulty in its implementation from the date announced by the hon'ble speaker...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (CHAIL) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Prime Minister should reply in regard to increasing the amount for development work from one crore rupees to two crore rupees...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Shailendra Kumar, this is not 'Zero Hour', please take your seat. I have called the name of Shri P. Shiv Shanker.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Member have requested to increase the amount granted for the development work in their respective constituencies from one crore rupees to two crore rupees. I would like to request that the hon'ble Prime Minister should make a statement in this regard...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER (TENALI) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, without offending anybody, I would like to raise the issue of sensitivity in the matter. The issue of gas and telephone connections was decided in your chamber by the Members. We followed a particular procedure and we discussed it. The conditions were also laid down by us. All those guidelines were made absolutely clear.

It would have been far better if the hon. High Court not entered the area of the manner in which this House decided a particular matter. Perhaps the Government has failed in bringing to the notice of the High Court the fact that this issue was discussed by a Committee of the House itself, and that the manner in which matters are discussed in a Committee of Parliament are not justiciable under Article 22 of the Constitution by any court. My own feeling is that the Government has failed to bring to the notice of the High Court that this matter should not have been gone into by them. If this were brought to the notice of the hon. High Court, I am sure, the hon. High Court would never gone into it. They could not interfere, normally, in matters on which we go into the details, discuss the guidelines and come to a conclusion. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to whether there has been a failure on the part of the Government in bringing this aspect to the notice of the High Court as a result of which the High Court had laid down certain conditions.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR : We would like to know about the progress made in respect of increasing

the amount from one crore rupees to two crore rupees. I would request the hon'ble Minister to give reply in this regard...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : This is not 'Zero Hour'.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (MAHARAJGANJ) : In the last session, the matter regarding the increase in the amount for development work on the recommendation of Member of Parliament from one crore rupees to two crore rupees was raised. The hon'ble Minister had made an announcement in Patna that the amount would be raised...*(Interruptions)* When are you going to do this? ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : Prabhunath Singhji, this is not zero hour. Please take your seat.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : I have not yet completed my submission...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You may speak in Zero hour.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, earlier also, Shri Chandra Shekharji and many hon'ble Members had expressed their views on the issue raised by hon'ble Shiv Shankarji. After that a meeting was held in your chamber and you had ordered that whatever the decision of High Court, might be we would take decision after 10th but we will wait upto 10th, because that date was given by the High Court. We have brought everything to the knowledge of High Court. Though the injunction has lapsed on 10th, yet one portion thereof, i.e. the stay order was to be vacated, and that has been done. Now if the case proceeds further and arguments take place we will present all the facts. We have done it earlier also, and we will do it now also.

12.29 hrs.

*[English]*

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—(RAILWAYS)—1998-99

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : I beg to present a statement (Hindi and English versions) showing the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget (Railways) for 1998-99

[Place in Library See No. LT-1868/98]

12.30 hrs.

**INSURANCE REGULATORY AUTHORITY BILL\***

MR. SPEAKER : Now, we will take up item no. 13, Shri Yashwant Sinha to move for leave to introduce the Insurance Regulatory Authority Bill, 1998.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of an Authority to protect...(Interruptions)

12.30 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Sunil Khan, Shri Shallendra Kumar, Shri N.K. Premchandran and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.)

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please go to your seats. I will allow you all one by one.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What is this? Please understand. I have received 16 notices. I will call the names of Members one by one. But go to your seats first.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please go to your seats and then raise your voice. You can submit whatever you want. But please go to your seats first and then submit.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am calling the names of the hon. Members who have given their names.

Shri P.C. Thomas.

Shri Ajoy Mukhopadhyay.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am calling the names of the hon. Members who have given the notices. Please understand the procedure.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please go to your seats. You should know the procedure. I have received a few notices. I am calling the names of the hon. Members who have given the notices.

Shri K.S. Rao.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I request the senior leaders to ask their Members to go back to their seats.

Shri Basu Deb Acharia.

Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I request the senior leaders to ask their Members to go back to their seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now I call the names, Shri Tarit Baran Topdar.

Shri Moinul Hassan.

Shri Rupchand Pal.

Shri Ajay Chakraborty.

Shri Anil Basu.

Shri V.V. Raghavan.

Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee.

Dr. Asim Bala.

Shri Hannan Mollah.

Shri Mohan Singh.

Prof. Ajit Kumar Mehta.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will call the Leaders and discuss the matter in my Chamber. Please go to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will call the Leaders and discuss the matter in my Chamber. Please go to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please to go your seats. I am calling the Leaders to discuss it in my Chamber.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, I am once again appealing to you. Please go back to your seats. I am calling your Leaders to my Chamber.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please go back to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The House now stands adjourned to meet again at 1.30 p.m.

12.40 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till thirty minutes past Thirteen of the Clock.*

1332 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at thirty-two minutes past Thirteen of the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

### INSURANCE REGULATORY AUTHORITY BILL

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (HOOGLY) : Sir, I have given a notice. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : When I call the names of hon. Members who have given notices, you can raise the matter.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Sir, I have given the notice before 10 o'clock....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I will call the names of Members who have given notices.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Sir, within a very very short time, we will make our submissions. In one or two minutes, I will make it.... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I will call you later.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : All right.

MR. SPEAKER : We had a meeting with all the political parties. They have agreed. Now, I will request the hon. Minister Shri Yashwant Sinha.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I will call you also.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow you also.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (DEOAIA) : But we have an objection before he is asked to introduce. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Khurana please.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : No, before the introduction, we want to say something....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : No, Shri Khurana, you can say something about the meeting.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please hear him first.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please hear him first.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please hear him first. What is this? Now, Shri Khurana.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (HOOGLY) : Sir, we have given notice on time....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I will come to you. Now, Shri Khurana please.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Our objection is on introduction only....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : No. Please understand the position.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS (PALAKKAD) : Sir, before introduction, the Chair should hear us....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I will call the names of those hon. Members who have given notices. Please understand that.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA) : We have all given notices....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, I will call all of you.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA) : First, I would like to state that the Government has no objection on the bill which is going to be introduced Standing Committee or Joint Committee ...*(Interruptions)* First listen to me...*(Interruptions)* In the

meeting sometime back all of you had said that it should be sent to joint committee. I have discussed it in other House. According to them, all leaders were requesting in the morning that it should be sent to the Standing Committee. It is upto the wish of Mr. Speaker and Mr. Chairman to decide. If you say, it should be sent to the Standing Committee, it will be sent there and if you say, it should be sent to Joint Committee, it will be sent to the joint committee. The Government has got no objection in sending it to either of the committees. Whatever you decide, is agreeable to us. Whatever Mr. Speaker and Mr. Chairman decide is agreeable to us.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now the hon. Member of Finance. Let the hon. Member seek leave of the House. Leave may be sought to introduce the Bill and then you can raise objections.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (HOOGLY) : Sir, before the introduction of the Bill, we want to make our submissions

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : First the hon. Minister has to seek leave of the House. Please understand that. Then only you can raise your objections.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister has to seek leave of the House for introducing the Bill. Please understand that.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister must seek the leave of the House.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (VAISHALI) : It is rule 72, please refer to the rule. First listen to us, then move the Bill.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seats. Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, I will allow you to speak. Your name is there in the list.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Sir, let me read out the rules

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Rupchand Pal, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now, the Minister may seek leave of the House to introduce the Bill.

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of an Authority to protect the interests of holders of insurance policies, to regulate, promote and ensure orderly growth of the insurance industry and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto and further to amend the Insurance Act, 1938, the Life Insurance Corporation of India Act, 1956 and the General Insurance Business (Nationalisation) Act, 1972.

MR. SPEAKER : Motion moved:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of an Authority to protect the interests of holders of insurance policies, to regulate, promote and ensure orderly growth of the insurance industry and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto and further to amend the insurance Act, 1938, the Life Insurance Corporation of India Act, 1956 and the General Insurance Business (Nationalisation) Act, 1972".

...(Interruptions)

SHRI ANIL BASU (ARAMBAGH) : Sir, I rise to object to the introduction of the Bill because it lacks legislative competence. Through this Bill, the Government wants to sell out the country. The insurance sector is working satisfactorily in our country as a public sector company. The Government wants to bring the multinationals and Foreign Institutional Investors in the financial sector. This is a complete surrender of our financial sector to the foreign multinationals and foreign countries. This would endanger our economic sovereignty also. On this ground, I strongly oppose the introduction of this Bill. It is against the Constitution. Through this Bill the Government is surrendering the economic sovereignty of the country. This measure is anti-constitutional and anti-national. This Bill lacks legislative competence. I strongly object to the introduction of the Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (DEORIA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have objection on two points, according to which the Government of India can not introduce such type of Bill in the House. The constitution of India, does not allow the Government of India to function in this manner. I quote section 39 (c) of the directive principles of state.

[English]

"that the operation of the economic system does not result in the concentration of wealth and means of production to the common detriment."

[Translation]

It will result in concentration of wealth, foreigners and multinational companies will enter into our country and it will be against the spirit of our constitution which provides for developing an equality based society. The second thing which I want to say is that as per section 15(a) (c) of our fundamental duties:

[English]

"to uphold and protect the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India."

[Translation]

It is against the sovereignty of the country the builders of our country nationalised the insurance sector in order to protect common people from the exploration by private companies engaged in insurance sector. The Government of India without giving concession to private Indian companies are inviting multinational companies, which is the last stage, in the country and it will affect freedom and sovereignty of our country and influence of foreign capitalists will increase. Such type of Bill is beyond the jurisdiction of this House. Therefore, I strongly oppose this and urge upon the hon'ble Minister not to introduce this Bill and the House should not allow this Bill to be introduced.

[English]

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (CHIRAYINKIL): Sir, I have an objection and my objection is entirely different.

MR. SPEAKER : I have called Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : She has also given the notice.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (PANSKURA) : I have given a notice to raise my objection to the IRA Bill at the introductory stage itself. If one opposes the Bill at the introductory stage then some Constitutional propriety is called for. Our Constitution is secular, democratic and sovereign. If this Bill is allowed to be passed, it will affect our sovereignty because the American and other multinational companies will enter our industry. This will not help us but hinder our progress and that is why I oppose this Bill at the introductory stage, itself.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (VAISHALI) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I oppose the Insurance Regulatory Authority Bill at the introduction stage itself because this Bill is a retrogressive step for the economic sector and financial policy of the country. Previously insurance sector was

in the private sector. We had nationalised that and now this Government is taking it backward and intent to privatise it. Through this Bill the Government are inviting foreign Capitalists and multinational companies. This Bill is anti-poor and it will be not good for the people. It will cause damage to the country and we are not in a position to bear such damage.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please understand that we are not discussing the Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Our friends in Congress are of the view that this Bill should allowed to be introduced and this should be referred to the standing committee but we the people of the third front oppose this in beginning itself and we think it is a retrogressive step, this Bill should not come. We strongly oppose it. It is against rule 72, yesterday also rule was flouted, we are giving in writing but it is not being heeded to.

[English]

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Sir, I may be permitted to speak. My objection is entirely on a different footing.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Radhakrishnan, you have not given any notice.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : No notice is required for this.

MR. SPEAKER : I am calling the names of those Members who have given notice.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA) : Sir, this Bill is without the legislative competence and has Constitutional infirmities inasmuch as the special legislations named LIC Act, 1956 and General Insurance Business (Nationalisation) Act, 1972 are proposed to be amended.

A provision is being made that by enforcement of this Act the Corporation shall carry on insurance business in accordance with the provisions of Insurance Act of 1938 which was amended in 1956 and then in 1972. The LIC and the GIC were created by special legislative measures. These Act will impair the objects laid down for the purpose of amendment to Clause 7 of the Insurance Act, 1938 which are not being proposed in this present Bill. Sir, the definition of insurance company shall mean, 'a company registered under Companies' Act, 1956' and defined 26 per cent of the equity could be had by foreign companies...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Basu Deb Acharia, you have to give reasons why are you opposing the Bill.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : It has been defined that 26 per cent of the equity could be had by foreign companies either by himself or through its subsidiary company or its nominee over and above this share up to the extent of 14 per cent equity could be had by foreign institutional investor, non-resident Indian and overseas bodies or corporate. Sir, if this Bill is passed...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY (BUXAR) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the discussion has already started on this. I would like to say concession should be given to all the companies ...*(Interruptions)* The Bill should be introduced later on...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : If this Bill is introduced, it will impair the interest of our nation. It is against the sovereignty of our country because there has been pressure...*(Interruptions)*. This pressure has been built up by the American multinational companies. Sir, last time when the Bill was brought, many people opposed it from the Treasury Benches... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (BALASORE) : Sir, I am on point of order under Rule 72.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : But I do not know what has happened now. Within one year they could change their views and they are supporting this Bill. It is against the interest and economic sovereignty of our country... *(Interruptions)*. They are not surrendering the sovereignty of our country to the multinational companies.

Sir, American multinational companies are incurring losses...*(Interruptions)*. In these 45 years, we have seen how these public sector companies including LIC and GIC, have made investments for the development of our country. If the multinational companies are allowed to come... *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (BALASORE) : Sir, I am also quoting the Rule under which I want to raise it. Even then you are not allowing...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Let him complete first.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : Sir, how can you allow him to complete when I am on point of order ? It is very surprising...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Basu Deb Acharia, please conclude. I have to call all these 16 names.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, in the name of *swadeshi* they are selling out our country. They are surrendering and succumbing to the pressure of multinational companies. We cannot allow these multinationals to

come. Therefore, at the very outset, we oppose the introduction of this Bill.

MR. SPEAKER : You have not given any notice.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : Sir, you are the protector of rules. If you do not protect the rules, what should I say?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I have called Shri Chandra Shekharji.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKAR (BALLIA) (U.P.) : I have nothing to say about this controversy. I shall make a request to this Government and to the Finance Minister. They should at least remember that in the last Lok Sabha, they had opposed this Bill. Their credibility is already low. They should not reduce that credibility any more because as long as they are in the Government, because of the mercy of my friends like Shri Balram Jakhar and others, the nation has to respect this Government. This Government goes on committing *hara-kiri* which is a death nail to the future of the nation. So, I shall request the Government to ponder over it as this will further reduce the credibility of this Government because they have committed before the nation and the whole world that they will not allow multi-nationals in the insurance sector...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I have heard a Member from each party.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, individual Members have given notice in this regard. Every Member whosoever has given notice, should be allowed to oppose this Bill...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Prabhunath Singh, it is not a procedure. I have to call the names of those Members who have given notice about this.

*[Translation]*

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (MAHARAJGANJ) : Whether only those hon'ble Members have been allowed to speak who have given notices. We have no objection if you make rules in this regard. On the one hand you are allowing to speak to those members who have not given notices and on the other hand you are talking about rules...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA (SAMASTIPUR) : We have given notices in advance. Why are you not giving opportunity to speak? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Rupchand Pal to speak.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : In addition to what has already been said, I would like to say that the representatives of a Committee of this Parliament have already examined this matter...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please understand that there is a procedure. I can call only those Members who have given the notice to speak.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You must understand that you have to give notice before 10 O'clock. You must know the procedure first.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : The time has not come for departing from the objectives of nationalisation of the insurance sector. This is the specific recommendation of an all-party Committee that was given to this Parliament. Now they are backing out from that...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Pal, you are a senior Member. You have to say as to what is your objection and not the entire thing.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : This is a unanimous report of Parliament. This privatisation of the insurance sector should not be done. Moreover, it is beyond the legislative competence of this Government...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Pal, this is not at all necessary. You have to just say why you are opposing this Bill.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : This is beyond the legislative competence of this Government...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Knowing all this, you are raising this matter.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : The Government cannot do like that. It has been stated that it is being guided by the Insurance Act of 1938. The LIC is not a registered company under the Companies Act. How can it work under the Companies Act...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Pal, please understand that you have to just give the reasons as to why you opposing this Bill.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : It is illegal, it is not permissible according to the Constitution because the LIC is not

registered under the Companies Act. They have been asked to operate under the Insurance Act. The LIC can never be asked to work under the provisions of the Insurance Act. It is a very serious thing...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : We are not discussing this Bill.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : The employees of the LIC can mobilise Rs. 1.50 lakh crores.

They can contribute this amount to our infrastructure...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please understand that you have not given notice. What is this?

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN (QUILON) : Sir, I should be given an opportunity to speak.

MR. SPEAKER : I am not going to give you a chance to speak.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Sir, this is a matter concerning the whole country...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

*...(Interruptions)\**

MR. SPEAKER : Prof. Ajit Kumar Mehta.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Lal Muni Chaubey, this is too much. I have been observing your behaviour. You are not allowed to speak now.

*...(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, prior to 1973 insurance sector was in the private sector...*(Interruptions)* It was nationalised because of unsatisfactory progress...*(Interruptions)* Now it is growing faster in comparison to other companies. ...*(Interruptions)* It is being proposed to privatise the nationalised sector and certainly it should not be acceptable. During the course of discussion in the Petition Committee of Lok Sabha, which was referred to by Shri Rup Chand Pal, it has already been decided that insurance sector should not be privatised in any way.

Sir, I would like to draw special attention towards one thing that heavy investment is needed in the insurance sector and it has some social obligations too. It can

\* Not recorded.

be handed over to the private sector but objective of the private sector is to earn the profit and it will only earn profit. Foreigners will also be involved and they will have nothing to do with the social obligations in our country, whereas social obligation is an important objective of the insurance sector. Therefore, we oppose this.

Sir, the Petition Committee of the previous Lok Sabha has also given its decision in this regard..(Interruptions) Shrimati Sushma Swaraj was the Chairperson of that Committee and Malhotra Committee has also expressed its views against it. Therefore, on these grounds I oppose this Bill.

[English]

SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY (KRISHNAGAR) : I am opposed to the introduction of this Bill because, as already stated by our colleagues Shri Rupchand Pal, the LIC is not registered under the Companies Act. But here, in this Bill, it will be guided by the Companies Act. How can it be like that? The name of the Bill is Insurance Regulatory Authority Bill, 1998. But the Government has sought to amend two existing and separate Acts. Sir, they are going to amend two separate existing Acts. It has not been mentioned that this is an amending Bill. They have not mentioned that it is Life Insurance Corporation (Amendment) Bill. They have not also mentioned that it is General Insurance Corporation (Amendment) Bill. They have mentioned like this. How can the Insurance Regulatory Authority Bill, 1998 amend two existing Acts? These Acts are very vital and basic ones and they are going to amend these Acts; through the Insurance Regulatory Authority Bill, 1998. The Insurance Regulatory Authority is there. And if they want to give statutory status to the Authority, they can do so. But they cannot amend two existing Acts. How can they do that through this Bill?

SHRI TARIT TOPDAR (BARRACKPORE) : I rise to oppose the introduction of the Bill due to two or three reasons. First of all, legislative competence is not there as has been amply substantiated by earlier speakers and as stated by Shri Ajoy Mukhopadhyay just now. He has made the position clear that there cannot be any objection regarding the Authority but we have got objection regarding amending and changing the law which is still in existence.

14.00 hrs.

First of all, Mr. Minister, you cannot change the law in this fashion. If it is changed, it will actually jeopardise the interests, and the sovereignty and integrity of the country.

Secondly, we cannot allow our money to be siphoned off to the foreign countries. A treasurer cannot just hand over the keys to other people. But this is just what is happening now. That is why, I feel that it is against the interests of the nation. So, far these two salient reasons, I rise to oppose the introduction of this Bill.

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN AHAMED (MURSHIDABAD): Sir, I rise to oppose the introduction of this Bill because I suppose that this is completely anti-national and it is an unlawful event in this time. It is a complete surrender before the multinational people who are coming to our country and dismantle all the present systems in the insurance sector. For that, I would like to oppose the introduction of this Bill.

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY : Sir, I am strongly opposing the Bill at the introductory stage itself. I think it is a most unconstitutional act and it is nothing but detrimental to the interests of the country. The Government has surrendered before the foreign multinational companies. It is nothing but anti-national and anti-people also. The Government wants to destroy the insurance sector, the LIC and the GIC, which are functioning very well. My other colleagues have stated all the reasons as to why they are opposing it. So, we are strongly opposing this Bill at the introductory stage itself.

SHRI V. V. RAGHAVAN (TRICHUR) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I object to the introduction of this Bill because it is not for the national interest that it is being introduced. Somebody has given word in Washington saying that the Government will open up insurance to MNCS. The Government is surrendering to the multinationals and the imperialists. It is for fulfilling the commitment made at Washington, honouring the word delivered at Washington that this Bill is being brought forward. So, I strongly oppose this Bill. Mr. Minister, if you do not want to hear us, please hear the message from Nagpur.

DR. ASIM BALA (NABADWIP) : Sir, I am against the introduction of the Insurance Regulatory Authority Bill, 1998. After the introduction of liberalisation and globalisation, followed by the dictates of the World Bank and the IMF, this Bill is being brought forward. This means that the multinationals are not satisfied with the industrial and other sectors of the country. They want to control the whole economy of our country. It is very detrimental and unconstitutional. So, we oppose this Bill. The public sector and the private sector are not satisfied with this measure. As I said earlier, the multinationals, the World Bank and the IMF want to control the other sectors also. First, they are very aggressive towards our economy and they want to control the whole economy. That is why, I am going to oppose this Bill.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (ULUBERIA) : I oppose the introduction of this Bill because the introduction is a prelude to the passing of this Bill which will snatch away Rs. 1,30,000 crore from the kitty of this nation, which is meant for our development, during the Ninth Year Plan period.

Secondly, experience had proved that privatisation did not help and because of that it was nationalised. Now, we are going to reverse the process again. This reversal will also damage the national interest.

Thirdly, as Shri Ajoy Mukhopadhyay has said, they are trying to pass the Bill through the back-door method.

They are amending two other Acts without saying and by taking a different name. This is in one way to deceive the people and doing the things from the back-door. Because of all this, and because of the method the Government is adopting, I oppose this Bill in the introductory stage.....(Interruptions)

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : I am on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER : Under which Rule?

SHRI M.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Under Rule 72. It says—

"Provided that where a motion is opposed on the ground that the Bill initiates legislation outside the legislative competence of the House, the Speaker may permit a full discussion thereon".

On this ground, this Bill, which is proposed to be introduced, is outside the legislative competence of this House...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : There is no point of order.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Though no notice is given, a full discussion should be allowed...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No point of order.

SHRI M.K. PREMCHANDRAN : This is as per Rule 72 because the legislative competence has already been challenged in the House. It is against the rules...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The Bill is not introduced. The Minister has sought the leave to introduce the Bill.

SHRI M.K. PREMCHANDRAN : I am submitting this as per the rules.

MR. SPEAKER : This does not arise at this stage.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : It is also against the preamble of the Constitution....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No, please, take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI M.K. PREMCHANDRAN : This is a legislation against the Welfare State.

MR. SPEAKER : No point of order, Now, Mr. Minister.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (MAHARAJGANJ) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I may please be allowed to speak for half a minute.

MR. SPEAKER : Not now, you can speak later on.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I also want to begin my points under the same rule which was mentioned by the hon'ble Member just now. If this is beyond the legislative competence of this House, then it will be discussed in the House that whether the draft of that Bill be presented in the House or not. I was listening to the speeches of all the hon'ble members very attentively but I am sorry to say that no hon'ble member has a logical point to prove that this comes under rule 72 and it is beyond the legislative competence of this House. It was said here that this Government do not want to protect the national interests, this Government wants to play with national interests, we are selling out the country, I consider it most unfortunate. I think some self styled leaders who consider themselves to be the saviour of the country have no right to cast aspersion others.

[Translation]

We all have been elected to this House by the people of the country in the same way as any other hon. Member has been elected...(Interruptions)

[English]

I listened to you with all the patience.

SHRI N.N. KRISHANDAS (PALAKKAD) : Where is your *Swadeshi Jagaran Manch*?

[Translation]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : What have you stated in your manifesto...(Interruptions)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : I would like to state whether we wish or not we have to go back to the people...(Interruptions) We will discuss the merits and demerits of this bill when it is debated in the House. At that time Government will seriously reply to the points raised in this regard. However, I am of the view that no such statement has been made here which shows that the matter is beyond the legislative competence of the House. Therefore, I would request you that at present we cannot give importance to it.

Secondly, a very important issue has been raised by our hon'ble leader, Shri Chandra Shekhar regarding the credibility to the Government. He and many other members have pointed out as to what was the opinion of our party on this bill last year and what is being done now. I

would like to humbly say as I have stated earlier also in the House that after reviewing all the facts and circumstances, it appears that there are so many instances when a party after coming into power presented the bill in its own way. Perhaps, it would be a peculiar example in the history of democracy where a political party including the Cabinet Ministers are opposing the same bill which it supported while it was in power...(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : We did oppose it that time also...(Interruptions)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : The change which has come into their attitude and opinion is only political ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Basu Deb Acharia, let him complete.

[Translation]

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, by taking the House into confidence, I would like to state that we did not say anything like this during the tenure of the previous Government...(Interruptions) We would like to place all the facts before the House. Last time when this bill was brought before the House, it was asked time and again...(Interruptions)

[English]

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (MAVELIKARA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to say something.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Prof. Kurien, let me complete.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (DAUSA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is not the same Bill which was introduced by the previous Government.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Are you saying that this Bill is the same one which was introduced by the former Finance Minister?

MR. SPEAKER : Prof. Kurien, let him complete.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Prof. Kurien, I have listened to all hon. Members with utmost patience. Please show me the courtesy of listening to me for two minutes.

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to state that the question regarding the foreign capital investment was raised time and again when the then Government brought the Bill on I.R.A. before the House. It was repeatedly asked as to

what was the policy of the then Government's regarding the foreign capital investment but no clear cut reply was received. I would like to take credit for placing a clear picture of our policy before the House. We are not trying to hide the facts. We are not pushing the thing from the back door. Our intention is before the House and as the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has stated, both the House will get an opportunity to consider the bill if it is referred to the standing committee or Joint Select Committee. We all will get an opportunity to consider the merits and demerits of the bill when it is debated here. However, I strongly oppose the allegation levelled upon our Government. We are also doing our duties in the interest of the nation to which you are having many doubts.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to state that it is baseless to say that the Government which conducted the nuclear test and is courageously facing challenges of the world, has succumbed to the pressure of Washington. I strongly oppose it...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of an Authority to protect the interests of holders of insurance policies, to regulate, promote and ensure orderly growth of the insurance industry and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto and further to amend the Insurance Act, 1938, the Life Insurance Corporation of India Act, 1956 and the General Insurance Business (Nationalisation) Act, 1972."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (DAUSA) : Sir, they are right in one way. Let us not ignore their points of view ...(Interruptions) Social sector is very important ...(Interruptions) Rupees one lakh crore are going to the social sector. That safeguard is not there in the Bill. So, if you propose for a Standing Committee, we can give our views about that.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF TOURISM : SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to certify here that while considering the Bill, it was decided that it would be referred to the Joint Committee. When asked, Rajya Sabha Members including the leaders of the Congress Party proposed to refer the bill to the Standing Committee. They were not in favour of sending this bill to Joint Committee. Therefore, we have proposed to send it to the

Standing Committee. However, if you desire, we can refer it to the Joint Committee but for that we will have to consult the other House i.e. Rajya Sabha. We can decide after having consultations with the Chairman of Rajya Sabha....(Interruptions)

[English]

This Government is ready

MR. SPEAKER : I think, this Government is ready to send the Bill to the Joint Committee.

...(Interruptions)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (MAVELIKARA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, My objection is regarding the blatant violation of the Rules in this House. My party is prepared to support the introduction of the Bill. But the way it is done is absolutely wrong. If one Member objects and asks for a Division, you have to allow division. You go through the Rules. The other day also. I quoted the Rules from this Book. The Rules were given a go by...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (AONLA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the member from the other side is wrong in saying that they have pressed for division. We are present here, we know that nobody from that side pressed for a decision...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PROMOTHES MUKHERJEE (BERHAMPORE) (WB) : Sir, we want Division...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No, no. At that time, nobody said about Division.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nobody asked for a Division at that time.

...(Interruptions)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Sir, I had raised a point of order. I only want that the rules be applied properly. I am leaving it to you ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now, you are asking for a Division, but at that time nobody asked for a Division...(Interruptions)

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : I asked for a Division...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : MY submission is that in principle we agree to send the Bill either to a Joint Committee or the Standing Committee. After having consultations with the Chairman, Rajya Sabha, I will come before the House tomorrow on this issue...(Interruptions)

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : Sir, this is not proper. We want Division...(Interruptions)

14.21 hours

(At this stage, Shri N.N. Krishnadas, Shri N.K. Premchandran and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.)

MR. SPEAKER : If the House agrees, the Bill can be sent to the Joint Committee.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : If the House agrees, the Bill can be sent to the Joint Committee.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : If the House agrees, the Bill can be sent to the Joint Committee. Now the Bill will go to the Joint Committee.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It was agreed in the meeting with various parties/groups that it be referred to the Joint Committee.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : We are taking up the next item. Now, the submissions. Dr. Balram Jakhar, please.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please go back to your seats. It has already been decided now.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please go back to back your seats. That matter is over now. Please take your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please understand, we are taking up the next item.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : it will be referred to the Joint Committee. The Chair has taken a decision. Please understand.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please go back to your seats. That is over now.

...(Interruptions)

14.25 hours

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Sixteen of the Clock.

**1600 hours**

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Sixteen of the Clock*

(PROF. RITA VERMA in the Chair)

[Translation]

SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV (JHANJHAR PUR) : Women's Bill should be withdrawn. It is unfortunate for the country.....(Interruptions)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR (BIKANER) : Mr. Chairman, Sir...

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, we shall take up item no. 14—Matters under Rule 377.

Shri Harin Pathak

.....(Interruptions)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Madam Chairman, I was on my leg. My name was called by the Speaker..... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (DAUSA) : Madam, he has an important issue to be raised.....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Mr. Chairman, Sir, at that time I was on my legs.....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : 'Zero Hour' is over now.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : No, Madam.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (MAVELIKARA) : Madam, Shri Balram Jakhar's name was called at that time..... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : All the hours cannot be 'Zero Hour'.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Madam, I was on my leg.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : That too with a very tall leg.....(Interruptions)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Anybody could have seen that a tall man was standing.....(Interruptions) He was standing with not only on one leg but with two legs.....(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : He wanted to raise an important issue. The hon. Speaker said that he would give a chance to him. Please allow him to raise his issue.....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : No problem, he can raise it tomorrow.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Why should I? I was on my leg.....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Question is that there are many things on listening about which we feel sad..... (Interruptions)

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (CHAIL) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we also want a opportunity to speak ..(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Everybody would start raising their issues now. There would be no end to it. So, you can raise your matter tomorrow. Please sit down.

.....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Mr. Chairman, Sir, there are many things which do not wait and which are meant for country's defence, self-defence and self-respect. These things work according to a system about which I would like to mention.....(Interruptions) I have given notice .....(Interruptions) At that time also I was on my legs and I was allowed to speak. I am going to tell that .....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I allowed many Members. You please speak tomorrow.

[English]

SHRI RAKESH VISHWANATH PARANJPE (THANE): I would like to raise an issue of MPs and it is about Rs. 2 crore, Every issue is an important issue. Members are facing the problem but you are not taking a decision.....(Interruptions)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : What is this Rs. 2 crore? I was in the Chair for ten long years, when a Member was on his leg, he was allowed to speak. My name was called and I was interrupted.....(Interruptions)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Madam, the hon. Speaker has called his name. He stood up and started speaking. At that time he was interrupted and he could not speak. He was on his legs. So, he can continue now. That is the practice in this House for ten years. Kindly follow that procedure.....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You must understand my problem. There are many other hon. Members who wanted to raise their issues. There will be no end to it. It will make sure that you will get a chance to raise your issue tomorrow.

.....(Interruptions)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Madam, you are denying my opportunity and my right. I am claiming it as my right.  
.....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

You will get these two crore rupees.....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is not 'Zero Hour'.

.....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Madam Chairperson, I will not disobey your order. But I am sorry to say that you are not giving me opportunity to speak. Through this House I would like to draw the attention of country towards very important issue but I am not being given an opportunity to speak though at that time Hon'ble Speaker had given me an opportunity to speak.....(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRAKASH VISHWANATH PARANJPE : If he is permitted, then everybody should be permitted. ....(Interruptions). If you say that Zero Hour is over, then nobody should be permitted.....(Interruptions)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR (BIKANER) : Madam as a protest I am sitting.....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am really very sorry.

.....(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : The hon. Home Minister is here. It is a very sensitive issue.....(Interruptions). It is a question of promotion of senior officers. There is a news headlines today.....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : My problem is that there will be no end to it.

.....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Madam Chairperson, what are you doing? It is not correct that you are not giving an opportunity to the former Speaker who have skilfully conducted the proceedings of this House for 10 years. He is a very Senior Member of this House and by not allowing him to speak\*

\*Expunged as Ordered by the Chair

[English]

SHRI BUTA SINGH (JALORE) : Madam Chairperson, please listen to me. \* Hon. Speaker has given him time. He was allowed by the hon. Speaker. You cannot disallow him.....(Interruptions). He was allowed by the hon. Speaker. How can you do it? .....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please sit quietly.

.....(Interruptions)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Since I cannot make a notice, I submit it as a protest. I am on my leg .....(Interruptions) That is what I am saying. ....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BUTA SINGH (JALORE) : Madam Chairperson, \*.. Mr. Speaker had given an opportunity to Hon'ble Balram Jakharji to speak and by not giving him time to speak, you ..\*(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, we will take up Matters under Rule 377. Shri Harin Pathak.

.....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is not Zero Hour. Please do not convert it into Zero Hour.

.....(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (HOOGLY) : Madam, please allow me to speak.....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record except what Shri Harin Pathak Says.

.....(Interruptions)\*\*

16.10 hrs.

### MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

#### (i) Re : Need to ensure early functioning of Ahmedabad Railway Division

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (AHMEDABAD) : The Government has decided to create Ahmedabad Railway Division. The announcement of Ahmedabad Division and inauguration function have already been held. But the Railway Division has not yet started functioning.

\*Expunged as Ordered by the Chair

\*\* Not Recorded

Now, Railway Board is to decide the jurisdiction of newly proposed Ahmedabad Division. I would also like to draw the attention of the Government that the matter is pending with the Ministry for a long time. The State Government is willing to give required land whenever it is demanded by the Railway Authorities.

I urge upon the Government to finalise the jurisdiction of Ahmedabad Railway Division as early as possible and issue a notification in this regard so that the functioning of the proposed railway division can start immediately.

SHRI BUTA SINGH : He is there with the permission of the hon. Speaker....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Buta Singh, you are a very senior Member. Please do not force me to take some action.

....(Interruptions)

SHRI BUTA SINGH : Shri Jakhar is speaking with the permission of the hon. Speaker. You are not following the orders of the hon. Speaker. He has allowed him....(Interruptions) We will not allow this way....(Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN : Only what Shri Harin Pathak says will go on the record.

....(Interruptions)\*

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is too much.

....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am on my legs. Please sit down. You should be ashamed to your behaviour. You are making a noise all the time. You do not allow the House to function.

....(Interruptions)

SHRI BUTA SINGH : No, (Interruptions)\*

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENT AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA) : Madam Chairperson, Shri Buta Singh has been the Home Minister of this country but the kind of language he is using is not correct....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down.

....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Madam Chairper-

son, I would like to move a Motion regarding breach of Privilege against Shri Buta Singh ....(Interruptions)

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (VAISHALI) : The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs should be dismissed. He is threatening....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Basu Deb Acharia, you are such a senior Member. Please sit down.

....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : You should maintain decorum....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Whatever Shri Buta Singhji has said just now should be expunged from the proceedings of the House.

....(Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Madam Chairperson, please do not expunge that from the proceedings right now....(Interruptions) because we also have to move motion regarding breach of privilege against him....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not force me to take some action.

....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are not allowing the House to run by creating disturbances daily. This is not the way.

....(Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Now they have resumed their seats ....(Interruptions) we have accepted their contention....(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI M. MASTER MATHAN (NILGIRIS) : They have to apologise. They cannot do like this.

SHRI BUTA SINGH : Mr. Chairman, you have to follow the rules.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : All of you please sit down.

....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is this. Every time there is Zero hour in the House.

....(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : An assurance was given by the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs that the hon. Minister of Home Affairs would make a statement.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You should feel ashamed for the language which you have used and should express regrets.

....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : He never uses such language.

....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please sit down.

....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do you want to run the House like this.

....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am not able to understand what others are saying nor I am able to hear anything. Do you want to run the House like this?

....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : if all Members speak at a time then nobody will understand anything.

....(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI (DAR-BHANGA) : This matter relates to the whole country ....(Interruptions) He is threatening ....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please keep quiet.

....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please sit down.

....(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : I am on a point of order. Yesterday the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs assured the House that the Minister of Home Affairs would make a statement regarding vandalism by Shiv Sainiks in front of Shri Dilip Kumar's residence. What about that statement?

[Translation]

Khuranaji you said that Home Minister will make

a statement....(Interruptions) He will make a statement today....(Interruptions) where is that statement. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : There was an assurance given to us; we were assured of a statement....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : He is ready to make the statement but first you should bring order in the House....(Interruptions) The proceedings of the House should continue....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Member, please sit peacefully.

....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : First let the matters under rule 377 be over.

....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : First you please sit down and let the matters under Rule 377 be completed. Only after that we will take other issue.

....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : If you continue to make noise like this then we cannot do anything. Let the matters under Rule 377 be over.

....(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will there be a statement after that ?....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : After that I will tell you about the position.

....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Just now I have given the ruling.

....(Interruptions)

(ii) **Need to Ensure Early Completion of the Bypass on National Highway No. 7 at Jabalpur in Madhya Pradesh**

[Translation]

SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE (JABALPUR) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, a by pass is being constructed at Jabalpur on National Highway No. 7 for the last 8 years but this work is going on at snail's speed. An amount of Rs. 20 lakh was provided from the Member of Parliament local Development Fund to the Railways for construction

of a level crossing. This level crossing is ready for traffic passage. On May 28, 1998, the Ministry of Surface Transport informed that this level crossing will be opened for passage of traffic after November 30, 1998 but nothing has been done so far in this regard.

I, therefore, request the Union Government to direct the National Highway Authority to immediately open the bypass road from diversion point via railway level crossing in order to avoid the accidents and traffic jams.

**(iii) Need to Ensure Facilities to the Workers Engaged by Contractors in Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited at Par with Permanent Workers of the Company**

[Translation]

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI (JHANSI) : Sir, there is contract labour system in the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited which is a Union Government Undertaking. Though the contract workers of the company and permanent workers of the company do the same amount of work, their wages and other facilities are not at par and contract labour contributes maximum towards the profit earned by the company. These workers have been working in the company for the last 10-15 years.

Therefore, I demand from the Minister of Labour that he should take up this matter with the Minister of Industry and ensure that same amount of wages, other facilities to the contract labour as are paid to the permanent workers of the company. They should also not be thrown out of job at will.

**(iv) Need to involve local representatives in development activities for removal of poverty KBK districts of Orissa**

SHRI KHAGAPATI PRADHANI (NOWRANGPUR): Several starvation deaths and sale of children were reported from the proposed K.B.K. districts of Orissa due to prevalence of extreme poverty in the erstwhile Kalahandi, Bolangir and Koraput districts of Orissa. Several official enquiries were conducted in that area and it was found that those areas are inhabited by very poor people and they often suffer from drought and failure of crops. Our late beloved Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi also visited these areas, village, and confirmed this opinion that the above districts deserve some special consideration. However, this proposal took a concrete shape during the Tenth Lok Sabha and since then officers from Delhi and Orissa visit those districts and hold meetings with officials only. I do not know why local representatives like M.Ps and M.L. As are being by-passed.

I draw the attention of the Prime Minister to involve M.Ps and M.L.As in the discussion in future and release allotments immediately without further delay to rescue the affected people.

**(v) Need to release two thousand crores of rupees to State Government of Karnataka to meet the damage caused due to heavy rains in the State**

SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA (KOLAR) : The cyclone and heavy rain during the last two months have created a havoc in many parts of the country, particularly, in States like Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Assam. In Karnataka alone more than 300 persons have lost their lives and thousands of houses have been destroyed in the rain havoc. The loss of cattle in this nature's fury exceeds one thousand. The total loss of property in Karnataka State is estimated to be more than Rs. 2000 crore.

The State Government of Karnataka has already sent a memorandum to the Government of India seeking a total assistance of Rs. 1226 crore. A central team consisting of 12 Members has already visited the rain-affected districts of Karnataka and assessed the total damage caused.

The Government of India have already released Rs. 50 crore as announced by the hon. Prime Minister as "Interim assistance" after undertaking an aerial survey of the affected-districts.

Now, there is an urgent need to rush assistance from the Centre to the affected-districts in Karnataka.

I, therefore, urge upon the hon. Prime Minister and the Agriculture Minister to release Rs. 2000 crore immediately to the State Government and rescue the people of these rain affected-districts of Karnataka without any further delay.

**(vi) Need for early reconstitution of Haj Committee**

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI (DARBHANGA): Madam, the Haj Committee for this year has not been reconstituted whereas the date of Haj Pilgrimage is drawing closer. The Haj Committee is to prepare the list of Hajis and make arrangements for their stay at the place of Haj and also to make adequate security arrangement for them. God knows how all these problems will be solved without constituting the Haj Committee. In the past, accidents have occurred twice and the Government are unnecessarily delaying this work, which is regrettable. Due to this the expenditure of Hajis will also increase as they will have to pay more for accommodation and several security related to points will also emerge due to making all the arrangements in haste.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government to immediately reconstitute the Haj Committee so that Hajis may undertake Haj comfortably and conveniently.

**(vii) Need to direct State Government of Bihar for Early Election to Panchayats in the State.**

SHRI SHAKUNI CHOUDHARY (KHAGARIA) : Madam Chairperson, Bihar is such a State in the country where Panchayat elections have not been held for the last twenty whereas 73rd amendment of constitution clearly provides that conducting of elections after every five years is mandatory. Due to not holding elections for Panchayats entire work is carried out by the 'Panchayat Sewak' and the Block Development Officer. It seems that the dream of Gandhiji will not be fulfilled in Bihar. This plea of the Bihar Government is not correct that this matter is pending before the Court. This matter is neither pending in the Supreme Court nor the High Court has stayed holding of Panchayat elections in the State.

Therefore, I urge upon the Union Government to safeguard the constitution by conducting Panchayat elections in Bihar without further delay. State Government should be direct on this issue.

[English]

**(viii) Need for regular payment of salary to municipality employees in Assam**

SHRI NEPAL CHANDRA DAS (KARIMGANJ) : Sir, the municipality employees in Assam are not getting their salary regularly. They are getting salary after 6-7 months and in instalments. As a result, they are finding difficulty in maintaining their families in these hard days. The Assam Government has not been able to get any grant-in-aid to pay the salaries to the Municipality employees. The Assam Government is also finding difficulty in paying salaries to State Government employees and also the development works in the State have been suspended.

The Assam State Government employees have also been staging agitation and *dhamas* from time to time for having their salaries regularly and also for revising their salaries at par with the salaries of the Central Government employees.

The Central Government is requested to intervene in the matter effectively and extend special grant-in-aid to the Government of Assam so that the municipality and State Government employees may get their salaries in time and also they are paid salary at the revised rates as paid to Central Government employees. I also urge upon the Central Government to direct the Assam Government to take over employees of municipalities as State Government employees.

.....(Interruptions)

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (BARAMULLA) : I want to know, through you, from the hon. Home Minister whether Shri Bal Thackeray is above law...(Interruptions) He is indulging in vandalism ...(Interruptions) We have to express our opinion also ...(Interruptions) it is vandalism by

Shri Bal Thackeray. I want to know whether he is above law...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please keep silence. Everybody will get a chance to speak.

...(Interruptions)

MR CHAIRMAN : Only one hon'ble member should speak at a time. The business of the House will be conducted properly if you maintain order in the House.

[English]

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Kindly listen to four or five Members. Thereafter, the hon. Home Minister may make a statement...(Interruptions) I want to say something on this very briefly ...(Interruptions).

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right. I have listened your point.

[English]

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : You give two or three minutes to everyone....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am listening to your points. Make your points turn by turn.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (HAJIPUR) : Yesterday hon'ble Minister for Parliamentary Affairs said that he will make a statement in the House regarding on Shri Bal Thackeray and alleged attempt on Shri Dilip Kumar. We want to know that when he is going to make a statement in this regard.

[English]

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR (MUMBAI NORTH EAST) : I have an objection to this ...(Interruptions)

[ Translation]

SHRI SHAKUNI CHOUDHARY (KHAGARIA) : Please listen to me also.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Shakuniji please have patience. Let the one matter be over. There is no such provision under rule 377 under which the hon'ble Minister has to react.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The matter given by you in writing is sufficient.

SHRI SHAKUNI CHOUDHARY : You are also from Bihar, you should think over it. Panchayat elections have not been conducted there. ...*(Interruptions)*. Conduct elections there...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I can not ask the Minister to react. There is no such provision under rule 377.

*[English]*

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : My very objection is that there was not attempt at all....*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down.

*[English]*

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : I want to express my sentiments. ...*(Interruptions)* Is he above law?

*[Translation]*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon'ble Home Minister wants to say something but you are not allowing him to make his point.

*[English]*

SHRI BUTA SINGH (JALORE) : At least listen to us. We have a right to say something. You are listening to everybody, but you do not listen to me. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : You allow us...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA) : It has been discussed ...*(Interruptions)* yesterday I have assured you that he will let you know. Now let him speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN : This matter has been raised yesterday. Hon'ble Home Minister want to react, you please listen to him. There is no need to raise it afresh.

*[English]*

SHRI BUTA SINGH (JALORE) : I will take one minute...*(Interruptions)* You have to listen to me. In this very House, yesterday the hon. Minister ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : I have not raised it.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have not given notice for today.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : I have given notice on this. Today there was no Zero Hour...*(Interruptions)*

DR. CHAIRMAN : You can make your point patiently.

SHRI PRAKASH VISHWANATH PARANJPE (THANE) : These hon'ble members have not given notice even then they keep on speaking in the House...*(Interruptions)* They talk about law and they want to teach Shri Bal Thackerayji what is law. First of all they themselves should understand what is law. They are not following the rules in the House and making a noise...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I appeal to the hon'ble Members of both sides to maintain order in the House.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are not allowed to raise new issue in the House. You please listen him it is O.K.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Buta Singhji please you also sit down.

*[English]*

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : The Home Minister should act very boldly against Shri Bal Thackeray. He is not above law....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BUTA SINGH : I want to speak...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nobody is allowed to speak. All of you please take your seats.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nobody is allowed to say anything. If you do not want to listen to hon'ble Home Minister than it is O.K.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI BUTA SINGH (JALORE) : You cannot manage the House like this. You have to listen to us. How can you shut the discussion on the floor of this House?

*[Translation]*

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is no time for discussion today.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI BUTA SINGH (JALORE) :...\*(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Take your seat first.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are a very senior Member. Please do not force me.

[Translation]

## STATEMENT BY MINISTER

### Incidents Related to the Screening of the Film 'Fire'

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : Mr. Chairman, Sir. I was a little hesitant because copies of the statement and its Hindi translation were not ready and, hence, it was delayed...(Interruptions) If you permit, should I read it without providing copies and translation?

SHRI BUTA SINGH (JALORE) : They were asked to do it yesterday...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You may please keep quiet.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Madam, several hon. Members of this august House, yesterday, December 14, 1998, expressed concern about the demonstration held in Mumbai last Saturday at the residents of Shri Dilip Kumar.... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GARGARAM GEETE (RATANGIRI) : His name is Yusuf Khan ...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I share the concern of the Members. After I learnt of this of this incident, I had expressed strong disapproval of the nature of the demonstration. In a democracy, peaceful protests are quite in order. But there is no place either for vandalism or for indecency.

The hon. Members are already aware of the demonstrations in Mumbai, Delhi, Surat, Jaipur and Nagpur opposing the screening of the film 'Fire'. Certain groups of people are reportedly agitated over the screening of this film primarily because it contains a lesbian theme. The

\*Expunged as Ordered by the Chair

Union Ministry for Information and Broadcasting have referred the film back to the Censor Board of Film Certification of India for re-examination.

About the incident of demonstration before the house of Shri Dilip Kumar on December 12, 1998, a report was called for from the Government of Maharashtra. According to the State Government, at around 12.15 hours on December 12, 1998, some Shiv Sena activists led by Shri Seta M.L.A. Shri Shrikant Sarmalkar collected in front of the bungalow of Shri Dilip Kumar situated at Pali Hill, Bandra and staged demonstrations to protest against his support to the film 'Fire' including filing a petition in the Supreme Court. Some of the demonstrators were scantily dressed. They also raised some indecent slogans against Shri Dilip Kumar and Shrimati Shabana Azmi ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Prof. Soz, you are such a senior Member.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : First let him finish. Listen peacefully.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR (MUMBAI NORTH-WEST) : The remark was that Shri Dilip Kumar had become a leader of rude people. That was the remark.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETA : When teachers came with thousands of nude idols to Delhi...(Interruptions). When teachers held a march with thousands of nude idols, why were you not ashamed at that time ... (Interruptions). Now you are talking like Dilip Kumar and Mahatma Gandhi ... (Interruptions). Why did you remain silent, when teachers took out a march with thousands of nude idols?... (Interruptions) Then where had their culture gone?... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (VAISHALI) : Dilip Kumar is an artist, not the Government...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : First, let him finish the statement.

[English]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : On receipt of information, the Khar police station staff rushed to the spot and arrested 22 demonstrators including Shri Sharmalkar, M.L.A. under section 37 of the Bombay Police Act. Subsequently, the accused were released on bail. The case is under investigation. Shri Dilip Kumar has been provided with personal protection from 1991 onwards. So far as the information we have got from Maharashtra, Shri Dilip Kumar had been provided with personal protection from 1991 onwards. His security has been further strengthened after this incident.

On December 7, 1998 a petition was filed in the Supreme Court of India by Shri Dilip Kumar and others including Ms. Deepa Mehta, the Director of the film 'Fire' seeking judicial intervention for peaceful screening of the film. In an interim order issued on December 14, 1998, the Supreme Court has directed the Union of India and the Maharashtra Government to ensure adequate security and protection to Shri Dilip Kumar, Ms. Deepa Mehta and other respondents in the petitions. The directions of the Supreme Court are being complied with.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Madam, what about the statement made by the Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting supporting the...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is no such rule.

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND : The Minister of State for Information had made a statement...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, the House would take up discussion under rule 193.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR (MUMBAI NORTH-WEST) : Sir, there was nothing wrong in the demonstration ...(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Sir, one extra-constitutional authority is declaring cultural...(Interruptions) and the Minister is supporting that...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You will achieve nothing by making noise. This is not the way, whenever the discussion starts, noise also begins with it.

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Sir, the Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting should withdraw the statement...(Interruptions) and he should apologise ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is not in the rule.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Sirpotdar, please speak on the discussion under rule 193.

.....(Interruptions)

SHRI T. R. BAALU (MADRAS SOUTH) : Madam, I was to start the discussion today. You kindly go through the records...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You will speak after him.

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Sir, the hon. Home Minister has not said anything about the statement made by the Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record except what Shri Sirpotdar is saying.

...(Interruptions)\*

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : The Government cannot speak in two voices...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : What you had desired, has happened, the hon'ble Minister has made the statement.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You want 'zero hour' to take all time of the House. You have given the notice for discussion on atrocities on minorities. If you don't want to hold discussion yourself, then it is all right.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI ANIL BASU : Madam, I am on a point of order...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Under what rule?

SHRI ANIL BASU (ARAMBAGH) : Madam, under rule 376.

Sir, When the Government has given a solemn assurance before this House to make a statement about the vandalism of the Shiv Sainiks that is going on in front of the house of Shri Dilip Kumar, the Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting is making a statement openly in violation of the collective principle of the Government and the principle of the Constitution. It is the collective responsibility of the Council of Ministers.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No point of order. Please take your seat.

\* Not recorded.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Madam, Chairperson, I was on on my legs the other day.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Baalu, I have already explained to you that as per the records you had not started your speech. You will get your chance after Shri Sirpotdar.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : I had been called the other day and I was on my legs. However, if you decide to call Shri Sirpotdar now, I have no problem.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Sirpotdarji, now you may speak. Don't you want to speak, please start.

16.41 hrs.

### DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

#### Atrocities committed on Minorities in various parts of the country-Contd.

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the discussion on the subject "atrocities against minorities" began here..(Interruptions). It is very unfortunate that even after 50 years of independence we are holding discussion on atrocities against the minorities in this House. I am very much astonished after hearing many points raised during this discussion ...(Interruptions) The question before us is that even after 50 years of independence, should we be discussing this issue? In the points raised during this discussion, the provisions made in the Constitution were also discussed. The provision of giving equal rights and opportunity to everybody has been made in our Constitution. It is written in the preamble of the Constitution of India. In spite of that we are discussing here the question of giving some rights to the minorities. The issues which we want to forget, are raised again and again here. This is highly objectionable. On that day, I listened to the speech of Shri Arif Mohammad Khan. He had raised many issues in his speech and in the course of the discussion he had tried to pass sarcastic remarks on the majority community. When we discuss atrocities committed on minorities, we should not make allegations against each other. If he has any objection, he should register it. In his speech he had said that somebody had offered milk to Ganpati. In this way he has tried to attack a particular religion...(Interruptions)

DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD (MADHUBANI) : These people are saying so ...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : Shakeel ji, I know you. It is not true that, I don't recognise you. See the condition of the country. When a hair of Hajrat Sahab was misplaced somewhere, the tumult was created in the whole country? Now if somebody says that Ganpati has drunk milk, has somebody got any objection or problem about it? By saying this, a particular religion is criticised. There is no religion, which makes progress due to blind

faith. If some body tells such thing, It will be good ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Dr. Shakeel Ahmad, he is not yielding. Please sit down.

[Translation]

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : We do not have any objection on the discussion on atrocities on minorities. But if while discussing the issue, you accuse each other, it is not right. Who is minority in Kashmir? Pandits are in minority over there. After 1991 approximately 4 lakh Pandits are living in Jammu and Delhi. Nobody is having any sympathy for them. These Pandits are living in every part of the country, because they can not reside in Kashmir. Why these atrocities have been committed?... (Interruptions). I would like to tell Ahmad Ji, while he was speaking, I didn't interrupt. I have heard every word spoken by him very carefully. The points that have raised here need to be replied. I would like to give reply to the way these things were said. I have asked for the papers. After that, I will read out the words of Baba Saheb Ambedkar.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let the discussion be held peacefully. Listen to each other peacefully. In this way, the House could be run properly.

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : I have not brought the book. I thought that first the discussion on SCs and STs, will be held and then the discussion will be held on this subject. And in the meantime I will bring all the papers, but I have not been able to do so. Had those papers been with me then.

[English]

I would like to give each and every citation which respected Baba Saheb Ambedkar has given to this country.

[Translation]

The issue was raised here as to what Baba Saheb and Swami Vivekananda have said about it. Arif Mohammad Khan has tried to redefine the Hindu religion, he is not present here. I had told him to be present in the House whenever I put forward my point of view. He has said many objectionable things, which should not be said here. I have said something, please see it.

[English]

'You be a judge'. Had he committed any mistake, he was prepared to ask for pardon.

[Shri Madhukar Sirpotdar]

[Translation]

I have seen every thing in proper manner. I have come to know about one thing.

[English]

It is a passing reference as to how people fool others.

[Translation]

While paying these things he has mentioned about Ganesh. That is why I have an objection to it. Things have not been said in the manner as these should have been said. Things raised here should not have been raised. It is highly objectionable.

Shri Indrajit Gupta had said that when I would be making my submission he would be present in the House. He made a mention about R.S.S. and Bajrang Dal. So many things have been said here. I want to know from this House whether R.S.S. and Bajrang Dal have even acted against the country? They are serving the interests of the country. We are proud of them. Whatever they are rendering in this country are in the interests of this country and not against the interests of this country...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Your leader is speaking. Let him continue.

[English]

SHRI PRAKASH VISHWANATH PARANJPE (THANE): Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru said, 'The R.S.S. is the second military which is controlling this country'.

[Translation]

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : The issue of structure of Babri Masjid was raised here. I want to say what Baba Saheb Ambedkar had written about that. I do not consider the Babri Masjid as a Mosque, that was merely a structure and about that he had said —

[English]

"Some other Muslim leaders advance other arguments. They say, 'Today, the Hindus ask for three sites; tomorrow they will ask for three thousand sites, it has been made clear to them that the VHP is a great representative and responsible organisation of the Hindus and it has asked for only three sites and that they do not have to take note of all individuals making extravagant demands but there seems to be no will to settle the dispute.'"  
...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

The issue of Vandemataram was raised. I want to tell the entire House as to who did not recite Vandemataram.

Didn't Dr. Abul Kalam Azad recite Vandemataram? My question ...(Interruptions)

SHRI HIRA LAL ROY (CHHAPRA) : Madam Chairperson, there should not be such speeches in the House...(Interruptions) Indian Parliament is secular. Whatever he is saying is against the spirit and old traditions of the country.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : He is not yielding. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Rai, please do not disturb others.

[Translation]

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : Madam Chairperson, I am making my speech keeping in view the discussion that has already taken place in the House. I am not going beyond that nor I will raise anything beyond that I am speaking with reference to the points raised by the speakers who had spoken before me in the House...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do not disturb, speak at your turn.

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : In the context of the issue of Vandemataram, I would like to say that our leaders like Dr. Abul Kalam Azad, Dr. Rafi Ahmad Kidwai and several other leaders gave the slogan of Vandemataram for attaining freedom and now that the freedom has been attained, a discussion is going on in the country whether it is appropriate to recite Vandemataram or not. But I want to say that it was a 'mantra' during the freedom struggle and it should remain a 'mantra' after the freedom has been achieved...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down, you have not been allowed to speak.

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : No citizen of this country should say that he or she will not recite Vandemataram.

I want to tell my Muslim friends that a reference was made here about the film actor Salman Khan the other day. Whatever he revealed to me I want to share that with you. He says that there should not be any objection to Muslims in this regard. Muslims perform Namaz fifteen times a day and while performing Namaz they bow their heads to the ground, when they bow their heads to the ground than they should not have any objection in reciting Vandemataram. This is my question and they should answer it. There is nothing objectionable in it. Nobody should have any objection in bowing to his or her motherland...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (DAUSA) : Do not allow such

things to happen in this country. It is not correct. You should not force it. There is no question of aapatthi in this secular India. You cannot force it...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : I am giving this just as a suggestion...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAKASH VISHWANATH PARANJPE (THANE): What is wrong in it? ...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : The way you are saying it is a provocation. It is wrong....(Interruptions) Do not raise that question here. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Sirpotdar Ji, you please continue.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : He had replied on that day that is why I am saying so. he had said that nobody bows at mother's feet, but there is heaven under the feet of the mother. This is what he had said...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL (HINGOLI) : Why did not recite Vandematram during the freedom struggle? It was so because during the freedom struggle you were with the Britishers. Why are you pretending now?...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : I had also participated in freedom struggle, it is absolutely wrong that only you had struggled for freedom. I had also struggled for freedom.

Madam Chairperson, Baba Saheb Ambedkar had said...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Sirpotdar ji, please come to your point.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (VAISHALI) : Madam Chairperson, what is this. Is this discussion going on atrocities on minorities in the House? What sort of speech is being delivered? Madam, it is there in the rules that there will be no such speech...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singhji, please sit down. Why is it so that you do not take your seat until I am only my legs?

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Will you not keep quite. Please sit silently. You can reply at your turn. Please listen patiently. Kawadeji, will you not follow the direction from the Chair?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : Thank you madam. Madam Chairperson, I would like to say that Shri P. Shivshankar ji was making his speech here and I listened to his full speech...(Interruptions)

SHRI P. SHIVSHANKAR (TENALI) : Madam Chairperson, through you I would like to urge upon Shri Sirpotdarji not to proroke please....(Interruptions)

SHRI P. SHIVSHANKAR (TENALI) : Madam Chairperson, after all I am also democratic, why I should not speak...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAKASH VISHWANATH PARANJPE (THANE): Madam Chairperson, when he provoked us by mentioning Lord Ganesh, at that time we listened to them then why are they not listening to us...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : Madam Chairperson, Shri P. Shivshankarji has been the Member of this House since long. So we cannot say that he has no knowledge about this House. His parents have named him Shivshankar and Shiva is our God and our guide but instead of guiding us he is trying to mislead, it is not fair.

Madam Chairperson, I would like to say that the people who hate this country should be pin-pointed. Today we need those people who love this country which is its biggest strength. Today we need patriotic people they may be associated with Vishwa Hindu Parishad, Bajrang dal or any other organisation. We welcome them. If you too love your country we welcome you also. I remember that while speaking on Kashmir Shri Narasimha Rao had said that hence forth we would talk about independent Kashmir only. I do not know what happened after that, we do not talk about independent Kashmir any longer.

[Translation]

When our Prime Minister had visited that place, while giving a reply to the question, he said, Azad Kashmir belongs to us and as long the dialogue on Azad Kashmir is not held, further talks will not take place. We will not give even an inch of our land which includes Azad Kashmir also to anybody. It is our duty to keep his words. This motion is of this House. This motion was adopted by this Parliament. I would like to ask the House and you people whose responsibility is it to honour the motion adopted in this House?

Madam, Chairperson, daily people are dying, what is the reason of killings in Jammu & Kashmir and in North-East. Today morning, itself it was told that in North-East on an average, 80 people are killed. Who are these people? These are our countrymen, who have become victim of the guns of terrorist of other country, and we are unable to defend our countrymen? I would say that the need of the hour is that even if we have to resort to kill

[Shri Madhukar Sirpotdar]

those terrorist for the defence of our citizens, we should not hesitate. We should not compromise with those who are responsible for killing our innocent citizens. Will you remain mute spectator if anybody kills the members of our own family? We do not have any relation with the people who are not citizens of our country and kill the innocent people of our country. We do not take any action against them. We just discuss here and nothing is done in this regard.

17.00 hrs.

This is the biggest dilemma of our country.

DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD (MADHUBANI) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the report of Shri Krishna Commission has also been submitted. Please say something about it .....  
(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : I would like to say about Sarkaria Commission...(Interruptions)

DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD : The Sarkaria Commission report contains name of all the persons of your party ...  
(Interruptions) you may please ask them whether they have to say something about it....(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : Dr. Shakeel Ahmad. I would like to tell you, and would like to make an announcement in the House that the information you are having about Shri Krishna Commission...(Interruptions)

DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD : It contains your name and the names of all persons of your party...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : In this regard, I have got more information than you have got. Please ask for the discussion on this subject in the House, I am ready for the discussion. ...  
(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down.

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : I know, what is there in Sarkaria Commission. You don't know about it. You don't know what happened in Mumbai. I don't know what happened in Bihar. It is not appropriate to talk on a subject about which you know nothing.

17.01 hrs.

(SHRI K. PRADHAN in the Chair)

Mr. Chairman, Sir, yesterday the issue of atrocities was raised. What are atrocities? A demonstration was held outside the House of an actor, we do object as this

is an atrocity. Which one is atrocity? Do our families have lesbian culture? In a film, some one, estranged his wife and two wives develop sexual relation between them. There is an old mother, who asks for Ramayan, but she is shown a blue film, This type of film is shown in our country, we should be ashamed of it. We should hang our heads in shame. This film has given a setback to our culture. Therefore we are against it....  
(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Madhukar Sirpotdar, please address to me and not to the other Members.

[Translation]

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : I have asked the Government. It is our Government, therefore I have told it to the Government. Application for this was filed on 21 August, 22nd and 23rd August being Saturday and Sunday. Certificate was given on the morning of 24th August. How it got the certificate, that is to be looked into. Our Government will definitely look into it. I have told earlier you he needs information in this regard I am not blaming you. It is their duty to look in to it.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Babri Mosque was demolished six years ago, but still there are many people who make hue and cry over it. They do not have love for Muslims or Babri Mosque. Everytime, the issue of Babri Mosque is raised to win the Muslim votes. Therefore, on such issue, usually Members come to the well. What is this? Are you going to reconstruct the structure of Babri Mosque. No, they kick up a row to get Muslim votes. What has been done can not be undone. Even after knowing this fact, if this issue is raised here again and again-Nothing can be more humiliating than this. It has to be looked into and steps are to be taken in this regard. So that it may not happen again in future. Common Muslims do not cry over Babri Mosque, but politicians cry over it. There are many Muslims in my constituency. I visit them. I do their work, they also come to me but till today none of them has told me, that he or she has not taken meal or can not sleep in night due to demolition of Babri Mosque. It is only said by people in politics, who have lost their vote bank. The people who want votes, make noise also. In present scenario, if Muslim votes go to Congress side, the people of Samajwadi Party will start crying. And when Samajwadi Party was having their votes, then Congress people used to cry ...  
(Interruptions). Therefore, there is no use to lament over it. You are not going to regain it. It has been demolished you are not going to get it back...  
(Interruptions). Who told that we have demolished it. We do not say, that we have not done it. If we have done it, it is done. We have not said it once, but are saying it again and again that it happened...  
(Interruptions). If you want to discuss democracy, there are many things, about which I would like to say...  
(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not interrupt.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : I would like to say something about CPI. I congratulate you for ruling West Bengal for the last 22 years. I would like to ask a question as to whether people belonging to minority communities are not there in West Bengal against whom atrocities can be committed?

SHRI ANIL BASU (ARAMBAGH) : No.

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : Can you make claim in this regard. I would like to give example... (Interruptions)

SHRI ANIL BASU : West Bengal is a State where Hindu, Muslims, Sikh and Christians all live in peace and harmony...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : Hon. Mamata Banerjee is not present here at the moment otherwise she would have told about the atrocities being committed there. I am proud that your party is ruling with an ideology. Earlier I was also in the communist party and that is why I know about the working of the communist party. I have stated in this House that in the field of Social work and politics one could learn from these people but implementation of ideology is totally a different thing and I came to know about it during the Chinese aggression when they changed their stand and said that China was their friend...(Interruptions) After this I left their party. I was in the RSS also but I never came across any instance wherein RSS had asked people to act against the interests of the country. On the contrary they inspired people to work for enhancing the glory of the country. Later on I joined Shiv Sena and as a Shiv Sanik I would like to say that it is the duty of a 'sainik' to serve the people and thus I serve people and I have no objection to it. We get elected on the basis of serving people. Persons contesting from Mumbai know about the reality and difficulties under which people belonging to different castes and communities from West Bengal, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh live there. They elected me as they know that I would work for their welfare. People should have faith in us. It would be better if after discussion on this issue, we take 550 representatives of people of this country try to take measures in our respective constituencies to curb atrocities on minorities. Why in spite of long discussion on such issues we are unable to implement such policies. We need people like Dr. Shakeel Ahmad. I know him. He has worked with me in the committee and we can people having such ideology. What he says in the House is a different thing...(Interruptions) There are many members

here. It is true that I have differences with Banatwallaji but I also know that before raising an issue here, he studies well and for this purpose sometimes he sits here continuously for eight hours. He raises such pertinent point...(Interruptions) I have no personal enmity with Banatwallaji. I know what friendship is...(Interruptions).

[English]

SHRI ANIL BASU : Sir, how much time is allotted to him?

[Translation]

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : The issue regarding atrocities is being discussed here...(Interruptions) How much time was taken by Shri Arif Mohammad...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You should address the Chair.

[Translation]

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : I would like to cite an example as to how politics is played. Ram Vilas Paswanji had given a speech here when he was Railway Minister. There was some disturbance in Shrimati Ramabai Ambedkar Nagar, Mumbai. He visited the area and made an announcement that the name of area 'Dadar' would be changed to 'Chaityabhoomi'. Recently he visited the area and stated that the name of the place cannot be changed until the Government of Maharashtra accepts this proposal. I would like to say as to why such announcement was made when he had the knowledge of the actual procedure. I hate such type of politics. Misguiding people, creating disturbance and violence is not a good thing and later on majority community is blamed for committing atrocities. That day Shri Satyapal Jain was saying that 85 per cent people belong to Hindu community. We all are elected to this House. I have figures of the Census of 1991 with me. We had a large population even at that time. Later on Muslims, Christians and several other persons have come here and settled. They were all welcome here and not driven out...(Interruptions)

DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD : Please tell from where did you come to this country...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : please take your seat. You can say when your turn comes.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You should not speak like that.

[Translation]

PROF. RITA VERMA : Shakeelji, please do not start telling about history...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : I would like to know as to how many temples have been demolished in this country...(Interruptions) I have all these figures with me ...(Interruptions)

How many temples have been demolished in this country, whether any person lamented for those temples? How many temples were demolished through out the world. Thousands of temples were demolished after the demolition of the structure of Babri Masjid. What would have happened if objection was raised to by our country. Hindu Community respects everyone and moves ahead with all other communities. All of them are Hindus, they are with us and with this country. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Sirpotdar, you are provoking the Members. You please address the Chair.

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : Sir, if they do not disturb me, I will not even look at them. I will look at you ...(Interruptions).

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Sir, please do not allow all this to go on record. If it is allowed to go on record, it would be a matter of shame for all of us. The subject under discussion is atrocities on minorities. But he is talking about *mandir* and *masjid*. Ten times he has talked about *mandir* and *Babri Masjid*. He is not talking about minorities at all...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : If there is anything unparliamentary, I will expunge it.

...(Interruptions)

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI, AVSM (GARHWAL) : Do you know what has already gone on record. You should have objected in the very beginning itself...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : The House should listen to us...(Interruptions). My objection is not that why the issue of minorities has been raised. I had already told that if the issue regarding atrocities on minority is discussed...(Interruptions)

[English]

I would have welcomed that as a subject matter. But after 50 years of independence, are we going to discuss this? Is it not against the very provisions of our Constitution?

[Translation]

This is what I would like to ask? What is written in the Constitution, I am saying that only. It is our duty to uphold the dignity of our constitution. If we maintain this dignity we shall not be required to discuss the issue of minorities. All people whether they are from minority or from majority community are equal, all are human beings and our Constitution applies equally to all the people,

[English]

It is applicable to each and every individual of this country but not the foreigners.

[Translation]

If we deport people who come from Bangladesh then objections are raised. Similarly, if Pakistani people come here and if we talk about them then Members make hue and cry in the House. I would like to know only this as to from where this atrocity comes?

[English]

Atrocity comes when there is a deliberate move on the part of any community or any group or any social pattern of the people, then the question of atrocity comes. There is nothing like that. What is happening is that by virtue of every day's developments which are taking place in this country.

[Translation]

If someone rapes any women then no one knows his name. No one knows whether the women belongs to Dalit community, Muslim Community or Hindu Community. Even then when a rape is committed...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI MOTILAL VORA (RAJNANDGAON) : Sir, I am on point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Under what rule are you raising it?

SHRI MOTILAL VORA : Sir, we are discussing atrocities on minorities under Rule 193...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Under what rule do you want to raise this point of order?

...(Interruptions)

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Sir, I support his point of order. He has raised it under Rule 376. Perhaps, it was not heard because there was a lot of noise. The point is

that the business before the House is the atrocities on minorities. The atrocities have taken place by admission of the hon. Home Minister and by admission of the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs. But\*... our colleague from Shiv Sena, is not talking on that ....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is no point of order.

SHRI C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN (COIMBATORE) : Sir, can he address an hon. Member as ....(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAKASH VISHWANATH PARANJPE (THANE): What is this going on?....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please sit down. You are standing again and again.

[English]

SHRI C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN : Sir, can we call anybody as...

Will that go on record? In that case, everybody will start calling the other person as...

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : I am citing from Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar's book....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Sirpotdar, please conclude.

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : I am taking time of the House because of these interruptions. I have unnecessarily diverted the subject matter because of these interruptions. I have not disturbed any of the Members during their deliberations.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are addressing the other side of the House. That is why, you are inviting the trouble.

....(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : That is not my responsibility.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are not resuming your seats even after my repeated requests.

[English]

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : I would like to quote what Dr. Ambedkar said on Islam:

"This is the basis of pan-Islam. It is this which leads every Muslim in India to say that he is a Muslim first and then an Indian afterwards."

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are standing again and again to speak.

[English]

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : We feel that we are Indians first. We are the people of this country having born and brought up in this country?

[Translation]

When I speak the truth they cannot tolerate it, what can I do?

[English]

SHRI M.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Sir, his speech is full of loose talks. He is saying, "we are Hindus and you are Muslims." It is not correct. What does it mean? ....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : Just now a mention was made here about Dileep Kumar....(Interruptions)

[English]

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM (BADAGARA) : It is a highly inflammatory speech....(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : You are reading only one line from the book which suits you. Please read the full text. It is a full paragraph....(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : I have listened to every speaker quietly. I have not disturbed anybody. They have made unnecessary allegations against our religion ....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Sirpotdar, I am calling the next speaker. Please conclude.

Shri T.R. Baalu to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : My objections is that....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please conclude. I am calling other Members to speak.

[English]

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Please go through the record....(Interruptions)

\* Expunged as Ordered by the Chair

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : I am prepared to share whatever information is required by the hon. Member. While concluding, I will say only this much.

[Translation]

It seems to me that if I say something else then I am afraid it will be insult for you. ....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have to conclude. You have spent a lot of your time on discussion.

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : We should not, in this democracy, bring such type of resolutions to discuss about the atrocities. We all are responsible people, elected by the people. It is the utmost responsibility of every person, every MP to see that there is not atrocity committed in any of the constituencies.

If they come across such atrocities, they should straightaway walk to the Home Minister and tell him that such and such atrocity has happened and that he must take care of it. That should be the approach. Instead of doing that, we are making allegations and counter allegations and for 50 years, we have been again and again discussing the same subject of minorities, majorities and others. We being the natives of this great country must behave like great country men. Let us work together for the prosperity, progress and in the larger interest of this country.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (PONNANI) : Sir, I am on a point of order under Rule 376.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is your point of order?

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Sir, a Member from Shiv Sena has spoken now. So, it for the Member of the Muslim League to speak now. Please call me to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is no point of order.

SHRI T.R. BAALU (MADRAS SOUTH) : Mr. Chairman, I would like to record my views on behalf of the DMK on the subject matter of atrocities on minorities brought before the House by hon. Arif Mohammad Khan. It is not only that this House and our great nation but the whole world had observed the Human Rights Day on the 10th December and we are proud that we are one among the signatories of the universal declaration of human rights. But Sir, are we strictly adopting the declaration in letter and spirit? If we really practice it, then what is the necessity to discuss atrocities on minorities? Yes, we preach and proclaim but we do not adopt and practice it. Sir, are we able to maintain peace and tranquility which was in vogue about one or two decades ago? It is diminishing day by day. The confidence reposed by the minorities on the Government is diminishing. Why is it diminishing day by day? We have to find out an answer to this question.

We know that Dr. Ambedkar, Father of the Constitution, was a born Hindu. What made him to adopt Buddhism at the fag end of his life? Raja Ram Mohan Roy was a born Hindu. What made him to establish and profess Brahma Samaj? Lord Buddha was a born Hindu. What was the necessity for him to adopt Buddhism during his life? Guru Nanak, Father of Sikhism, was a born Hindu. What made him to switch over to Sikhism? Saint Mahavir was a born Hindu. What made him to switch over to Jainism? Ramalinga Adigalar, a Tamil saint, was born Hindu. What made him to adopt *Samarasa Sutha Sanmarka Sangam*, that is, secular society? It was because the so-called upper caste people who professed vedic religion divided and sub-divided and established discrimination disparity, untouchability and even unseeability. The upper class people spread all over what is called *Varnashramam Maya Srishtam*, that is, casteism was created by God.

Sir, I belong to Self Respect Movement.

I belong to the relationistic movement which is not actively led by Dr. Kalaingar Karunanidhi. At the same time, Dr. Kalaingar Karunanidhi himself adopts and he preaches and practises this.

We were to elect five Members of Parliament to Rajya Sabha. Out of the five, he has elected Shri M.A. Khader as one of the Rajya Sabha Members. Shri Khader is a Muslim. Shri Rahman Khan is one of the Cabinet Ministers in the Tamil Nadu Government. Shri S.A.M. Hussain is the Joint Secretary of the propaganda Wing of the DMK Party. Shri Abdul Kareem holds the position of the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Agriculture, Coimbatore. Shri Salihue is the Vice-Chancellor of the Madurai-Kamaraj University. In the districts of Salem, Thoni and Tuticorin, Shri Nizamuddin, Shri Basheer Ahmed and Shri Allik Ferozkhan are holding the posts of Collectors respectively. At the same time, I am very proud to record that the DMK Government has extended the backward class status not only to the Tamil-speaking Muslim community but also to the Urdu-speaking Muslim community and has rendered social justice to them.

Now, I come to the statement of the Chairman of the minority panel. The Chairman of the National Commission for Minorities Dr. Tahir Mahmood has said:

"It was a matter of grave concern that the basis spirit of the Constitution: was being undermined by certain groups and individuals."

This is a statement made by no less a person than Dr. Tahir Mahmood, the Chairman of the National Commission for Minorities.

Again, I would like to quote the *Hindustan Times* dated the 26th November, 1998 which said:

"Criticising the style of functioning of the BJP and its associate organisations without naming them, he said that "personal beliefs and group ideologies are now being allowed more freely than before to eclipse

the equality and justice provision of the Constitution to the detriment of the minorities."

This is the statement made by Dr. Tahir Mahmood, Chairman of the National Commission for Minorities.

What is the reaction of Shri Tohra, the President of the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee? I quote the *Indian Express* dated the 27th November, 1998 which said:

"Shrimani Gurudwara Prabandhak Committee President Gurcharan Singh Tohra today said that minorities in the country have been feeling unsafe since independence.

In an obvious reference to the attacks on Christian missionaries by Hindu fundamentalists, he said at a press conference here this morning that minorities shrines across the country were unsafe."

This goes to show that an ally of the ruling party, the Government, is himself not safe.

In the wake of the implementation of the *Kalpa Yojana* in Uttar Pradesh, making it compulsory to sing the *Vande Mataram* and the *Sarswathi Vandana*, the Islamic Board Chairman Mr. Abdul Hassan Nadvi issued a statement as to withdrawal of their wards belonging to the Muslim community from the educational institutions in Uttar Pradesh. By the by, his house had been raided the next day. Why was it raided? The Muslim community and the Christian community are vulnerable to be attacked. The human rights wing of the Christian community has stated that 84 incidents against them took place during 1998 in the BJP Rule and the incidents took place in eight months! But at the same time, from 1964 to 1996, in a period of 32 years, 33 incidents only took place.

Is this the way of conducting the Government? The Government is helpless. More than two and a half crore Christians are spearheading the revolt. They are fighting for their rights. All along they were silent without having any agitation, now they came to the streets holding agitation. They want protection to their lives and properties. The minority community which is not capable of defending itself, their lives and property, subjected to frequent attacks; now has come out in the open to fight for their rights. The frequency of attacks on minority communities, especially of Christians minorities, are increasing day by day. The rate of attacks and the rate of vandalism is increasing day by day.

Sir, in Delhi, as you all know, serving of wine was banned in Churches. As per Christian religion, on certain occasions they serve wine in the Churches. But the then BJP Government wanted to ban this under the guise that it is against the ethics of Hinduism. Was it fair on their part to ban? In Rajkot, Sangh Parivar activists burnt copies of

Bible after raiding the girls, hostel. In Bihar, Father Chrisnadas was assaulted and paraded nakedly on the road. In Hazaribagh, Father Thomas was murdered by some activists. In Maharashtra, Father Antony was assaulted with iron bars, allegedly by some activists. In Ludhiana, prayer meeting of Christian was disrupted. In Gujarat, armed men vandalised tribal Christian-house holds at Ojada. In Maharashtra once again, some activists attacked the Catholic Hospital Association of India at Latur, where the medical aid was extended to the earthquake victims by Christians. In Haryana, 200 year old cemetery, the Tomb of Col. James Skinner, was damaged at Hansi. In Kumool, Andhra Pradesh, Gipsons' Central Baptist Church was threatened with demolition by some activists. In Kerala, Little Flower Church was vandalised and the crucifix desecrated. What happened in Jhabua? On 23rd September, 1998 a shameful incident took place. Four Christian nuns were raped in the early morning ...(*Interruptions*) It is a gruesome gang rape and a heinous crime against four nuns at an obscure hamlet of Jhabua which had not only sent shock waves to the rest on India but every Indian have to hang his head in shame...(*Interruptions*).

In the aftermath of dismantling Babri Masjid, there was unabated arson and looting in Mumbai and the tyranny unleashed against the Muslim minority, the Government has constituted Sri Krishna Inquiry Commission. It has submitted a Report wherein it has stated that the people who were in power and police officials were the cause of action. What action they have taken? Nothing.

What happened in Meerut in Uttar Pradesh? Muslims were attacked and an Inquiry Commission was instituted and the Report was submitted. But the Report was not yet published. Why is it so?

You know pretty well what Article 25 states. It is regarding the freedom of conscience and the right freely to profess practice and propagation of religion. Article 14 is regarding equality before law. Article 15 states that the States shall not discriminate against any citizen of India by caste, creed, religion, place of birth, and so on. Are we maintaining any equality before law? Are we not responsible for that? We have to maintain equality before law.

Some born Hindus have converted themselves to other religions. What was the necessity for that? It was because they could not bear the brunt of the atrocities of their Vedic religious people. After such incidents, let us see what was the reaction of the head of the Bajrang Dal. Shri Surendar Kumar Jain, National Convenor of the Bajrang Dal says:

"We have declared to launch the second 'Quit India Movement' against the Christian Missions in India".

This was the statement made by no less a person than by Shri Surendra Kumar Jain, National Convenor of

[Shri T.R. Baalu]

the Bajrang Dal. Then, Shri B.L. Sharma made a statement which says:-

"The spurt in violence is the expression of anger patriotic Hindu youth against the anti-national force. The Missionaries should pack up and leave India; the VHP will not shut its eyes to the activities of these traitors."

This was the statement made by Shri B.L. Sharma.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Baalu, please try to conclude.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, I will conclude. I know that limitation of time.

Sir, it is high time to rise above party politics, religion, caste, creed etc. We have to create confidence among the minorities and we have to see that they are very well supported, their interests are safeguarded well and their life and property are protected. Past is past. Let us forget what had happened until now. Let us forget the enmities between one religion and the other and one caste and the other.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Baalu, please conclude.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, I will conclude within a minute.

Before I conclude, I would like to quote Saint Thiruvalluvar in Tamil. This is the *Kural* which my leader Dr. Kalaignar Karunanidhi quotes very often in the midst of public. It says;

*"Pirappokkum ella oyikum sirappovva  
setithozhil vetrmalyan*

It means that all human beings are alike at birth; their acts bring about variations in their worthiness.

Then, I would like to quote Kaniyan Poongunranar. He says;

*"Yaadhum oore yayarum kelin."*

It means that every place is our place; everybody is our kith and kin.

With these words, I would like to draw the attention of my friends on the other side to see that the interests of the minorities are protected as per Articles 25 and 28 of the Constitution.

SHRI PURNO A. SANGMA (TURA) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the 10th of this month was the occasion of the Golden Jubilee of the adoption of the UN Charter on Human Rights. The rights of the minorities have a special place in the Bills of Human Rights.

17.39 hours.

(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)

Sir, I would have expected this Government to take an initiative either to pass a unanimous resolution on that day to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the adoption of the

UN Charter on Human Rights or at least during today's debate, as has been contemplated earlier. I would still urge the Government to find out some ways and means to see whether we can celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the adoption of the UN Charter on Human Rights. It can still be debated in Parliament.

As far as the atrocities on minorities are concerned, I would not like to go through the incidents or the specific incidents which have already been mentioned by many hon. Members who participated in this debate. I would only like to point out one fact, that is, ever since this Government came to power, there has been an increase in atrocities on the minorities.

Secondly, what I am more worried about is the response of the Central Government ...*(Interruptions)* I am not going to attack anybody. In response to the question of Prof. P.J. Kurien, hon. Minister of Home Affairs dismissed it as a State subject and that it is a law and order problem.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : Which subject?

SHRI PURNO A. SANGMA : This is about the atrocities. Of course, that was a Starred Question. What I want to say is that these are not mere incidents that are taking place and that they can dismiss it as a law and order situation. It has something to do with their ideology. It has something to do with the ideology of *Sangh Parivar*.

Since there is no time, I want to come to that aspect straightaway. I want to deal with the situation from two aspects of ideological framework of the BJP and the *Sangh Parivar* and the theoretical framework of the BJP and the *Sangh Parivar*. What is the ideological aspect of this? The BJP manifesto is very very clear. What does the BJP manifesto say? You talk about cultural nationalism. What is cultural nationalism? The cultural nationalism is that you are committed to the concept of one nation, one people and one culture. It is very much there in their manifesto of 1998. I quote the manifesto;

"The BJP is committed to the concept of one nation, one people and one culture. Our nationalist vision is not merely bound by the geographical or political identity of *Bharat* but is referred by our timeless and cultural heritage. The cultural heritage, which is central to all regions, religions and languages, is a civilisational identity and constitutes a cultural nationalism in India which is the core of 'Hindutava' That is the ideology of one nation, one people and one culture".

Another example that I would like to give is an attempt to saffronise our education system. I have a great respect for the Minister of Human Resource Development, Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi. But the way the agenda of the Government was sought to be pushed through in the

recently convened Conference of the Education Ministers is something which I personally could not believe that a respected person like Dr. Joshi could do this. We are aware how an RSS activist, Shri P.D. Chitingviana — do not know how to pronounce it—was asked to preserve the theory of this saffronisation of education.

We are all aware of the attempt that was made to introduce *Sarsawati Vandana* and *Vande Mataram* the attempt to introduce Sanskrit as a compulsory subject. We are all aware of that. Now the question is this. Has it come just like that? Is it a new idea? No, it is not. It is very much in the ideological framework of the BJP and is being carried out by its constituents, the RSS, VHP and Bajrang Dal. That is the danger. The RSS and Bajrang Dal were very old organisations but they have not been that active in the past. Why have they suddenly become so active? Why have they suddenly become so much anti-Christians, anti-Muslims and anti-minorities? It is because they know that they have the backing of the Government of the day. They know that it is very much in tune with the ideological framework of one nation, one culture, one people, *Hindutva*.

I was surprised to read a report on the idea of the hon. Home Minister, Shri Advani on Buddhism. On the 6th of November, 1998 when the hon. Home Minister was inaugurating the World Unity in Buddha's Trinity at Saranath, he Hinduised and Aryanised Buddhism. What did you say? Sir, he said, I quote:

"Buddha only reinstated the ancient ideals of the Hindu Aryan civilisation."

The Home Minister went on to say:

"Gautama Buddha was an incarnation of Vishnu and his philosophy flowed from *Bhagwad Gita*."

We all know what the reaction of the Buddhist scholars on this reported interpretation of the hon. Home Minister about Buddhism. What is happening today? It is because of the patronage in thinking, in philosophy and in ideology which are emanating from the leaders of the Government of the day.

The second aspect is the theoretical framework. What is the theoretical framework of the ruling party? We know about several statements made by the leaders of the VHP, RSS and Bajrang Dal. I do not like to name them because somebody will object that; I cannot take their names because they will not be able to defend themselves. But everyone of us know that the most prominent leaders of those organisations are seeing that Christians are anti-national. There should be second Quit India Movement. The Churches should be closed because they serve liquor in the Church ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI UTTAMSINGH PAWAR (JALANA) : Nobody has said like that ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (AHMEDABAD) : The remark was against some of the missionaries and not on the Christian community...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : Please do not make the official statement here. (*Interruptions*). We are also from the RSS. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (AHMEDABAD) : Nobody has said. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI BHAVANA KARDAM DAVE (SURENDRA-NAGAR) : We do not want to interrupt you. We never expected from you that you will also speak like this...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA (FEROZABAD) : Sangmaji, we never expected this from you. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (VAISHALI) : Are you going to preach the wise people...(*Interruptions*) and teach them...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR (DUM DUM) : Please do not quote these types of concocted stories...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : You are a part of Great India...(*Interruptions*). I treat you as one of the great Indians.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (MUVATTUPUZHA) : The statement of the VHP leaders have come in the Press. They have not denied...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PURNO A. SANGMA : All right, I will modify my statement. It is reported...(*Interruptions*). It could be wrong. I will be happy if it is wrong. But it is reported that the former Minister of Delhi, Shri Rajindra Gupta has made this statement. I think, it is because of the ignorance of Christian religion. I do not blame him. He alleged that the liquors are being served in the Church. Therefore, under the Excise Rules, it should not be allowed and it should be closed. I have read it. I do not know how you did not read it. ...(*Interruptions*). No, because you are challenging my statement, I am just saying it ...(*Interruptions*).

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : If it had been someone else who was speaking, I would not have interrupted him. I would have waited till the end. But it is Shri Sangma, the respected former Speaker of this House and whom I have held in high esteem and great respect, I wish he had not merely read one report from somewhere, and as far as I recall, even that report did not say what he says now. But immediately on the day this was mentioned in the House, the hon.

[Shri L.K. Advani]

Prime Minister stood up to say that so far as this Government is concerned, my Party is concerned, we cannot reconcile with any such proposal. So, if there is any such proposal, the Delhi Government would be directed to immediately and it because they do not understand. Instead of citing that, when a former Speaker and the leading Member of the Congress Party repeats that kind of a thing, the damage is done not merely to the BJP, the damage is not done merely to this Government, the damage is done to the whole country. This is what I would like to repeat again and again...*(Interruptions)*. Therefore, I would plead with you that if you are to quote someone, let us know where you are quoting from. Then, in this particular case the whole House had heard the official view of the Government and the Prime Minister. There was no point in quoting it again....*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI PURNO A. SANGMA : May be I used the word 'closed' and Shri Rajindra Gupta did not use the word 'closed'. Unfortunately, I do not have that paper with me, but I have my notes. The language he used is: 'Churches ...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : The hon. Prime Minister has given the official view of the Government and not the Party...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI PURNO A. SANGMA : I know it. Shri Advani, that was later on.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Shri Sangma, the day this news item appeared in the morning newspapers, the matter was raised in the House and immediately the hon. Prime Minister, without even caring to go and enquire from and what the Delhi Government, said what is the Government's view is the Party's view. Everyone thought that the whole matter was closed. After three months, a leader of the party is talking about the atrocity on minorities and raises this issue which was closed by the whole House.

Is it not something that is going to damage the whole country?

SHRI PURNO A. SANGMA : Mr. Home Minister, I started my speech by saying that I was not going into the incidents and the specific incident that had taken place. I am going through the ideological and theoretical framework of the BJP and the Sangh Pariwar. That is the statement I made. Having made that statement, I am trying to prove the theoretical framework of the people. I am not going into the incident.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Shri Sangma, if I would have to reply to whatever you have said, I would have done quoting my manifesto as being the ideology of BJP. But you are referring to the incident relating to the Delhi Government, relating to the church and in that context, knowing fullwell that the matter was satisfactorily replied to and the Government immediately told that it was not to be done, the matter ended. Do you want to repeat it? Is

it fair? Please go ahead, because this is all that you have in so far as atrocities on minorities are concerned.

SHRI PURNO A. SANGMA : It is not all that I have. I have so many things to say. I think because of the constraint of time I cannot mention them. I was trying to explain the theoretical framework. Why do people in the BJP and in the Sangh Pariwar should have the notion, that wrong thinking, that Christians are anti-national? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (AHMEDABAD) : No, You are wrong.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (BALASORE) : I am happy that it is true.

SHRI PURNO A. SANGMA : But it has been said. It has been said repeatedly.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : It is not a fact. It is not correct.

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI, AVSM (GARHWAL) : Because somebody once said it, will you accuse the others?

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Khandhuri, please do not disturb him.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PURNO A. SANGMA : I am very happy. Your repose today clearly shows that you are beginning to understand...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA (MARMAGOA) : You are wasting the time of the House.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : No one is wasting the time of the House. Because observations are being made of a nature which I believe are hurting the country.

Let me strike a personal note, Shri Sangma, the hon. former Speaker has paid me a compliment that I am starting to understand today.

Let me mention that so far as the Christian community is concerned, right from my childhood my education has been in a Catholic School, in a Missionary School. There is no question of regarding Christians as anti-national or anything of the type. In fact, the only occasion was when I had an occasion to visit my birthplace Karachi only few days ago in the last 15 years. The High Commissioner of Pakistan came and asked me, "Are you particular in visiting any particular place in Karachi?" I said that if I would like to go to any place, it would be my school, St. Patricks High School and that is my choice. I did go there. I am only emphasising that so far as this Government and this party are concerned, about whom I am proud, this Government or party, about whose ideology I am proud, to draw this conclusion that its ideology regards Christians as anti-national, it is an irony.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Take note of this also. He is one of the famous ideologists.

SHRI PURNO A. SANGMA : That is precisely I want to know, Mr. Home Minister.

18.00 hrs.

I know that the hon. Home Minister was the product of St. Patricks School, Karachi. I know that. Many people who matter in this country whether they are politicians or bureaucrats, whether they are diplomats or media journalists, whether they are industrialists, many of them have been educated in Christians institutions; and we are proud of that because that is our contribution to this country. If you accept that, why is it that thousands of Bibles are being burnt today? Why? Why are churches being attacked today? This is my question. Why are dead bodies being exhumed from the graveyards? This is the question that I want to ask.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH (MIRZAPUR) : Sangmaji is saying that only those who have studied in Christian missionaries are good. I highly object to that.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : He is not yielding. Shri Virendra Kumar, he is not yielding. Please take your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH : Many people who studied in village schools, Municipality and Zila Parishad schools have also turned out to be great men. Don't be under an illusion that only those who study in Christian Missionaries are good. What are you talking?

[English]

SHRI PURNO A. SANGMA : I think it is becoming very uncomfortable for the Ruling Party. I do not want to proceed further. Let me caution. Shri Ram Vilas Paswan made a very significant statement on this debate. Look at our borders. It is the minorities who are defending our borders. I want to go one step further that if India is projected in the whole world being a country which is anti-Muslims, anti-Christians, we have to remember that we will get further isolated. We are already isolated because of many things that had happened in our country. You talk of Babri Masjid. You talk of nuclear tests. We already stand isolated. If we continue like that, I do not think it will be good for our country. After all, basically the world is divided into two blocs. Let me be very frank and blunt about it. India, in this process of globalisation, cannot afford to be isolated by the world. Please remember that. I am happy that the Home Minister today, is very assertive. I am very happy that of late the Prime Minister has also

started saying that he is very assertive because he has got three of his most trusted people in the Ministry. But the only comment that I would like to make Mr. Home Minister is that your assertiveness or the Prime Minister's assertiveness is, perhaps, belated. It is already late. I am told and I know that every morning the Hindus do a Pooja called Surya Namaskar. That is to prevent blindness. I read it somewhere that it is to prevent blindness. But unfortunately, Shri Advani and also the Prime Minister are doing Surya Namaskar after they have become blind. But I can tell you that the people of India and the country are not blind. That has been proved in the recent elections of Delhi, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI UMA BHARATI) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak, but please tell me how much time I have been allotted to speak?

MR. SPEAKER : Five minutes.

KUMARI UMA BHARATI : Please give me ten minutes. Shri Sangma has just concluded his speech. When Shri Sangma was the Speaker I gave him due respect ... (Interruptions). But the type of speech which Shri Sangma delivered today was not expected from him. He has made a comment on Shri Advani.

[English]

'Now you are beginning to understand'

[Translation]

I will comment the same about you also.

[English]

'Now you are beginning to lose your understanding.'

[Translation]

The type of speech which you delivered and the quotations you gave was not expected from you. We respect you a lot. My request to you is that in future whenever you speak in the House, keep this thing in your mind that respect which we have for you remains intact.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Madam, just one minute.

Hon. Members, we had allotted two hours for the discussion of this subject. Already it has taken more than nine hours. Twenty-three Members have already spoken on this. I seek the sense of the House for extending the time of the House by one hour to complete this subject today. There are also five to six more Members to speak

on this subject. So, should we extend the time by one hour?

...(Interruptions)

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Not today, tomorrow ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA): You said that the time is over, Shri Advani Ji will give the reply.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : No, tomorrow we have a very hectic business.

AN HON. MEMBER : This is a very important subject, Sir. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : That is why we have taken nine hours instead of two hours. So, the time of the House is extended by one hour. Now you can continue, Madam.

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARATI : While replying to Sangma Ji Advani Ji just now said that he himself has studied in a Christian school. Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I invite Sh. Sangma to visit my house after the debate is completed in the House. Further I would like to say that I studied upto sixth standard in a village school. After that I started delivering religious sermons in the country as well as outside. I did not get an opportunity to study in a Christian School. Adjacent to my room there is a small room which I use as a place of worship. In that room I have kept an idol of Lord Krishna and next to it a picture portrait of Jesus Christ. I would like to tell Shri Sangma that I never studied in a Christian School, yet picture of Jesus Christ is there in my room because I am Hindu and because I am Hindu my religion gives me freedom to keep picture of Jesus Christ alongside the picture of Lord Krishna in my room.

From the age of six years I have been going to the 'Shakhas' of R.S.S. and I have full faith and trust in R.S.S. We have separate Shakhas for women and men, but I have delivered religious sermons and speeches in men's Shakhas also. Therefore if I say in a refined language, I am a staunch, Jan Sanghi and a devoted Hindu too. There is no other photograph in my room except that of Lord Shri Krishna and Jesus Christ. So, it is not that sense of generosity comes only by studying in a Christian School. Feeling of generosity may be there in those who study in a village school because they are Hindus and offshoots of Hindu parents.

Whenever I go to America I do not find any temple near the place where I live. You believe me that on Tuesday I go and sit in some Church for reciting 'Hanuman Chalisa' because for 'Hanuman Chalisa' I need a religious place. There I sit in the back row offer my respects, bow my forehead to the ground and recite 'Hanuman Chalisa' because I consider it a religious place.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell hon'ble Shri Sangma one more thing that I took 'Sanyas' in 1992 and because 'Sanyasin'. I am a Hindu and an Indian. But if you want to end communalism from this country and if you want to bring forward a person on this earth who is the unconcerned with religion, who has a feelings. if service like Jesus Christ, who has a sense of gratitude of a Hindu, who has a faith of a Muslim, who has non-violence of a Jain who has Budha's compassion and who has a Skih's reverence then I will be the first person to offer myself for that. We should rise above communalism and create a person who has the virtues of all religions. I want to ask whether you are also ready for this? The way you delivered a Communal speech.

[English]

you have given the most communal speech.

[Translation]

I have read all the speeches which were given here, you have tried to give it a communal colour. Hon'ble Shiv Shanker Ji is not present here. There is a time constraint otherwise I would have replied to it line by line. He has mentioned the incident of Jhabua. Accusation has been made against Shri Baikunth Lal Sharma 'Prem' who was Member of Parliament and Office bearer of Vishwa Hindu Parishad. I would like to reply to the statement of Sangma ji through the hon'ble Speaker and would request him that if there is any provision to call Shri Sharma here then arrangements be made to call him here and if admits that he has given this type of statement then before law punishes him I will punish him if he has said something like this, regarding Christian Nuns. I would like to say that it would have been better had we not highlighted the Jhabua incident without knowing the facts. Out of 24 accused persons 12 persons were Christians. Therefore in Jhabua rape incident there is a politics of votes and they have tried to play politics of minority. An attempt has been made to create a divide between Hindus and Christians. This thing has come into the limelight that out of 24 accused 12 persons were Christians and those who have committed this wicked act they are sinners but those who have tried to give this act a religion colour and played politics by attempting to divide Hindus and Christians in the garb of Jhabua incident are bigger sinners.

[English]

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM (BADAGARA) : The statement made by the hon. Minister about culprits of Jhabua incident is not correct. They are not christians.

MR. SPEAKERS : Please do not interrupt.

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARATI : Through you, I would like to remind one sentence of Sangmajī.

[English]

"O my Father, forgive them for they know not what they do."

[Translation]

Just now you said about 'Sangh' that they consider Christians anti-nationals. About BJP you said that they consider them as anti-nationals and want to demolish their churches and oust them from the country. You should not say like this if you do not have any proof. Therefore, I will say this for you also:

[English]

O my Father, forgive him for he knows not what he says.

SHRI PURNO A. SANGMA : I do not know, but the whole world knows it.

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARATI : You do not even know what you are speaking. We never question the patriotism of Muslims. Who are we to grant licence of patriotism to anybody? Who are we to grant certificate of patriotism? Earlier I was not prepared to deliver speech but since I am allowed to give speech here, therefore, I read full speech and I am surprised to note that the discussion should be aimed at going into the reasons as to why atrocities are committed on the minorities and what are the remedies for that. Instead, I find that speeches have been made to give a political colour to the incidents. I respect Pt. Shiv Shanker Saheb, he is not present here. He has mentioned about atrocities on minorities. What does minorities mean should be defined properly in this country. What does minorities mean. It does not mean one or two communities. Sikhs also come under minority category. In this country Jain, Muslim and many other communities are such who are in less number and come under minority.

No mention has been made about 1984 riots when thousands of Sikhs were torched by putting pouring petrol over them and as a result of it thousands of women were made widow. I thought that when Pt. Shiv Shankerji will show sympathy towards minorities, he will also speak about Hindu minority in Kashmir who were displayed from the Valley and put up at Jammu and atrocities were committed on their women. Therefore, I request the House that just as Jhabua incident and Rajkot incidents are being discussed in the House, in the same way

mention about Hindus of Kashmir should also be made. But there the Principal acted rationally and apologized in writing. While distributing new testament, one form was attached to it in which it is written that Christ is the only saviour and except that there is no succour. Hindu children were also asked to fill that form. Through you, I would like to tell that whatever you said:

[English]

One people, one nation and one culture.

[Translation]

There is no dispute over the theory of one nation and one people. But the mention of one culture must be troubling some people. One culture does not mean religion. It does not mean any faith. Culture means way of living. Culture means the language, clothings and food habit. Culture means our point of view towards women, neighbours and country. One culture, which I mentioned and if one understand that culture properly and even you would have also understood it then you won't have any problem. The issue which was discussed here during 3-4 days I would say that some incidents must have taken place on minorities but we do not support those incidents. We do not want to protect them. They must be punished and there has been no laxity on the part of the Government in this regard but I do not understand what secularism is? In English there is one word 'aunty'. In Hindi the word 'aunty' carries different meanings. In means 'Bua', 'Chachi', 'Mausi', and 'Maami'. It seems to me that the word secularism is like 'aunty'. In reality, we should understand what secularism mean because it carries different meanings. When Sangma Saheb speaks here the secularism has different meaning and if speaks about secularism outside the House then it carries another meaning. Therefore we should understand as to what secularism is. The members from Bengal and Orissa who are present here must be remembering that Shankaracharya Ji of Jagannathpuri disallowed a woman to recite Vedas. I myself protested against it. When I opposed then one of the disciple of Shankaracharya Ji contacted me and said that they disallowed women to recite Vedas because it will have adverse effect on their wombs. For this I said that you cannot disallow women from reciting vedas. In this connection I will advance an argument that in case of reciting vedas by men it will have an adverse effect on their stomach. Therefore I said that I will not support this.

Sir, through you, I would like to tell the entire House that when Shankaracharajaji of Jagannathpuri disallowed a woman to recite vedas people of entire Country condemned it. People like me also condemned that incident while on the one hand, people reprimand the Shankaracharaya for disallowing a woman from reciting the vedas and on the other hand the same people do not issue visa to Taslima Nasrin to enter the country. There

[Kumari Uma Bharati]

can be no dual streams of thought. Either there should be fundamentalism or liberalism. We should remember this that we call this ideology as culture. Otherwise it will be a case of medicating the part of the body which is alright and leaving the affected limb untreated. Once a child went out to play and got his leg injured when he returned home he told his father about this. His father slapped him and scolded him as to why he went out to play in spite of his advice. Later on he called the boy to medicate his wound. He directed the boy not to move or say anything during the course of medication. Despite medication when the boy did not find any relief he told his father about this. His father asked as to why there is no relief, the boy answered that he had sustained injury on his right leg whereas he is medicating his left leg. Then his father asked him why he has not said it earlier. The boy replied that you had instructed me not to utter even a single word and that is why I kept mum.

[Translation]

To whom are you teaching the lesson of secularism? The people of this country do not need lesson in secularism. Sangmaji, keep this thing in mind that Shri L.K. Advaniji, Shri Ashok Singhal Ji, Shri Rajju Baiya or anybody else does not want to make this country a 'Hindu Rashtra' or 'Hindu Rajya' and nobody can make this country a 'Hindu Rajya'. Therefore, this country do not need any sermon on secularism. The country where even a pebble on earth and moon and stars in the sky are worshipped, where the people, who do not even know the name of their ancestors, offer food and drink to them in 'Shradh' fortnight, do not need lessons in secularism. The people of this country do not need it at any cost. The need of the hour is that we should go into the root cause of these incidents. I condemn these incidents. The incident of Jhabua happened, as Muzaffarnagar incident and 'Tandoor Incident' happened. I do not think that the people who commit crime keep religion in their mind, while doing so. If they do it for the sake of religion, they should be severely punished.

Sir, Ram Vilas Paswanji is present here, he had given a very good speech. P. Shivshankarji is not present, he has also spoken. Arif Saheb is not present here, he has said many things. While giving a speech, Sangmaji spoke as a spokesman of Christians. I do not want to speak as spokesperson of Hindus, but I would like to state that when the question of giving respect to the faith arises, why should anybody object to offering of milk to Lord Ganesh by crores to Hindu devotees. Many Hindus derive peace of mind by offering milk to Lord Ganesh. This act leads to faith healing. Many conferences are held on faith-healing. Lakhs of people assemble over there. Lakhs of people assemble over graves to keep ghosts and evil spirits at bay. If superstition is wrong, it is wrong at every place. If fanaticism is wrong, it is wrong everywhere. But if a message goes out from here that ....(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (HAJIPUR) : Umaji, we do not have any objection to offering milk to Ganeshji. But Ganeshji eat 'Ladoo', and you have offered him milk.

KUMARI UMA BHARATI : But, Sir, if after eating Ladoos, Ganeshji suffers from indigestion, and he would like to drink milk, then what objection do you have? See, if we continuously attack a community and strike deep in their heart that a particular community is used as guinea-pig for experiment, I would like to say, that this message should not go. I do not say that attacks are not made in the name of religion. But today, Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to make a very serious request. What do you want? You want that the country should rise above the communalism and live in peace. You want that the coming generations should rise above, the lines of religion, state, caste, nepotism and languages, and should live in peace and harmony. The solution to it lies in this Parliament only. The riots, which erupt in the country, the seeds of it are sown in this Parliament. The kind of speeches delivered by Sangma Saheb and Ram Vilas Paswan and Arif Mohammadji are not in the right direction. Ram Vilasji would forgive me for uttering his name without suffixing 'Ji'. He is just like my elder brother. If we want to stop communalism, then the Members of Parliament have to take measures. If we have to condemn communalism....(Interruptions) I may disagree with you on a point, but I respect you a lot, you are like my elder brother and I will never disagree with it and you will also not disagree with it. Therefore, I would request the hon'ble Members that whenever the discussion on this subject is held, they should rise above the lines of communalism and religion....(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Would you allow your brother Ram Vilasji to enter the sanctum sanctorum of a Hindu temple?

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARATI : Sangma Saheb if you had condemned the 1984 riots, if you would have condemned, how Hindus were driven out of Kashmir, I would have bowed my head before you. But what you said, is baseless. You have said certain things about Delhi's Minister, Shri Rajender Gupta, who is not present here to clarify his point. In the name of rule, you people have reprimanded us for one and a half year. Therefore, I would like to request the entire House, that we have to stop the attacks which are made in the name of religion. For this we don't have to go anywhere. If the people present here, and those who are not present, clean the cow-webs of their mind and resolve among themselves that they have to solve these problems, these problems will get solved. But we can not solve these problems if we ourselves are engulfed in the quagmire of communalism. We can solve these problems only by rising above all

these things. I am sure then we will be able to stop atrocities on minorities. We do condemn atrocities on minorities. Our hon'ble Advaniji will reply to your every question. I personally condemn these type of incidents and with these words. I conclude my speech.

[English]

18.24 hrs.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (PONNANI) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you.

Sir, it is a painful reality that the minorities of motherland India do not feel themselves and their culture secure in the country. During the recent months it cannot be denied that there has been an alarming increase in the incidence of atrocities against the minorities. The Muslims, the Christians, the Sikhs, all have been the targets.

Sir, I emphasise that the attacks on minorities are attacks on the culture of our motherland India. The attacks on the minorities are attacks on India secularism. They are attacks on the Indian Constitution itself.

The stark reality of the situation is that attacks on minorities are the outcome of the deliberate attitude of some against the minorities encouraged by the connivance and direct or indirect complicity of those of the same colour who are in Government or in administration. Sir, if you look at the features of the various atrocities on the minorities, you will find that the outstanding feature of the attacks on minorities is not only the attitude of some but also the responsibility of the Government.

We had an Unstarred Question No. 1406 in the House on the atrocities on minorities. I was also one of the persons who had raised that question. In reply, with respect to Gujarat, after mentioning just one of the incidents, the hon. Home Minister had cared to say, 'Apart from this, six other minor incidents took place in Gujarat. Police has taken action and brought things under control.'

When this is the callous attitude of the Government, I must say that the alarming feature is the emboldened manner in which Golwalkarian thought and policy are sought to be implemented, implemented vigorously, by the fascist forces with the complicity of the Government.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA (FEROZABAD) :

To say that the Government has a hand in this is objectionable. Government has given clarification on this. Hon'ble Home Minister has said clearly that the intention of the Government regarding this is clear. What hon'ble member has said is not correct. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Katheria, please take your seat.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (PONNANI) : There is a clear and distinct echoing of the thoughts of Golwalkar who had called upon the minorities to assume Hindu names, observe Hindu festivals and so on. Accordingly, the Uttar Pradesh Government sought to impose the compulsion of singing of *Vande Mataram* and *Saraswati Vandana* in schools. This was sought to be imposed in total defiance of the Constitution, the law, and even the spirit of the Supreme Court judgement in the case of *Bljoe Emmanuel and Others vs. State of Kerala*, AIR 1987 SC 748. The time given by you is very short and, therefore, I will only mention the case and do not go into details. But, I may remind the House of the words of wisdom of an American judge, Justice Stone, in an American case. He said:

"The very essence of liberty which they guaranteed is the freedom of the individual from compulsion as to what he shall think and what he shall say, at least where the compulsion is to bear false witness to his religion."

Sir, Golwalkarian echoes of Uttar Pradesh were heard in Karnataka also. On July 17, handbills were distributed by Bajrang Dal. Threat have been given that in schools Hindu prayers must be conducted, portraits of Hindu goddesses must be fixed, and so on.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, Ayodhya was sought to be created in Karnataka by starting the so-called movement of liberation of the Hazarat Baba Dargah there at Chikmagalur.

Look at the intensity of the situation—At Radhikpur in Gujarat, Minorities were attacked and were forced to leave the village. In the Unstarred Question that I had referred to — put by me and others — this was considered also as 'minor case'... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI BHAVNA KARDAM DAVE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to say that the Government of Gujarat has legally provided protection to minorities at Ramdhikapur in Gujarat and they are happily living in Radhikapur ... (Interruptions) Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am on point of order ... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA : Therefore, such has been the response. At Banswara in Rajasthan, the Sangh Pariwar had boldly declared that 'Banswara will be cleared of Christians by 2000 A.D.'

Mr. Speaker, Sir, look at the official attitude. The

[Shri G. M. Banatwalla]

Srikrishna Commission Report was summarily rejected by the Government of Maharashtra ....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : He is not yielding. Please take your seats.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI BHAVNA KARDAM DAVE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are not allowing us to speak. Government of Gujarat has provided full protection to minorities there. How can they speak like this? ... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : A reign of terror was let loose on minorities in Maharashtra on the eve of the anniversary of demolition of the Babri Masjid on 6th December. During nights, the police knocked at the doors of Muslim houses in several localities like Govandi, Oshiwara, Partiksha Nagar and others, and asked for ration cards. They misbehaved with them and arbitrarily arrested those who were without ration cards. It is very unfortunate.

Sir, today Tamil Nadu also leads in indiscriminate large-scale arrests of the innocents.

Look at the official position. Here, in Delhi, we find that notices were served by sub-divisional magistrates saying that 'your dead predecessors—fathers or grandfathers—were Pakistani nationals and now you come and disclose their properties.' Nobody wants to explain under what law, they were asked. Questions were asked. Five hundred such notices were issued. I want to speak in detail on this particular matter but due to constraint of time, I will be briefly mentioning my points. Sir, look at the various features of the atrocities. Dead body of a Christian there in Gujarat was dug out from the grave and thrown on the highway...(Interruptions)

SHRI HARIN PATNAIK (AHMEDABAD) : There is no graveyard...(Interruptions)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (PONNANI) : Sir, I should be allowed to speak....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : We should be given an opportunity to reply...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI BHAVNA KARDAM DAVE : BJP Government in Gujarat is giving full protection to minorities ... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Sir, the Ayodhya, Nagar Palika Parishad has passed a Resolution 16(1) saying

that all the graveyards will be closed and no burial will be allowed within the limits of Ayodhya. Look at the high-handedness and the inhuman manner in which they say that no burial will be allowed in the graveyards in the limits of Ayodhya Nagar Palika Parishad. Sir, this is the height of the thing. I have written a letter to the Prime Minister regarding this matter.

It is a serious situation and the matter needs immediate attention. Such repressive measures are being taken to intimate minorities by raiding the ancestral house of Maulana Syed Abul Hassan Ali Nadvi, the great Islamic scholar. Such is the situation.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAKUNI CHOUDHARY (KHAGARIA) : Sir, you have not given time to speak to our party-Samata Party. We too should be given time to speak.

[English]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : You are also important and I know that there is a constraint of time. So, let me conclude by saying that the destiny of our motherland, India, lies in communal harmony and communal amity. India of our vision is India where no one for even a single moment shall be ever apprehensive of his security, the security of his culture and of his way of life. That is the India of our vision where all shall march with equal opportunities and shoulder to shoulder on the path to progress so that we are wedded into one nation which may become the envy of the world.

MR. SPEAKER : You are testing my patience also!

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : These are the things and, therefore, as I have said the stark reality of the situation today is the vigorous manner in which the Golwalkarian thoughts and policy are sought to be implemented and that must go in the larger interests of the nation and the unity and integrity of our country.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri P.C. Thomas will speak now.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (MUVATTUPUZHA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish that we would not have had an Agenda like this and this Agenda we had only because of the series of incidents which took place recently and I wish to add to what the hon. Member just before me has said that secular India which we all have in our hearts should be protected as a place where everyone is secure, be he a person from a majority or a minority or any religion whatsoever. Religion should not be one which divides any person in this country. It should never be and, if it is so in any way, I think there is something for introspection.

As far as some of the atrocities are concerned, almost all of them have been mentioned here. I do not want to reiterate them. But I wish to make one point here. When Gujarat Government took action against one protest which was made in a democratic way by one community here in Delhi and in all places in India, we said in Parliament that the Gujarat Government has stated that they were going to take action against any person who protested or any institution which was going to be closed on that day. It was said in Parliament at that time that no such action was going to be taken.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI BHAVNA KARDAM DAVE : Your information is not correct. Educational institutions which take grants cannot enjoy holidays like this.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, permission cannot be granted to close any school in the name of religion especially when the school is run on Government grants ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : I have got only two minutes time to speak. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : It was a working day.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : How many working days do you have? On how many working days, we have all gone into strike? Do you take any action against all those who have gone on a protest strike? *(Interruptions)* It was only a protest. There was only a protest from the side of the Institutions. I suppose, action was taken only in Gujarat. The Union Government did not take any action. In other places, no other State Government took action.

[Translation]

SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI (AMRELI) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, since Bharatiya Janta Party is running good administration in Gujarat and these people do not want that Gujarat should be run efficiently and, therefore, they mention the name of Gujarat...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : This is an atrocity. This may be taken as an atrocity on a Member belonging to a small party! *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRIMATI BHAVNA KARDAM DAVE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, permission cannot be granted to go on strike like this to any educational institution, which is run on the grants given by the State administration. No institution can do like this ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : It was on a Friday. That circular was issued not only to one school but it was issued to all the schools stating that the children should not be involved in these activities ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : I am given only two minutes and out of those two minutes, they have already taken three minutes *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, permission will not be given to anybody to close the schools like this and come onto the roads....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Thomas, please address the Chair; do not address the Members.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Sir, I was trying to limit my submission to only one point.

There was a protest on the 4th December and we made it known here, we said in Parliament that one Government — I do not say the Government of Gujarat — had said that it was going to take severe action, that it was going to cut all grants to any schools which was closed down that day. There was some action that they envisaged. It was then said in response, in Parliament, that nothing of that sort was going to take place. In spite of that, the management of all the schools and institutions in Gujarat which were closed on that particular day had been served notices by the officer concerned. They say that the Inspector went on that particular day to inspect the schools and when the Inspectors went to the schools, it was found that nobody was there. They say that when it was inquired into, it was known that they were on a protest. Then, they had given a notice saying that it should be replied by the next day. Usually, seven days' time is given to reply. It was said in the show-cause notice that they should report the very next day and show cause why the grant should not be cut. Action was immediately taken. This should not be done...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRIMATI BHAVNA KARDAM DAVE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, permission cannot be given to disturb the environment of any educational institution like this...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Thomas, please conclude now.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : I was trying to bring to the notice of the House that such action is being taken by a Government, the Government of Gujarat. If that is so, I

[Shri P. C. Thomas]

think that when the hon. Minister of Home Affairs is going to reply, he will be giving a reply to it in this House. I do not want to say anything more. I think that the series of atrocities which have taken place should not continue any further and that this Government should give out a very strong statement in this House that the minorities in this country will be safe and will be protected from sorts of atrocities.

18.44 hrs.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (BARAMULLA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think, a great responsibility has developed on the hon. Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and the hon. Minister of Home Affairs, Shri L.K. Advani.

It is a situation which is very agonising. I think, the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Minister of Home Affairs must respond the way the nation expects. The Leader of the Shiv Sena, Shri Madhukar Sirpotdar said here that we are discussing this subject even after fifty years of independence. Yes, it is a shame on us because there are men who subvert the Constitution of India, people who have no respect for the Constitution of India. They are all set to subvert it.

So, there is a communal tragedy and thus, we are discussing it. It is a shame on us. But somebody must go into the whole question. I was very pleasantly surprised by what my sister, Kumari Umaji has said. She said that the *hathiyaras* — or whatever Hindi word that she used — that is, the people who commit crimes must be punished. She must also know that here in this House, Shri Sirpotdar said in his speech that they demolished the Babri Masjid. It will never be built again. That Mosque will never be built again. She called it *dhancha*. Kindly forget as to whether it was a Mosque or a *dhancha*.

The Archaeological Act of India does not allow anybody to demolish any building which is hundred years old. That Mosque was 500 years old. So, demolishing it, was a crime. Even Shri Lal Krishna Advani made a statement on that. It is very easy to say that they must be punished. I respect Kumari Uma Bharati's sentiment this time because we are on equal wave length whenever the question of nation is there. But she must rise to the occasion. She must sit with us and sort out the things and then only, her saying will influence me; otherwise, it will mean nothing. She must come forward to punish these people. When I go deep into the analysis, I want to tell this House that I satisfied myself with the hon. Home Minister's statement about Jhabua. We must put forth things before the hon. Home Minister that are correct.

We, in India, are going to the 21st century as a big nation, as a great nation. India wants to have a permanent seat in the Security Council. India has the vitality that it should have a permanent seat in the Security Council. It must have a prestige in the comity of nations.

We are going to the 21st century, but we cannot go with the kind of reputation that we have earned. I am pained to say that something has happened and thus, recently the graph is showing ascendancy. The hon. Home Minister should go into this. India has a future. I have satisfied myself that India has a rich future. It will not remain just as one of big countries. It will certainly go to the level of Nehru's dreams. This time there is a unipolar system because the bipolar system is finished after the disintegration of the Soviet Union. There is such a nice situation not only in Asia, but throughout the world. China, India, Russia and America are going to be together. India will be second to none. But we have to respond to that situation. We have to remove this ailment very quickly. This is what I expect the hon. Home Minister to do.

Sir, I have to skip a lot. The minorities in this country are feeling unsafe. Shri Sirpotdar made a wrong statement because he does not have the culture and taste for history. He said: Has come, has not come but has converted from harmony.

It is the birthright of Muslims to call their land as mother-land and father-land and their own land. They are not second class citizens, at the mercy of Shiv Sena.

[Translation]

All of them did not come from outside. But those who came alongwith Babur lived here and died here. Jehangir was son of a Hindu mother and all other Muslim kings like Shahjahan have died here only. You cannot compare that era with British and simply forget it because 1500 crore muslims have objection to it.

[English]

How many Moghuls came?

This is my grouse against the RSS, that they want Hindus to be revivalists, to look to the past. Looking very much to the past will be a loss to the Hindu community itself. History is like a sleeping tiger. If you awake the sleeping tiger, the first person who gets killed is the person who awakes the sleeping tiger. We must not go to the past so much.

[Translation]

We must not delve deep into the History because it will do no good to the future of India. I am speaking in Urdu History and our past should become example for us so that we may make way for future. To take India forward, we should take example from our past.

[English]

Muslims and Christians are feeling — through you, hon. Speaker, Sir, I am telling the hon. Home Minister — very insecure. It is primarily because of the hatred campaign of the RSS.

The RSS heaved a sigh of relief when the BJP came forward to form the Government. Since then I have been watching it myself that they want the revivalist movement to be strong; they want India to be a theocratic State; and in their enthusiasm they wanted to deal greatly with the administration. They went to UP; they went to technological institutions; and they went to institutions of science. They had no right to do that. That may be a cultural party and a religious party, but they are not in the Government. If they want to do that, then they must join the Government. Before the Home Minister, they visited those places which they should not have visited. I, as a citizen of India, rise to object to that.

In due course of time, the RSS itself will become a burden for the BJP. In fact, I want the BJP to grow and evolve into a secular and national party. We shall welcome it. As long as numbers are there they have the right to rule. I cannot have any grouse on that score. But the common people and the minorities feel insecure. Even though I said that it is because of the RSS, I would like to add that it is because of the policies of the BJP also. The policies of the Government are strengthening their attitude.

I have a material with me. I cannot read this material now. The paper was presented by Dr. Murlī Manohar Joshi at Paris. I have a lot of disagreement on this because it did not reflect the nation's thinking. Unfortunately, I cannot go into the details because I am speaking at the fag end on this subject. But it must go on record. In this report Dr. Joshi mentions about Aurobindo and talks of evolution. When one talks of evolution, one should accept the contributions made by Islam. I will come to that later.

MR. SPEAKER : Please conclude.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : The Muslim community has borne the brunt of the killings, assaults and the curriculum reforms. They want to Indianise and spiritualise the Muslims and the Christians. I have a report. I will pass it on to the Shri L.K. Advani because I have full faith that he would dispassionately study this. This is a report on Gujarat. If the Home Minister wants I will pass it on to him. Whatever he said about Jhabua was correct. But this is a report about Gujarat. It carries some photographs of Bardoli. A group went there and made a study.

MR. SPEAKER : Prof. Soz, you can send it to the hon. Home Minister.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : These are proven facts as to what happened to Christians and Muslims. In this group which had gone to Gujarat all but one were Hindus. I will forward it to the hon. Home Minister with the hope that he would kindly look into this.

[Translation]

SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : Tell us about Kashmir...(Interruptions)

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : If you want, I will tell you about Kashmir also. Advaniji knows better...(Interruptions)

[English]

A religious congregation of Christians, *Jeevan darshan*, was directly attacked.

MR. SPEAKER : Prof. Soz, please conclude.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Sir, I am skipping everything.

In Uttar Pradesh, there was a series of curriculum reforms. My objection is not to *Vande Mataram* or *Saraswati Vandana* as such. These are good principles and good teachings. If Shri Advani invites me to his home and wants me to sing, I can do that...(Interruptions) I am drawing the attention of my friend.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI BHAVNA KARDAM DAVE : *Saraswati Vandana* is in Indian culture and all people from childhood recite *Saraswati Vandana*...(Interruptions). *Saraswati Vandana* is not related to any religion...(Interruptions).

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Prof. Soz, please conclude.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Sir, I am concluding. You cannot make *Saraswati Vandana* or *Vande Mataram* compulsory because this is directly in contravention of the Constitution of India. Articles 25 and 28 say that the tax-payers' money cannot be used for promotion of any religion. That cannot be done. Nothing can be made compulsory in Government schools. Of course, you can do it in private schools.

MR. SPEAKER : Prof. Soz, please conclude.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : I want the Home Minister to take a position on articles 25 and 28 to the Constitution of India.

MR. SPEAKER : You may conclude now.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : I am concluding, Sir. I am skipping everything.

Before I conclude, I must say something about India

[Prof. Saifuddin Soz]

...(Interruptions)

itself, as to how we can build India for the future. Before that, I would like to mention about the Srikrishna Commission. I will not mention the Terms of Reference of the Commission. Shri Sirpotdar is our colleague and there is all the time for him to reform. In Srikrishna Commission Report, it is said that the individual and the organisation are held responsible. The organisation held responsible is, Shiv Sena and the individuals held responsible are, Shri Bal Thackeray, and Shri Sirpotdar. The Commission has also mentioned about Shri Bal Thackeray's admission in an interview that Muslims have to go from this country. I will not mention here the interview given by Shri Bal Thackeray to *The Times* magazine but this has been commented upon by Srikrishna Commission. I cannot go into the details of it. My colleague is here in his own authority. Srikrishna Commission wants him to reform. Through you and through the Home Minister, I wish to reform his thinking because there are strictures against him in the Srikrishna Commission's Report.

MR. SPEAKER : Please conclude.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ. : I will take only one minute more. I wanted to say that Shri Bal Thackeray should not be allowed to make statements like this. He takes law in his hand and gives verdict or *fatwa*. He does not talk about law. That is what I want to say.

SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR : He should not take the name of Shri Bal Thackeray...(Interruptions) He can take take my name. I am present in the House.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (BARAMULLA) : I have not said anything. I want you to reform your thinking. That is what Srikrishna Commission expects from you. I would like the Home Minister to ensure that nobody should be above law. We do not want a theocratic India, an India with a revivalist Hindu Movement and Chauvinism but a vibrant and strong India, an India of harmony and togetherness, India as a world power—one of the four major powers of the world. This was the dream of Jawaharlal Nehru. I would like to quote one line from his poem.

MR. SPEAKER : There is no time left now.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN (COOCHBEHAR) : Will you please allow us to speak?

MR. SPEAKER : I cannot allow anybody.

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM (BADAGARA) : Why there is this discrimination?...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : There is no time left. We have already taken 10 hours whereas the allotted time was only two hours. Please cooperate with me. Now, the Home Minister will give the reply.

[Translation]

SHR SHAKUNI CHOUDHARY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have not given time to Samta Party...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : We have already taken 10 hours. We have been discussing this issue for the last four days. For how many hours do you want to discuss this?

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : You please don't do like this. You had promised that after this he would give reply...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : All the Parties represented in the House should be given an opportunity to speak...(Interruptions)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (MAVELIKARA) : Advani Ji, we want your cooperation...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : With folded hands, I would say, 'no'.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : How many people can be given chance to speak under this?

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Minister is waiting for the last four days to give reply in the House.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Our Party has about five Members in the House and not a single Member has been given a chance to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : If he replies at 8.00 o'clock then that will not be covered in the news ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : If this is the attitude of the Members, I cannot run the House.

19.00 hrs.

....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : There are 42 different parties in the House. I cannot accommodate all the parties. How can I accommodate all the parties?

....(Interruptions)

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM : Sir, I have given notice. My party is the third largest party in the House. I should get an opportunity....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Madam, from your party also somebody has spoken.

....(Interruptions)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Sir, kindly extend the time for one hour.

MR. SPEAKER : You please understand that the reply of the Home Minister is also very important. You have already taken ten hours.

....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : You had promised that Home Minister would reply at 6.30 p.m. now it is already seven.

[English]

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDARI, AVSM : Only four Members have spoken from our party. There are ten more Members to speak....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : You had promised that after this no issue would come up. Now you want all issues to be taken up. One debate lasts for as many as 10 hours. This has never happened before.

[English]

This is not the way. Sir, you had allotted three hours. But they have already taken ten hours....(Interruptions)

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : A person who is representing five persons in the House was given one hour and fifty minutes. But not a single person has been allowed to speak from our party.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : They have chalked out a strategy. Yesterday also no bill was allowed to be passed. Today also this has not been allowed to be

passed. When Government business comes, they become aggressive.

[English]

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Why are you opposing? Heavens will not fall if the time is extended by one hour. You want our cooperation and if we want to speak, you will not allow. Why do you get angry for this?

[Translation]

Khuranaji leave it why are you getting angry.

Sir, my Members are sitting here for the last five days throughout ....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am also sitting. Everybody is sitting.

....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : All right then reply will take place tomorrow, whosoever wants to speak may speak today.

SHRI P.J. KURIEN : Whatsoever wants to speak may be allowed to speak.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : There is no point of order. We are discussing about the extension of time only. I want to accommodate everybody. I have no discrimination between lady and male Members.

....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please understand that the Minister is going to reply tomorrow. If the Members agree, I seek the permission of the House to extend the time by half an hour, that is, up to 7.30 p.m. The only condition is that each Member must take only three minutes.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : If there are Members from the Opposition who are speaking, let the Members from the Government side also get a chance. There have been so many Members from the Government side who had approached me. We had allotted their names and all of them have been waiting to speak.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Let it be extended by one hour.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I have no objection.

MR. SPEAKER : Is it the pleasure of the House to extend the time by one hour?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

MR. SPEAKER : Even in that case, each Member will speak for three to four minutes. The reply will be tomorrow.

Shri Amar Roy Pradhan to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN (COOCHBEHAR) : Mr. Speaker Sir, thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak.

Today, the kind of events of atrocities and exploitation which have been taking place in the country. I have to say only one thing by observing them and I want to avail an information from hon'ble Home Minister that whether your theory, thesis, thoughts and intention of one Hindu nation and one Hindi language is behind your demand of a Hindu religion. I listened to sister Uma Bharati's notion with great patience that you presented the secularism enshrined in our Constitution in a new perspective. They said that what does Auntie mean? Auntie means mother's sister and father's sister. Advaniji, I would like to say with a lot of grief that I have heard and read your December 6, 1992 statement with great patience and seriousness. The language which you spoke and the statement you expressed, the agony and the pain you have felt often six years of demolition of Babri Masjid. I also share that feeling. I have come to know that this BJP Government wants to forget about what it has done in the past and want to run the country in a secular fashion. But what happened in reality? You have been introducing Saraswati Vandana in the name of education. You have been encouraging slogan shouting at the house of Cine Actor Dilip Kumar. You have been burning Bible in the name of religion. Do you know that the image of our country has gone down due to burning of Bible? I would not take much time. As you have said, I would wind up within four minutes.

MR. SPEAKER : Wind up in three minutes,

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Please allow me for at least four minutes. Not only Bible, you have been setting the whole country on fire. You keep on spreading the Hindutva while the Hindustan has been burning.

This will achieve nothing. This gives the feeling as if you have been following the maxim that while Rome was burning. Nero was fiddling. If it happens so then it will be a matter of great sorrow. You have talked about Hindu philosophy which also have a Charvaka philosophy denying the existence of God. ..(Interruptions) Patanjali believes in God, he says that you should compromise with the pragmatic. This is above our Hindu religion. I am not a very educated person, I am not a scholar and I am also not a Pandit. Advaniji, I know that you have faith in Vivekananda. When he came back from Chicago, he said—

[English]

"If you have faith in all the 330 millions of your mythological Gods and all the Gods which foreigners have now and again introduced into your midst, and still have no faith in yourselves, there is no salvation for you. Have faith in yourselves and stand up on that faith and be strong. That is what we need today."

This is said by Swami Vivekananda. He was the first man in our country who said:

"I am a Communist not because of the fact that it is ideal but because half a loaf is better than nothing."

[Translation]

Sir, the philosophy of our Hindu religion has several streams—some believe in God while others do not. You are talking about Hinduism which has the philosophy of Bhakti Cult. We have starvation here. Those who do not have houses, clothes, what have you done for those people? You see Hindus and Muslims by segregating them.

[English]

"Divide and rule" policy had been adopted by the Britishers in this country and at the time of partition too, they adopted that policy. You cannot deny it. The Congress people had supported in dividing India. At that time, I think Shri Advani was a student and I was also a student. And you Hindu-Messiah people, under the leadership of Dr. Munje, had decided that partition must be there. By this way, you had divided India.

[Translation]

You have sown the seeds of communalism and are raising one religion against the other which is not proper. Similarly it is not correct to talk in terms of Hindu, Muslims and Christians. The feeling which should be prevalent in this country has not been adopted by you. The religion of the country and the religion of human beings is supreme. You have not followed this religion. I hope that you will talk about secularism and abide by what is laid down in the Constitution and implement it properly.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (AHAMEDABAD) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you. The House has been discussing a very sensitive issue for the last few days. Due to paucity of time, I do not want to speak in great lengths. I listened to the speeches of the all the hon'ble Members. I am pained to note that very few people have expressed their views or concern over the sensitive issue. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have a two and half years old grand daughter. She falls down while playing at home and when we see her falling. She starts crying and weeping.

If we do not look at her, then she starts making

totally ignorant of the fact, that she has fell down. I feel that we have been dealing with the minorities of this country in the same fashion. By raising small, isolated and local issues in our speeches, we have given a message to the whole country that minorities are not safe in this country. Some people in this country want to shunt them out of this country. The message which goes out of this House, as our hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs said, that the tone which has been coming out of our speeches is far more serious than the actual events.

19.16 hrs.

(SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD Singh *in the Chair*)

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we will have to define minorities. This is such a vast country. Minority can not be defined on the basis of castism in this country. There are some areas and States lying from Kashmir to Kanya Kumari and from Kohima to Katch in the country where the people who comprise majority in some areas while they are in minority in some other areas. I hail from Sahera in the Panchmal district of Gujarat. That is a small village. My father told me that our home was also burnt in 1948. Now tell me whether I belong to minority or a majority. The house of a poor Brahmin was set on fire. What were our feeling at that time. I do not intend to go into politics but it has been heard that who was collector during the 1948 riots became a prominent leader of Congress after wards. At that time they had sent petrol tanks. I have been in politics for the last thirty years and have also worked in Corporation for twenty years. I have seen 1969 riot of Ahmedabad.

[Translation]

Almost after every two years riots would take place there. At that time congress was in power. Two thousand five hundred Muslims and one thousand Hindus were killed in that riot. Now if I talk about in terms of Hindus and Muslims, it will not be acceptable to you. Two thousand five hundred Muslims were killed there after identifying their names from the electoral rolls. Who were the Chief Minister and Home Minister of Gujarat at that time? Whose Government was there? At that time congress was in power at Centre as well as in the State. Nobody bothered about minorities at that time.

About four-five lakhs people have been compelled to leave Kashmir and today they are languishing in different part of the Country. Their only fault was they were Hindus. They are burnt in their own country in the presence of their own Government and their property is looted. No one expressed concern about them and no one has raised this matter under rule 193. For the last 12-14 years houses of Kashmiri Pandits are being looted and they have been subjected to atrocities. Even today nobody is bothered about them ...*(Interruptions)* I have mentioned Gujarat. Due to paucity of time, I will try to complete my point within a minute my friend was saying that the Gov-

ernment of Gujarat have issued notices to the schools which have participated in it. 4th December was Friday. Whether schools are permitted to take school children for taking part in political and religious rallies in any Government. There is no provision in the constitution to close down schools due to rallies organised by Bhartiya Janta Party and Communist Party or any religious group. There schools announced in advance that schools will remain closed and on 4th Decmeber. Innocent school children who do not know what is religion, and who do not know as to who were burnt or killed forcibly were taken in the rally. No circular was circulated to any school by the Government. During the period of our administration no school was allowed to involve its students in politics. A mention of Rajkot incident has been made here. Mr. Chairman Sir, 1800 children are enrolled in J.P. Mission school at Rajkot out which 15 children belongs to Christian Community and 1775 are non Christian. I have a photograph with me. On the last page of the New testament it is written that I am the sinister. A 9-10 year old child is asked to read and confess that I am a sinister. Lord Christ was crucified due to my sins. Sense of guilt is infused in the minds of innocent children. No religion says that any child should commit sin. They are asked to admit that it will be my saviour. The Constitution of India do not permit it. The innocent children are forced to write and sign this. It is against the Constitution.

[English]

I would quote Article 28(3) and then complete my speech. I quote:

"28(3) No person attending any educational institution recognised by the State or receiving aid out of State funds shall be required to take part in any religious instruction that may be imparted in such institution or to attend any religious worship that may be conducted in such institution or in any premises attached thereto unless such person or, if such person is a minor, his guardian has given his consent there to."

[Translation]

The signatures of parents were not taken. Principal of the school apologises later on. Distorted facts have been reported here. Kaparvanj is inhabited by the vaghari community. They use to sell utensils for old and used clothes. They have been engaged in this trade for years. They do not bury their dead ones. They have been offering prayers in temple for the last 40 years, a habitation of Brahmins and upper class people. The Christian priest has been luring people there for the last so many years to adopt christianity and asking the local people to do something like that. The vaghari community did not take to his advise. An attempt was made for their forcible conversion. All the incidents are presented here in distorted manner. Our Government, be it the centre Government or State Government of Gujarat teaches lessons to the person who takes law in his hands. We are more sympathetic to the minorities. Our Government took action

[Shri Harin Pathak]

against the guilty persons and arrested them whereas no arrests were made in other states. I may be excused, I remember, that I had read in the newspapers that 10-12 years ago the then Government of Madhya Pradesh had sent a report to the Central Government after taking action against four missionary schools in the state. We have no grudge against any community. Sentiments of poor are played with in the name giving facilities for alleviating poverty by luring and persuading them forcibly. Their faith is converted. We should ponder over it. We all should think over it after rising above the party politics. Shri Advaniji had rightly said that there is a need to change it. First of all we should peep into our conscience. A poet has rightly said:

"Mere seene mein na sahi tere seene mainsahi,  
Yah Aag kahin na kahin to Jalni Chahiye, Hangama  
Khada Karna hiy mera maksad nahin, Meri Koshish  
hai ki desh ki surat ham sab ko badlani chahiye."

SHRI JOACHIN BAXLA (ALIPURDUARS) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for allowing me to speak. The issue being debated here is a matter of concern not only for the hon'ble Members of this House but for the whole country. People of this Country are listening to this debate. The manner, in which atrocities are being committed on the people belonging to minority communities of the country especially on people belonging to Christian Community during the last eight months is a matter of grave concern. Just now hon'ble Members have told that educational institutions belonging to Christian Community were attacked and copies of Bible were burnt. At some places buried dead bodies were dug up and thus atrocities are being committed on minority communities. It is a matter of grave concern for us and it should be taken seriously by members of the ruling party. The manner in which senior Members of the ruling party are defending these incidents, it seems that they are not taking it seriously. It has been enshrined in our Constitution that people of each and every community, caste and religion shall have the liberty to follow any religion, propagate and preach it. But what is happening today. People belonging to muslim and Christian communities are being pressurized for conversion. The frontal organizations of BJP say that while propagating their religion the bishops of Christian Communities are converting Hindus. I strongly oppose the act if anyone tries to convert people of a particular community. There would have been some proof of it, but so far it could not be proved that while propagating their religion Christians are converting Hindus. There are only 2.6 per cent Christians in this country which proves that a wrong propaganda is being made about the minority missionaries. A serial of christian community namely 'Dayasagar' was being telecast on doordarshan but when BJP Government came to power telecast of this serial was stopped. This shows their concern about minorities. I, therefore, request the hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs to take effective measures to check atrocities being committed on

minority communities, so that all are to practice and propagate their religion as enshrined in the Constitution of India. As per the provision of the constitution all should get chance to enjoy rights guaranteed by the Constitution so that Vishwa Hindu Parishad, RSS, Bajrang Dal or any other frontal organisation of BJP is not blamed for pressurizing any community to practice and propagate their religion.

On 4th December, people belonging to the christian community including priests and bishops staged a demonstration. Though people of the christian community are tolerant and dispassionate, they were forced to come to roads for staging demonstration. What are the reasons for it.

Therefore, I would like to say that proper attention should be paid towards it if the Government really wants to solve this problem.

[English]

SHRI N. DENNIS (NAGERCOIL) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, our country is multi-religious, multi-lingual and multi-cultural and it is our endeavour and anxiety to achieve 'Unity in Diversity'. The number of incidents of atrocities on the minorities is on the increase and in recent years and it is increasing with unprecedented magnitude in the current year.

The freedom of religion and the right of minorities are enshrined in articles 19 to 30 of our Constitution. Right to profess, practise and propagate religion is provided in article 25 of the Constitution. The spirit of the Preamble of our Constitution is also to promote the rights of minorities.

The protection is extended to the minorities in our Constitution and by the world bodies. But there are erosions and violations on these protections by the implementing authorities and individuals. There is interference in the administration of educational and other institutions run by minorities and thus frequently, they have to seek remedies through courts to safeguard their rights and privileges.

There are reports of several incidents of violence against minorities, namely, murder and manhandling of priests, manhandling and rape of nuns, damage of Churches, hospitals, educational and other institutions run by minorities, disturbing prayer meetings, destruction of the copies of the Bible and New Testaments, harassment and violence against the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Christians.

The violent incidents and atrocities have been pointed out in this House and also by the Press. Since the time at my disposal is very short, I would like to cite briefly some of the atrocities. In Bihar on 2.9.97 Father Christians was assaulted and paraded naked in the streets of Dumka.

Father A.T. Thomas was murdered in Hazaribagh on 27.10.97. In Gujarat, several copies of the Bible and New Testaments were burnt in a 103-year old missionary school at Rajkot by anti-social and fundamentalist elements. In Madhya Pradesh, the incidents of brutal assault and rape of four nuns and looting was committed in a tribal village of Jhabua district. In Maharashtra, the Government rejected the Srikrishna Report on the communal riots that took place in Mumbai in 1992-93. In Rajasthan, there were widespread attacks and also harassment against the Christians schools and other educational institutions. In Uttar Pradesh, a Convent was looted at Baghpur and a Church was attacked and destroyed at Meerut. These incidents and other atrocities would show that minorities are insecure.

Going by the recent trend of atrocities, I would like to say that the reasons behind the atrocities are political and religious. Violence against Christians has become a political pastime of politicians and anti social elements. They try to shift the blame on Christians that conversion is the motive behind the service.

It is a misconception to state that the number of Christians have increased by birth and conversion. The percentage of Christians as per the Census in 1961 was 2.4 per cent whereas in 1991 Census, it was 2.32 per cent. So, there is a decline in the percentage of Christians. The blame that conversion is the motive behind the service is not correct. I would like to say that this is a misconception. The number of Christians has not increased as pointed out earlier.

The Christianity had been followed in India from the first century when St. Thomas was one of the disciples of Jesus Christ who came to Kerala and some other places. It is not the import of Europeans. From the first century, including the 300 years of the British rule, now the percentage of Christians is only 2.32 per cent.

The Christians feel that they are Indians first. When we go to the Church, inside the Church, we offer worship in the Christian form. But when we come out of the Church, we feel that we are Indians.

The contribution of Christians for the progress and development of the Nation is considerable particularly in the fields of education, and medicine, and other social activities. They extend these services to the poor, down-trodden and weaker sections with a service motive.

The last point is that immediate action has to be taken against the culprits. The failure of the Government to take timely and proper action is one of the main reasons for these atrocities.

So, the Government should be vigilant and it should take proper action. Rapid Action Force has to be deputed to assist the State Governments to control communal

disturbances. Action should be taken against the forces which spread ill-will or hatred and communal disharmony among the people.

Communal riot prone areas have to be identified and Peace Committees have to be constituted at the District level and upto the Village level.

Lastly, an atmosphere has to be created to make the minorities feel that they could live in peace and are secure in the country. That would uphold the principles of democracy and secularism and promote unity and integrity of the country.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAKUNI CHOUDHARY : Mr. Chairman, Sir, allocation of time to MPs of Samta Party not on your list?

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is there.

SHRI SHAKUNI CHOUDHARY : When? This issue is being debated here for the last 3-4 days but Members from the Samta Party have not been given even one minute to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Your name is very much there.

SHRI SHAKUNI CHOUDHARY : You are in the Chair and I would like to know as to when we would be given a chance to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You will be allowed to speak. Please take your seat. Shri P.R. Kyndiah.

[English]

SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH (SHILLONG) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, a few months ago when the hon. Home Minister came to Shillong, which is my constituency, he made a very important statement that he would invite the people of the hilly areas and the region of the North-East to adopt a cosmopolitan society. I was very much in agreement with the statement. I felt that that was a very good signal.

The other day, Shri Advani gave a statement here concerning the rape of the nuns in Jhabua, Madhya Pradesh and he condemned the action as atrocious. These are welcome signs. But at the same time, I would like to make a mention here as to what happened in the last nine months. There is a kind of a concerted action against the minorities and I would particularly refer to the Christian community as a whole.

This is the first time that there is a sharp rise in the number of atrocities against Christians as a community. I cannot say that I would blame the Government. But there are elements in the society which are trying to downgrade the character of Indian nationalism. I do not want to speak against anyone but the point at issue is this. The stark reality is that these are the incidents which have not

[Shri P. R. Kyndiah]

isolated in character. They cover Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and a number of other States. So, it is widespread in nature. Therefore, the fact remains that there are incidents which are of a widespread character, which must be admitted.

Now my point here is that this is the first time that peace-loving Christians came out in the streets on the 4th of this month. Never before they came out except in 1970s to protest against the Freedom of Religion Bill.

I just want to ask one question. Why is that the number of atrocities increased during the last nine months, after the BJP-led Government came to power? I cannot say anything critical against any person in the Government but the preception remains that the BJP is a party with a difference. That is what they claim. But it has three different faces—the VHP, Bajrang Dal and RSS. We see the face of the BJP through the VHP; we see the face of the BJP through the Bajrang Dal; and we see the face of the BJP through the RSS. It is a split personaliy. It is time that the BJP Government make it clear whether the VHP, RSS and Bajrang Dal are their associates; they speak on their behalf or they speak on their own.

The BJP must dissociate itself from these organisations.

Before I conclude, I would like to say that in three States in the North-East where Christians are demographically dominant, the RSS has been spreading its tentacles. It is planning to build more than 250 temples. It is a kind of sinister design which will lead to confrontation and there will be no peace and the climate of hostility will prevail.

I would like to make one appeal to you that you come out with a White Paper and make a clear statement as to what are the steps that you are going to take in order to combat these fundamentalist outfits who are establishing hostile postures against the minorities. So, this is my appeal to you.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI BHAVNA KARDAM DAVE (SURENDRA-NAGAR) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, now fifty years after independence the issue of minorities is being raised. It proves that previous governments have been unable to create religious and social harmony among the society. Though I have been allotted very little time but I would like to raise two-three points here because the members discussing this issue here have raised hue and cry over two-three incidents of Gujarat. I would like to reveal the truth about it. I would like to say that where there is smoke, there is fire. There are reasons behind these incidents. The festival of Rakhi is celebrated throughout the nation. I would like to remind the incident, which occurred in a school of Gujarat just the next day of Raksha Bandhan. We all

know that a Hindu woman had tied Rakhi to Humayun. Thus there is no discrimination between Hindu and Muslim in the Indian Culture or in Hindu religion. This incident took place in a school of Baroda. It was a missionary school. The next day children went to school with Rakhis tied on their wrists. Children were pressurised and Rakhis were taken off their wrists. I have got evidence with me to this effect. Parents of the children lodged a complaint with the District Collector. This incident occurred at Missionary school of Silvassa. I have already stated that smoke cannot be there without fire ...*(Interruptions)* I have just started speaking. How it can go like this? I was waiting to speak on this issue for the last five days. I would like to reveal the truth.

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is no scope for a long speech.

SHRIMATI BHAVNA KARDAM DAVE : Please let me speak. I will complete my speech quickly. What has been stated by one of my colleagues about the incident of Rajkot is totally incorrect. Copy of Bible was not burnt there. It is the agreement which has been read out here.

Now I would like to tell about another incident. Two or three incidents have been mentioned here to defame the Gujarat Government. I would like to read out the FIR lodged there...*(Interruptions)*

I am just reading out that report I will not speak even a single word of my own.

[English]

Report on the incidents between Christians, VHP and Bajrang Dal workers at Baroda on 29-30 October, 1998, the Commissioner of Police, Baroda...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is no need for a detailed speech. You please tell about important points.

SHRIMATI BHAVNA KARDAM DAVE : I only want to throw light on the truth. I do not want to speak the untruth. It is a police report, FIR has been lodged with the Police on 29th. The one who has registered FIR has written:

[English]

"According to the Police Report dated the 29th, some boys who had come from outside Gujarat left the venue and approached the Press with complaints that they had not been given food by the organisation. The Press passed this information to VHP workers, who along with the Bajrang Dal members and others in the Vidyalaya started"...

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Whatever you reading, that will be deemed as read. Now please wind up.

[English]

SHRIMATI BHAVNA KARDAM DAVE : Two complaints have been lodged subsequently with the Feteganj Police Station, FIR 346/98 under Section 153A.

[Translation]

Please listen for a minute...*(Interruptions)* I have come with the report ...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRIMATI BHAVNA KARDAM DAVE : It is written:

"The complaint of Chetan Bhai Sankare Bhai, Parvi Takuka, against Mrs. Grace Mathew, organiser of the Christian Sammelan alleging that they were coercing the participants to take to Hinduism and to convert....."

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do not explain. Only tell us the points.

Prof. A.K. Premajam

[English]

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM (BADAGARA) : I thank you for the opportunity given to me. I have been waiting here for five days to get this opportunity. A very serious and a very passionate discussion has gone by on this issue under Rule 193 and here in my opinion there are two important issues involved in respect of this discussion on the atrocities on minorities.

One is the human rights issue and the other is the unity and integrity of India. Many speakers from the Treasury Benches have been saying that Hindus are the majority and they constitute 85 per cent of the population and that the Hindu majority are being put to difficulties. I am a born Hindu but I do not subscribe to the views expressed by the people from the Treasury Benches and what I want to make clear is that majority of the Hindus who form 85 per cent of the total population do not subscribe to the views expressed by the Members of the Treasury Benches.

I wanted to make this clear. Though I am a born Hindu I do not subscribe to this view and what I want to make doubly sure is that this is not the view actually expressed by or felt by a majority of the Hindus who form 85 per cent of the population...*(Interruptions)*

Do not disturb me.

I am a born Hindu. I know what Hinduism is. This culture is mosaic. I am a student of history also. I wanted to make this clear to entire nation—that this is a mosaic culture and it is a pluralistic culture, it is a composite culture and from the immemorial persons were coming to from other countries.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude.

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM : I am speaking on behalf of my party. Two others from my party have dropped. I must get enough compensating time.

So many have come from ancient times onwards. Aryans, Khushans, Scythians, Sagas, Parthians and several others came. Then later came the Muslims and the Christians also. We cannot wipe off all these fringes of culture. We cannot wipe off all those people. What I wanted to make clear is that the human rights are involved here with atrocities committed on the minorities especially the Muslims and the Christians.

Our Constitution guarantees Fundamental Rights to all individuals plus special rights to minorities, the right to live, right to freedom of expression and to profess our religion also. Here the bogey raised is about conversions and foreigners.

Recently on the 14th November an incident took place in my State involving some Brothers and some Missionaries.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Shakuni Choudhary.

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM : I want to speak for two more minutes. I am not given an opportunity.

I want to say that the Home Minister has made a statement about Jhabua that Christians were involved. That is wrong. I had been to that place and met the Police authorities. Actually, the persons involved were some *Adi Vasis* belonging to the Bhil community. I want to make it clear that Christians were not responsible for this incident.

Another thing is, whenever there is atrocity, the justification given is, the bogey of conversion and foreigners. Christians and Muslims are actually part of the country. From the immemorial, many have come to India.

Babri Masjid cannot be brought back to life. It was part of our culture. Now, the hon. Prime Minister and the Home Minister have said certain things in retrospect. But Babri Masjid cannot be brought back to life.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAKUNI CHOUDHARY : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to extend many-many thanks to the chair for giving me a chance to speak. I would like to say to you

[Shri Shakuni Choudhary]

that the discussion with regard to atrocities on minorities is going on for several days....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : If you have a written speech, place it on the table of the House. It will be deemed as read...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHAKUNI CHOUDHARY : I am astonished to learn the thing. What are you allowing to do, you control from the chair. There are so many people right now, what will you do. There are many more people...(Interruptions)

[English]

PROF. A. K. PREMAJAM : In my own state of Kerala, there was an incident where two brothers belonging to the Jacobite community had been attacked. Here also, the justification given was, conversion and foreigners.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : His time is over. His speech has finished, now his speech will not go on record. His speech is not going on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

SHRI SHAKUNI CHOUDHARY : Then the people will say that atrocities are being committed on women.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He is speaking, your speech is over...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHAKUNI CHAUDHARY : Mr. Chairman, Sir, if I speak something...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please speak, his speech is not being included in the proceedings.

...(Interruptions)\*

SHRI SHAKUNI CHAUDHARY : What is all this going on? Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have been listening to the speeches of all hon'ble Members for the last many days.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Your time is over.

SHRI SHAKUNI CHOUDHARY : I was having a feeling that there is no such debate in which the issue of Babri Masjid was not raised. People will surely speak on Babri Masjid, regardless of the fact how many times the discussion takes place in the House. I have felt that when the people from all the classes were speaking here, whether they were Muslim brothers representing a Muslim, whether it be Hon'ble Shri Sangma Sahib representing Christians or all the other party members. I was feeling that in reality, religious leaders have been here and they speak like religious leaders and the message conveyed to the people from the House proves it beyond doubt that

\*Not recorded

when such an environment is here, whatever message is received by the people is a wrong one. The Masjid was demolished in 1992 but there has not been any House in which it was not repeated time and again.

Earlier when the election was taking place, it was being said just before the elections that if the BJP forms the Government then it will end your right to vote and I remember you used to speak a lot in this regard and, now you are in the Chair, that is why I do not want to speak this. I do not want to say anything in that regard\*...

DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD (MADHUBANI) : This is wrong, you get it expunged from the proceedings. You can not say any thing against the Chair in the House. You ask them those who are sitting here.

SHRI SHAKUNI CHOUDHARY : Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all you feel what have you said before speaking on Babri Masjid.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Expunge the remarks about the Chair.

SHRI SHAKUNI CHOUDHARY : I hail from Bihar as a parliamentarian. Please try to recall what Shri Lalooji has not said. I do not want to go into the detail of it. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Subject is of Minority atrocities.

SHRI SHAKUNI CHOUDHARY : I would only say that whatever slogans you had given, you found that BJP and Samata Party Coalition Government has been in powers for eight months and not a single riot took place and if you look at your history since 1948 then if I start telling about the riots which took place, then I will have to speak for one more day. ...(Interruptions) I have not yet started my speech and you pressed the bell.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What will you speak over it.

SHRI SHAKUNI CHOUDHARY : I would only say that you should feel it and I urge upon all the hon. Members not to raise any such issue in the House which may give wrong signal to the people living in villages. We are of the view that no religious matter should be raised here. All religions are equal. Religion teaches us that there should be no conflict between two religions. You please listen for two minutes. We want to tell you that religion is one of the ways to reach God. As to reach Delhi some come through Haryana, some through Gwalior and some through Lucknow, similarly religion is also a medium which takes to God through different ways. Then why this conflict between them, there should be no conflict between them. Those who indulge in such fights in the name of religion, they infact do not know about India and they lack knowledge about religion. So I would like to request to those people who do such things to at least spare the

\*\* Expunged as ordered by the Chair

country from such things. Recently D.S.P's murder took place in our area. Your party's national president was shot dead in his house. The criminal belongs to muslim community. Should I say that this was done by muslim community, no this should not happen. This is not a communal matter. The D.S.P. was murdered there and this was a case of murder only. Therefore we should not mislead the people by raising such matters. This only shows that you people want to prove as to how votes can be fetched from them. This is the sole aim with which you are working.

SHRI HIRA LAL ROY (CHHAPRA) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, this country is very big, different types of people live here. We people have been living together. During the national movement also we were taught about this. At that Gandhiji used to sing—

'Hindu-Muslim Tera Naam Sabko Sammti De Bhagwan'

But even after 50 years we are victim of this disease some how or the other. Today incidents of atrocities are taking place against the people of minority communities, be they Sikhs, Muslims or Christians. This cannot be denied. I want to say that if we turn back the photograph of Choudhary ji then we find that —

'Kahin Pe Nigahen  
Kahin Pe Nishana'

and if we again turns back then we find—

'Eshwar Allah Tero Naam  
Sabko Sammati De Ram'

When you were in the Congress you delivered a different speech and now when you are on this side you have started giving speech on Lalu ji and D.S.P. I want to say that if something is wrong then it should termed so, irrespective of the side it may belong to. Both the opposition and ruling party agree that many atrocities are being committed against the minorities in the country. Shiv Sena leader, other leaders, and Home Minister has also admitted that incidents are taking place. It is the duty of the nation of check such incidents. Today you are in the position to stop it, tomorrow you may not be in that position. Therefore, it should not be given communal tinge by terming it Hindu-Muslims. Today you have to run the country but you cannot escape from accountability. Today you are facing a rial and you are going to face a test.

In this House, Sangma ji was heavily attacked. He was the speaker of the House and is a big leader. He himself is a Christian and said that atrocities were being committed against Christians. What wrong did he say? But our Minister said many things about him. Besides she said many things in self-praise and gave speech on secularism. Today when you have taken over the reins of the

Government the need of the hour is that the Government should cooperate in checking atrocities on minorities. It is the bounden duty of the Government to refrain from acting with malevolent intentions or in a biased manner. The same you should not revert back to your image of five-six years back. Otherwise, you would not be able to run the country. You got the proof to this effect when after merely eight month's rule, three states slipped out from your hands. Therefore my only request is that atrocities being committed on minorities of this country should be stopped.

[English]

SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN (ALLEPPEY) : Sir, it is a fact that atrocities on minorities are increasing. According to the survey conducted by the United Christians Fourm for Human Rights, the number of attacks on Christians this year alone outnumbered the total number of atrocities against the community between 1964 and 1997. It is shameful, shocking and alarming. I shall be very brief because of the constraint of time.

At the outset, the increasing atrocities on Christians in several States, the mysterious police raid on the residence of the distinguished Muslim theologian and the attempts of the *Sangh Parivar* to repeat *Ayodhya* in Chikmagalur, have all contributed a sense of insecurity among the minorities.

20.00 hrs.

Sir, to contain such atrocities once and for all and to ensure the constitutional freedom and right, effective political and administrative steps have to be taken immediately. Now, the question is whether the Government has the political will to protect the minorities. For this, the Government and the ruling party have to change their attitudes convincingly. Perfect democratic and secular approaches are highly necessary.

I would suggest some points in this regard. Let the Government convene a meeting of all the political parties to discuss and formulate necessary steps to create an atmosphere in which the minorities feel secured. The next point is that the Government should come forward with a White Paper during the current Session itself and on the crimes committed on the Christian missionaries, nuns and institutions, and other minorities, including Muslims. An urgent meeting of the Chief Ministers should be convened to review the action taken so far, and to chalk out effective measures to contain such atrocities. An official-level monitoring cell, headed by the Cabinet Secretary, be formed to monitor the follow-up steps of the decisions taken at the Chief Ministers' Conference. State-level minority protection cells, headed by the Chief Secretaries of the respective States, be set up. A special task force, headed by an IGP, be created under the guidance and supervision of this cell to exclusively deal with such atrocities.

[Shri V.M. Sudheeran]

Finally, I would request the hon. Home Minister that a permanent Joint Parliamentary Committee be set up to look after the welfare of the minorities, and to see that the constitutional freedom and right of the minorities are protected.

I would request the Government to act to protect the minorities or quit. Those who fail to protect minorities have no right to govern.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN (CHANDIGARH) : Now, the Members of all the parties have spoken.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Many people belong to minority community but the audience is in majority. These minorities are committing grave atrocity against the majority.

SHRI MOTILAL VORA (RAJANDGAON) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the subject on which we people are having discussion is really important subject. For the last few months incidents of atrocities on minorities are taking place in various parts of the country which are disturbing the communal harmony of the country. Harmonious atmosphere of the country which has been there since years will be disturbed by these activities. If you go into some of the incidents that took place there, then you will find that atrocities are being committed on Christians for the last eight months. I am having full list in this regard, Advanji may also be having the list because he is the Home Minister of the country. Gujarat tops the list of atrocities where eighteen incidents have taken place against the people who follow Christianity during these eight months. Why this atmosphere was vitiated ? After the incident of 6th December 1992, the people of that area have tried to forget this incident but were unable to do so. Bajrang Dal and Vishwa Hindu Parishad have celebrated that day as 'Shaurya Diwas' and issued threat by saying at Budangiri, of Chickmanglure in Karnataka that shines at Mathura and Kashi will meet the same faith as Babri Masjid of Ayodhya. I think a greater responsibility rests on the shoulders of Shri Advani. Atmosphere of harmony should be built in this country. Such provision should be made that incidents of atrocities on minorities be they Muslim, Sikhs, Buddhist, Jains, or Christians or of any other community shall not be allowed to recur.

Sir, I have many things to say but as you have given me one-two minute to speak therefore I would like to say one thing—

[English]

"One should strive for a society where everybody is happy and helathy."

[Translation]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, you come from Bihar. Our country has always followed the ideal of—

"Serve Bhavantu Sukhnina  
Serve Santu Niramaya"

This is the country of Gandhi, Gautam Budha and Mahavira. It is a really regretful that such incidents take place in our country. This is not good thing for us. Such incidents should not take place and no atrocity should be committed against minorities. Besides I would like to recite one urdu couplet:

"Ujale Apni Yadon Ke Hamare Sath Rahne Do,  
Na Jane Zindgi Ki Kis Gali Mein Sham Ho Jaye"

Mr. Chairman, Sir nobody knows in which street the evening will fall, nobody knows which party will come to power and which party will not come to power. This is in the hands of Country's voter. Through you I have only one thing to say that—

"Ishwar Allah Tere Naam  
Sabko Sammti De Bhagwan"

If wisdom dawns on everyone then atmosphere of Communal harmony will develop in the country and such incidents will not occur.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak.

[English]

\*SHRI B.M. MENSINKAI (DHARWAR SOUTH) : Mr. Chairman Sir, we are three members in this House from Lok Shakti and therefore I request you to give me enough time to speak on this vital issue.

I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on this very important subject. There is steep increase in the number of atrocities committed on minorities.

Sir, there are too many communities which belong to minorities. In fact, the word minority has lost its meaning. In Karnataka for example Lingayats, Vokkaligar, Kurubar, Muslims and many other communities come under minorities. I therefore feel that the word minority and its protection has lost its meaning. I also think that we need not waste the precious time of this august House by discussing this elaborately.

In our country, during 12th century the great Saint Bhakti Bhandari Basavanna had preached and practised only one Dharma which included all the communities of the society. He also practised and encouraged the people about the concept of only one God.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Did you give notice that you are speaking in Kannada.

SHRI B.M. MENSINKAI : Yes Sir, I have given the notice.

SHRI B.M. MENSINKAI (DHARWAR SOUTH) : Mr. Chairman, Sir...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have not given advance notice that you will be speaking in this language.

SHRI B.M. MANSINKAI : No.

[English]

I have already submitted that in my prayer.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : For this you have to give notice, please conclude now.

[English]

SHRI B.N. MENSINKAI : Since there is no translation, I will to speak in English. It is the political parties who must learn the things first. There is unity among all the castes in the villages. But it is the political parties which are encouraging these things by dividing the people as 'minority' or 'majority'. In the Twelfth Century, Basaveswara taught that the objective of all religions is the same. That is why, I request the people to follow that principle.

There are two temples in Karnataka—one is, Srihatti Fakkireswara Temple; and the other is, Huluguru Temple—where both Hindus and Muslims offer their prayers to the God.

Therefore, I appeal to the Government that it should not interfere in the personal lives of the villagers. The political parties should learn the things first so that communal harmony could be maintained.

It is a known fact that both Hindus and Muslims use the loudspeakers in the morning, around 4.30 a.m., to propagate their religion. This should be stopped immediately so that people in the cities and villages can sleep well without any disturbance. They can use the loudspeakers after 6 o'clock in the morning.

SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA (MARMAGOA) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, one of the legacies that has been left behind for us by our elders is our Constitution, which is sacred. It enshrines the freedom of religion and freedom of thought and expression. If you see now, the minorities are feeling a sense of insecurity and it is a matter of great concern to the right thinking Indians as to what would happen to age-old harmony of the people belonging to various cultures and religions in this country.

Sir, it has been observed from the reports available that violent incidents, especially against the minorities are on the increase. In fact, if you see, the number of instances this year are more than all the instances put together since Independence.

Sir, who could deny, including our hon. Home Minister, that wherever the Christian missionaries have gone, they have helped in spreading education, both quantitatively and qualitatively? The missionaries and nuns have gone to every nook and corner of this country for spreading education and improving the health care of the poor people.

Sir, what do we see? Many of the leaders want their children to study in those schools and colleges and after

that they become fundamentalists and go against the very culture which these missionaries are spreading. Look at the States where violence is on the increase. The States are, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Kamataka. The maximum instances are in the States of Gujarat. The minorities feel that with the advent of the BJP rule at the Centre, the figures are on the increase.

Sir, the Christians have not only the right to their faith but they have every right to profess and preach whatever they want, of course, within certain parameters of the Constitution. My hon. colleagues on the other side have been saying that the faith has been professed and preached forcibly. It is all false. My hon. colleagues have been speaking about partition; they have been talking about atrocities against Sikhs. What do they mean by all these? Do they want to justify the things that are happening now, in this very year? Let us all stand up and get together and condemn whatever is happening. Let us not forget that the Christians also belong to this country.

Sir, I belong to the States of Goa where we have got a lot of Christians, Hindus and Muslims. But there all are living together in harmony. This is for the country to know that we have got a Uniform Code. I would like to bring this to the notice of the hon. Home Minister that we have got a Uniform Code, both for religion and gender, in the State of Goa. There is no distinction.

Sir, finally I would like to submit that all these can happen only if the Government has the mind to implement it. Whatever we say and do here is not enough. This has to percolate to every State. Every State should know that we are living in a democratic country and not in a theocratic country. I would like to request the hon. Home Minister to send a message to every State and show that we really mean that these things would have to be stopped. All these communities, all these people who are following different faiths belong to the same motherland, to the same country—Bharat. Unless every human being living in this country is free to practice any faith and religion, whatever he wants, nobody would be happy in this country. So, I would once again like to request the hon. Home Minister to issue a White Paper on this. The hon. Home Minister has said that half the people, those who had raped the nuns, were Christians...*(Interruptions)* We do not know. We go by the newspaper reports. That is the reason we expect the hon. Home Minister to present a White Paper on this subject.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House now stands adjourned to meet again tomorrow at 11.00 a.m.

20.16 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, December 16, 1998/  
Agrahayana 25, 1920 (Saka).*

# Corrigenda to Lok Sabha Debate

(English Version)

**Tuesday, December 15, 1998/Agrahayana 24, 1920 (Saka)**

<i>Col./Line</i>	<i>For</i>	<i>Read</i>
11/19	SHRI T. GAVINDAN	SHRI T. GOVINDAN
19/2, 20/17, 20/21 (from below)	SHRI VIRENDER SINGH	SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH
27, 28/32	471.89	671.89
37, 38/13	2.89	2.60
67, 68/6 (from below)	103	1103
69, 70/6 (from below)	7048	14048
80/43	SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI	SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI
89, 90/7	5.78	5.73
124/9	SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAT	SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR
153/31	1319.8 513.6 55.9	should be read under column 3, 4, 5 respectively
193, 194/14 from below (Column 3)	91	94
223/3 (from below)	SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FAITMI	SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI
264/last	SHRI AJAY KUMARS SARNAIK	SHRI AJAY KUMAR SARNAIK
282/21	SHRI RAVI SITARMA NAIK	SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK
333/34	(DEOAI A)	(DEORIA)
340/9	SHRI CHANDRA SHEKAR	SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR
345/12,26,32,40	SHRI M.K. PREMCHANDRAN	SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN
365/29	SHRI ANANT GARGARAM GEETE	SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE
366/29	SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETA	SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE
413/24	MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDARI	MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI
419/20	SHRI JOACHIN BAXLA	SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA