

# **LOK SABHA DEBATES**

## **(English Version)**

**Second Session**  
**(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)**



*(Vol. III contains Nos. 11 to 19)*

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**  
**NEW DELHI**

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# LOK SABHA DEBATE

## LOK SABHA

Wednesday, December 15, 1999/Agrahayana 24,  
1921 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock*

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

#### Central Assistance to Scheduled Areas

\*241. DR. JAYANT RONGPI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) The quantum of special Central assistance to the sixth scheduled areas of the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase such assistance; and

(c) the reaction of the Government regarding slow development of these scheduled areas due to lack of adequate Government investment ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE):  
(a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

Central Assistance for State's Annual Plan comprises of Normal Central Assistance, Special Central Assistance for Special Area Programmes and Additional Central Assistance for Externally Aided Projects. Normal Central

Assistance consists of formula based Central Assistance as approved by the NDC in December, 1991 and Special Grants under Article 275(1). Special Central Assistance for Special Area Programmes such as BMS, Slum Development, HADP, BADP, AIBP, TSP, Control of Shifting Cultivation, Assistance to NEC and Assistance under Non-lapsable Central Pool of Resources for the North East and Sikkim etc; is for specific objectives/schemes/projects. Additional Central Assistance for EAPs is provided to States for specific schemes/programmes as approved by the Ministry of Finance and Donor agencies.

The areas included in the Sixth Schedule are located in the four North Eastern States viz Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Tripura and are covered by Autonomous Councils.

The States which cover the Sixth Schedule areas are among the ten states classified as Special Category States for favourable terms of Central Assistance under which Plan Assistance is provided in the Grant - Loan ratio 90:10 as against the 30:70 ratio applicable to Non-Special Category States.

Central Assistance for Annual Plans of States is allocated directly to the State Governments. Further allocation of this amount among sectors, regions and Local Bodies, including Autonomous Councils in Sixth Schedule Areas is done by the concerned State Governments. A Annexure indicating year-wise Central Assistance during the last three years for the four States where the Sixth Schedule Areas are located is enclosed.

Central Assistance to all States including those which have areas included in the Sixth Schedule is increased every year depending upon the overall increase in the budgetary support available for Annual Plans.

The slow development of the Sixth Schedule areas is on account of reasons which include adverse geographical features, hilly terrain, inadequacies of infrastructure and the delivery systems. While Area Programmes of Central Government referred to above target some of these problems unique to such areas, it is for the concerned State Governments to provide adequate resources for their overall development.

#### Annexure

#### Central Assistance to States covering Sixth Schedule Areas

Rs. in Crore

Particulars of Central Assistance	Assam			Meghalaya		
	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Normal Central Assistance of which	1147.63	1006.59	1088.46	243.63	250.00	270.33
{Special Grants under Art. 275(1)}	3.05	2.10	4.20	2.55	1.66	2.22

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2. ACA for EAPs		80.00	97.00	166.77	30.00	30.00	30.00
3. ACA for Special Area Programmes		81.14	339.54	360.88	53.68	96.31	121.44
Grand Total (1+2+3)		1308.77	1443.13	1616.11	327.31	376.31	421.77

Particulars of Central Assistance	Mizoram			Tripura		
	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00
1. Normal Central Assistance	236.48	273.17	315.39	310.22	383.22	414.50
of which {Special Grants under Art. 275(1)}	1.24	1.07	0.96	2.31	1.62	1.25
2. ACA for EAPs	5.00	10.00	10.00	15.00	15.00	15.00
3. ACA for Special Area Programmes	67.60	52.39	59.28	91.78	200.43	226.62
Grand Total (1+2+3)	309.08	335.56	384.67	417.00	598.75	656.12

DR. JAYANT RONGPI : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, there have been occasions when the discussions about the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes taking place in this House. But during the last 50 years, this is for the first time that a question about the Scheduled Area – I want to be very specific that it is Scheduled Area – has come up before this Parliament. I am not at all satisfied with the answer which appeared in the statement laid on the Table of the House. The Minister could have taken this opportunity to apprise the nation, through this House, about the steps taken by the Government during the last 50 years for the development of these areas. But instead of that, he has chosen to be evasive, he is not to the point, and I am afraid he has not used his skill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Dr. Rongpi, you have asked the details of the last three years.

DR. JAYANT RONGPI : Sir, I want your protection. My question was not about the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. My question was about the Central assistance to the Scheduled Area. The Constituent Assembly not only provided for reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes but it also found that there are certain areas in our country which need special protection and special financial care. That is why, the area itself was scheduled. It has nothing to do with the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. There is no question of any caste or community. The whole area is scheduled because that has got a specific, historical, financial and ethnic backgrounds.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please ask your question now.

DR. JAYANT RONGPI : Sir, I am saying all this because the entire answer has been evasive. It talks

about the financial assistance provided to certain Special Category States. I do not dispute that some of these Scheduled Areas are within the Special Category States. My question was very specific. I wanted to know what the Government of India has been doing for the upliftment of the Scheduled Areas which were given solemn commitment by the Constituent Assembly. So, I need your protection. This answer was totally evasive and it was not to the point.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, you can reserve the second supplementary.

DR. JAYANT RONGPI : Sir, I would like to raise those supplementary questions because my main question has not been answered at all. Now, I want to raise a supplementary question with a high hope – the hon. Minister of State, Shri Arun Shourie is well know in that part of the country and he is also very skilful and he knows about that area – that he will not be evasive and he will be to the point.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Dr. Rongpi, you ask your supplementary.

DR. JAYANT RONGPI : Sir, the Minister has quoted article 275 saying that such and such grant has been given to the Special Category State. But there also he has mentioned only half truth. He has mentioned about article 275 (1), but he has not mentioned about articles 275(1) (A) and (B).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Again you are going astray from the main question. You ask your supplementaries.

DR. JAYANT RONGPI : The Union Government should provide to the revenue of the Government of Assam for

the cost of such scheme of development as may be undertaken by the State with the approval of the Government of India for the purpose of raising the level of administration of the scheduled areas as provided under article 275 (1) (a). I want to know what is the quantum of assistance given to the scheduled areas not only under article 275 (1), but also articles 275 (1) (a) and (b).

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE : There is absolutely no occasion and no reason for the answer to be evasive. We have tried to provide the entire information. But I assure the Member that I will go out of my way to provide all such information that he needs.

I start with the last point first. Under article 275(1), as the House knows, the scheme is that assistance may be given to the States for bringing up the administration to the level of other areas if in some areas the administration is deficient. The hon. Member is completely right because that was one of the reasons why assistance is to be given. The assistance which has been given to the four States in which the scheduled areas fall under article 275 is explicitly mentioned in the second row in the table. In each instance it has been mentioned.

The second point is about the scheme of devolution of finances, and the Central Government assistance to the States. The scheduled areas fall in four States. So, the States are given that assistance. They in turn allocate the funds to the scheduled areas. For instance, in the case of Assam, as the hon. Member knows so well, out of the total assistance of Rs. 1616 crore which is being given to the State from the Centre, they are putting aside Rs. 147 crore for the two districts of Karbi Anglong and North Cachar.

Thirdly, a population of eight lakhs the two scheduled areas in Assam have six and a half lakhs in Karbi Anglong and one and a half lakhs in North Cachar. For that population of 8 lakhs the Assam Government, in collaboration with the Centre, is assigning Rs. 147 crore to these two districts. Similarly, I have the figures for other States also as to what is going specifically to those States. To give more specific directions would be a violation of the federal principle.

If I may just make one more point, this is a matter of continuous concern. In the Annual Plan discussions that the four States have with the Centre, attention is specifically drawn and they are asked to explain or to exchange views on what is being done for the scheduled areas. I have here with me the statement which the hon. Chief Minister of Assam had made in regard to the two districts and you will see that he has specifically mentioned what was being done in regard to them.

As you know and as the hon. Member knows, a non-lapsable fund has been created for further assistance to the special category States. These include all the North-Eastern States. I am just responding to his point about the concern. A meeting was held in September in which another five projects worth Rs. 35 crore have been approved precisely for these scheduled areas. I can give you the details. In Assam, for the North Cachar Rs. 5 crore worth scheme for further road development, Rs. 10 crore worth scheme for Diphu Campus of the Assam University with which you are so well acquainted, have been approved.

The third is rupees eight crore which are meant for 50 Primary Health Centres, 16 of these Centres are located in these two districts that the hon. Member is concerned with . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is a lengthy reply. It can be precise.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE : There are only two points, As per Article 275, the figures have been given precisely. They can send it to the Home Ministry. The Planning Commission is not as much concerned with it.

Secondly, there is full concern for these areas which we share with the hon. Member. That is reflected in the Annual Plan discussions and in the actual allocations which exceed . . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJO SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, They should give reply, not the speech

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Reply is being given.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You have not followed him. The hon. Member asked a supplementary question. Exactly, he is giving the details. Do not interrupt now like this.

Dr. Jayant Rongpi, put the second supplementary.

DR. JAYANT RONGPI : Sir, even the supplementary answer is not based on facts, Firstly, I am not only concerned about these two districts but also I am concerned about the entire scheduled and the backward areas of our country.

Secondly, in his answer also, he has said that it is up to the State Governments to distribute the funds. He has precisely said that the Central Government could give assistance and it is up to the State Government to distribute

the funds and also to take up the scheme. He has further said that the Centre cannot do more; otherwise it will be violative of the federal principle. That is what the learned Minister has said. That is why I am precisely saying that it is not based on facts.

I would like to draw his kind attention and also the attention of the House to Article 339 of the Constitution. The Constituent Assembly was aware of the fact that this type of an evasive answer would probably come in the future. That is why, it had said in Article 339 very clearly. I quote Article 339 (2) which says :

"The executive power of the Union shall extend to the giving of directions to a State as to the drawing up and execution of schemes specified in the direction to be to be essential for the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes in the State."

So, Mr. Minister, it is not violative of the federal principle. Rather, you are ignorant of your own responsibility that the Constitution has empowered you. The Constitution has put responsibility on you that you should give direction to the State concerned to take up the scheme for the welfare of the Scheduled Area. For that, if you need any fund, that fund has to be provided under article 275 1 (a) and (b). That is why I say that your answer is not based on facts. It is done intentionally. If I may be permitted to say, it is again trying to mislead the House.

Now, I want to put my second supplementary question. I want the hon. Minister's reaction also on this.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please put the supplementary.

DR. JAYANT RONGPI : The hon. Minister said that a sum of rupees 170 crore or so has been given to the Hill Districts. This type of amount was given in the past also. Mr. Minister, are you aware that this fund has not been released to the Autonomous Hill Council? The Assam Government or for that matter any other State Government in the North-East is having the problem of overdraft. The fund that you have sent for the Scheduled Areas, the amount that you have sent for the welfare of the tribal areas, the amount that you have just now mentioned in this question - Rs. 170 crore - is safely deposited in the State account so that they can get over the problem in getting overdrafts. It is not released to the Autonomous Hill Council for which the fund is given.  
... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Dr. Rongpi, please put the question.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I am asking you to put the supplementary question.

DR. JAYANT RONGPI : This is a very serious question.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : That is why, I am asking you to put the supplementary question.

DR. JAYANT RONGPI : Mr. Minister, are you going to make any arrangement for the direct funding of the Scheduled Areas on the lines you are funding the DRDA Programmes, on the lines you are giving fund directly to the DM? Are you going to give funds directly to the Autonomous Council so that whatever meagre amount that you have just pointed out, reaches the proper place and it would go for the targeted projects?

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE : Sir, this House has, very often, emphasized the point that all such arrangements depend upon goodwill between different levels of governance. For us to go merely by Article 339 will not be helpful. The hon. Member is completely correct that we can issue directions to the State Government.

DR. JAYANT RONGPI : Have you issued any directive so far?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please do not interrupt him. Let him give the reply.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE : Sir, he should not think that I am, in any way, opposed to that demand. The question of giving directives and thereby estranging any relationship that persists between a Scheduled Area within a State and the State Government will certainly be counter-productive.

As far as the second point on the specific question which was asked regarding not releasing of Rs. 147 crore is concerned, this very point was taken up with the Chief Secretary of the Government and I have, here, a letter dated 2nd October, 1999. I can share it with the hon. Member and there is no problem in that. In that letter, he has shown that not only was the allocation this year higher at Rs. 149 crore, because an extra amount of Rs. Five crore was given precisely to the Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council to wipe out its accumulated debts, but they assured the Planning Commission that actually the releases are taking place in time and in accordance with the way the projects are ripening. Now, if it is the feeling of the House that more should be done by way of actually intervening, I do not think many persons in the House would want that the Centre should go over the head of the State Government to do this. But the hon. Member is completely right and I assure him that the Planning Commission and other agencies would be taking up with the Government of Assam and persuade it to ensure that

the releases are even more prompt than they are now. If there is any specific complaint about any particular occasion and if they are brought to the attention of the Government, it will be immediately attended to.

DR. JAYANT RONGPI : Sir, it is within the right of the Central Government. It is their executive power to give directions to the State Government. He has not replied to that part of my question.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Sixth Schedule was created by the Government of India with an idea to stop simmering of various unethical issues in these areas and unhappiness because of the non-performance of the State Government towards the tribal people. Dr. Rongpi might have made a long speech, but what he has said is factually correct. The Central Government is giving the money, but the State Government there, whether it is of the Congress or the AGP or any other party, is eating away the money. So, proper monitoring is required. Since this is not done, the Central Government is being blamed unnecessarily. May I know from the hon. Minister as to what steps he is taking to find out whether the money given by the Central Government in the last five years was utilised properly? If it was not utilised, who is guilty and what action is he going to take?

Sir, the Government of India is giving a lot of money not only to the Scheduled Areas, but to other areas also in the North Eastern Region. But the main problem is that the money is eaten away by some bureaucrats and politicians. It is high time that some monitoring, including the area which comes under Sixth Schedule, of these funds is done. The hon. Minister has said that he cannot interfere. It is high time that he should interfere. If he wants to keep the North Eastern Region in the national mainstream, it is better that he interferes. There should be no hanky-panky and there should be no soft corner for any State Government.

DR. JAYANT RONGPI : It is not interference. The Central Government is duty bound for the upliftment of the Scheduled Areas.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE : Sir, if I had said the things that the distinguished Member has said about the need for interference, I am sure, there would have been a great deal of opposition. The per capita allocations to the North Eastern States are almost Rs. 6,300 when the average for the country is about Rs. 837. So, it is almost eight times more than the national average. But if the hon. Members, Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev and Dr. Jayant Rongpi, with their deep knowledge, feel that the benefits are not reaching the people, it is a very grave problem and contributes to the other things that he is mentioning.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Let him contact the Planning Ministry and do it.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE : Sir, I would actually urge something stronger also so as not to exacerbate any problems there. If the MPs of the area can also take it upon themselves and meet collectively so that we can all do this together, there will be nothing like that. . . .  
(Interruptions)

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : We are willing to cooperate. If we are asked to go and meet his high-profile Joint Secretary, he would not react. . . .(Interruptions) You call us. We will go and do it.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE : Any such suggestion will be an honour to me.

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY : In this connection, I would like to raise a very genuine supplementary question addressed to the Prime Minister.

The Government of India has been peeping on giving a lot of money only to certain Scheduled Areas. Apart from the existing Scheduled Areas, there are large chunks of tribal-dominated areas in India. Why have these large chunks of tribal-dominated areas in many other part of the country not yet been brought under the provisions of the Sixth Schedule with the constitutional Status of Scheduled Areas. In our case, we had been given merely a Bodoland Autonomous Council, which is only in name.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You ask your supplementary question.

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY : The total population of that Council area has been shown by the Government of Assam as about 21 lakh. That Government is hardly giving around Rs. 50 crore per year. Over the last five years, we should have been given around Rs. 1,000 crore, hardly Rs. 100 crore have been given so far. Why is this sort of discrimination against the Bodos?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : All right.

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY : So, I would like to appeal to the Prime Minister to bring all the tribal-dominated areas under the provisions of the Sixth Schedule.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE : These are very important points that the hon. Member has made. Unfortunately, the question pertains to the Scheduled Areas and the Bodo area is not one of the Scheduled Areas in Assam. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please do not interrupt now.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE : About monitoring, I assure the House that with the approval of the Prime Minister, I will go there and seek the guidance of the learned MPs for this very purpose to see how we can make the allocations actually benefit the people. I will undertake to do so with all of you together.

SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, District Councils are the creation of the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution. If the hon. Minister goes through the debates of the Constituent Assembly, he will appreciate the fact that the District Councils were formed in order to allow the people to grow and develop according to their genius. They are the creation of the Constitution. The purpose was very specific : ". . .to develop and grow according to their genius."

Now, the answer to the main question by the hon. Minister is that it has been admitted by him that there has been a slow development in the entire Scheduled Areas. One of the reasons is the delivery system apart from the geographical location the hilly terrain and that of infrastructure. Now, here is a very important point that I would like to raise as a question. Since it is a creation of the Constitution, the District Council areas must be seen and must be acted upon by the Government in order to develop according to the objective of the District Councils. It is, in this context, that I would like to make a mention here that a number of District Council authorities are meeting the representatives of the Government of India from time to time. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Naik, I am here to conduct the House and not you. I want you to take note of that.

SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH : But the point is that since it has been admitted by the hon. Minister that there has been a slow development in these Scheduled Areas and one of the reasons I can say is. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Kyndiah, please ask your supplementary question.

SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH : I am coming to that. So, my point is this. It is high time for the Government of India to consider direct funding. Are they considering the proposal for direct funding to the District Councils ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Would you consider direct funding ? That is his main question.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE : At the moment, there is no proposal for direct funding. It is not the question of source from where the fund will come. Even if you send Rs. 147 crore to a single district with a population of six-and-a half

lakh from Delhi – as the hon. Member said and the delivery system continues at the district level to be the same you will have the same slow growth. So, the cure lies in improving the delivery system and not in the fact the money instead of going from here to Guwahati or to Karbi Anglong, goes directly . . . (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : May I ask Shri Mohd. Ali Naik to resume his seat ?

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will not allow you. I am giving chance only to the Members from the North-East. It is mostly concerning them.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please, Shri Naik, No. Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)\*

SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN : Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, the Tripura Tribal Area Autonomous District Council is suffering from paucity of funds. The available funds through the State Government are not upto the mark. I would like to know whether the Government has any proposal to allocate the Central Assistance directly to the Autonomous District Council instead of allocating it through the State Government.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The hon. Minister has already answered that question.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE : Sir, I have already answered that question.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Yes.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Naik, please do not interrupt like this.

Now, Q.No. 242.

[Translation]

#### Food Processing Industries

\*242. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the food processing industries have been included in the category of the priority industries for providing loans by the financial institutions;

(b) if so, whether percentage of loan to be provided to these industries has also been fixed as in the case of other sectors;

\*Not recorded.

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

[English]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement**

The food and agro-based processing sector has been included within the definition of priority sector for bank lending. However, priority sector lending norms are not applicable to Financial Institutions.

The targets for lending to priority sector and its sub-sectors for Indian Commercial Banks are :-

Total Priority Sector	-	40 per cent of Net Bank Credit.
Of which to Agriculture	-	18 per cent of Net Bank Credit.
Weaker Sections	-	10 per cent of Net Bank Credit.

No separate target within priority sector has been fixed for lending to food and agro-based processing sector.

[Translation]

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI : Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, I welcome the decision taken by the Government in regard to including the Food Processing Sector in the priority sector but through you I would like to bring to the notice of the Government that employment can be provided to the unemployed youths in the rural areas in the food processing industry sector and more employment opportunities can be created by developing the food processing industry as cottage industry but lending ceiling of forty per cent has been fixed for the commercial banks for the industries already in the priority sector and while putting it in the priority sector the Government did not take care that separate per centage of lending should be fixed for this in addition to this forty per cent or this forty percent should be enhanced. 18 per cent has been fixed for the agriculture sector. I want to bring to your notice that recently the commercial banks have not provided more than fifteen per cent financial assistance. They have never provided the financial assistance of the targetted 18 per cent. Therefore, I would like to know from the Minister whether the Government would fix some per centage of assistance by the commercial banks on priority basis in food processing industry sector? If so, the time by which the limit would be fixed so that this sector could

be developed properly and it could be recognised as cottage industry?

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, food processing industry has been included in the priority sector. As the hon'ble Member has mentioned, there is good potentiality of employment in this sector. According to figures it is true that investment of Rs.1000 crores in the food processing industry can help generating employment opportunities for about 54 thousand people which is far more as compared to other sectors. The Government have put it in the priority sector which will facilitate in getting loan from the commercial banks. But no decision has been taken in regard to number of units to be put in the priority sector or what percentage out of that should be given to food processing industry as no statistics are available in this regard.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI : Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir it is a good decision of the Government to develop it as cottage industry but I have already posed a question that until separate provisions are made for this sector and the target of 18 per cent is fixed for agriculture sector which is never getting more than fifteen percent, your achievements will not be remarkable despite putting it in the priority sector. It is the age of globalisation and multinational companies are coming in the country and if this sector is not developed as cottage industry by making separate provision for this sector then the unemployed youths who are in search of employment in this sector will not be able to face the onslaught of multinational companies. Therefore, through you I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister as to what steps the Government propose to take to fix separate percentage for food processing industry instead of making it to compete with the multinational companies and what initiatives the Governmental propose to take to provide employment opportunities to the persons doing petty jobs in villages and what incentives the Government propose to give to this sector?

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : The small units in the food processing industry will be treated under the small scale industry head. It is not that if a persons wants to set up a small industry in the food processing sector it will be deemed as separate from that. The units which fall under the norms fixed for the small scale industry will be included in the small scale industry. The units which will not be in the ambit of the small scale industry they will be kept out of this priority sector. As I have already said that no percentage has been fixed for this under the priority sector and so far as agriculture is concerned, 18 per cent has been fixed for it.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI : Will the Government consider to fix it or not?

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, instead of posing this question to me the hon'ble Member should ask this question from the hon'ble Finance Minister. I can make a mention of the prevailing circumstances. I can share the available information with you.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI : Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir. I am asking this question from a Minister and being the Cabinet Minister he should reply to this question and he should fix some per centage for this and he should also tell what incentive the Government propose to give ?

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He has already answered it.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, several incentives are given, but incentives are not given through banks only but departments are also giving several incentives. A limit is prescribed for different units in different sectors. Limits of maximum assistance is also fixed. A limit of soft loan of Rs.50 lakhs is fixed for setting up a unit in the general area. This assistance can be given in any sector. For difficult areas such as North East, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshdweep, this limit has been fixed as Rs. 75 lakhs. Similarly if any State proposes to set up a public sector undertaking for that a grant of Rs. 25 lakh in general area and Rs. 50 lakh in difficult areas is provided. Rupees one crore fifty lakh are provided for setting up a Public Sector Undertaking in the general area and rupees two crores are provided for setting up a Public Sector undertaking in the difficult areas. Besides this several other facilities are also provided. A new scheme of food parks is being launched in which infrastructure and common technique is developed and the Government helps in providing cold storage facility, water, electricity and plant and machinery. The Government helps in the major areas. If anybody intends to develop food park, assistance upto rupees four crores will be provided for creating common facilities.

[English]

DR. B.B. RAMAIAH : Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has made it very clear about the food processing industry. The hon. Minister has put it here that it not only gives a lot of potentiality but also he said that this has been included within the definition of the priority sector for bank lending. However, the priority sector-lending norms are not applicable to financial institutions. I would only request the hon. Minister to see that lending

facilities are given to this priority sector because the other day we were discussing about the agricultural production and a large amount of agricultural production has been destroyed due to lack of proper separate facilities.

The food processing industry is one of the major industries. It will help us to improve our agricultural production and also it can be utilised for the country's benefit. Will the hon. Minister also clarify as to why the priority sector lending norms are not applicable to the financial institutions ? I also want to know whether he could create proper facilities for them.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : It is a common knowledge that this facility is provided by the banks not by the financial institution.

[English]

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : Sir, the question is very specific. You have to answer his question. It is a very important question, . . . (Interruptions)

DR. B.B. RAMAIAH : As it has been put it very clearly here, the priority sector lending norms are not applicable to the financial institutions. That is very important. . . (Interruptions) Therefore, will the hon. Minister clarify whether he can be able to recommend to the hon. Finance Minister to see that this is also implemented ?

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Sir, normally, the Reserve Bank of India issues guidelines in respect of various prudential norms to be followed by select all-India financial institutions. No guidelines have been issued by the Reserve Bank of India in regard to dispensation of credit to various sectors and the matters relating thereto.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Sir, I come from a very sweet constituency. We grow very large quantity of pineapples. But, unfortunately, the farmers are really in difficulty because the price of pineapples has come down from Rs. 10 to Rs. 2. Sir, one of the reasons for this downfall is that there are not enough number of fruit-processing industries in the area or even in Kerala. Now, the bank credit is not in the priority sector and there is no specified priority sector. A percentage is not fixed for the food processing industries.

Will the hon. Minister see to it that the food processing industry, which will be a very important sector in our nation-building, is given due importance ? Especially in the areas where the pineapple-growers and other fruit growers are there, some fruit processing industries can be set up with the help of the banks as well as with grants and other help from the Government of India.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have already replied to this question.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He has already given the information.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Regarding the price of pineapples, the hon. Minister must say something. They are very sweet but the farmers are in real difficulty. You are the Minister of Agriculture. You must say a word about that. Actually I wanted to know about that.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : How does it relate to this Question ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Sweet is now not connected with this present Question.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : That is very sweet but the outcome is very sour.

[Translation]

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to tell the hon'ble Minister that the Modern Food Industry which makes Bread for us for breakfast in the big cities is not in good financial health for the last few years. It has also been reported that this public sector industry is being privatised. I want to know what facilities have been provided to it in order to improve its financial position ? If facility has not been provided to it so far whether any loan facility will be provided to it to improve its financial position ?

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, this question is related to the modern Food Industries. It has nothing to do with the main question. As far as Modern Food Industries is concerned, the Government have decided about its disinvestment.

#### Water Management

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\*243. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM :

SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the Centrally Sponsored Schemes being implemented in the Country for providing assistance to the State Government to augment and harness the water resources, State-wise;

(b) the allocation made and released to each State Government under these schemes during the last three years and proposed to be released during 1999-2000;

(c) achievement made by each State Government in implementation of these schemes; and

(d) steps being taken by the Union Government to ensure effective implementation of these schemes in the country ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (DR. C.P. THAKUR) : (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

*There are ten Centrally Sponsored Schemes being implemented in the country to assist the State Governments to augment and harness the water resources. These Schemes are :*

Ministry implementing the Centrally Sponsored Schemes	Schemes under operation
1. Ministry of Water Resources	(i) Command Area Development Programme.
	(ii) Rationalisation of Minor Irrigation Statistics.
	(iii) Satluj Yamuna Link Canal.
2. Ministry of Agriculture	(iv) Soil Conservation in the Catchments of River valley Projects.
	(v) Soil Conservation in the Catchments of Flood Rivers
	(vi) National Watershed Development Project in Rainfed Areas
3. Ministry of Rural Development	(vii) Integrated Rural Development Programme
	(viii) Million Wells Scheme
	(ix) Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme
	(x) Ganga Kalyan Yojana

States where these Schemes are being implemented are given in Annexure I.

Central assistance to the States is provided on the basis of the approved financing pattern, provision of budget made by the State Government for State sector, approved norms and the performance of the concerned scheme. The position of the funds released and achievements made during the past three years (1996-97 to 1998-99) state-wise and year-wise as reported under different schemes is given in Annexure II (a) to II (l) Exact Central assistance to be released State wise for all the schemes

during 1999-2000 will depend on the performance during the year. In case of Satluj Yamuna Link Canal Scheme there was no release of funds during this period, on account of stoppage of work by the State Government. The case is subjudice. To ensure effective implementation of these schemes, close monitoring is done by the State and Central Governments through review of periodical progress reports, meetings and visits of officers.

#### Annexure-I

#### States where Centrally Sponsored Schemes are being Implemented to Augment and Harness Water Resources

S. No.	Name of State/U.T.	Name of Centrally Sponsored Schemes in operation in the States/U.Ts								
		Command Area Development Programme (CADP)	Rationalisation of M.I. Statistics (RMIS)	Soil Conservation in the catchments of R.V.P. (SCCRVP)	Soil Conservation in the catchments of F.P.R. (SCCFPR)	National Watershed Development Project in Rainfed Areas (NWDPRA)	Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP)	Million Wells Scheme (MWS)	Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP)	Ganga Kalyan Yojana (GKY)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<b>States</b>										
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
3.	Assam	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
4.	Bihar	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
5.	Goa	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
6.	Gujarat	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
7.	Haryana	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
8.	Himachal Pradesh	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
10.	Karnataka	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
11.	Kerala	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
12.	Madhya Pradesh	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
13.	Maharashtra	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
14.	Manipur	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
15.	Meghalaya	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
16.	Mizoram	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
17.	Nagaland	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
18. Orissa		Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
19. Punjab		Yes								
20. Rajasthan		Yes								
21. Sikkim		No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
22. Tamil Nadu		Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
23. Tripura		Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
24. Uttar Pradesh		Yes	No	Yes						
25. West Bengal		Yes								
<b>Union Territories</b>										
1. Andman and Nicobar	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
2. Chandigarh	No									
3. D and N Haveli	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
4. Daman and Diu	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
5. Delhi	No	Yes	No							
6. Lakshadweep	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
7. Pondicherry	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

MI = Minor Irrigation

RVP = River Valley Projects

FPR = Flood Prone Rivers

**Annexure-II (a)**

*Details of Central Releases made under the Command Area Development Programme during the Period 1996-97 to 1998-99*

(Unit = Rupees in Lakh)

S. No.	Name of the State/Union Territory	Central Release			
		1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>States</b>					
1.	Andhra Pr.	99.40	3839.57	0.00	3938.97
2.	Arunachal Pr.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.	Assam	0.00	124.00	0.00	124.00
4.	Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Goa	39.00	20.00	0.00	59.00
6.	Gujarat	444.38	97.11	324.19	865.68
7.	Haryana	1247.18	1116.85	1294.63	3658.66
8.	Himachal Pr.	44.02	73.07	52.90	169.99
9.	J & K	252.23	189.90	233.99	676.12
10.	Karnataka	845.59	437.87	668.00	1951.46

1	2	3	4	5	6
11.	Kerala	466.96	200.00	806.04	1473.00
12.	Madhya Pr.	65.00	6.25	245.99	317.24
13.	Maharashtra	1439.92	298.30	1719.15	3457.37
14.	Manipur	130.69	86.91	132.33	349.93
15.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
16.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	6.43	6.43
17.	Orissa	353.99	231.47	774.40	1359.86
18.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	500.00	500.00
19.	Rajasthan	3948.17	2226.65	3834.87	10009.69
20.	Tamil Nadu	2081.99	552.46	2507.27	5141.72
21.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
22.	Uttar Pr.	2022.60	3057.83	3959.24	9039.67
23.	West Bengal	112.19	90.00	275.00	477.19
<b>Total States</b>		<b>13593.31</b>	<b>12648.24</b>	<b>17334.43</b>	<b>43575.98</b>
<b>Union Territories</b>					
1.	D & N Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2.	Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>13593.31</b>	<b>12648.24</b>	<b>17334.43</b>	<b>43575.98</b>

## Annexure-II(e)

Details of Physical Achievements in respect of on-farm Development Works for the Period 1996-97 to 1998-99 under CAD Programme

(Unit : in '000 ha)

Sl. No.	State/UTs	Field Channels			Warabandi			Land Levelling			Field Drains						
		1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	Total	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	Total	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	Total				
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.03	2.15	3.34	5.52	11.49	4.80	10.24	26.53	6.00	3.89	4.30	14.19	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2.	Arunacha Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.	Assam	0.15	0.44	0.83	1.42	0.02	0.86	0.00	0.88	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.52	0.00	0.53
4.	Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.54	0.54	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Goa	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.10	1.50	0.00	1.44	2.94	0.00	0.01	0.04	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Gujarat	10.53	7.24	20.60	38.37	12.43	5.87	8.38	26.68	0.05	0.03	0.00	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.02
7.	Haryana	35.79	28.21	23.65	87.65	2.17	0.00	0.00	2.17	0.51	0.47	0.00	0.98	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.55	1.41	0.00	1.96	0.25	2.38	0.00	2.63	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.43	0.00	0.43
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	4.52	6.97	5.39	16.88	30.92	45.64	90.69	167.25	1.91	2.27	1.26	5.44	1.40	2.27	2.45	6.12
10.	Karnataka	23.75	11.03	10.35	45.13	7.49	18.29	8.20	31.98	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.43	0.25	2.82	3.73
11.	Kerala	14.39	7.89	7.12	29.40	11.15	9.11	20.26	40.54	0.08	0.23	0.12	0.43	4.48	16.37	32.54	53.39
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1.41	4.23	10.66	16.50	0.00	0.17	1.18	1.35	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
13.	Maharashtra	20.88	25.23	27.67	73.78	4.87	21.24	8.69	34.80	1.45	0.00	0.00	1.45	9.81	0.00	13.27	23.08
14.	Manipur	2.24	3.33	4.48	10.05	0.51	0.67	0.16	1.24	0.00	0.35	0.15	0.50	0.47	0.07	0.08	0.62
15.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
16.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.06
17.	Orissa	18.66	7.00	12.89	38.55	0.00	15.00	13.40	28.40	0.16	0.00	0.00	0.16	8.23	5.06	3.96	17.25
18.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
19.	Rajasthan	69.39	54.25	65.95	189.59	69.39	54.25	0.00	123.64	0.60	3.98	11.28	15.86	2.60	2.78	9.76	15.14
20.	Tamil Nadu	41.61	46.61	53.82	142.04	60.84	75.91	81.82	218.57	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
21.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
22.	Uttar Pradesh	126.87	112.20	71.54	310.61	204.61	176.26	89.29	470.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
23.	West Bengal	5.35	0.82	3.36	9.53	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total States	376.22	319.01	322.44	1017.67	417.64	428.36	333.77	1179.76	10.76	11.23	22.66	44.55	27.66	27.75	64.96	120.37

## Annexure-II (b)

*Details of Central Releases made under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rationalisation of Minor Irrigation Statistics during the Period 1996-97 to 1998-99*

(Unit = Rupees in Lakh)

S.No	Name of State/Union Territory	Central Release			Total
		1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	
<b>States</b>					
1.	Andhra Pradesh	12.21	10.00	15.22	37.43
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.	Assam	4.18	5.08	5.57	14.83
4.	Bihar	0.00	0.00	6.22	6.22
5.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Gujarat	13.58	12.91	24.33	50.82
7.	Haryana	3.85	0.00	15.84	19.69
8.	Himachal Pradesh	6.39	5.20	13.01	24.60
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	8.34	7.66	9.53	25.53
10.	Karnataka	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
11.	Kerala	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	8.47	9.94	11.64	30.05
13.	Maharashtra	0.00	0.00	21.93	21.93
14.	Manipur	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
15.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
16.	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
17.	Nagaland	2.89	0.00	0.00	2.89
18.	Orissa	6.67	8.48	9.17	24.32
19.	Punjab	4.64	9.27	9.33	23.24
20.	Rajasthan	5.25	3.65	1.78	10.68
21.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	4.33	4.33
22.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
23.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	6.46	6.46
24.	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
25.	West Bengal	35.13	9.38	10.29	54.80
Total States		111.60	81.57	164.65	357.82
<b>Union Territories</b>					
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	1.87	2.01	3.88
3.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4.	Delhi	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total U.Ts		0.00	1.87	2.01	3.88
Grand Total		111.60	83.44	166.66	361.70

The Scheme is for collection of information on Minor Irrigation

## Annexure-III(c)

Details showing State-wise releases of Central Assistance under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Soil Conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Projects during the Period 1996-97 to 1998-99

S. No.	Name of State	Allocation made (Rs. in lakh)		Amount Released during (Rs. lakh)		Achievement in thousand hectare							
		1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	Total	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	Total				
1.	Andhra Pradesh	773.00	668.00	600.00	2041.00	773.00	668.00	651.50	2092.50	13.29	14.79	12.44	40.52
2.	Assam	20.00	20.00	50.00	90.00	20.00	20.00	10.00	50.00	1.54	2.78	0.54	4.86
3.	Bihar	50.00	50.00	100.00	200.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	100.00	0.35	0.10	0.00	0.45
4.	Gujarat	333.00	266.00	403.00	1002.00	333.00	266.00	433.00	1032.00	6.04	5.02	6.57	17.63
5.	Himachal Pradesh	480.00	400.00	500.00	1380.00	480.00	400.00	220.00	1400.00	5.40	5.99	7.75	19.14
6.	Jammu and Kashmir	364.00	458.00	550.00	1372.00	364.00	458.00	599.00	1421.00	6.48	7.10	7.88	21.46
7.	Karnataka	751.00	950.00	1000.00	2701.00	751.00	950.00	1115.00	2616.00	37.95	40.26	23.35	101.56
8.	Kerala	92.00	0.00	50.00	142.00	92.00	0.00	68.88	160.88	1.00	0.53	0.00	1.53
8.	(a) Madhya Pradesh	650.00	900.00	1050.00	2600.00	500.00	700.00	1032.72	2232.72	25.44	13.67	26.62	65.73
	(b) Narmada Valley Dev. Authority					150.00	200.00	559.86					
9.	Maharashtra	600.00	820.00	1000.00	2420.00	600.00	820.00	1300.00	2720.00	40.26	29.63	10.31	80.20
10.	Orissa	260.00	100.00	250.00	610.00	260.00	100.00	112.39	472.39	4.88	3.62	7.22	15.72
11.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Rajasthan	765.00	870.00	1100.00	2735.00	765.00	870.00	879.00	2514.00	17.19	16.37	17.29	50.85
13.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.55	0.00	0.00	5.55
14.	Tamil Nadu	600.00	600.00	500.00	1700.00	600.00	600.00	580.00	1780.00	8.24	8.52	7.43	24.19
15.	Tripura	0.00	31.00	50.00	81.00	0.00	31.00	30.00	61.00	0.00	0.16	0.35	0.51
16.	Uttar Pradesh	360.00	100.00	220.00	680.00	360.00	100.00	254.72	714.72	5.08	2.47	3.96	11.51
17.	West Bengal	0.00	100.00	250.00	350.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00	2.14	1.01	17.72	20.87
18.	Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC)	400.00	400.00	400.00	1200.00			400.00	400.00				
	Total	6498.00	6733.00	8123.00	21354.00	6498.00	6733.00	8145.67	19667.21	180.83	192.62	149.43	482.28



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
5. Goa	10.00	5.00	30.00	45.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.00	8.00	1260	400	1000	2660
6. Gujarat	1500.00	700.00	2000.00	4200.00	332.00	700.00	2000.00	2000.00	3032.00	29557	17901	61780	109238	
7. Haryana	125.00	80.00	220.00	425.00	60.00	80.00	220.00	220.00	360.00	3622	3337	6544	13503	
8. Himachal Pradesh	280.00	120.00	300.00	700.00	60.00	120.00	175.00	355.00	7551	587	2600	10738		
9. Jammu & Kashmir	70.00	108.00	150.00	328.00	0.00	108.00	38.00	146.00	375	52	0	427		
10. Karnataka	2100.00	2100.00	2000.00	6200.00	1095.00	2100.00	2000.00	5195.00	85616	5476	92300	183392		
11. Kerala	210.00	500.00	1500.00	2210.00	700.00	500.00	1434.00	2634.00	20642	0	0	20642		
12. Madhya Pradesh	2800.00	1750.00	2500.00	7050.00	3700.00	1434.00	1609.00	6743.00	228063	16955	90230	335248		
13. Maharashtra	5500.00	2500.00	3060.00	11060.00	2754.00	2500.00	3060.00	8314.00	116902	58036	71675	246613		
14. Manipur	3.00	250.00	300.00	553.00	100.00	250.00	200.00	550.00	2353	1233	250	3836		
15. Meghalaya	7.00	15.00	200.00	222.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	200.00	840	2820	3552	7212		
16. Mizoram	0.00	225.00	500.00	725.00	0.00	225.00	700.00	925.00	1230	0	11233	12463		
17. Nagaland	18.00	160.00	500.00	678.00	18.00	160.00	500.00	678.00	0	28000	11149	39149		
18. Orissa	890.00	1200.00	2200.00	4290.00	1000.00	1200.00	550.00	2750.00	61746	632	13623	76001		
19. Punjab	17.00	40.00	45.00	102.00	0.00	40.00	45.00	85.00	2497	75950	1125	79572		
20. Rajasthan	3016.00	2850.00	4000.00	9866.00	3016.00	2581.00	4000.00	9597.00	126543	2000	89459	218002		
21. Sikkim	19.00	90.00	150.00	259.00	41.00	90.00	150.00	281.00	1129	24145	4500	29774		
22. Tamil Nadu	590.00	900.00	1650.00	3140.00	240.00	900.00	1650.00	2790.00	35940	1403	50567	87810		
23. Tripura	4.00	130.00	200.00	334.00	4.00	130.00	300.00	434.00	463	20311	6412	27186		
24. Uttar Pradesh	1050.00	1000.00	2500.00	4550.00	1000.00	1000.00	1750.00	3750.00	38438	13176	699347	761561		
25. West Bengal	790.00	10.00	600.00	1400.00	0.00	10.00	600.00	610.00	18000	0	22408	40408		
Total States	19755.00	15473.00	26630.00	61878.00	14440.00	14838.00	22370.00	51648.00	918810	327224	1280617	2426651		

## Union Territories

1. Andaman and Nicobar	95.00	25.00	65.00	155.00	50.00	25.00	65.00	140.00	560	517	972	2049		
2. D and N Haveli	10.00	2.00	5.00	17.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	2.00	0	0	0	0		
Total UTs	75.00	27.00	70.00	172.00	50.00	26.00	66.00	142.00	560	517	972	2049		
Grand Total	19350.00	15500.00	26700.00	62050.00	14490.00	14864.00	22436.00	51790.00	819370	327741	1281589	2428700		

## Annexure-II (F)

Details showing Allocation and Releases made under Inegrated Rural Development Programme during the period 1996-97 to 1998-99

S. No.	Name of State/ Union Territory	Allocation made during the period (Rs. lakh)				Central Release (Rs. in Lakh)			
		1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	Total	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	Total
<b>States</b>									
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8336.41	8612.22	7734.30	24682.93	12085.74	9634.21	3870.32	25570.27
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	623.43	644.06	403.82	1671.31	471.59	651.30	202.78	1325.67
3.	Assam	2743.5	2834.24	10492.72	16070.46	244.47	2038.36	5246.36	7529.21
4.	Bihar	16218.24	16754.8	25336.66	58309.7	10999.78	9090.27	6608.31	26698.36
5.	Goa	141.87	146.58	17.82	306.27	90.33	120.89	24.43	235.85
6.	Gujarat	3059.22	3160.44	2911.34	91.31	3213.83	3850.61	1455.67	8520.11
7.	Haryana	735.33	759.66	1712.78	3207.77	767.80	938.04	692.00	2397.84
8.	Himachal Pradesh	239.78	247.72	721.32	1208.82	242.50	386.04	323.26	951.80
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	999.09	1032.16	892.74	2923.99	766.69	777.17	319.20	1863.06
10.	Karnataka	5594.91	57.80	580.48	11955.39	4072.57	4695.63	2439.51	11207.71
11.	Kerala	2036.15	2103.5	2620.60	6760.25	2061.12	2226.81	1346.69	5634.62
12.	Madhya Pradesh	10565.39	10914.94	12842.50	34322.83	9929.21	9328.36	6421.25	25678.82
13.	Maharashtra	9087.73	9388.4	11542.22	30018.35	7281.26	8541.07	5772.63	21594.96
14.	Manipur	449.59	464.48	703.42	1617.49	501.56	235.15	87.76	824.47
15.	Meghalaya	477.57	493.36	788.10	1759.03	497.66	323.10	144.49	965.45
16.	Mizoram	201.82	208.5	182.36	592.68	206.07	240.56	104.25	550.88
17.	Nagaland	335.69	346.8	540.60	1223.09	451.40	208.71	86.70	746.81
18.	Orissa	6763.85	6987.62	8846.44	22597.91	6129.85	6178.52	4384.65	16693.02
19.	Punjab	521.53	538.78	832.40	1892.71	516.81	716.31	416.18	1649.30
20.	Rajasthan	4388.01	4533.18	4434.88	13356.07	4020.59	3743.08	2084.45	9848.12
21.	Sikkim	55.95	57.8	201.90	315.65	81.75	126.92	90.57	299.24
22.	Tamil Nadu	7537.14	7786.5	6838.82	22162.46	4517.82	6981.61	3463.58	14963.01
23.	Tripura	641.42	662.64	1270.06	2574.12	959.87	779.58	653.03	2374.48
24.	Uttar Pradesh	20316.5	20988.66	27883.22	69188.38	20212.39	18884.17	13889.50	52986.06
25.	West Bengal	7472.2	7719.42	9831.06	25022.68	3577.38	4525.15	2321.76	10424.29
<b>Total States</b>		<b>109542.32</b>	<b>113166.46</b>	<b>140162.56</b>	<b>362871.34</b>	<b>93880.24</b>	<b>95221.84</b>	<b>62431.33</b>	<b>251533.21</b>
<b>Union Territories</b>									
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	70.94	73.29	69.58	213.81	51.94	41.70	63.00	156.64
2.	D and N Haveli	14.99	15.29	41.53	71.81	14.99	31.13	21.88	68.00
3.	Daman and Diu	27.97	28.9	27.43	84.3	13.98	28.91	13.72	56.61
4.	Lakshadweep	6.99	7.22	6.85	21.06	6.99	17.78	3.43	28.20
5.	Pondicherry	57.95	59.87	56.83	174.65	50.13	83.52	29.93	163.58
<b>Total U.Ts</b>		<b>178.84</b>	<b>184.57</b>	<b>202.22</b>	<b>565.63</b>	<b>138.03</b>	<b>203.04</b>	<b>151.96</b>	<b>473.03</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>109721.16</b>	<b>113351.03</b>	<b>140364.78</b>	<b>363436.97</b>	<b>94018.27</b>	<b>95424.68</b>	<b>62563.29</b>	<b>252006.24</b>

## Annexure-II(g)

## Details showing Allocation and Releases made under Million Wells Scheme during 1996-97 to 1998-99

S. No	Name of State/ Union Territory	Allocation made during the period (Rs. Lakh)						Central Release (Rs. in Lakh)						Achievement of Wells (Numbers)					
		1997-98		1998-99		Total	1997-98		1998-99		Total	1996-97		1997-98		1998-99		Total	
		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14						
<b>States</b>																			
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4342.14	4342.14	3165.49	11849.77	4342.14	4280.93	3163.08	11786.15	13169	7952	7110	28231						
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	44.58	44.58	69.60	158.76	25.56	28.61	102.99	157.16	89	19	80	188						
3.	Assam	1429.41	1429.41	1808.38	4667.2	1312.68	1512.78	3777.99	6803.45	2332	993	2954	6279						
4.	Bihar	8516.94	8516.94	10369.79	27403.67	5811.98	6836.15	7753.78	19401.91	22911	23307	15766	61984						
5.	Goa	48.16	48.16	7.30	103.62	24.08	13.13	3.65	40.86	33	16	51	100						
6.	Gujarat	1593.91	1593.91	1191.55	4379.37	1442.70	1216.18	1191.54	3850.42	3148	2773	2498	8419						
7.	Haryana	382.88	382.88	701.01	1466.77	257.01	225.79	473.00	965.80	363	483	643	1489						
8.	Himachal Pradesh	153.04	153.04	295.23	601.31	112.15	120.43	203.49	436.07	670	602	531	1803						
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	310.99	310.99	365.38	987.36	294.76	241.18	319.71	855.65	1544	1182	1628	4354						
10.	Karnataka	2915.55	2915.55	2390.40	8221.5	2635.64	2550.56	2390.40	7576.60	3004	3096	2106	8206						
11.	Kerala	1060.71	1060.71	1072.56	3193.98	890.94	1029.53	1055.09	2965.56	2268	3976	4070	10314						
12.	Madhya Pradesh	5502.11	5502.11	5256.18	1626.04	4296.14	4221.40	4401.39	12918.93	19950	15296	17584	52830						
13.	Maharashtra	4733.53	4733.53	4725.23	14192.29	4128.54	4096.48	4725.23	12950.23	8002	8324	8243	24569						
14.	Manipur	57.14	57.14	121.24	235.52	52.25	33.76	118.94	204.95	429	218	465	1112						
15.	Meghalaya	66.85	66.85	135.83	269.53	37.68	42.10	274.73	354.57	885	468	809	2162						
16.	Mizoram	28.16	28.16	31.43	87.75	28.16	28.19	70.00	126.35	483	325	865	1673						
17.	Nagaland	71.66	71.66	93.16	236.48	61.76	71.66	104.36	237.78	80	608	256	944						
18.	Orissa	3522.49	3522.49	3620.68	10665.66	2373.35	3581.61	3620.68	9575.64	18349	15798	11124	45271						
19.	Punjab	272.28	272.28	340.69	695.25	243.84	107.71	0.00	351.55	0	0	0	0						
20.	Rajasthan	2285.93	2285.93	1815.11	6386.97	1272.96	1638.98	463.06	3367.00	2389	2128	2838	7355						
21.	Sikkim	26.09	26.09	34.80	86.98	21.70	26.09	77.50	125.29	91	89	47	227						
22.	Tamil Nadu	3925.23	3925.23	2798.99	10649.45	3459.71	3925.23	2798.99	10183.93	5962	3626	5048	14636						
23.	Tripura	74.21	74.21	218.89	367.31	74.21	74.21	486.16	634.58	1221	801	3870	5892						
24.	Uttar Pradesh	10581.64	10581.64	11412.05	32575.33	8686.26	9669.41	7446.38	25782.05	43	44	396	483						

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
25. West Bengal	3891.19	38891.19	4023.65	11806.03	3381.56	2170.89	1769.75	7322.20	1461	403	5154	8018		
<b>Total States</b>	<b>55836.82</b>	<b>55836.82</b>	<b>167738.3</b>	<b>45247.76</b>	<b>46734.97</b>	<b>46791.95</b>	<b>138774.68</b>	<b>108876</b>	<b>92527</b>	<b>95136</b>	<b>296539</b>			
<b>Union Territories</b>														
1. Andaman and Nicobar	21.11	13.47	55.69	10.55	0.00	0.00	10.55	13	4	6	23			
2. D and N Haveli	11.46	11.46	13.47	36.39	11.07	5.73	13.47	30.27	8	16	22	46		
3. Daman and Diu	6.76	6.76	0.45	13.97	3.38	0.00	3.38	0	2	0	2			
4. Lakshadweep	10.58	10.58	0.90	22.06	5.29	0.00	10.58	0	140	0	140			
5. Pondicherry	20.66	20.66	17.06	58.38	10.32	0.00	10.32	0	0	0	0			
<b>Total UTs</b>	<b>70.57</b>	<b>70.57</b>	<b>45.35</b>	<b>186.49</b>	<b>40.61</b>	<b>11.02</b>	<b>13.47</b>	<b>65.10</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>211</b>		
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>55907.39</b>	<b>55907.39</b>	<b>167924.75</b>	<b>45288.37</b>	<b>46745.99</b>	<b>46205.42</b>	<b>138839.78</b>	<b>108897</b>	<b>92689</b>	<b>95164</b>	<b>296750</b>			

## Annexure-II(h)

## Details showing Allocation and Releases made under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme during 1996-97 to 1998-99

S. No	Name of the State/ Union Territory	Allocation made during the period (Rs. Crore)					Central Release (Rs. in Crore)					Population Covered (in lakh)				
		Total					Total					Total				
		1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14			
<b>States</b>																
1.	Andhra Pradesh	66.180	79.640	99.914	245.734	66.722	98.068	99.914	254.704	27.800	32.260	27.570	87.630			
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	12.000	14.440	36.230	62.670	12.000	24.760	21.638	58.398	0.579	0.490	0.180	1.249			
3.	Assam	20.260	24.380	61.200	105.840	23.535	23.765	64.170	111.470	3.655	4.850	8.330	16.835			
4.	Bihar	77.950	93.800	117.685	289.435	31.130	0.000	0.000	31.130	6.430	30.330	14.710	51.470			
5.	Goa	1.890	2.270	2.837	6.997	5.504	1.965	0.000	7.469	0.364	0.030	0.230	0.624			
6.	Gujarat	41.970	49.870	58.605	150.445	41.970	58.866	69.513	170.349	7.050	10.140	19.890	37.090			
7.	Haryana	24.410	27.360	21.909	73.673	25.500	32.592	20.25	78.342	15.020	16.940	12.820	44.780			
8.	Himachal Pradesh	13.310	15.960	19.671	48.941	19.340	17.090	29.135	65.563	1.090	1.520	1.450	4.050			
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	36.880	44.310	55.146	136.336	37.350	46.940	46.594	130.884	0.003	0.000	1.700	1.703			

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
10. Karnataka	60.870	73.250	91.774	225.894	67.207	99.377	100.706	267.290	22.740	30.700	21.240	74.680		
11. Kerala	30.950	37.240	46.735	114.925	32.637	35.647	46.735	115.019	2.377	4.260	5.780	12.417		
12. Madhya Pradesh	73.270	88.170	110.631	272.071	73.136	83.457	110.611	267.204	21.294	44.490	36.680	102.464		
13. Maharashtra	88.100	106.020	133.015	327.135	91.810	120.872	163.845	376.527	36.413	33.950	56.860	127.223		
14. Manipur	4.400	5.290	13.300	22.990	4.786	9.070	6.667	20.523	0.495	1.320	0.000	1.815		
15. Meghalaya	4.720	5.680	14.250	24.650	5.720	7.432	17.090	30.242	0.875	0.550	0.570	1.795		
16. Mizoram	3.370	4.060	10.180	17.610	4.289	5.836	10.177	20.302	0.149	0.320	1.040	1.509		
17. Nagaland	4.220	4.220	10.580	19.020	4.220	2.110	7.969	14.299	0.000	0.040	0.600	0.640		
18. Orissa	34.680	41.730	52.365	128.775	41.538	50.384	47.937	139.859	10.681	8.240	6.970	25.891		
19. Punjab	11.050	13.3000	16.696	41.036	12.890	17.140	22.053	52.087	2.341	2.030	1.240	5.611		
20. Rajasthan	103.870	118.630	109.545	332.045	115.870	137.832	119.416	373.118	6.630	7.110	3.710	17.450		
21. Sikkim	3.720	3.720	4.340	11.780	4.720	4.356	14.011	23.087	0.096	0.090	0.230	0.416		
22. Tamil Nadu	52.470	63.140	79.225	194.835	53.330	58.344	105.275	216.949	20.970	28.590	41.710	92.270		
23. Tripura	4.180	5.030	12.620	21.830	8.500	7.620	21.289	37.409	2.611	0.950	1.070	4.631		
24. Uttar Pradesh	122.780	147.750	185.379	455.909	117.282	151.827	162.971	432.080	26.240	94.110	54.890	175.240		
25. West Bengal	47.4000	57.040	71.696	176.136	45.213	44.115	64.269	153.597	11.650	12.400	20.330	44.380		
<b>Total States</b>	<b>944.900</b>	<b>1126.300</b>	<b>1435.518</b>	<b>3506.718</b>	<b>946.199</b>	<b>1129.465</b>	<b>1372.233</b>	<b>3447.897</b>	<b>227.353</b>	<b>366.710</b>	<b>339.800</b>	<b>933.863</b>		
<b>Union Territories</b>														
1. Andaman and Nicobar	0.250	0.125	0.125	0.500	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.440	0.070	0.530		
2. D and N Haveli	0.150	0.125	0.125	0.400	0.030	0.000	0.000	0.030	0.000	0.040	0.060	0.100		
3. Daman and Diu	0.300	0.050	0.125	0.475	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		
4. Delhi	0.000	0.125	0.050	0.050	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.240	1.240		
5. Lakshadweep	0.200	0.050	0.215	0.375	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.030	0.000	0.030		
6. Pondicherry	0.100	0.125	0.050	0.275	0.100	0.100	0.000	0.200	0.345	0.090	0.150	0.585		
<b>Total UTs</b>	<b>1.000</b>	<b>0.600</b>	<b>0.600</b>	<b>2.025</b>	<b>0.130</b>	<b>0.100</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.230</b>	<b>0.785</b>	<b>0.230</b>	<b>1.470</b>	<b>2.485</b>		
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>945.900</b>	<b>1126.900</b>	<b>1436.118</b>	<b>3508.918</b>	<b>946.329</b>	<b>1129.565</b>	<b>1372.233</b>	<b>3448.127</b>	<b>228.138</b>	<b>366.940</b>	<b>341.270</b>	<b>936.348</b>		



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
22. Tamil Nadu			0.00	0.00	257.95	0.00	257.95	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23. Tripura			87.50	70.00	112.98	0.00	182.98	0	1160	0	1160	0	0	0	0
24. Uttar Pradesh			2282.06	1809.65	1846.79	0.00	3656.44	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
25. West Bengal			832.88	666.30	699.58	0.00	1365.88	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total States</b>			<b>11352.54</b>	<b>9082.00</b>	<b>9979.91</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>19061.91</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1674</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1674</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>Union Territories</b>															
1. Andaman and Nicobar			0.00	00.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2. D and N Haveli			0.00	0.00	2.73	0.00	2.73	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3. Daman and Diu			0.00	0.00	5.09	0.00	5.09	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4. Delhi			0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5. Lakshadweep			0.00	0.00	1.27	0.00	1.27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6. Pondichery			0.00	0.00	10.55	0.00	10.55	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total UTs</b>			<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>19.64</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>19.64</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>11352.54</b>	<b>9082.00</b>	<b>9999.55</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>19081.55</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1674</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1674</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>92</b>

[Translation]

SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, the Swaran Multipurpose Project for South Bihar is running for the last 20 years, however, even the first phase of the work has not been completed yet. The State Government has stated that due to heavy expenditure, the project has not been completed. Will the hon'ble Minister like to mention the scheduled time by which the Swaran Rekha plan is likely to be completed? Will you please apprise the House of the latest position of the plan by sending a central team?

Kanhar and Oranga irrigation project located under my parliamentary constituency Palamu and Gadva are lying pending for so many years due to scarcity of funds and I would like to know the time by which these projects are likely to be completed.

DR. C. P. THAKUR : Swaran Rekha project is lying pending for want of environmental clearance. Government is ready to start the work on it as soon as the clearance is made. We are taking up the matter in writing with the State Government regarding the second plan. Hon'ble President has also mentioned about the pending schemes in his address. We are trying to find out as to how these schemes can be completed and the money already spent could be put to proper utilization.

SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we want to know by when it will be completed. The Hon'ble Minister is unable to reply it specifically. It would have been better had he mentioned the same. . . . (Interruptions) Hon'ble Minister please state as to when it will be completed and when the clearance will be made.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Four thousand crores have been spent and after 10 years you are saying that the project is pending for environmental clearance. It is a serious matter. It concerns the whole of Southern Bihar. Please clarify this issue because when a matter is delayed due to environmental. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let the hon'ble Minister answer.

[Translation]

DR. C. P. THAKUR : There are so many schemes which are pending in the absence of environmental clearance. A mechanism can be developed with the help of Hon'ble Members so that a prescribed time limit could be fixed for environmental clearance. We will definitely implement that mechanism. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as regard the irrigation projects in Bundelkhand region injustice has already been done to it by dividing this region into two states. No industry has been established there. Agriculture is the only means of livelihood there. It is in the records and a survey has also revealed that Bundelkhand has the minimum irrigation percentage throughout the country. Bariyarpur bi Nahar Project was started in 1980 in this area and it was to be completed in 1986-87. However, that project has not been completed yet. On the other hand, Ken Multipurpose project and Orchena Hydel power project are pending for clearance from CWC and environmental angle at Central level. Can you imagine that projects are pending for 18 years to get the clearance and they are not being cleared. You can well imagine as to what extent the Bundelkhand region is being ignored. That's why the demand is being made for creating a separate Bundelkhand.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please do not interrupt him.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : I would like to draw the attention of the hon'ble Prime Minister and the Minister especially towards those projects which are pending for environmental and CWC clearance at the central level. Will you please get the matter expedited. Will you also ensure the completion of the incomplete projects within a fixed time-frame?

DR. C. P. THAKUR : I will furnish you the information in this regard. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Vaghela, let him answer. He has asked the question. Let him answer.

[Translation]

MR. C. P. THAKUR : I will give you the information regarding Bundelkhand area. Rajghat project has been completed. As far as the other projects are concerned, it is a state subject. The state has to make provisions in its budget in this regard.

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : Hon'ble Minister, the state has already made provisions in its budget but what about the clearance from CWC and environmental angle which is pending at central level for the last 18 years. Projects are pending since 1980,1983. . . . (Interruptions)

DR. C. P. THAKUR : I will inform the hon'ble Members in this regard.

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : I am asking about Orchcha project, a central multipurpose project.

AN HON'BLE MEMBER : It is your responsibility . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : Will you get it clear ?

DR. C.P. THAKUR : Definitely. . . .

(Interruptions)

SHRI C.N. SINGH : Hon'ble Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister that there are 10 schemes under which programmes are being implemented to augment and harness the water resources. The Central Government provide assistance to State Governments in this regard. However, under the Ministry of Rural Development Programmes like Integrated Rural Development Programme, Million Well Scheme, Accelerated water supply programmes are being implemented in Jaunpur and Pratapgarh districts, even then the drinking water is not available there. Water level has gone down to such an extent as all the wells have been dried up. There is acute shortage of drinking water. Will the Central Government pay attention towards it ? For Uttar Pradesh, the scheme is only on papers, whether the Government is thinking in terms of implementing it. Alongwith it, I would like to know. . .

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You can raise only one question.

SHRI C.N. SINGH : It is in the context of the same question. It is related to the schemes of National Watershed Development programme and to check the floods in rainfed areas. Last year the whole of Gorakhpur Mandal and Uttar Pradesh was in the grip of floods but the Uttar Pradesh Government did not take any action despite the funds provided by the Central Government to the tune of hundred crores of rupees.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Singh, please ask the question.

SHRI C.N. SINGH : This year the whole of Pratapgarh and Jaunpur districts got affected by the floods. Through you, I would like to ask from the hon'ble Minister whether a Central team will be sent by the Government to conduct a probe into the corrupt practices prevailing in Uttar Pradesh Government. Two incidents took place, Last year the whole of Eastern Uttar Pradesh was in the grip of floods, this year also floods affected this area. What sort

of action is being taken under these schemes ? Drought has hit the area but water resources are not available. What steps are being proposed by the Hon'ble Minister in this regard ? Will a central team be sent to conduct a probe into the misdeeds done by the Uttar Pradesh Government in this regard ?

[English]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE : Sir, we all the Members of West Bengal. . . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. C.P. THAKUR : The schemes mentioned by the hon'ble Members are running through Department of Agriculture, however, as per the suggestion given by the hon'ble Member, I will get the information regarding these schemes. In regard to the schemes which are not being implemented, we will . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI C.N. SINGH : Had this happened, billions of rupees would not have been wasted.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record. Please do not interrupt.

(Interruptions)\*

SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE : May I have the attention of the House ? . . . (Interruptions).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Whatever information is there he has given and he will collect information and pass on to the hon. Member.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE : Sir, may I have the attention of the House because I am trying to raise a very important question ?

All of us from West Bengal, I am sure all the Members, are very much concerned with the Water Management Policy because we fall under the arsenic belt. My constituency consists of seven Assembly segments and four are under the arsenic belt. Arsenic is coming out and the drinking water is poisoned. Thousand of people are dying of slow poisoning. This is a very serious situation there.

We are very much interested in the National Watershed Development Project. This is such a problem that as an individual M.P., we cannot do anything. People come to us for tubewells, for drinking water.

\*Not recorded.

As you all know, the more tubewells we sink, the more arsenic will come up. So, some other watershed management, surface water or rain water should be somehow managed for this problem. I would like to know from the Government if they are aware of this dangerous situation in West Bengal and, if so, what steps they are going to take. This is beyond any individual M.P.'s capacity. Also, it is beyond the State Government's capacity to deal with this situation. Would the Government think of having a special allocation and some special management to deal with this arsenic poisoning problem in West Bengal?

DR. C.P. THAKUR : Sir, the Government is seized of this problem of arsenic contamination of drinking water. Actually, a research is going on as to how we can dig the well so that arsenic does not go into the drinking water. So, we are seized of this problem of drinking water and we are going to take some steps. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI C.N. SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is a very serious matter, full-fledge discussion should be held on it. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri C.N. Singh, please do not interrupt like this.

DR. C.P. THAKUR : Sir, we have also approved Rs. 1,777.56 lakh for control of arsenic problem in West Bengal and we are going to take up the problems of arsenic and fluoride, the two poisonous substances that contaminate water. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri C.N. Singh, please do not interrupt like this. Every now and then you are getting up without my permission.

[Translation]

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this question pertains to water management. We have huge resources of water in our country in the form of rivers and rain water. However, they are not being utilized properly for the last 50 years and it is adversely affecting the water management in our country. River Ganga and Yamuna flow through my area but drinking water is not available here and fields have dried up due to lack of water. The hon'ble Minister has mentioned ten measures through which he is trying to increase the water resources. In my view he has left a very important aspect in this regard. Hilly areas have immense possibilities of rain water harvesting but no action is being taken in this regard. I would like to submit the Hon'ble Minister that the

rain water harvesting can be done easily in hilly areas. Will a special team be constituted at central level to make arrangements for harvesting rain water in hilly areas especially; in Uttaranchal area. There is acute shortage of potable water in hilly areas. Generators have to be used to draw water. Will any arrangements be made at this central level to harvest rain water?

DR. C.P. THAKUR : Hon'ble Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we will definitely take action on the suggestion made by the hon'ble Member regarding rain water harvesting so that more and more people of hilly areas could be provided with drinking water.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Dr. Girija Vyas.

SHRI C.N. SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the matter is very serious. Fields are dried up due to lack of water. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Singh, please resume your seat. Do not interrupt like this. This is Question Hour. I warn you. Do not get up like this.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, he is not interrupting. It a very serious matter, somewhere water is not available. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You are saying that he is not interrupting. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is a very serious matter. At many places, drinking water is not available, if it is available it is unfit for the human consumption. He is requesting to hold a discussion on it. He is not interrupting you.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have allowed him a Supplementary Question and still he is getting up every now and then.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : It is the question of water.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Other Members are also making questions regarding water. Let them take the chance to ask the questions.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Why are you getting annoyed if he is asking for a discussion on this issue?

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please do not interrupt like this, Shri Mulayam Singh, I do not expect this from you. Your member, Shri C.N. Singh is getting up every now and then. This is not the way. I have already allowed him a Supplementary Question.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Sir, why are you getting annoyed ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It is not like that. He is still standing.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Speak in a smiling way, do not get annoyed.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Mulayam Singh, everybody must get some chance during Question Hour. Dr. Girija Vyas is standing up to ask the Question and every now and then he is getting up and disturbing.

[Translation]

DR. GIRIJA VYAS : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in our country, Rajasthan is the state which is most affected by the problem of unavailability of water. Through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Hon'ble Minister towards Rajasthan.

While on one side there is a desert, on the other there is hilly area. Western Rajasthan is covered with desert while Southern Rajasthan is surrounded by hills. How many minor medium and major schemes of Rajasthan have been submitted to the Union Government for approval during the last three years ? Union Government always used to give priority to the minor schemes in regard to Rajasthan. Figures of Rs. 5.25 lakhs have been given for the year 1996-97, but this amount has been reduced to Rs. 1.78 lakhs in 1998-99. I would like to know as to how many major, medium and minor projects have been submitted by Rajasthan Government to the Union Government for approval ? Alongwith it, I would also like to know as to what is the reason behind effecting a cut in minor irrigation projects in this fashion and whether the Government are aware that 11 areas of Rajasthan are affected by fluorides and what action is being taken by the Government in regard thereto ?

DR. C.P. THAKUR : To give the number of schemes, I require a separate notice.

DR. GIRIJA VYAS : How many schemes have been submitted for the approval of the Union Government and what is the reason for the cut in the minor-schemes ?

DR. C.P. THAKUR : I would surely inform the hon. lady Member as to how many schemes have been submitted. As far as fluoride affected areas in Rajasthan are concerned, action is being taken in that regard. To combat that situation we have been targeting the areas which are being affected by fluoride as well as arsenic. I will apprise the House about it. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record except what the hon. Minister says.

(Interruptions)\*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri C.N. Singh, I may have to take serious note of your behaviour in the House.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Mulayam Singh, please look as to how your Member is behaving.

(Interruptions)

DR. GIRIJA VYAS : Sir, we are not getting answer from the hon. Minister. There should be a specific answer.

DR. C.P. THAKUR : Madam, notice for a separate question is required for it. . . .

DR. GIRIJA VYAS : Sir, I want to know whether he has concern for Rajasthan or not. . . .(Interruptions)

DR. C.P. THAKUR : It comes under the Centrally-sponsored scheme.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Sir, please allow Half-an-hour discussion on this. It is a most important matter. So many pending projects are there.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I think the suggestion of Shri Yerrannaaidu for Half-an-hour discussion is good. This seems to be a very important matter and a Half-an-hour discussion can be allowed.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : They want to irritate me.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I cannot be irritated.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, you should remain happy, month of Ramjan is running.

\*Not recorded.

[English]

**Ongoing Irrigation Projects**

+

\*244. SHRI P.D. ELANGOVA :  
SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce some new schemes in the country for better use of water resources for irrigation, specially in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the irrigation potential created and utilised in the country during the last three years;

(d) the number of major and medium irrigation projects under construction in the country at present, State-wise;

(e) the time by which these projects are likely to be completed and the extent to which the irrigation capacity is likely to be increased after the completion of these projects;

(f) the States lagging behind to achieve national average of irrigation capacity; and

(g) the steps taken by the Union Government to increase the irrigation capacity during Ninth Five Year Plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (DR. C.P. THAKUR) : (a) to (g) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement**

All types of irrigation projects are planned and executed by the State Governments and there is no proposal before the Union Government to introduce any new scheme for better use of water resources for irrigation. As per the latest figures available upto the end of 1996-97, the State-wise details of irrigation potential created and its utilisation during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 are given at Annexure-I. State-wise number of Major and Medium irrigation projects which are under construction at present is given at Annexure-II. As irrigation projects are executed by the State Governments, completion of the projects depends on funds available with the State Governments and the priority attached to the projects by them. Details of the State lagging behind to achieve the national average of created irrigation capacity are given at Annexure-III. With a view to increase irrigation capacity through expeditious completion of selected ongoing large irrigation projects, Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP), launched in 1996-97 to provide Central Loan Assistance to the States, is being continued in the Ninth Five Year Plan with modified funding pattern and expanded scope.

**Annexure-I**

*Statewise details of Irrigation Potential Created and Utilised during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97*

(In thousand hectares)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Irrigation Potential Created during			Irrigation Potential Utilised during		
		1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6.28	5.80	29.35	6.58	7.60	29.35
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.90	4.00	4.27	2.00	2.15	2.20
3.	Assam	10.56	3.11	0.51	10.56	3.11	7.01
4.	Bihar	64.00	30.69	16.65	64.51	27.00	14.00
5.	Goa	0.50	0.35	0.35	0.25	0.17	0.18
6.	Gujarat	32.00	23.40	25.60	40.00	37.40	27.00
7.	Haryana	10.96	13.13	22.00	16.40	10.83	13.29
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1.87	2.41	2.65	1.27	0.66	2.11
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	2.98	2.80	2.75	2.26	3.36	3.16
10.	Karnataka	71.80	61.49	111.47	155.13	22.37	93.19

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11. Kerala		39.05	24.82	54.91	39.05	24.82	54.91
12. Madhya Pradesh		89.30	94.60	95.00	43.65	77.35	52.15
13. Maharashtra		81.50	103.40	101.40	80.70	97.00	95.00
14. Manipur		1.80	5.40	3.50	1.80	4.40	2.50
15. Meghalaya		0.71	0.84	0.70	0.53	0.63	0.52
16. Mizoram		0.51	0.37	0.32	0.51	0.37	0.32
17. Nagaland		0.32	0.36	0.36	0.30	0.35	0.35
18. Orissa		44.31	65.59	83.53	34.97	44.31	65.59
19. Punjab		65.86	57.57	33.60	64.73	52.76	35.69
20. Rajasthan		66.23	67.31	54.71	44.72	48.26	46.04
21. Sikkim		0.66	1.15	0.86	0.53	1.02	0.80
22. Tamil Nadu		1.65	1.65	0.57	2.13	1.65	1.65
23. Tripura		1.22	0.69	1.38	1.22	0.69	1.38
24. Uttar Pradesh		1025.00	1249.00	852.00	1119.00	1282.00	809.00
25. West Bengal		113.19	103.15	131.66	37.46	62.75	84.66
Total States		1736.21	1923.08	1630.10	1770.26	1813.01	1442.05
Total UTs		5.89	6.54	7.20	4.47	6.06	5.40
Grand Total		1742.10	1929.62	1637.30	1774.73	1819.07	1447.45

## Annexure-II

## Number of on-going Major and Medium Irrigation Projects-Statewise

Sl. No.	Name of States	Number of projects		
		Major	Medium	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	12	20	32
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0
3.	Assam	4	9	13
4.	Bihar	14	29	43
5.	Goa	1	1	2
6.	Gujarat	9	9	18
7.	Haryana	5	0	5
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1	1	2
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	1	9	10
10.	Karnataka	14	15	29
11.	Kerala	7	5	12

1	2	3	4	5
12.	Madhya Pradesh	23	32	55
13.	Maharashtra	36	66	102
14.	Manipur	2	2	4
15.	Meghalaya	0	1	1
16.	Mizoram	0	0	0
17.	Nagaland	1	0	1
18.	Orissa	5	10	15
19.	Punjab	0	1	1
20.	Rajasthan	6	6	12
21.	Sikkim	0	0	0
22.	Tamil Nadu	0	2	2
23.	Tripura	0	3	3
24.	Uttar Pradesh	18	2	20
25.	West Bengal	3	17	20
Total States		162	240	402

## Annexure-III

*State-wise details of Lag in Creation of Irrigation Potential vis-a-vis Ultimate Irrigation Potential*

(In Thousand Hectares)

Sl. No.	Name of States/ UTs	Irrigation Potential		IPC as % of UIP
		Ultimate Irrigation Potential (UIP)	Irrigation Potential Created (IPC) upto end of VIII Plan (1996-97)	
<b>All India Position</b>		<b>139893.00</b>	<b>89558.97</b>	<b>64.02</b>
<b>Details of Lagging States</b>				
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11260.00	5946.97	52.82
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	168.00	83.42	49.65
3.	Assam	2870.00	789.43	27.51
4.	Bihar	13347.00	7910.74	59.27
5.	Goa	116.00	33.54	28.91
6.	Gujarat	8103.00	3285.30	53.83
7.	Himachal Pradesh	353.00	160.93	45.59
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	1358.00	548.32	40.38
9.	Karnataka	5974.00	3197.03	53.52
10.	Kerala	2679.00	1086.43	40.55
11.	Madhya Pradesh	17932.00	4975.12	27.74
12.	Maharashtra	8952.00	4932.20	55.10
13.	Manipur	604.00	123.39	20.43
14.	Meghalaya	168.00	45.55	27.11
15.	Mizoram	70.00	12.73	18.19
16.	Orissa	8803.00	2915.22	33.12
17.	Sikkim	70.00	26.23	37.47
18.	Tripura	281.00	94.88	33.77
<b>Total of Specified States</b>		<b>81108.00</b>	<b>36167.43</b>	<b>44.59</b>

SHRI P.D. ELANGOVA : Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has any schemes to promote more irrigation potential in Tamil Nadu during the Ninth Plan and if so the details thereof.

DR. C.P. THAKUR : Sir, at present there is no proposal to have a new project. But the Government is contemplating of Linking of the rivers.

SHRI P.D. ELANGOVA : Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what is the present status of the two on-going medium irrigation projects in Tamil Nadu. Has the Ministry any plans to start any major irrigation project in Tamil Nadu and more medium irrigation projects in Tamil Nadu particularly in the districts of Dharmapuri and Salem ?

DR. C.P. THAKUR : Sir, at present there is no proposal for that.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the irrigation potential in the country is 139893 hectares. The hon. Minister has stated in his reply that there is no proposal before the Government to start a new scheme. The progress of the country is not possible without increasing the irrigation potential of the country. I would like to know as to what the Government is contemplating to make maximum provision for allocation of funds for irrigation ? How much money the Union Government is expected to provide as financial assistance for the Krishnapur project in Maharashtra which is scheduled to be completed by the end of year 2000 ? 402 schemes are running in the country out of which 102 are in Maharashtra. We want a reply from the hon. Minister in this regard. How much budgetary provision are you going to make in the forthcoming budget for enhancing the irrigation capacity of the country ?

DR. C.P. THAKUR : Sir, the Government are thinking in times of increasing the number of irrigation projects. The irrigation potential can only be increased by linking the North-South rivers. Some work in this regard has taken place and some is going on. Feasible and non feasible study has been conducted in this regard. When the plan is completed, it will involve an amount of three lakhs and thirty thousand crores of rupees and approximately 35 million hectares of irrigation potential will increase in the country. Some work is also going on in the ninth five years plan.

As far as Maharashtra is concerned, it will get assistance from the Union Government only when it gives its share from its budgetary allocation. In this regard, after the President's Address we have been writing to all the State Governments as to how the pending projects will be completed and also the reasons for the pending of these projects because the pending projects should be completed within the scheduled time.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

**Captive Power Plant**

\*245. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been decided to sell the Captive Power Plant of Durgapur, Bhilai and Rourkela to Enron/Private party;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the selling price as against the installation charges of these plants; and

(d) the likely impact on the cost of production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) and (b) Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has initiated the process to divest the following facilities to a Joint Venture Company with a strategic alliance partner(s) :

(i) Power Plant - II of Rourkela Steel Plant alongwith Central Power Training Institute.

(ii) Power Plant - II of Durgapur Steel Plant.

(iii) Power Plant - I and Power Plant - II of Bokaro Steel Plant.

(iv) Supervisory Load Control Centre of SAIL at Calcutta.

(c) and (d) The cost of installation of Captive Power Plants at Bokaro, Durgapur and Rourkela is as follows :-

Description	Rourkela PP-II	Durgapur PP-II	Bokaro PP-I	Total PP-II
Capacity (MW)	120	120	122	180
Date of Installation of 1st unit	12/04/87	17/02/87	17/04/72	July, 1998
Cost of Installation (Rs. crores)	199.66	124.14	325.76	649.56

Transfer price of the assets will be determined at the time of finalization of the bids and will be higher than the installation cost. The Joint Venture Company is geared to debt equity ratio of 2:1 in which SAIL will hold 51% of the equity. The successful bidder will have to bring in 49% of

the equity and the debt. There will be no adverse impact on the cost of production.

**Private Sector Steel Plants**

\*246. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up a monitoring group to oversee the progress of new steel plants in the private sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether construction of a number of private sector steel projects has been held up due to funding problems; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by the Government to help the private sector steel projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) and (b) The Government have not set up a Monitoring Group to oversee the progress of the new steel plants in the private sector.

(c) and (d) According to available information, post liberalisation, the All India Financial Institutions (AIFIs) had sanctioned 19 new/green -field steel projects. Of these, 6 have been commissioned, 1 dropped by the promoter and the remaining 12 are under various stages of implementation. It is understood that some steel projects under implementation are delayed due to several factors including funding problems. Government have taken several steps to help the upcoming private sector steel projects. The problems of the industry have been taken up with the Ministry of Finance/AIFIs to extend need based assistance to last mile projects subject to due diligence by the AIFIs.

**Indo-US Ministerial Talks**

\*247. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR :  
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the issues discussed during the Indo-US Ministerial Talks on Nuclear Disarmament held on November 16, 1999;

(b) whether the Indian Government have made several proposals to improve the relation with USA;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the next round of talks proposed to be held in order to improve relation with USA; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) The Talks with the US held in London on November 16-17, 1999 were on security, non-proliferation and disarmament. As in the previous rounds, the discussions focused on four issues - CTBT, FMCT, export controls and defence posture. These issues had been put forward before the international community by India after the nuclear tests. The two sides also exchanged views on major regional and international developments.

(b) and (c) The Government has stated its intention to further broaden and deepen relations with the United States. The Indo-US dialogue is geared towards that end. The talks with the US and other key interlocutors are being conducted on the basis of a comprehensive platform that India put forward on disarmament and non-proliferation matters, namely our unilateral moratorium on explosive nuclear tests, willingness to discuss converting that into a *de jure* obligation, our offer to enter into constructive negotiations on the FMCT and reaffirming our policies on stringent control on export of sensitive technologies.

(d) and (e) Both sides have agreed that the purpose of the on-going dialogue is to enhance understanding of respective points of view and to lay the foundation of broad-based, forward-looking and mutually beneficial relations. The two sides have agreed that the dialogue should continue. The dates for the resuming the discussions will be decided through mutual consultations.

#### Labour Laws

\*248. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government purpose to bring more flexibility in the existing labour laws to ensure higher productivity; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) Labour laws may be classified under the various heads like laws related to industrial relations; wages; working hours; conditions of service and employment; equality and empowerment of women; deprived and disadvantaged sections of the society; and those related to social security. The title as well as the content of these laws show that these are primarily meant for protecting and safeguarding the health, safety, social security and welfare of employees in various industries/occupations/processes in both the organised as well as unorganised sectors.

Productivity is the ratio of input and output of various factors of production in an industry and it depends on a variety of factors such as availability of infrastructure, raw material, equipment technology, credit, market etc.

#### Development of Seeds

\*249. SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU :  
SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have provided financial assistance to the States for development of seeds during the last two years and current year;

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

(c) the total number of Government agricultural farms running under loss during the said period; and

(d) the remedial measures being taken by the Union Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The Central Government is implementing various schemes under which it has provided financial assistance to the States for Development of Seeds during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000. The State-wise details are as under :-

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Name of States	Financial Assistance Provided		
	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	514.86	518.90	533.45
Andaman and Nicobar	0.60	0.60	0.50
Arunachal Pradesh	23.00	23.70	25.00
Assam	68.30	81.90	120.60
Bihar	100.30	109.00	126.75
Dadra and N. Haveli	-	-	-
Delhi	0.60	0.60	0.50
Daman and Diu	-	-	-
Goa	1.82	2.35	5.10
Gujarat	354.30	519.50	676.00
Haryana	95.92	118.22	151.50
Himachal Pradesh	39.75	46.75	44.20
Jammu and Kashmir	53.00	58.50	92.88
Karnataka	391.75	396.90	419.00

1	2	3	4
Kerala	27.325	46.25	40.00
Lakshadweep	-	-	-
Madhya Pradesh	1033.92	1079.76	1126.50
Maharashtra	665.50	707.16	954.00
Manipur	65.36	68.50	75.65
Meghalaya	13.50	18.08	20.96
Mizoram	0.12	0.225	43.88
Nagaland	10.06	24.15	43.65
Orissa	349.70	373.75	379.00
Pondicherry	11.45	0.30	1.00
Punjab	63.20	72.90	86.15
Rajasthan	591.72	611.20	1029.70
Sikkim	33.50	49.00	30.00
Tamil Nadu	462.80	383.00	423.00
Tripura	30.06	47.28	48.50
Uttar Pradesh	599.20	554.50	810.00
West Bengal	201.95	226.60	163.50
Assam State Seed Corporation	-	55.49	4.14
G.I.C.	-	-	26.00
National Seeds Corporation	9.88	24.55	119.76
National Horticultural Dev. Foundation	-	-	46.85
State Farms Corporation of India	5.25	2.84	75.21
Uttar Pradesh Seeds and Tarai Development Corporation	4.29	-	0.52
West Bengal Seeds Corporation	1.93	-	0.78
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>5824.915</b>	<b>6222.455</b>	<b>7744.23</b>

(c) The total No. of Government agricultural farms running under loss in different States/UTs is as under :-

Andhra Pradesh (26\*), Arunachal Pradesh (6\*), Assam (21\*), Daman & Diu (3), Gujarat (65), Haryana (4), Himachal Pradesh (23\*), Jammu & Kashmir (26\* in Jammu Division), Kerala (51\*), Madhya Pradesh (29\*), Maharashtra (112), Manipur (9\*), Nagaland (3\*), Orissa (13\*), Punjab (15), Tamil Nadu (8\*), Uttar Pradesh (59\*) and West Bengal (135).

The State Government of Bihar has not taken seed production programme on its farms due to non availability of funds. The Pondicherry (U.T.) Administration/Govt. have not worked out performance account of farms hence profitability or otherwise could not be assessed. Government agricultural farms in Tripura are used for conducting demonstration to the farmers and for production of quality seeds. The benefit derived out of quality seeds used by the farmers may not be compared with loss/profit, whatever the case may be. The State Government of Sikkim has not given information in this regard.

Among Central Government Farms, 3 Farms of National Seeds Corporation Ltd., and 10 Farms of State Farms Corporation of India are also running in loss.

\* : Information has been provided by the State Governments in reply to Question No. 247 for answer on 16.12.1998 in the Lok Sabha.

(d) As far as the State Government agricultural farms are concerned remedial measures are taken by the respective State Governments. As regard Central Government Farms are concerned, following measures have been initiated :

- Change in crop mix to bring in more area under high value low volume crops.
- Increased production of breeder and foundation seeds.
- Measures to reduce over head charges.
- Farm modernisation and other technological improvement.

#### Privatisation of SAIL

\*250. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether M/s Mc Kinsey and Company, an international consulting firm has suggested privatisation of SAIL;

(b) if so, the basis on which an international Consulting firm has recommended privatisation of SAIL; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) and (b) M/s Mc Kinsey & Company has recommended in its report "A Competitiveness Plan for SAIL" that the Government of India should consider eventually privatising SAIL after the implementation of the Competitiveness Plan suggested by it. The reasons advanced by the firm are :

- (i) SAIL should be freed from the constraints of Government ownership to ensure its long-term survival and profitability in the highly competitive steel industry; and
- (ii) The implementation of the Competitiveness Plan will make SAIL attractive to private investors due to its low cost plants, which will result in better realisation to its shareholders.
- (c) The Government has not taken any decision in the matter.

[Translation]

#### Small and Marginal Farmers

\*251. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :  
SHRI J.S. BRAR :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of small and marginal farmers are increasing due to the reduction in size of their land holdings leading to fall in agricultural production in the country;

(b) if so, the estimated number of small and marginal farmers in the beginning of 1980's and by the end of 1990's in the country;

(c) whether farming by small and marginal farmers has become unviable now-a-days in the country;

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

(e) the per capita income of small and marginal farmers in the beginning of 1980's and the estimated per-capita income by the end of 1990's ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) As assessed through successive Agricultural Censuses, the total number of marginal holdings (less than 1.0 hectare) in the country rose from 50.12 million during 1980-81 to 63.39 million in 1990-91. The number of small holdings (1.0 – 2.0 hectare) rose from 16.07 million during 1980-81 to 20.09 million during 1990-91. The increase in the number of operational holdings is due to fragmentation of holdings and/or distribution of surplus land among landless people. Total agricultural production in the country has been going up and the production of foodgrains in 1998-99 has increased to 202.54 million tonnes.

(c) to (e) Farming on small and marginal holdings is done mostly for self-consumption and not for sale in the market and, therefore, it is not possible to assess the

income from these holdings which inter alia depends upon the crop sown, soil type and agro-climatic conditions. Also, it would not be correct to say that farming on small and marginal holdings is economically unviable as even the small fields provide potential for better use of inputs and technology which ultimately help in raising the productivity level and revenue. Small and marginal farmers benefit from the various schemes of Government for assisting them in agricultural production.

[English]

#### Manisana Wage Board

\*252. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Manisana Wage Board for the journalists have submitted its report;

(b) if so, the main recommendations made by the said Board;

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in submitting the report; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to submit its report ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Though no time frame was fixed for the submission of the report of the Wage Board for Journalists at the time of its constitution in September, 1994, the tentative proposals outlining the wage structure of Journalists are expected by December, 1999.

#### Manure From Toxic Waste

\*253. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :  
SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether manure manufactured from hazardous and toxic Municipal Solid Waste is being used for cultivating various crops in the country;

(b) if so, the quantity, quality and details of the crop in which it is being used;

(c) whether crops raised using such manure have any impact on fertility of land, yield, toxicity and environment; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to ban use of this manure ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) There is no information regarding manufacture of manure from hazardous and toxic municipal solid waste. As regards compost/manure, the quality of estimated urban compost being produced is about 4.8 million tonnes and rural compost/manure 132.5 million tonnes (1996-97).

The use of compost/manure improves the fertility of soil, its productivity and crop yields.

(d) With a view to regulating collection and disposal etc. of municipal solid waste, the Government of India in the Ministry of Environment and Forests have notified draft of the Municipal Wastes (Management & Handling) Rules, 1999 in exercise of the powers conferred under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. These draft rules stipulate among other things, the procedures for collection and disposal of municipal solid wastes. The rules provide for separate collection of wastes from different sources like slaughter houses, fruits and vegetable markets, bio-medical wastes and industrial wastes to ensure that the waste containing toxic and hazardous substances are not mixed with bio degradable wastes which can be used for preparation of compost and its use in agriculture.

#### North Korea to Supply Missiles to Pakistan

\*254. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether North Korea has replaced China in providing Pakistan with long range modern missile and the relationship is likely to continue;

(b) if so, whether China had been providing M-11 missiles to Pakistan;

(c) if so, whether India has discussed this issue with the US Government; and

(d) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the Indian Government to tackle the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) and (b) It is understood that North Korea has assisted Pakistan with liquid fuel, long range missiles, missile technology and components; also that the Ghauri is a Pakistani version of the North Korean 'Nodong' missile. Pakistan has also received M-11 solid fuel missiles from China. It has also acquired technology and components related to the production of solid fuel missiles, including from China. It is assessed that external assistance to Pakistan's missile programme is continuing.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) The Government has consistently highlighted, in various fora, the continuing support to Pakistan's missile programme despite the existence of multilateral export control regimes, and simultaneous, unilateral declarations of restraint and restrictions by supplier countries. The Government has conveyed its consequent security concerns, arising from such supplies and assistance, to various countries, including China and the DPRK. Government remains fully committed to taking all necessary steps to effectively safeguard India's security and national interests in accordance with its own threat perceptions.

#### Inter-State River Water Disputes

\*255. SHRI C. SREENIVASAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government purpose to nationalise all inter-state rivers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps being taken by the Government for permanent solution of inter-state river water disputes ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (DR. C.P. THAKUR) : (a) to (c) Presently, the Govt. has no proposal to nationalise the inter-state rivers in the country. As per Entry-17 of the List-II of the 7th Schedule of the Indian Constitution, "Water, that is to say water supplies, irrigation and canals, drainage and embankments, water storage and water power subject to the provisions of Entry-56 of List-I", is a State subject. However, as per Entry-56 of List-I (i.e. Union List), the Union Government has the power of regulation and development of inter-State rivers and river valleys to the extent to which such regulation and development under the control of the Union is declared by Parliament by law to be expedient in the public interest. Further, under Article-262(i), Parliament may by law, provide for adjudication of any dispute or complaint with respect to the use, distribution or control of waters in any Inter-State river or river valleys. Accordingly, under Article 262 of the Constitution, the Government of India has enacted Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956 for adjudication of disputes relating to waters of Inter-State rivers and river valleys. In addition, Ministry of Water Resources has constituted a Standing Committee on Inter-State issues under the chairmanship of the Union Minister of Water Resources. One of the functions of the Standing Committee, is to recommend the measures to be taken to resolve the Inter-State issues referred to by the States to Union Ministry of Water Resources.

**Sardar Sarovar Project**

\*256. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY :  
SHRI P.S. GADHAVI :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

- (a) the present Status, revised cost and time schedule for the completion of the Sardar Sarovar project;
- (b) the expenditure incurred thereon, till date;
- (c) whether the project has witnessed abnormal escalation in terms of time and cost overrun;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the time by which the drinking water is likely to be made available to the participating States ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (DR. C.P. THAKUR) : (a) to (e) The Sardar Sarovar Project was cleared for implementation by the Planning Commission in October, 1988 at an approved estimated cost (1986-87 price level) of Rs. 6406.04 crore. The tentative revised cost of the project has not been finalised. As per the original Plan of construction, the project was scheduled to be completed by June 1998. Supreme Court in its orders dated 5.5.1995, in connection with the case filed by the Narmada Bachao Andolan, directed to maintain the effective height of the dam at R.L. 81.5 meters. subsequently, the Supreme Court by an interim order on 18.2.99 permitted to raise the height of the Dam upto RL 85 meters, excluding humps required for the safety of the Dam. The Government of Gujarat accordingly resumed work on the Sardar Sarovar Dam from 19.2.99 and have raised the height of the dam upto R.L. 85 meters and provided 3 meter high humps for the safety of the dam. The expenditure incurred on the Sardar Sarovar Project upto September, 99 is Rs. 8879.76 crore. The project had witnessed escalation in terms of time and cost overrun as the matter has been subjudice. The time overrun has resulted in escalation in the cost of construction, and in the cost of Resettlement and Rehabilitation due to increase in the number of beneficiaries/oustees. In addition, provision of a better R & R package to the oustees as compared to the package envisaged in NWDT award will also increase the cost of the project further. Completion of the dam will depend on the outcome of the case filed by the Narmada Bachao Andolan in the Supreme Court, pari passu implementation of resettlement and rehabilitation, availability of funds with the State Governments and mutual cooperation between the party States. Partial benefits of Sardar Sarovar Project will be available when the dam reaches an R.L. of 112.5 meters.

**Review of Dairy Projects**

\*257. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have reviewed the performance of dairy projects launched so far in the country under operation flood schemes, State-wise;
- (b) if so, the details of profit-loss making projects;
- (c) the steps being taken to revive the loss making dairy/oil projects;
- (d) the allocation made by the Government for this purpose to each State during the last three years; and
- (e) the strategy being adopted by the Government to make the scheme successful ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per information available in respect of 148 Unions out of 170 Unions, 100 Unions earned net profit during the year 1997-98 and 48 Unions incurred net loss during 1997-98.

(c) to (e) The Government has formulated a Central Sector Scheme Assistance to Cooperatives for the rehabilitation of sick dairy unions. The scheme has not yet been approved and hence no allocation has been given for this purpose to any State.

National Dairy Development Board has taken up rehabilitation programme of oil unions/federations from their own resources. During the last 3 years i.e. 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99, sum of Rs. 3916.49 lakhs in Gujarat, Rs. 2060.84 lakh in Karnataka, Rs. 858.00 lakh in Andhra Pradesh, Rs. 1941.26 lakh in Maharashtra and Rs. 550.67 lakh in Rajasthan have been disbursed.

**Underground Water**

\*258. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :  
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have launched any plan to fill the underground water artificially;
- (b) if so, the funds earmarked by the Government in the Ninth Five Year Plan for implementation of Artificial Ground Water Development Schemes, State-wise;
- (c) the funds allocated and likely to be released to each State Government under the Schemes particularly for Maharashtra and Karnataka;

(d) whether the Government have evolved an action plan to achieve the target to fill the underground water artificially in a time bound manner; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (DR. C.P. THAKUR) : (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. The Government have undertaken a central sector scheme for studies on pilot basis on artificial recharge of ground water at an estimated cost of Rs. 25 crore during the Ninth Five Year Plan. State-wise allocation of funds under the scheme is not made. Funds are provided to States for construction of civil works for recharge structures on cost-deposit basis on

behalf of the Central Ground Water Board. The State-wise details of funds given during the three years (1997-98 to 1999-2000) of the Ninth Five Year Plan, including Maharashtra and Karnataka, under the scheme are given in enclosed statement. The Government have formulated a centrally sponsored scheme to assist the States in Artificial Recharge of Ground Water at an estimated cost of Rs. 101.50 crore. This scheme is at consultation stage. In addition, the Government have prepared and circulated a Manual on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water to States/UTs to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes utilising State funds.

#### Statement

#### Funds given to various States/UTs under Central Sector Scheme on Studies on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water

S.No.	State/UT	Year-wise Allocation of Funds (Rs.)			Total
		1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	
1.	NCT of Delhi	5,12,361	—	5,00,000	10,12,361
2.	Haryana	—	9,24,000	33,10,000	42,34,000
3.	Himachal Pradesh	—	—	25,37,000	25,37,000
4.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	39,60,000	39,60,000
5.	Karnataka	6,60,265	—	—	6,60,265
6.	Kerala	24,35,000	6,25,000	—	30,60,000
7.	Madhya Pradesh	4,64,000	8,27,000	—	12,91,000
8.	Maharashtra	2,20,820	12,99,000	24,33,000	39,52,820
9.	Punjab	—	10,75,000	97,47,000	108,22,000
10.	Rajasthan	—	4,50,000	3,48,000	7,98,000
11.	Tamil Nadu	6,50,000	8,00,000	—	14,50,000
12.	Uttar Pradesh	—	—	7,00,000	7,00,000
13.	West Bengal	38,250	—	29,37,000	29,75,250
14.	Chandigarh	5,28,000	—	—	5,28,000

#### Development of IT Sector

\*259. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have chalked out a multi-pronged strategy for the development of Information Technology Sector in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have set a target of 60 billion US dollars for exports from IT sector; and

(d) if so, the details of the capital and other infrastructure planned to achieve this target?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN) : (a) to (d) The Government of India has set up Ministry of Information Technology to facilitate all the initiatives in the IT Sector including implementation

of comprehensive action plan to make India an IT superpower and achieve a target of US\$ 50 billion in software exports by 2008. The following areas have been identified to achieve the software export target :-

1. Software productivity improvement
2. Quality of software development
3. Human resource development
4. Communication infrastructure
5. National Information infrastructure
6. E-commerce regulatory framework
7. Promotion of Foreign Direct Investment
8. Promotion of Venture Capital
9. Convertibility of capital account
10. Promotion of brand equity
11. Simplification of customs procedures
12. Electronic Governance
13. Generation of strong data bases
14. Increase in PC penetration
15. Vibrant domestic IT services market
16. Strategy for business development
17. Creation of Indian IT service MNCs

#### Scheme for Fishermen and Fish Farmers

\*260. SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government and National Co-operative Development Corporation (NCDC) have sponsored some schemes for the economic upliftment of the poor fishermen and small fish farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any such scheme has been introduced in Tripura; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Government of India and National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) are implementing several schemes which, *inter alia*, help in the economic upliftment of poor fishermen and fish farmers.

The following schemes are implemented by Government of India :

- (i) Development of Coastal Marine Fisheries through
  - (a) Motorisation of Traditional Crafts; and
  - (b) Reimbursement of Central Excise Duty on HSD purchased by Motorised Fishing Vessels of overall length below 20 meters.
- (ii) Development of Freshwater Aquaculture
- (iii) Integrated Development of Coastal Aquaculture
- (iv) Providing Fishing Harbours at Major and Minor Ports and Fish Landing Centres
- (v) Training and Extension
- (vi) National Welfare of Fishermen
- (vii) World Bank assisted Scheme on Shrimp and Fish Culture

The Schemes implemented by NCDC, *inter alia*, provide assistance to fishery co-operatives to take up the following activities :

- (i) Purchase of operational inputs such as fishing boats, nets, and engines.
- (ii) Creation of infrastructure facilities for marketing (transport vehicles, cold storages, retail outlets, etc.)
- (iii) Establishment of processing units including ice plants, cold storages, etc.
- (iv) Development of inland fisheries, seed farms, hatcheries, etc.
- (v) Integrated Fisheries Projects.

(c) and (d) Government of India is implementing the following Schemes in Tripura :

- (a) Development of Freshwater Aquaculture.
- (b) Training and Extension.
- (c) National Welfare of Fishermen.

NCDC provides assistance for the following purposes in Tripura :

- (a) Purchase of operational inputs such as fishing boats, nets etc.
- (b) Transport vehicles, retail outlets, etc.
- (c) Establishment of processing units.
- (d) Development of inland fisheries, seed farms, etc.

[Translation]

### Complaint Against Government Officers

2377. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether number of complaints have been received against the Senior Officers of Provident Fund Organisation and Enforcement Officers as well as account officers of the Provident Fund Organisation of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of the officers;

(c) the action taken by the Government against them and the cases registered with CBI; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (d) Some complaints have been received against one Regional Provident Fund Commissioner (RPFC), three Assistant Provident Fund Commissioners (APFCs) and four Enforcement Officers (EOs)/Assistant Accounts Officers (AOs). Necessary departmental action on such complaints has already been initiated by the Employees Provident Fund Organisation. The CBI has registered cases against three APFCs and three AOs/EOs. One APFC and one AAO have been placed under suspension and their headquarters changed. Headquarters of four other officials have also been changed. Necessary sanction for prosecution of one AAO has been given to the CBI.

[English]

### Corruption in Kendriya Bhandar

2378. SHRI RAMSAGAR RAWAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a tender was floated by the Kendriya Bhandar for the purchase of exercise not books for supply direct to its branches sometime early this year mentioning the quality of paper;

(b) if so, whether the tender was not awarded to the lowest bidder;

(c) whether several letters written by some MPs during 1999 have not been replied even so far; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF

PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) and (b) The position is indicated in enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) The Kendriya Bhandar has sent replies to the letters received from two former MPs in regard to the procedure about payment on account of supply of exercise books.

### Statement

Kendriya Bhandar issued a tender on 16.11.1998 for procurement of exercise note books for supply to the stores. The target customers were school children. The offer for supply of exercise note books was examined by a Purchase Committee which approved the paper of Ballapur and Century Mills for making the note books. Both these brands of paper are highly reputed and the exercise note books made of these two brands were considered suitable for use by the school children. Even though, this particular offer was not the lowest one, it was considered more suitable to sell exercise note books of superior quality to students for supply of the aforesaid approved paper.

### Quality of Goods at Kendriya Bhandar

2379. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Kendriya Bhandar is not making available quality products to the consumers through their retail outlets;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to improve the quality of items available at their each retail outlets; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) to (d) Kendriya Bhandar endeavours to provide quality products at reasonable rates to the consumers through its various outlets. Towards this

end, regular tests to improve the quality of products sold through Kendriya Bhandar are carried out in Food Research and Analysis Centre Laboratory set up by Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI). Besides, inspections of stores is carried out as a result of which slow moving and non-moving items are identified and discontinued. Market survey is also carried out to test the popularity and price of new brands before introduction.

#### Supply of Stationery

2380. SHRI C.N. SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Cooperative Consumer Federation of India Ltd. and Super Bazar have been supplying items of stationery and other items of Office use to the Government Departments at higher rate in comparison to the Kendriya Bhandar;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to check the wasteful expenditure and to bring economy in Government expenditure in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) and (b) The price of stationery and other items depend upon the quality and specification(s) and the same may be different in respect of item(s) supplied by Super Bazar and NCCF as compared to Kendriya Bhandar.

NCCF and Super Bazar have reportedly been supplying stationery and other items to Government Departments at fair and competitive price and they have not received any major complaint in this regard from any Government Department.

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

#### Employees State Insurance Scheme

2381. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the ceiling on medical care of workers under the Employees State Insurance (ESI) Scheme;

(b) when had the ceiling been last enhanced and what was the extent of the enhancement; and

(d) whether the Government propose to consider further enhancement of the ceiling as the present ceiling is to meagre and there has been a considerable increase in medical costs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (c) Under the ESI Scheme there is no ceiling on expenses on medical care of individual worker. The insured persons and their families are entitled to full and comprehensive medical care without any ceiling. However, in order to ensure proper distribution of funds among States and for having control on expenses on medical care, the ESI Corporation has prescribed a ceiling per Insured Person per annum. The ceiling on the medical expenditure per insured person per annum was last enhanced from Rs. 500/- to Rs. 600/- with effect from 1.4.99. There is no proposal to enhance the ceiling further at present.

#### Khet Majdoor

2382. SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce a comprehensive Central Legislation for Agricultural Worker;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (c) A proposal for enacting a comprehensive law for regulation of employment and conditions of service of agricultural workers and for establishing a welfare fund for financing various welfare activities has been drawn up. Final decision on the proposal has not yet been taken and the same is under Government's consideration.

#### Cases with R.P.F.C. Office, Mumbai

2383. SHRI ANADI SAHU : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases pending with Regional Provident Fund Commissioner Office, Mumbai for the last two years;

(b) the details of pending cases pertaining to Saudi Arabian Airlines, New Delhi;

(c) the reasons for not settling the said cases;

(d) whether some Members of Parliament have also written to the Minister for early settlement to these cases;

- (e) if so, the details thereof; and  
 (f) the time by which the above cases are likely to be settled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) and (b) Nil.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) to (f) A letter has been received from the Member of Parliament about payment of interest to an employee of Saudi Arabian Airlines on account of belated credit of the PF amount. As the reasons for delay in credit of the PF amount are not attributable to the EPF Organisation, under the existing manual provisions no interest is payable to the employee of Saudi Arabian Airlines, New Delhi.

#### Funds to Kerala

2384. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) the funds allocated to Kerala State during the current five year plan period;  
 (b) whether the funds allocated are less than funds allocated to other developed States;  
 (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and  
 (d) the remedial steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) The annual plan outlays of Kerala during the Ninth Five Year Plan are :

(Rupees in crore)

Ninth Plan	Annual Plan 1997-98		Annual Plan 1998-99		Annual Plan 1999-2000	
	Approved	Revised	Approved	Revised	Approved	
10100.00	2851.10	2698.66	3100.00	3044.39	3250.00	Yet to be Revised

(b) to (d) Annual Plan approved outlays of any State is arrived at on the basis of State's Own Resources and of Central Assistance available to that State.

State's Own Resources of a State consist of two broad components, viz. State's own funds and State's borrowings.

State's own funds and State's borrowings indicate a State's capacity to mobilize financial resources. Funds available through these components may have wide State to State variations

On the other hand, the Central Assistance is allocated as per a fixed, NDC approved formula, known as Gadgil-Mukherjee Formula. Under different components of this Formula, the funds available to a State undergo changes depending upon variables pertaining to that State.

#### Assistance Provided by KVIC

2385. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the assistance provided by Khadi and Village Industries Commission to Chandigarh; and

(b) the details and number of beneficiaries to whom loans provided during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 (till date) ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) The details of assistance provided by the KVIC to Chandigarh so far is as given below :-

(Rs. in lakhs)

Grant	Loan	Total
672.79	197.56	870.35

(b) During the year 1998-99 Rs. 16.68 lakhs have been disbursed in six cases and Rs. 6.44 lakhs have been disbursed in three cases during 1999-2000 (till 30th November, 1999).

[Translation]

#### Bansagar Dam

2386. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the total funds spent for rehabilitation and paying compensation to the affected persons under the Bansagar inter-State irrigation project so far;

(b) the estimated funds likely to be spent for the purpose during the current financial year;

(c) whether some irregularities and misappropriation of funds in providing compensation to the affected families have come to the notice of the Government; and

(d) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government against the officials found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) Upto September, 1999, Rs. 278.66 crores have been spent for rehabilitation and paying compensation to the affected persons under the Bansagar inter-State irrigation project.

(b) Rs. 57 crores are likely to be spent for the purpose during the current financial year.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Livestock and Dairy Development

2387. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are formulating any Central Scheme for livestock and dairy development in Tribal dominated backward districts of the country;

(b) if so, the time by which such scheme is likely to be launched;

(c) the districts of Bihar likely to be covered under the said scheme; and

(d) the amount to be spent on this scheme and the amount likely to be allocated to Bihar for the said scheme during the Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARYAN YADAV) : (a) to (d) The Government are not formulating any scheme specifically for livestock and dairy development in tribal dominated district of the country. These districts are already covered under the ongoing central sector and centrally sponsored schemes.

*(English)*

#### Intensive Cooperative Development Programme

2388. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested the Union Government to implement intensive cooperative development programme in every district of State;

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has also requested to the Union Government that the investment on computerisation have to be made in the cooperative sector with the help of NIC;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Andhra Pradesh is one of the major beneficiaries of Integrated Cooperative Development Programme (ICDP). Six projects in East Godawari, Nizamabad, Chittoor, Krishna, Nalgonda and Kurnool Districts with the total cost of Rs. 51.08 crores have been sanctioned by the NCDC. One more project for Guntur district has also been approved. The progress of implementation of these projects by the State Government is quite slow. With a view to help the State Government to tide over the shortage of resources, NCDC even assisted by making advance releases. In view of the above circumstances and the needs of the other states, NCDC may not be in a position to extend ICDP to all the districts in Andhra Pradesh at this stage.

(c) to (e) At present, there is no scheme to invest on computerisation in the cooperative sector.

#### Restrictions Imposed on World Bank Loan by U.S.

2389. SHRI ANNASHEB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Lawmakers' campaign against the Clinton administration's policy of blocking certain World Bank loans for India has gained momentum with Democratic Congressman Charles B. Rangel urging President Bill Clinton to use his newly acquired waiver authority to unfreeze these loans, amounting to \$ 1.235 billion; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) The US Congress passed the Defence Appropriations Act 2000 in October 1999, which grants the US President waiver authority with respect to

restrictions imposed on India. In partial exercise of the waiver authority, the US lifted on 27th October 1999 restrictions on US EXIM Bank, OPIC and TDA activities; International Military Education and Training Programme; the lending by US Banks to the Government of India; Credit and Financial Assistance by Department of Agriculture to support the purchase of food; and, certain assistance for Wild Life Conservation and Environmental Projects. Several members of the US Congress have urged the US President to lift the remaining restrictions, including on lending to India by International Financial Institutions.

(b) Several members of the US Congress have written individually and collectively to President Clinton to lift the restrictions on lending to India by International Financial Institutions, including the World Bank. These include Benjamin Gilman, Chairman of the International Relations Committee of the US House of Representatives, Sherrod Brown, Charles B Rangel, Robert Andrews, Jim Greenwood, Elliot Engel, Frank Pallone, Carolyn Mc Carthy, David Bonior and Jim Mc Dermott.

#### National Co-operative Development Corporation

2390.DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the amount disbursed by National Co-operative Development Corporation (NCDC) to various industries and institutions during the last three years;

(b) the difficulties in providing term loans directly to the Industries/Institutions on the basis of Bank Guarantees without involving State Government;

(c) whether any rules/bye-laws of NCDC has been amended; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) :

(a) Details of financial assistance provided by the NCDC during the last three years is as under :-

Year	Amount (Rs. in crores)
1996-97	289.22
1997-98	323.70
1998-99	464.23

(b) In terms of the NCDC Act, 1962, NCDC provides loans and assistance directly to national level Cooperative Societies and other societies having objects extending beyond one State. In case of Cooperative Societies with jurisdiction within the State, the Act stipulates assistance

by the NCDC upon the guarantee of the State Government or through the State Government.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Shukla Commission

2391.SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHURY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to implement various recommendations of the Shukla Commission relating to the infrastructure development in the North East;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the infrastructure development issues identified by the Shukla Commission so far approved by the Government for implementation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (c) The High Level Commission (HLC) for the North East, headed by Shri S.P. Shukla, the then, Member, Planning Commission submitted its Report to the then Prime Minister on March 7, 1997. The HLC critically examined the backlog in Basic Minimum Services (BMS) and gaps in infrastructure development such as Power, Communications, Irrigation, Flood Control etc. and recommended policy initiatives and programmes to bridge these gaps and rejuvenate local economy alongwith measures for institutional reforms, additional Resources Mobilisation and effecting public participation in development activities. The HLC also estimated total cost for providing BMS to the North Eastern States and indicative requirement of funds for infrastructure development in the Ninth Five Year Plan.

Immediately after the submission of the Report of the HLC, action was initiated to operationalise its various recommendations by dovetailing them with the Plans of the concerned States and Central Ministries/Agencies. In addition, funds are also being made available through North Eastern Council (NEC) for infrastructure projects and from the Non-lapsable Central Pool of Resources constituted for assisting development projects, including in the infrastructure sector, in the North East and Sikkim. Project proposals relating, inter-alia, to the recommendations of the HLC are envisaged to be identified from time to time, for assistance, on merits, from the Central Pool.

During 1998-99, certain projects (including those recommended by the HLC) in the North East and Sikkim have been assisted. Amounts allocated for the various infrastructure sectors such as Irrigation and Flood Control, Energy, Transport and BMS for seven States in the North East during 1998-99 are as follows :

	(Rs. crores)
	Allocation during 1998-99
1. Basic Minimum Services (BMS)	1009.16
2. Infrastructure	
(a) Irrigation and Flood Control	361.27
(b) Energy	645.10
(c) Transport	606.65

#### DRIP Irrigation

2392. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government of Maharashtra has sought for additional funds for the installation of drip irrigation sets in the State, from the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the decision of Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of Maharashtra has asked for additional funds for the installation of drip irrigation. However, funds are released to the State Governments within the allocated funds under the scheme for the year after taking into consideration the unspent balance available with them out of the releases made during the previous years. The position regarding release of funds to the Government of Maharashtra under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Use of Plastics in Agriculture during the last two years and the current year is as follows :-

Year	Original Allocation	Actual Release
1997-98	1956.55	2447.00
1998-99	2818.65	3194.13
1999-2000 (outlay)	2703.90	1690.75 (till date)

(Rupees in lakh)

#### Per Capita Investment

2394. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the per capita investment as regards to Plan-outlay during the year 1998-99; and

(b) the rank of the State of West Bengal therein ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) The present system does not generate data on per capita investment is plan outlays of the States. A statement giving details of the per capita plan outlay during the year 1998-99 along with ranks of different States is enclosed.

#### Statement

##### Statewise Per Capita Outlay for Annual Plan 1998-99

(Figure in Rs.)

Sl. No.	States	Per Capita Plan Outlay*	Rank
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	622	22
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	6033	1
3.	Assam	633	21
4.	Bihar	374	25
5.	Goa	2155	5
6.	Gujarat	1161	13
7.	Haryana	1181	12
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2420	4
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	2105	6
10.	Karnataka	1070	15
11.	Kerala	964	16
12.	Madhya Pradesh	486	24
13.	Maharashtra	1277	11
14.	Manipur	1949	8
15.	Meghalaya	1902	9
16.	Mizoram	3841	3
17.	Nagaland	1967	7
18.	Orissa	855	17
19.	Punjab	1109	14
20.	Rajasthan	844	18

1	2	3	4
21. Sikkim		4611	2
22. Tamil Nadu		751	19
23. Tripura		1346	10
24. Uttar Pradesh		651	20
25. West Bengal		599	23

\* Population Estimates used refer to mid year estimates 1998.

#### Agricultural Development Scheme

2395. SHRI R.L. BHATIA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have given any financial aid to the Punjab State Government for Agricultural Development Schemes during the years 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000; and

(b) if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of funds released to the Government of Punjab for development of agriculture are as follows :-

Year	Amount (Rs. Crore)
1997-98	25.38
1998-99	32.31
1999-2000 (upto 30.9.99)	8.47

[Translation]

#### Technology Mission on Dairy Development

2396. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA :  
SHRI HOLKHOMANU HAOKIP :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the States where Technology Mission on dairy development have been launched during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) the details of the schemes launched and the funds allocated for each project, State-wise; and

(c) the manner in which the schemes are likely to help in the economic upliftment of the backward/tribal areas of the country particularly in the States of Manipur and Madhya Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The Technology Mission on Dairy Development (TMDD) was launched in 1988 and was to end on 31.03.97. The tenure of the Mission was extended to continue its implementation during the 9th Plan period on year to year basis upto 31.03.99. Its activities during the 9th Plan period continued in the following 14 States :-

Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Pondicherry, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

The Mission has been taken as closed on 31.03.99 with the stipulation that unfinished activities would be completed during 1999-2000.

Activities of the Mission continued during the 9th plan period are as under :-

Activity	Funds Allocated (Rs. Lakhs)	
	1997-98	1998-99
1. Operational Linkage (Strengthening of Infra-structure)	72.70	-
2. Orientation of Govt. Officers	9.30	-
3. Strengthening of Frozen Semen Stations	196.00	-
4. Fodder Seed Production	120.00	50.00
Total	398.00	50.00

The National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) which is the implementing agency for the Mission has informed that allocations have not been made State-wise.

(c) The Mission activities were carried out in Operation Flood Districts some of which covered tribal areas also. The developmental activities in the Operation Flood areas have had their spin off effect in almost all over the country including backward and tribal areas. Manipur was not covered in TMDD.

#### Cases with CBI

2397. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to restructure the Central Bureau of Investigation in view of the large number of pending cases with it for disposal;

(b) if so, the number of pending cases during the last three years; and

(c) the action taken or propose to be taken for disposal of all cases within a fixed time frame ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) The Supreme Court in its judgement in the case of Vineet Narain and Ors, reported in (1998) 1 SCC 226, gave wide ranging directions which related to the structure and functioning of the Central Bureau of Investigation. The Government decided to implement the judgement. There is no separate proposal for restructuring of the CBI under consideration of the Government.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) The CBI Crime Manual prescribes time frame for disposal of cases under investigation and submission of Progress Reports to superior officers. The cases pending investigation, trial and Regular Departmental Action are reviewed by superior officers at various levels from time to time and all efforts are made to ensure quick disposal of cases.

#### Statement

*Information regarding the total Number of Pending Cases as on 31.12.1996, 31.12.1997, 31.12.1998 and 31.10.1999*

#### Details of Cases

As on	Pending Investigation	Pending Trial	Pending Regular Departmental Action (Referred for RDA after completion of Investigation)
31.12.96	1775	5434	2655
31.12.97	1893	5676	2784
31.12.98	1874	5794	2683
31.10.99	2021	5858	2480

[English]

#### Flood Control and Soil Erosion

2398. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN :  
SHRI AJIT SINGH :  
SHRI RAMSAGAR RAWAT :  
YOGI ADITYA NATH :  
SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH :  
SHRI J.S. BRAR :  
SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA :  
SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether several parts of the country are affected by the floods and heavy rains every year;

(b) if so, the States which are severely affected by floods and excessive soil erosion;

(c) whether several schemes are being implemented for making river beds deeper and also for construction/repairing river embankments to control the floods;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the funds released by the Union Government for the purpose and the amount utilised by each State Government during each of the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) States, namely, Assam, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Orissa are severely affected by floods and river erosion.

(c) and (d) Schemes for making river beds deeper is not considered to be an efficient and viable flood management measure for controlling floods. Schemes for construction/repairing of river embankments to control floods are generally resorted to by the States as one of the structural measures of flood management. Flood management being a State subject, the flood management schemes are planned and executed by the States as per their priorities out of their own plan funds allocated by the Planning Commission. Various flood management schemes including construction and repairs of embankments have been implemented by the States in the past five year plans. So far 16,200 km. of embankments have been constructed providing reasonable degree of flood protection to an area of 14.4 million ha. against flood prone area of the 40 million ha. of the entire country.

(e) Union Government does not provide separate funds to State Government for construction/repairs of embankments and these are included in the flood control sub-sector allocation. The details of funds utilised by State

Governments for flood management works are not reported by the States. The details of state-wise funds allocated by the Planning Commission in flood control sub-sector during the last three years are given in enclosed Statement.

**Statement**

*Flood Control and Soil Erosion*

*Statewise Annual Outlays in Flood Control Sub-Sector*

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	State/UT's	Outlays (Revised) 1996-97	Outlays (Revised) 1997-98	Outlays approved 1998-99	Outlays approved 1999-2000
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10.00	13.58	20.27	NA
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.27	3.76	4.61	NA
3.	Assam	20.17	19.90	20.27	27.57
4.	Bihar	41.35	44.00	63.00	110.00
5.	Goa	0.80	0.84	0.60	NA
6.	Gujarat	1.60	5.00	5.00	5.00
7.	Haryana	11.00	12.00	23.40	20.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3.54	3.86	5.74	8.12
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	15.71	17.27	26.52	32.11
10.	Karnataka	10.00	8.00	7.00	NA
11.	Kerala	35.50	25.50	24.00	NA
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1.08	0.68	1.00	1.01
13.	Maharashtra	103.21	6.37	1.16	52.78
14.	Manipur	6.96	6.75	5.10	NA
15.	Meghalaya	1.43	1.50	3.00	NA
16.	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	0.00	NA
17.	Nagaland	0.16	0.20	0.09	NA
18.	Orissa	13.00	16.85	15.00	NA
19.	Punjab	65.90	100.00	182.83	105.39
20.	Rajasthan	43.45	7.42	4.93	3.75
21.	Sikkim	2.34	2.30	0.50	NA
22.	Tamil Nadu	1.59	2.03	0.00	NA
23.	Tripura	2.04	4.64	3.21	NA
24.	Uttar Pradesh	10.81	8.11	20.00	23.53
25.	West Bengal	35.00	48.35	145.90	NA
26.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	1.00	0.00	0.00	NA
27.	Dadar and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	NA
28.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	NA

1	2	3	4	5	6
29.	Delhi	14.31	11.00	24.00	20.00
30.	Daman and Diu	0.35	0.23	0.28	NA
31.	Lakshadweep	1.86	4.00	0.00	NA
32.	Pondicherry	3.77	3.00	3.80	NA
Total		461.20	377.14	611.21	-

NA : Not Available

### Super Rice

2399. SHRI P. C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the researchers in International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) at Manila have developed 'Super Rice' a hybrid rice with 20% more productivity and high nutritive value;

(b) whether India have made research in this respect;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether India has experimented 'Hydroponic' method for more rice production in less area;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :  
(a) Yes, Sir. The International Rice Research Institute, Manila (Philippines) has developed strains of 'Super Rice' with 15 to 20 per cent more yield than the existing varieties. These strains are under field evaluation and efforts are on to improve its grain quality and resistance to insect-pest and diseases. However, super rice is yet not released for commercial cultivation.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Hybridization has been done between high yielding indica varieties with tropical japonica lines which are used as donors for some of the super rice traits. Promising selections are being evaluated.

(d) No, Sir. As rice is grown over a very large area in the country 'hydroponic rice' is not considered to be a practical feasibility.

(e) Not applicable.

(f) The Government has recognized the need to break the current yield barriers in rice and research programmes have been taken up to raise the yield ceilings

by developing hybrid rice and other improved varieties with greater yield potential.

### Import of Coal for SAIL

2400. SHRI N.R.K. REDDY :  
SHRI G. GANGA REDDY :  
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the news-item captioned "SAIL's Australian coal import mired in controversy" appeared in the Asian Age dated November 2, 1999;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The facts reported in the news item are mostly incorrect. Coal is not Procured by SAIL through agents. SAIL imports coal directly, under long term agreements, from overseas suppliers at the prices and specifications which are linked to Japanese Steel Mills (JSM) prices. JSM prices and specifications, for each coal brand are certified yearly, by internationally reputed firms of chartered accountants, besides being published in several publications. Further, clearance of Ministry of Steel is not required for such procurement. As for prices of coal in 1998, long-term agreements were renegotiated and were finalised at prices comparable to international rates. Quantity of imports and its value for the last three years is as follows:

Year	Quantity (million tonnes)	Value (inclusive of ocean freight)
1996-97	6.610	Rs. 1566 Cr.
1997-98	6.176	Rs. 1488 Cr.
1998-99	5.629	Rs. 1363 Cr.

(c) Does not arise in view of above.

(e) if so, the details thereof?

[Translation]

#### Funds Allocated to Khadi Boards

2401. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the funds allocated to the Khadi Boards by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission for their activities of Khadi and Village Industry in the country during the years 1997-98 and 1998-99, State-wise;

(b) the details of funds allocated as loans and grants during the above period separately State-wise;

(c) the details of amount released under the Margin Money Scheme during the said period, State-wise;

(d) whether any assessment of the performance of these Khadi Boards has since been made; and

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) and (b) The Statement-I showing the State-wise allocation of funds by the KVIC during 1997-98 and 1998-99 for conducting the Khadi and Village Industries activities in the country is enclosed.

(c) The amount released by the KVIC under Margin Money Scheme is given in enclosed Statement-II.

(d) and (e) Every year, the KVIC analyses the performance of each State/U.T. KVI Board. The details of production, sale, employment and earnings for the years 1997-98 and 1998-99 are given in enclosed Statement-III.

#### Statement-I

Funds allocated to Khadi and Industries Boards for the year 1997-98 and 1998-99 under Khadi and Village Industries

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sr. No.	Name of the K.V.I. Board	1997-98				1998-99			
		Loan		Grant		Loan		Grant	
		KVIC	C.B.C.	Other Grant	M.M. Grant	KVIC	C.B.C.	Other Grant	M.M. Grant
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Delhi	0	550.49	0	201.11	0	550.49	0	201.11
2.	Himachal Pradesh	0	118.73	0.19	42.41	0	118.73	0.19	42.41
3.	Haryana	30.85	1010.17	0	337.43	30.85	1010.17	0	337.43
4.	Punjab	0	2765.59	0.04	998.04	0	2765.59	0.04	998.04
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	43.00	377.90	0.25	171.10	43.00	377.90	0.25	171.10
6.	U.T. Chandigarh	0	23.05	0	8.86	0	23.05	0	8.86
7.	Rajasthan	102.38	1692.32	9.03	665.45	102.38	1692.32	9.03	665.45
8.	Andhra Pradesh	68.02	4518.24	9.25	1659.00	68.02	4518.24	9.25	1659.00
9.	Karnataka	79.29	6278.33	0	2243.67	79.29	6278.33	0	2243.67
10.	Kerala	65.47	1499.85	7.62	537.57	65.47	1499.85	7.62	537.75
11.	Tamil Nadu	100.00	0	48.13	0	100.00	0	48.13	0
12.	Pondicherry (U.T.)	0	69.18	0.63	26.36	0	69.18	0.63	26.36
13.	Lakshdweep (U.T.)	0	153.41	0	60.15	0	153.41	0	60.15
14.	Maharashtra	0	2126.77	0.29	845.86	0	2126.77	0.29	845.86

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
15. Gujarat		77.59	639.65	50.05	62.55	77.59	639.65	50.05	62.55
16. Goa		0	116.12	0	38.45	0	116.12	0	38.45
17. Bihar		21.92	1291.46	2.65	464.68	21.92	1291.46	2.65	464.68
18. Orissa		0	2135.46	1.18	851.88	0	2135.46	1.18	851.88
19. West Bengal		126.56	1436.55	0.19	526.17	126.56	1436.55	0.19	526.17
20. A & Nicobar (U.T.)		0	81.13	0.02	39.67	0	81.13	0.02	39.67
21. Sikkim		0	21.88	0	9.26	0	21.88	0	9.26
22. Assam		0	266.35	0.37	117.64	0	266.35	0.37	117.64
23. Arunachal Pradesh		0	15.74	0	7.27	0	15.74	0	7.27
24. Meghalaya		0	1546.39	76.62	92.44	0	1546.39	76.62	92.44
25. Manipur		0	583.70	0.27	261.93	0	583.70	0.27	261.93
26. Mizoram		0	417.95	0.01	192.50	0	417.95	0.01	192.50
27. Nagaland		12.00	1023.30	5.74	713.82	12.00	1023.30	5.74	713.82
28. Tripura		0	27.66	1.99	12.61	0	27.66	1.99	12.61
29. Uttar Pradesh		160.40	2849.38	0.46	1031.73	160.40	2849.38	0.46	1031.73
30. Madhya Pradesh		0	1719.43	0.19	656.45	0	1719.43	0.19	656.45
<b>Total</b>		<b>887.48</b>	<b>35356.18</b>	<b>215.17</b>	<b>12876.06</b>	<b>887.48</b>	<b>35356.18</b>	<b>215.17</b>	<b>12876.06</b>

**Statement-II**

Statement showing the amount released under  
Margin Money Scheme to State KVI Boards

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sr. State Boards No.	1997-98	1998-99
1	2	3
1. U.P. KVIB	1004.54	3788.85
2. M.P. KVIB	315.92	2715.25
3. Orissa KVIB	207.33	275.69
4. Bihar KVIB	-	-
5. Sikkim	-	-
6. West Bengal	-	12.50
7. Andaman and Nicobar KVIB	-	6.91
8. Gujarat	-	287.28
9. Maharashtra	743.34	782.30
10. Goa, Daman and Diu	-	40.00
11. Jammu and Kashmir	169.26	645.71
12. Punjab	438.83	1839.27

1	2	3	4
13. Chandigarh (U.T.)		-	-
14. Haryana		139.04	506.57
15. Himachal Pradesh, KVIB		269.75	514.98
16. Rajasthan, KVIB		575.42	551.22
17. Delhi, KVIB		-	95.71
18. Assam, KVIB		-	5.00
19. Meghalaya, KVIB		-	142.36
20. Tripura, KVIB		-	-
21. Nagaland, KVIB		90.00	396.11
22. Mizoram, KVIB		180.34	1072.95
23. Manipur, KVIB		867.34	850.62
24. Arunachal Pradesh, KVIB		-	-
25. Pondicherry, KVIB		-	94.58
26. Andhra Pradesh, KVIB		2529.32	810.58
27. Karnataka, KVIB		2172.61	4763.38
28. Kerala, KVIB		-	1208.26
29. Tamilnadu, KVIB		-	12.50
30. Lakshdweep, KVIB		-	109.68
<b>Total</b>		<b>9702.94</b>	<b>21528.26</b>

**Statement-III (a)***State KVI Boardwise Production and Sales 1997-98*

(Rs. in Crores)

Sr. No.	State/UT K.V.I. Board	Production			Sales		
		Khadi	V.I.	Total	Khadi	V.I.	Total
1.	Andra Pradesh	2.65	214.28	216.93	2.00	218.74	220.74
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	0.77	0.77	-	0.79	0.79
3.	Assam	0.69	35.78	36.47	1.01	30.31	31.32
4.	Bihar	2.40	145.38	147.78	1.75	129.31	131.06
5.	Goa	-	8.04	8.04	-	10.37	10.37
6.	Gujarat	55.54	136.39	191.93	91.21	115.68	206.89
7.	Haryana	3.88	53.52	57.40	1.16	57.67	58.83
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.04	60.56	60.60	0.57	64.47	65.04
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.03	72.64	72.67	0.03	79.54	79.57
10.	Karnataka	21.73	242.63	264.36	16.72	248.06	264.78
11.	Kerala	3.99	145.24	149.23	6.34	155.18	161.52
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3.69	124.22	127.91	3.70	133.62	137.32
13.	Maharashtra	17.20	466.64	483.84	23.87	561.31	585.18
14.	Manipur	-	29.39	29.39	-	31.00	31.00
15.	Meghalaya	0.04	14.15	14.19	0.01	17.53	17.54
16.	Mizoram	-	20.81	20.81	0.12	19.58	19.70
17.	Nagaland	-	18.92	18.92	0.07	21.15	21.22
18.	Orissa	-	65.12	65.12	-	67.10	67.10
19.	Punjab	-	167.47	167.47	-	187.94	187.94
20.	Rajasthan	11.19	352.86	364.05	15.91	467.96	483.87
21.	Sikkim	0.09	2.65	2.74	0.07	2.60	2.67
22.	Tamilnadu	18.86	397.52	416.38	30.50	395.71	426.21
23.	Tripura	0.19	12.13	12.32	0.06	12.59	12.65
24.	Uttar Pradesh	28.56	541.80	570.36	29.22	557.55	586.77
25.	West Bengal	15.92	142.60	158.52	3.43	146.78	150.21
26.	Andaman and Nicobar	-	1.08	1.08	-	0.98	0.98
27.	Chandigarh	-	6.03	6.03	-	6.96	6.96
28.	Delhi	-	25.65	25.65	-	28.01	28.01
29.	Lakshdweep	-	0.06	0.06	-	0.06	0.06
30.	Pondicherry	0.22	4.66	4.88	0.41	4.69	5.10
<b>Total</b>		<b>186.91</b>	<b>3508.99</b>	<b>3695.90</b>	<b>228.16</b>	<b>3773.24</b>	<b>4001.40</b>

## Statement-II (b)

## State KVI Boardwise Production and Sales 1998-99

(Rs. in Crores)

Sr. No.	State and Union Territories	Production			Sales		
		Khadi	V.I.	Total	Khadi	V.I.	Total
<b>States-U.T.s.</b>							
1.	Andra Pradesh	0.77	238.97	239.74	0.64	249.96	250.60
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	0.31	0.31	-	0.30	0.30
3.	Assam	0.99	34.10	35.09	1.14	29.85	30.99
4.	Bihar	2.37	140.35	142.72	2.42	129.52	131.94
5.	Goa	-	11.43	11.43	-	14.06	14.06
6.	Gujarat	41.03	141.39	182.42	48.68	127.37	176.05
7.	Haryana	3.91	51.33	55.24	1.28	55.18	56.46
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.06	75.17	75.23	0.23	80.42	80.65
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	-	80.09	80.09	-	104.52	104.52
10.	Karnataka	19.74	270.20	289.94	18.77	284.97	303.74
11.	Kerala	4.36	151.62	155.98	3.13	154.35	157.48
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2.00	160.80	162.80	3.69	159.31	163.00
13.	Maharashtra	18.40	763.07	781.47	25.05	995.96	1021.01
14.	Manipur	-	44.29	44.29	-	45.76	45.76
15.	Meghalaya	-	11.18	11.18	-	14.41	14.41
16.	Mizoram	-	24.08	24.08	-	22.68	22.68
17.	Nagaland	-	17.60	17.60	0.04	19.52	19.56
18.	Orissa	0.14	45.88	46.02	0.15	50.82	50.97
19.	Punjab	-	188.61	188.61	-	197.34	197.34
20.	Rajasthan	11.74	418.63	430.37	12.92	544.53	557.45
21.	Sikkim	0.20	2.98	3.18	0.11	3.01	3.12
22.	Tamilnadu	15.75	403.83	419.58	21.94	411.41	433.35
23.	Tripura	-	11.61	11.63	-	12.51	12.51
24.	Uttar Pradesh	33.35	558.18	591.53	35.23	599.96	635.19
25.	West Bengal	14.10	149.32	163.42	2.96	156.94	159.90
26.	Andaman and Nicobar	-	0.68	0.68	-	0.93	0.93
27.	Chandigarh	-	2.90	2.90	-	3.34	3.34
28.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	-	-	-	-	-	-
29.	Daman and Diu	-	-	-	-	-	-
30.	Delhi	-	26.00	26.00	-	28.71	28.71
31.	Lakshdweep	-	0.91	0.91	-	1.11	1.11
32.	Pondicherry	0.10	4.37	4.47	0.45	4.55	5.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>169.01</b>	<b>4029.88</b>	<b>4198.89</b>	<b>178.83</b>	<b>4503.30</b>	<b>4682.13</b>

## Statement-III (c)

## State KVI Boardwise Employment and Earnings - 1997-98

(Employment in lakh person)

(Rs. in Crores)

Sr. No.	State/UT KVI Board	Employment			Earnings		
		Khadi	V.I.	Total	Khadi	V.I.	Total
1.	Andra Pradesh	0.07	3.15	3.22	1.50	89.03	90.53
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	0.01	0.01	-	0.32	0.32
3.	Assam	0.07	0.94	1.01	0.35	10.05	10.40
4.	Bihar	0.13	1.04	1.17	1.29	25.15	26.44
5.	Goa	-	0.05	0.05	-	3.33	3.33
6.	Gujarat	0.53	0.53	1.06	28.64	32.23	60.87
7.	Haryana	0.06	0.39	0.45	0.85	12.89	13.74
8.	Himachal Pradesh	*	0.65	0.65	0.02	22.98	23.00
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	*	0.70	0.70	0.02	23.33	23.35
10.	Karnataka	0.26	1.51	1.77	5.48	63.23	68.71
11.	Kerala	0.07	2.16	2.23	2.00	43.31	45.31
12.	Madhya Pradesh	0.04	0.94	0.98	1.95	50.17	51.22
13.	Maharashtra	0.13	3.52	3.65	6.00	178.47	184.47
14.	Manipur	-	0.42	0.42	-	9.45	9.45
15.	Meghalaya	*	0.13	0.13	-	8.75	8.75
16.	Mizoram	-	0.13	0.13	0.03	5.12	5.15
17.	Nagaland	*	0.18	0.18	0.01	10.46	10.47
18.	Orissa	-	2.01	2.01	-	24.97	24.97
19.	Punjab	-	0.95	0.95	-	47.46	47.46
20.	Rajasthan	0.63	3.01	3.64	5.58	149.56	155.14
21.	Sikkim	-	0.05	0.05	0.14	0.81	0.95
22.	Tamilnadu	0.19	10.10	10.29	7.81	188.02	195.83
23.	Tripura	*	0.27	0.27	0.09	4.60	4.69
24.	Uttar Pradesh	0.64	4.80	5.44	12.45	160.44	172.89
25.	West Bengal	0.29	2.78	3.07	3.29	36.54	39.83
26.	Andaman and Nicobar	-	*	*	-	0.54	0.54
27.	Chandigarh	-	0.04	0.04	-	1.36	1.36
28.	Delhi	-	0.15	0.15	-	11.81	11.81
29.	Lakshdweep	-	-	-	-	0.03	0.03
30.	Pondicherry	0.01	0.04	0.05	0.34	2.02	2.36
Total		3.12	40.65	43.77	76.94	1216.43	1293.37

\*Less than 500

## Statement-III (d)

## State KVI Boardwise Employment and Earnings - 1998-99

Sr. No.	State and Union Territories	Employment			Earnings (Rs. in crores)		
		Khadi	V.I.	Total	Khadi	V.I.	Total
<b>States/U.T.s</b>							
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.04	3.16	3.20	0.59	92.89	93.48
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	*	*	-	0.07	0.07
3.	Assam	0.14	0.96	1.10	0.39	9.08	9.47
4.	Bihar	0.11	1.02	1.13	1.28	24.95	26.23
5.	Goa	-	0.05	0.05	-	4.02	4.02
6.	Gujarat	0.46	0.53	0.99	23.87	33.48	57.35
7.	Haryana	0.06	0.36	0.42	1.18	12.09	13.27
8.	Himachal Pradesh	*	0.68	0.68	0.01	25.54	25.55
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	-	0.88	0.88	-	29.40	29.40
10.	Karnataka	0.28	1.81	2.09	4.88	69.89	74.77
11.	Kerala	0.07	1.92	1.99	1.92	39.80	41.72
12.	Madhya Pradesh	0.03	1.08	1.11	1.36	55.79	57.15
13.	Maharashtra	0.13	4.20	4.33	6.99	243.12	250.11
14.	Manipur	-	0.42	0.42	-	13.64	13.64
15.	Meghalaya	-	0.11	0.11	-	6.67	6.67
16.	Mizoram	-	0.15	0.15	-	5.76	5.76
17.	Nagaland	*	0.18	0.18	0.02	9.33	9.35
18.	Orissa	*	1.82	1.82	0.06	21.57	21.63
19.	Punjab	-	0.96	0.96	-	51.61	51.61
20.	Rajasthan	0.56	3.22	3.78	4.76	189.61	194.37
21.	Sikkim	*	0.06	0.06	0.05	0.85	0.90
22.	Tamilnadu	0.02	10.11	10.13	2.56	190.51	193.07
23.	Tripura	-	0.23	0.23	-	3.73	3.73
24.	Uttar Pradesh	0.59	5.04	5.63	1.72	183.65	185.37
25.	West Bengal	0.08	3.20	3.28	4.32	48.29	52.60
26.	Andaman and Nicobar	-	*	-	-	0.28	0.28
27.	Chandigarh	-	0.04	0.04	-	1.85	1.85
28.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	-	-	-	-	-	-
29.	Daman and Diu	-	-	-	-	-	-
30.	Delhi	-	0.10	0.10	-	12.11	12.11
31.	Lakshdweep	-	*	*	-	0.10	0.10
32.	Pondicherry	0.01	0.03	0.04	0.01	2.43	2.44
<b>Total</b>		<b>2.58</b>	<b>42.32</b>	<b>44.90</b>	<b>55.97</b>	<b>1382.11</b>	<b>1438.08</b>

[English]

**Bee-Keeping by KVIC**

2402.DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the amount spent on bee-keeping by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission and other such agencies during 1997 and 1998;

(b) whether a survey has been carried out about the protection of bee-keeping industry in various States of the country particularly in Madhya Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) The amount spent on bee-keeping by the Khadi Village Industries Commission (KVIC) during 1997 and 1998 is as under :-

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Grant	Loan	Total
1997-98	6.66	4.26	10.92
1998-99	18.22	2.80	21.02

Apart from this, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation have also released an amount of Rs. 117.87 lakhs during 1997-98 and Rs. 118.28 lakhs during 1998-99 respectively to various agencies involved in bee-keeping.

(b) Surveys have been conducted in certain States by the KVIC but no such survey has been carried out in Madhya Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh

(c) Surveys have been undertaken by the Central Bee Research and Training Institute, Pune in States of Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Maharashtra to identify diseases in bees and to combat them. Studies were also undertaken in Kerala and Tamil Nadu to ascertain the adaptability of 'Apis Mellifera' Bee colonies which are not natives of India. Preliminary survey was undertaken in Maharashtra to assess the damage caused by the "Thai Sac Brood" disease.

**Financial Assistance to SSI**

2403.SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM : Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any charter of demands from the Federation of Association of Small Scale Industries of India for financial assistance for sickness of small scale industries;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to reschedule the term loan repayments and interest dues and sanction additional facilities for the survival of these units; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) and (b) Federation of Associations of Small Industries of India have submitted a representation to Government which, inter-alia, mentions about slackness in industrial growth which could lead to industrial sickness. They have suggested measures such as rescheduling of term loan and sanction of minimum working capital, etc to address the problem.

(c) and (d) RBI has issued elaborate guidelines to scheduled commercial banks and State Financial Corporations for identification and rehabilitation of sick SSI units which, inter-alia, include rescheduling of loan, funded interest term loan, sanction of need based additional finance, etc.

**Utilization of Plan Allocation Fund**

2404.SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether some States including Bihar have recorded the lowest utilization of plan allocated funds during the last three years;

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

(c) whether non-production of utilization certificate has been mainly responsible for poor disbursement to these States;

(d) whether large scale diversion of plan funds have been detected in these States; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to check them and ensure speedy and proper utilization of plan funds.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (c) A statement-I giving Statewise details of actual expenditure vis-a-vis approved plan outlay for the last three years is enclosed. Bihar is among those States where utilization of plan outlay has been on the lower side.

Under the existing guidelines of the Planning Commission, the normal Central assistance is given to the States to the full extent if the total plan expenditure does not fall below the originally approved/ revised outlay and

the expenditure of the earmarked sector/schemes does not fall below the approved outlay for the same. In case of non achievement of total outlay/earmarked outlay, a proportionate cut in normal central assistance is effected. In case of special category States, they are allowed to use upto 20 per cent of normal central assistance to meet their non-plan gap and cuts in central assistance are applied keeping the above in consideration. The details of cuts in Central Assistance enforced by Ministry of Finance on the basis of above guidelines are given in enclosed Statement-II.

The main reason for the low utilization of funds in some States in their inability to mobilize their own resources to the extent projected.

(d) and (e) Planning Commission is not aware of any large scale diversion of plan funds in these States. Planning Commission has been impressing upto the States to generate higher levels of own resources through increase in tax and non-tax revenues and also by containing non-plan revenue expenditure.

#### Statement-I

Approved Outlay/Actual Expenditure for Annual Plans 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99

(Rs. Crore)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Originally Approved Outlays			Actual Expenditure			Actual Exp. as a Percentage of Approved Outlay		
		1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2989.00	3579.55	4678.95	3052.26	3707.23	4678.95	102.12	103.57	100.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	520.00	600.00	625.00	430.93	489.38	471.58	82.87	81.56	75.45
3.	Assam	1434.00	1510.28	1650.00	1101.62	1283.18	1389.37	76.82	84.95	84.20
4.	Bihar	2143.91	2268.42	3768.74	1549.28	1711.43	1850.00	72.26	75.45	49.09
5.	Goa	250.00	230.56	291.34	199.12	185.99 *	234.77	79.65	80.67	80.58
6.	Gujarat	3378.00	4509.62	5450.00	3080.13	3905.07	5450.00	91.18	86.59	100.00
7.	Haryana	1433.65	1576.04	2260.00	1235.29	1303.61	1800.00	86.16	82.71	79.65
8.	Himachal Pradesh	900.50	1008.00	1440.00	918.33	1294.33	1444.00	101.98	128.41	100.28
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1250.00	1551.81	1900.00	1260.46	1496.28	1750.00	100.84	96.42	92.11
10.	Karnataka	4360.00	4153.59	5353.00	3972.54	4424.48	5131.54	91.11	106.52	95.86
11.	Kerala	2207.27	2851.10	3100.00	2106.73	2867.62	3039.09	95.45	100.58	98.04
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3144.80	3718.15	3700.00	2759.71	3343.91	3426.12	87.75	89.93	92.60
13.	Maharashtra	8319.67	8393.19	11600.73	6856.77	7938.03	11600.73	82.42	94.58	100.00
14.	Manipur	350.00	410.00	425.00	367.17	345.28	406.08	104.91	84.21	95.55
15.	Meghalaya	370.00	382.00	400.00	253.88	248.83	302.50	68.62	65.14	75.63

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
16. Mizoram		281.00	290.00	333.00	286.77	295.25	284.55	102.05	101.81	85.45
17. Nagaland		290.00	291.00	300.00	265.67	236.13	300.00	91.61	81.14	100.00
18. Orissa		2205.50	2529.46	3084.43	2003.97	2037.14	3084.43	90.86	80.54	100.00
19. Punjab		1857.05	2100.01	2500.00	1794.39	2008.80	2500.00	96.63	95.66	100.00
20. Rajasthan		3310.49	3514.42	4300.00	3131.41	3987.35	4025.00	94.59	113.46	93.60
21. Sikkim		192.00	220.00	237.00	192.79	190.12	218.00	100.41	86.42	91.98
22. Tamil Nadu		3719.05	4004.90	4500.00	3726.37	4010.63	4500.00	100.20	100.14	100.00
23. Tripura		370.00	439.91	440.00	369.96	412.59	379.00	99.99	93.79	86.14
24. Uttar Pradesh		6549.03	7246.57	10260.00	5674.73	5652.36	5887.32	86.65	78.00	57.38
25. West Bengal		3158.63	3907.62	4594.85	2426.51	2840.10	2749.45	76.82	72.68	59.84
Total (States)		54983.55	61286.20	77192.04	49016.79	56215.12	66902.48	89.15	91.73	86.67

\*Actual Expenditure not available, Revised Outlay taken.

#### Statement-II

##### Statewise cuts in Central Assistance in Annual Plans

(Rs. Crore)

Sl. No.	States	1996-97	1997-98	1998-1999
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.47	0.35	-
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	6.67
3.	Assam	22.49	10.50	19.49
4.	Bihar	-	33.40	-
5.	Goa	3.29	2.07	0.47
6.	Gujarat	-	-	61.09
7.	Haryana	15.72	16.08	-
8.	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	-	-	-
10.	Karnataka	-	-	-
11.	Kerala	15.34	20.32	-
12.	Madhya Pradesh	15.95	11.21	-
13.	Maharashtra	14.66	63.40	19.98
14.	Manipur	-	2.08	-
15.	Meghalaya	17.13	15.12	-
16.	Mizoram	0.30	0.02	6.63
17.	Nagaland	-	-	5.18

1	2	3	4	5
18.	Orissa	1.78	44.04	-
19.	Punjab	12.74	5.85	-
20.	Rajasthan	9.56	8.69	34.11
21.	Sikkim	-	1.55	-
22.	Tamil Nadu	-	-	0.02
23.	Tripura	-	-	22.42
24.	Uttra Pradesh	72.43	0.23	74.62
25.	West Bengal	-	8.64	13.83
Total		201.86	243.55	264.51

[Translation]

#### Information Technology

2405.SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the schemes and programmes propose to be launched by the Government for taking information technology to the rural areas of the country;

(b) the funds earmarked therefore during the current financial year;

(c) to what extent it is likely to help the rural people to get acquainted with new avenues of development in different areas; and

(d) steps being taken to ensure uninterrupted supply of power to operate internet ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN) : (a) to (c) National Informatics Centre (NIC) has been implementing Projects on (i) Grass Root Input to District (GRID) which envisages block level access to NICNET and Internet and (ii) Land Records Computerisation. NIC in association with the Ministry of Rural Development, is also working on Monitoring Poverty Alleviation Scheme for the rural areas.

2. A Capital provision of Rs. 5 crores has been made for GRID Project and Land Records Computerisation Project during the financial year 1999-2000.

3. Through Internet, people of rural areas can acquaint themselves with new avenues of development in different areas including agriculture production and other agro industries.

(d) Uninterrupted power supply is a part of the system used by Internet Service Providers for internet services.

#### Adjustment of Surplus Employees

2406. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the guidelines for adjustment of employees, if they become surplus due to certain reasons in Ministries/Departments;

(b) whether the Government Undertakings have freedom to formulate their own guidelines; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) Adjustment of the surplus employees working in various Ministries/Departments, etc. of the Central Government on their being identified as surplus, are regulated as per the Central Civil Services (Redeployment of Surplus Staff) Rules, 1990 and various orders issued by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Department of Personnel and Training from time to time.

In case of vacancies in Group 'A' and 'B' (Gazetted) and Group 'B' (non-gazetted), nominations of surplus officers/staff are made to Union Public Service Commission and Staff Selection Commission respectively. Vacancies

are reported by the recruiting Departments direct to Union Public Service Commission/Staff Selection Commission and a copy of the same is endorsed to the Surplus Cell of this Department. On receipt of the vacancy, the surplus officers/staff awaiting redeployment on the surplus rolls are nominated to the Union Public Service Commission/Staff Selection Commission keeping in view the pay scales, educational qualifications, experience, etc.

In case of Group 'C' surplus employees, vacancies are reported by the recruiting departments direct to the Surplus Cell set up under the Department of Personnel and Training. On receipt of the vacancy, nomination of suitable Group 'C' surplus employee awaiting redeployment on the surplus rolls is made direct to the recruiting department. The same criteria of pay scale, educational qualification, experience, etc. is kept in view as in the case of the Group 'A' and 'B' employees while nominating a surplus employee against a Group 'C' post as well. In case of Group 'C' employees, the recruiting Department sends the Offer of Appointment to the parent Department direct under intimation to the concerned Cell. However, in case of Group 'A' and 'B' employees, the nomination of the surplus employee made by this Department is considered by the Union Public Service Commission/Staff Selection Commission, as the case may be, and if found suitable is recommended for appointment to the recruiting Department under intimation to the Surplus Cell. However, the Union Public Service Commission have the discretion of rejecting the nomination of the surplus employee nominated by this Department if found unsuitable for the post by them.

In case of Group 'D' employees, the redeployment is done through the Surplus Cell of the Directorate General of Employment and Training, Ministry of Labour to whom names of such Group 'D' employees are sent by various Ministries/Departments from where they have become surplus direct. However, the same guidelines, as in the case of Group 'C' employees, are applicable in case of Group 'D' employees as well.

(b) and (c) Formulation of guidelines for adjustment of surplus employees of Government Undertakings etc. falls within the purview of Ministry of Industries, Department of Public Enterprises. No general guidelines exist for adjustment of surplus employees of Public Sector Undertakings. Adjustment of surplus employees is within the powers of the Management of individual Public Sector Undertaking.

[English]

#### Production of Fruits and Vegetables

2407. COL. (RETD.) DR. DHANI RAM SHANDIL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a vast scope for growing more fruits and vegetables in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the steps taken in that direction during the last three years;

(c) whether Central Assistance is being allocated for this purpose; and

(d) if so, the details of the Central Scheme and the funds allocated to the State of Himachal Pradesh by the Union Government for this purpose during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Government is providing assistance to the State Governments including Government of Himachal Pradesh for improving the production and productivity of fruits and vegetables. The details of assistance provided to the State Governments under various schemes is given below :-

Name of Scheme	Funds Allocated (Rs. in Lakh)		
	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
Central Sector Scheme on Development of Tropical, Temperate and Arid Zone Fruits	22.00	0.00	71.00
Central Sector Scheme on Production and Supply of Vegetable Seeds	3.00	3.00	13.50
Central Sector Scheme on Development of Root & Tuber Crops	1.50	0.85	0.85

**Disinvestment in Modern Food Industries (India) Ltd.**

2408.SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to disinvest 74% stake in Modern Food Industries (India) Ltd.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Modern Food Industries Karmachari Sangh has disputed the value of the current assets of Modern Food Industries at Rs. 109 crore fixed by the evaluator appointed by the Government; and

(d) if so, the details and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES OF THE MINISTRY OF

AGRICULTURE (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Disinvestment Commission recommended 100% sale of Government equity. The Government, however, has decided to disinvest upto 74% of its equity to a strategic partner.

(c) No such representation/communication from the Modern Food Industries Karmachari Sangh has been received by the Government.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

**Spurious Fertilizers and Seeds**

2409.SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :  
SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that spurious fertilizers, seeds and pesticides are being sold at large scale in the country due to which agricultural production is dwindling;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are also aware that the farmers are not getting fertilizers and seeds in time in several States and the yield of agricultural production is declining as a result thereof; and

(d) if so, the concrete steps have been taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) : (a) and (c) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(d) Requirement of States for inputs such as seeds, fertilizers and pesticides are assessed at Zonal/National Conference and periodical reports received from State Governments. Rules and regulations such as Fertilizer Control Order (1985), Seeds Act, (1966) and the Insecticides Act (1968) are being implemented to ensure that the quality of inputs supplied to farmers are as per required standards/specifications.

[English]

**Preservation and Processing of Fish**

2410.SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE :  
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide financial assistance for the construction of cold storages and purchasing of fish processing machines by the individual entrepreneurs and other agencies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount of financial assistance sanctioned and released to the companies/individual entrepreneurs and other agencies in the country particularly in Maharashtra for the purchase of fish processing machines during the last three years, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The following two Schemes are under implementation for development of infrastructural facilities in the country for preservation and processing of fish.

(i) Central Sector Scheme on Strengthening of Infrastructure for Inland fish Marketing implemented by the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying provides 100% grant to the State Governments/UTs for setting up of cold storages, ice-plants, refrigerated/insulated trucks and allied equipments. 19 States, including Maharashtra have availed financial assistance under this Scheme. The details of the financial assistance provided during the last three years is given in enclosed Statement-I.

(ii) Scheme for Development of Infrastructural Facilities for Preservation and Processing of Fish, implemented by the Department of Food Processing Industries provides financial assistance, in terms of grant and loan to Non-Government organisations, Cooperatives, Public Sector Units and Joint/Assisted/Private Sector Units for Establishment of Cold Storages, Ice-Plants, Fish Processing Plants, etc. The details of grants/loans provided to the implementing agencies during the last three years is given in enclosed Statement-II

**Statement-I**

*Details of Financial Assistance given by the Ministry of Agriculture, to the State Governments under the Central Sector Scheme on Strengthening of Infrastructure for Inland Fish Marketing*

(Rs. in lakh)

S. No.	Name of State	Total Sanction	Amount released during the last 3 years		
			1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	74.00	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	Bihar	49.00	15.00	-	-
3.	Gujarat	103.00	50.00	32.00	-
4.	Haryana	138.00	-	-	-
5.	Himachal Pradesh	49.00	-	9.00	-
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	172.00	44.00	48.00	-
7.	Karnataka	139.00	50.00	19.00	-
8.	Kerala	196.00	9.00	17.00	-
9.	Madhya Pradesh	252.00	53.50	36.00	-
10.	Manipur	45.00	10.00	5.00	-
11.	Mizoram	49.00	4.50	-	-
12.	Nagaland	46.00	-	-	-
13.	Orissa	175.25	16.25	-	-
14.	Punjab	91.32	-	11.32	-
15.	Rajasthan	98.00	19.00	-	-
16.	Tamil Nadu	48.24	-	-	-
17.	Uttar Pradesh	431.00	140.00	26.00	-
18.	West Bengal	172.00	40.00	5.00	-
19.	Maharashtra	148.00	80.00	-	-
Total		2475.81	531.25	208.32	-

**Statement-II**

*Details of Financial Assistance (grant/loan) given by the Department of Food Processing Industries to the Implementing Agencies in the State/Union Territory Governments under the Scheme for Development of Infrastructural Facilities for Preservation and Processing of Fish*

(Rs. in lakh)

S. No.	State/UT	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	25.00	25.00 (Loan)	-
2.	Karnataka	70.00	30.00	-
3.	Kerala	13.79	-	197.56
4.	Lakshadweep	-	22.00	-
5.	Maharashtra	55.75	83.00	-
6.	Manipur	-	4.34	-

1	2	3	4	5
7.	Orissa	24.63	-	-
8.	Tamil Nadu	-	44.77	-
9.	West Bengal	-	20.91	200.00
Total		189.17	230.02	397.56

**Membership of Commonwealth  
Ministerial Action Group**

2411. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :  
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India has refused to become a member of the Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group (CMAG) of CHOGM that has been mandated by CHOGM to closely monitor the trial of the deposed Prime Minister of Pakistan and the process of restoration of democracy therein;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether India was approached by other member nations to become member of the group;

(d) if so, the details of terms of reference of the group; and

(e) the reaction of the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) to (e) No formal request for membership of the Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group was received by India so far.

**Policy regarding Africa Fund**

2412. SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the status of programmes implemented through the funds available in the Africa fund and the Government's policy regarding this fund ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) The AFRICA Fund was launched at the eighth Non-Aligned Summit at Harare in September, 1986 to manifest world-wide support for the fight against the policy of apartheid practiced by the then South African regime. The mandate for this fund was terminated at the tenth NAM Summit held in Jakarta in September 1992 in view of the changed situation in Southern Africa and the drying up of the resource position of the fund.

[Translation]

**Support Price for Soyabean**

2413. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of support prices announced by Union Government to procure agricultural crops from farmers for the year 1998-99;

(b) the details of the action taken by the Union Government to procure soyabean at support price in Madhya Pradesh

(c) whether the Government have provided any grant-in-aid to the State Governments to procure soyabean;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government are aware that farmers of Madhya Pradesh are not getting the support price of soyabean;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) : (a) A Statement of the Minimum Support Price announced by the Government for the year 1998-99 is enclosed.

(b) The Government has nominated National Agricultural Cooperative and Marketing Federation (NAFED) a Central nodal agency to procure soyabean (FAQ) anywhere in India including Madhya Pradesh, whenever, its price falls to or below the MSP.

During the current year upto 6.12.99, NAFED has procured 2,20,025 MTs of soyabean of which 1,71,585 MTs is from Madhya Pradesh. The procurement is still under progress.

(c) and (d) The losses on account of price support operations are borne by Government of India. Therefore, provision of grant-in-aid to State Governments not required.

(e) to (g) The Prices of Soyabean have fallen below MSP in certain markets. However, as mentioned in reply to para (b) above, NAFED, the central nodal agency is making price support operation in various states including Madhya Pradesh.

## Statement

Minimum Support (Prices)  
(According to Crop Year)

(As on 22.07.99)

(Rs. per quintal)

S. No.	Commodity	Variety	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	Increase in Latest Price over Previous year	
											Ab- solute	Per- centage
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1.	Paddy	Common	270	310	340	360	380	415	440	490	50	11.4
		Fine	280	330	360	375	395					
		Superfine Grade 'A'	290	350	380	395	415		445 #	470	520	50
2.	Coarse Cereals (Jowar, Bajra and Ragi)		240	260	280	300	310	360	390	415	25	6.4
3.	Maize		245	265	290	310	320	360	390	415	25	6.4
4.	Wheat		330 \$	350	360	380	475 *	510 x	550		40	7.8
5.	Barley		260	275	285	295	305	350	385		35	10
6.	Gram		600	640	670	700	740	815	895		80	9.8
7.	Arhar		640	700	760	800	840	900	960	1105	145	15.1
8.	Moong		640	700	760	800	840	900	960	1105	145	15.1
9.	Urad		640	700	760	800	840	900	960	1105	145	15.1
10.	Sugarcane @		31.00	34.50	39.10	42.50	45.90	48.45	52.70		4.25	8.8
11.	Cotton	F-414/H-777	800	900	1000	1150	1180	1330	1440 ++	1575 ++	135	9.4
		H-4	950	1050	1200	1350	1380	1530	1650	1775	125	7.6
12.	Groundnut-in-shell		750	800	860	900	920	980	1040	1155	115	11.1
13.	Jute	TD-5 Grade	400	450	470	490	510	570	650	750	100	15.4
14.	Rapeseed/Mustard		760	810	830	860	890	940	1000		60	6.4
15.	Sunflower Seed		800	850	900	950	960	1000	1060	1155	95	9.00
16.	Soyabean	Black	475	525	570	600	620	670	705	755	50	7.1
		Yellow	525	580	650	680	700	750	795	845	50	6.3
17.	Safflower		720	760	780	800	830	910	990		80	8.8
18.	Toria		725	780	800	825	855	905	965		60	6.6
19.	Tobacco (VFC) (Rs. per kg.)	Black Soil (F2 Grade)	16.00	18.00	18.50	19.00	19.00	20.50	22.50		2	9.8
		Light Soil (L2 Grade)	17.50	20.00	21.00	21.50	22.00	23.50	25.50		2	8.5
20.	Copra (Calender Year)	Milling	N.A.	2150	2350	2500	2500	2700	2900	3100	200	6.9
		ball	N.A.	2350	2575	2725	2725	2925	3125	3325	200	6.4

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
21. Sesamum						850	870	950	1060	1205	145	13.7
22. Nigerseed						720	420	800	850	915	65	7.6

\$ Including a Central Bonus of Rs. 25.00 per quintal

NA Not announced

# Classified into two categories for the MSP purposes instead of existing three varieties from Kharif season of 1997-98.

\* Including a Central bonus of Rs. 60.00 per quintal payable upto 30th June, 1997.

× Including a Central bonus of Rs. 55.00 per quintal payable from 01.04.98 to 30.06.98

++ For J-34 variety also

[English]

#### Handri-Neeva Irrigation Project

2414. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Members of Parliament from Andhra Pradesh have urged the Union Government to take up Handri-Neeva Irrigation Scheme in Andhra Pradesh as a Central project;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### Nuclear Material Lying Unused

2415. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether nuclear material worth Rs. 1366 crore have been lying unutilised for the last ten years and part of it was not properly stored;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Government propose to fix responsibility for purchase of such items ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND

PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

#### Foreign Policy on Afghanistan

2416. SHRI BRAHMANAND MANDAL :  
SHRI R.L. BHATIA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the details regarding loss suffered by India due to the Pak abetted Taliban movement in Afghanistan;

(b) the main features of the Government's Afghan policy;

(c) whether the Government have been able to make any dent in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details of salient features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) to (d) India's relationship of friendship and cooperation with Afghanistan is rooted in history and cultural affinities. The continuing civil conflict, which is being encouraged from across Afghanistan's southern border is therefore, all the more regrettable. Through this entire period, India's policy has remained principled and consistent. We are committed to the unity, independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Afghanistan. We desire the return of peace, security and stability, essential equally for the welfare of Afghan people, and for peace and stability in our region. It is essential, therefore, that the Taliban and their foreign mentor abandon the pursuit of military means for a resolution of the Afghan conflict. Also that a broad based

Government be set up with the full participation of all the people of Afghanistan.

India recognises the Government of President Rabbani, which will continue to have our full support. India will also continue to extend humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan.

[English]

#### Beetle Destroying Coconut Trees

2417. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a new type of beetle "aerophis Garironis" is destroying coconut trees in large scale in the State of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, the preventive steps are being taken by the Union Government to help the coconut farmers in these States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) :

(a) Coconut mite, *Aceria (Eriophyes) querreronis* is causing damage to the coconut trees in the States of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka.

(b) Preventive measures taken by the Union Government to help the coconut farmers in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka include :-

(i) Secretary, Agriculture and Cooperation took a meeting with the Scientists from Agricultural Universities, Officers of Coconut Development Board (CDB) and Directors of Agriculture/Horticulture, Tamil Nadu at Kochi on 2.9.99 to formulate the management strategy. A Steering Committee under the chairmanship of the Horticulture Commissioner was formed with Scientists from State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka; Central Plantation Crops Research Institute, Kasargod; Project Directorate of Biological Control and All India Coordinated Research Project on Agricultural Acarology to review and coordinate the efforts in developing suitable control measures and management of the problem.

(ii) Financial assistance of Rs. 79.42 lakh has been provided by the Coconut Development Board to Tamil Nadu under the scheme "Integrated Farming in Coconut Holdings for the Productivity

Improvement" during 1999-2000 which includes a component on Plant Protection.

(iii) Sanction of Rs. 3.00 lakh for a research Project to Project Directorate of Biological Control for development of effective biocontrol measures.

(iv) Extension efforts are being made by Coconut Development Board by bringing out booklets/brochures on mite and extending assistance for training programmes. Awareness creation campaigns for the management of coconut mite are continuing.

#### Demand and Supply of Fertilizers

2418. CH. TEJVEER SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity and varieties of fertilizers demanded by each State Government during 1997 and 1998 and the current year;

(b) the quantity and varieties of fertilizers supplied during the above period, State-wise; and

(c) the stock of various fertilizers and their market price at present ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) :

(a) and (b) Urea is the only fertiliser which is under statutory price control and for which both assessment of demand and allocations are made. A statement-I indicating the State-wise assessed demand from Kharif 1997 to Rabi 1999-2000 season vis-a-vis availability/supply of urea is enclosed.

(c) The State-wise stocks of major fertilisers namely Urea, Di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP) and Muriate of Potash (MOP) as on 31.10.99 is given in enclosed Statement-II.

The price of Urea at present is Rs. 4000 per MT. The maximum retail prices for decontrolled fertilisers announced by the Union Government for 1999-2000 are as under :-

	Rupees per MT
DAP	8300
MOP	3700
NPK Complexes (various grades).	6200 to 8000

**Statement-I**  
Season-wise Assessed Requirement/Demand and Availability/Supply of Urea during the year 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000

Sl No.	State/U.T.	Kharif 97		Rabi 97-98		Kharif 98		Rabi 98-99		Kharif 99		Rabi 1999-2000	
		Assessed Requirement	Availability/Supply										
1.	Andhra Pradesh	985.00	1110.62	1020.00	1165.60	960.00	1080.73	1050.00	1212.03	1000.00	1148.64	1101.50	341.87
2.	Karnataka	550.00	604.61	356.00	411.62	590.00	595.91	360.00	438.15	600.00	651.39	396.00	136.96
3.	Kerala	80.00	81.02	63.36	64.57	72.00	77.73	65.00	66.71	70.00	68.44	60.00	19.91
4.	Tamil Nadu	340.00	406.69	550.00	606.68	375.00	400.72	525.00	581.11	360.00	408.91	510.00	144.26
5.	Gujarat	605.00	629.20	615.00	659.43	600.00	611.61	700.00	721.14	600.00	653.44	690.00	126.58
6.	Madhya Pradesh	695.00	787.17	750.00	946.64	700.00	780.95	780.00	828.74	675.00	730.26	700.00	336.54
7.	Maharashtra	1100.00	1209.12	635.00	789.91	1125.00	1207.03	650.00	748.55	1100.00	1285.92	730.00	253.98
8.	Rajasthan	460.00	527.71	750.00	832.60	485.00	552.43	800.00	785.52	450.00	537.70	650.00	178.96
9.	Goa	4.50	2.46	2.20	1.48	4.50	2.29	2.00	2.00	4.20	2.17	2.20	0.04
10.	Haryana	580.00	655.42	750.00	835.42	600.00	671.44	760.00	916.24	580.00	662.06	800.00	294.22
11.	Punjab	980.00	1151.66	1030.00	1169.61	1000.00	1164.09	1050.00	1185.48	1055.88	1083.54	1125.00	339.79
12.	Uttar Pradesh	2120.80	2487.68	2700.00	3154.14	2225.00	2769.20	2730.00	3037.04	2400.00	2756.08	2700.00	788.96
13.	Himachal Pradesh	30.00	22.05	22.00	22.87	30.00	33.89	22.00	20.93	30.00	33.96	22.00	2.98
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	62.25	55.57	43.00	46.49	75.00	61.82	45.00	53.36	60.00	52.89	44.96	11.82
15.	Delhi	11.55	10.11	30.00	25.57	13.50	13.22	30.00	27.99	13.00	15.27	20.00	4.76
16.	Bihar	725.00	878.82	700.00	833.75	700.00	924.27	630.00	787.41	725.00	861.65	650.00	286.40
17.	Orissa	300.00	310.85	158.00	181.82	325.00	372.00	145.00	192.76	300.00	375.85	120.00	81.27
18.	West Bengal	430.00	521.59	625.00	740.10	460.00	534.25	600.00	669.70	460.00	533.61	675.00	118.53
19.	Assam	40.00	43.04	48.00	50.49	50.00	61.85	50.00	69.54	85.00	90.82	65.00	33.87
20.	Tripura	13.00	10.64	12.00	11.54	12.00	9.30	13.00	8.13	10.00	8.06	13.00	2.29
21.	Manipur	23.35	20.81	5.50	9.04	23.00	24.72	7.50	10.63	24.00	26.52	7.50	0.72
22.	Maghalaya	3.00	2.41	3.00	3.72	3.00	2.73	3.00	3.42	3.00	3.56	2.75	0.18
23.	Nagaland	0.50	0.55	0.50	0.62	0.50	0.62	0.55	1.10	0.50	1.40	0.50	0.00
24.	Anunachal Pradesh	0.27	0.19	0.35	0.47	0.35	0.46	0.50	0.96	0.50	1.42	0.35	0.00
25.	Mizoram	0.55	0.60	0.50	0.88	0.40	0.73	0.50	1.28	0.50	1.45	0.50	0.00
26.	Sikkim	0.90	0.98	0.45	0.50	0.50	0.55	0.55	0.93	0.65	1.18	0.55	0.00
27.	Others	48.07	44.38	50.06	41.46	49.94	33.38	54.47	31.28	12.92	13.80	12.06	2.79
All India		10187.94	11575.85	10917.92	12687.02	10479.69	11987.92	11074.07	12402.05	10619.27	12009.99	11098.87	3507.68

(In '000 tonnes)

(upto 31.10.99)

**Statement-II***[Translation]*

*State-wise stocks of major fertilisers namely Urea, DAP and MOP as on 31.10.1999*

**Food Processing Units**

2419. SHRI RAMSHAKAL :  
SHRI RAJO SINGH :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up food processing units in collaboration with Japan and other countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) The Department of Food Processing Industries does not set up food processing units directly. However, the Government is encouraging and permitting setting up of industries with foreign collaboration, including with the companies of Japan. From August 1991 to September 1999, 13 proposals envisaging foreign investment of Rs. 53 crores by Japanese companies have been approved. As per information available, five projects out of these 13 approvals have been implemented.

*[English]***Delayed Projects**

2420. SHRI DINSHA PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of projects costing over rupees one hundred crore under monitoring of the Union Government, State-wise and sector-wise, separately;

(b) whether all these projects are running far behind their schedule;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to reduce the delay in completion of these projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) As on November, 1999, 198 projects costing Rs. 100 crores and above are on the monitor of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. The State-wise

		('000 MTs)		
S.No.	State	Urea	DAP	MOP
1.	Andhra Pradesh	169.63	70.49	21.43
2.	Karnataka	75.31	15.12	25.74
3.	Kerala	9.01	2.21	10.42
4.	Tamil Nadu	70.80	21.21	22.19
5.	A and N Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Pondicherry	2.10	0.48	0.55
7.	Gujarat	90.62	34.55	15.38
8.	Madhya Pradesh	296.28	95.58	9.99
9.	Maharashtra	220.97	72.21	18.04
10.	Rajasthan	132.63	57.45	0.74
11.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Goa	0.01	0.00	0.02
13.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00
14.	Haryana	208.30	68.10	0.50
15.	Himachal Pradesh	2.79	0.44	0.00
16.	Jammu and Kashmir	11.59	0.58	0.01
17.	Punjab	201.14	78.40	3.53
18.	Uttar Pradesh	631.60	230.71	30.28
19.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00
20.	Delhi	4.54	0.00	0.00
21.	Bihar	230.14	63.88	12.25
22.	Orissa	76.18	9.98	10.55
23.	West Bengal	101.78	58.80	45.75
24.	Assam	30.95	7.37	6.02
25.	Manipur	0.33	0.00	0.00
26.	Meghalaya	0.18	0.00	0.00
27.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00
28.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00
29.	Tripura	1.80	0.00	0.00
30.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00
31.	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		2568.68	887.56	233.39

and sector-wise details of the number of projects are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) Of these 198 projects, 101 projects have reported time overrun with respect to their latest approved schedule.

(c) The reasons for delay vary from project to project. In general, the reasons include delay in land acquisition, late start of work on projects, delay in award

of work contracts, delay in supply of equipment, poor project management and fund constraints.

(d) The steps taken to reduce delays include :

(i) Monthly as well as quarterly monitoring by the Government. This enables the monitoring agencies to identify constraints and help the management in taking remedial measures.

State-

Sector-wise/State-wise number of delayed projects costing

Sl. No.	State Name	A.P.	Ar. Pr.	Assam	Bihar	Gujarat	Haryana	H.P.	J&K	Kar.	Kerala	M.P.
1.	Atomic Energy	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
2.	Coal	2	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
3.	Finance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4.	Mines	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
5.	Steel	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
6.	Petrochemicals	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
7.	Petroleum	2	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	-
8.	Power	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-
9.	Railways	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
10.	Surface Transport	1	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	1
11.	Telecommunication	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12.	Others	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total		7	1	3	6	4	1	1	2	1	2	6

#### LEGENDS

A.P.	: Andhra Pradesh	H.P.	: Himachal Pradesh	Kel.	: Kerala
Ar. Pr.	: Arunachal Pradesh	J&K	: Jammu & Kashmir	M.P.	: Madhya Pradesh
Hry	: Haryana	Kar	: Karnataka		

#### Zero Percentage Corruption Scheme

2421.SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :  
SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any action plan has been formulated for the success of "Zero-percentage Corruption Scheme"; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) In this address to the nation on 16.10.1999 the Prime Minister had declared that principle of zero tolerance will be applied by the Government while dealing with corruption.



4. The Government has adopted a three pronged approach of Preventive, Surveillance and Deterrent/Punitive action to tackle the menace of corruption.
5. Recognising that an important aspect of Preventive Vigilance is to ensure transparency in public administration, measures of administrative reforms such as introduction of Citizens Charters and setting up of Facilitation Centres have been initiated. The review and simplification of laws, rules and procedures has also been taken up.
6. The Government set up a working Group on 'Right to Information and Transparency' in January, 1997. The recommendation made by the Group for legislation of the 'Freedom of Information Bill' is at an advanced stage of consideration.
7. Lokpal Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 3.8.98 but lapsed on the dissolution of the 12th Lok Sabha on 26.4.1999. Steps are being taken to introduce the Bill again.

#### Five Point Programme

2422.SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN : Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have recently announced Five Point Programme to boost agro based industries for ensuring farmers property;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether a task force has been constituted on food and agro industries management policy ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The salient features of the five point programme announced by the Prime Minister included the following :-

- (1) Evolving Small Farmers Agri-Business Consortium (SFAC) into a high level coordination body at the Centre and in the States to promote investments in agri business.

- (2) Strengthening of Forward Markets Commission to promote forward deals in more commodities.
  - (3) Promoting joint ventures, with a comprehensive plan for export of farm produce.
  - (4) Unveiling a National Rural Cooperative Policy to simplify rules and regulations governing farm cooperatives and enactment of the Multi State Cooperative Act.
  - (5) Promotion of Information Technology in agriculture and agro business.
- (c) No, Sir.

[Translation]

#### Atrocities on Indians in Pakistan and Gulf Countries

2423.YOGI ADITYA NATH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government are aware about the incidents of atrocities on Indians, Indian working women living in Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and other Gulf countries.
- (b) if so, whether unrestrained human rights violation have been taking place in these countries.
- (c) if so, whether the Government have raised this issue during the talks with those countries and at the international fora;
- (d) if so, the details of those countries and the outcome thereof;
- (e) whether the Union Government have also received any complaints/suggestions from the State Governments in this regard;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the measures proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA) : (a) to (g) There are over three million Indians living in the Gulf countries (Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, UAE, and Oman). There are no reports of any Indian workers in Pakistan. By and large, living and working conditions of Indian workers in the Gulf are satisfactory. Considering that Indians in the Gulf constitute the largest expatriate community, the number of complaints, proportionately, is small.

2. While some workers have legitimate grievances relating to their working or living conditions, we have not received any reports of "atrocities" on our nationals in the Gulf countries. Generally, Indians workers in the Gulf face problems relating to non-payment of agreed wages delays in payments, inadequate accommodation or food arrangements and with regard to domestic workers, harassment or ill-treatment by the sponsor or his family members.

3. Most of these problems can be resolved locally with the cooperation of the employers concerned, failing which, with the help of the authorities in the Gulf countries. For this purpose, Indian Missions in the Gulf are under standing instructions to extend all possible assistance to Indian workers to solve their problems. If required, the Indian Mission also approaches the local authorities concerned for their intervention. If the dispute cannot be resolved amicably, the Indian Mission assists the worker to pursue it at the local Court.

4. Government is fully sensitive to the welfare of our workers and utilises every appropriate occasion to convey our concerns both during high level visits and meetings of the Joint Commissions. State Governments, particularly the Government of Kerala, do send suggestions regarding the welfare of the workers from to time, which are given every consideration.

5. Measures proposed to be taken by the Government to enhance the welfare of our workers include :—

- (i) setting up of a Central Manpower Export Council; and
- (ii) the setting up of an Indian Overseas Workers' Welfare Fund by the Ministry of Labour.

[English]

#### **Safety of Indians and Indian Missions in Pakistan**

2424. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

the steps taken by the Government to ensure safety of Indians and Indian missions functioning in Pakistan after the rockets were fired at the US Embassy, the American Cultural Centre and Office of the United Nations in Islamabad in Pakistan on the November 12, 1999 ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : Under the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, 1961, security and safety of Diplomatic Missions and their personnel is the responsibility of the host Government. Following the recent rocket attacks in Islamabad we have once again brought to the notice

of the Pakistan authorities their responsibilities and obligations in this regard.

On its part, Government have always taken all necessary steps to ensure the safety and security of our Mission in Islamabad and all its personnel.

#### **Bergi Dam Project**

2425. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government of Madhya Pradesh has issued any instruction for keeping water level upto 418 meter in the month of December in Bergi Dam at Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether hydel power generation and irrigation system get affected due to excessive release of water from Bergi Dam during May-June every year;

(d) if so, whether any instruction has been issued by the Union Government for not to violate guidelines laid down in the operation manual; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (e) Irrigation being a State subject, Ministry of Water Resources is not aware of any such matter.

#### **Withdrawal of Diplomatic Personnel between India and Pakistan**

2426. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of occasions since 1980 when frequent withdrawal of diplomatic personnel between India and Pakistan have taken place with the reasons therefor; and

(b) the status of re-opening of diplomatic missions in Karachi ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) Since 1980, Government asked Pakistan to withdraw 48 officials of its Mission in India, for indulging in activities incompatible with their official status. During the same period, Pakistan asked for the withdrawn of 42 officials of Indian Mission in Pakistan on false and baseless allegations.

(b) The Consulate General of India, Karachi remains closed since '95 in response to the demand of the Government of Pakistan.

**Cyclone Warning Radar**

2427.DR. ASHOK PATEL :  
COL. (RETD.) DR. DHANI RAM SHANDIL :  
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and France have agreed to develop a satellite for providing prior information in regard to cyclone;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Indian Space Research Organisation had developed an indigenous cyclone warning radar for setting in cyclone affected States;

(d) if so, the facts thereof, State-wise;

(e) the estimated cost likely to be incurred on the said radar; and

(f) the time by which the radar is likely to be made operational ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. India and France have only expressed their intention to study the feasibility of jointly developing a scientific satellite for atmospheric research that would provide some information on climate and weather related phenomena.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. A Doppler Weather Radar is being developed by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) as the nodal agency, in collaboration with academic and research laboratories and industries in India, for the India Meteorological Department (IMD) for cyclone detection and severe weather alerts. Once the development is complete, deployment plan for the radar will be decided by IMD.

(e) The estimated cost of the radar system is Rs. 9.00 Crores.

(f) System integration and tests are planned to be completed by the first quarter of 2000. Thereafter operationalisation of the radar will also be taken up in a phased manner.

**Warning to Philippines Tourists**

2428.SHRI MOINUL HASSAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Foreign Affairs of the Government of Philippines has advised the tourists from that country to take precautionary steps while touring India in view of the incidents of religious violence in India; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A protest has been formally lodged with the Government of the Philippines.

**Issue of Passport to Pakistani Agents**

2429.SHRI AMIR ALAM : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that Indian passports are being issued to Pakistani agents;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check such issue of passports to Pakistani agents ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) However, occasionally cases come to the notice of Passport Offices where suspected Pakistani nationals attempt to obtain Indian passports on the basis of forged documents.

(c) All passports are being issued only after due police verification which inter alia establishes the Indian nationality of the applicant. Only short validity passports of an urgent nature can be issued on post police verification basis and on the strength of a verification certificate issued by an officer not below the rank of a Deputy Secretary to the Government of India.

**Phased Programme by E.S.I.**

2430.SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADODA MANDLIK : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the E.S.I. Corporation has prepared a phased programme for the extension of E.S.I. scheme to new areas of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

[Translation]

(c) the efforts made so far by the Union Government to provide assistance to the State for the purpose; and

(d) the details of hospitals constructed by E.S.I. during each of the last three years, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the phased programme for the current year and next financial year the ESI Corporation has planned to implement the ESI Scheme in 21 new areas of Maharashtra.

(c) As per the existing policy the ESI Corporation has decided to meet full cost of the medical care for first three years in respect of implementation of the scheme in new areas.

(d) The information about new ESI Hospitals constructed/commissioned is as given below :-

Name of State	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
Andhra Pradesh	-	-	1
Gujarat	1	-	1
Maharashtra	1	-	3
Orissa	-	1	-
Haryana	-	1	-
Tamil Nadu	-	-	1

### Pending Cases in Labour Courts

2431. SHRI MANSINH PATEL :

SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up more labour courts, industrial tribunals and Lok Adalats organised for speedy disposal of labour disputes;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last two years; and

(c) the number of cases pending as on February, 1997 and also the number of fresh cases added during the last two years indicating the number of cases disposed of through these courts during each of the last two years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) and (b) The Government in its efforts to have labour courts and industrial tribunals for speedy disposal of labour disputes have till date set up 17 Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts including 5 in the last 2 years. No Lok Adalats have been set-up by the Central Government for disposal of labour cases.

(c) A statement showing the cases received and disposed of through Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts during the years 1997, 1998 and 1999 is enclosed.

### Statement

*The number of cases received, disposed of and pending in the Central Govt. Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts during the year 1997, 1998 and 1999*

Year	B/F as on 1st January 1997	Received during the year 1997	Disposed of during the year 1997	Pending as on 31.12.97
1997	6310	1460	977	6793
Year	B/F as on 1st January 1998	Received during the year 1998	Disposed of during the year 1998	Pending as on 31.12.98
1998	6793	1534	1025	7302
Year	B/F as on 1st January 1999	Received during the year 1999 (upto 31.10.99)	Disposed of during the year 1999 (upto 31.10.99)	Pending as on 31.10.99
1999	7302	1557	785	8074

**Wastage of Fruits and Vegetables**

2432. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN :  
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have conducted any assessment of annual wastage of fruits and vegetables due to the lack of adequate food processing facilities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any State-wise study with regard to wastage of fruits and vegetables has been conducted; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) :

(a) to (d) Although, no scientific study State-wise for assessment of annual wastage of fruits and vegetables due to the lack of adequate food processing facilities has been conducted, it is estimated that losses vary between 8 to 37 per cent in various crops in different stages after harvest as per the Report of the Sub-Working Group on Post Harvest Management, Marketing and Exports for the Ninth Plan.

**Self Employment through KVIC**

2433. SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA : Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of schemes for providing self-employment to the handicapped and the people belonging to Schedule Castes and the persons living below poverty line run by KVIC;

(b) if so, the number of persons benefited by this scheme, State-wise and category-wise;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any new scheme in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) The Khadi and Village

Industries Commission (KVIC) have not formulated any scheme for the self-employment exclusively for the Scheduled Castes/Handicapped and persons living below poverty line. However, the KVIC is providing liberalized financial assistance to persons belonging to these categories. Under the Margin Money Scheme for financing viable village industry projects, in the case of SC and Handicapped, etc. the Margin Money grant is provided at the rate of 30% of the project cost upto a project cost of Rs. 10.00 lakhs for these beneficiaries, against 25% provided to general category.

(b) State-wise, category-wise employment under the KVIC is given in enclosed Statement.

(c) and (d) At present, there is no proposal to launch any new scheme in this regard by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission. However, the Ministry of Rural Development was implementing the self-employment programme of Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) for rural families below poverty line including Handicapped and Scheduled Castes. With effect from 1.04.99, IRDP has been restructured as a comprehensive self-employment programme - the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY).

**Statement-I****Participation of Weaker Sections under KVI Programme**

Sr. No.	State and Union Territories	(Emp. persons in Lakh) Employment		
		SC	ST	Women
1	2	3	4	5
<b>States</b>				
1.	Andhar Pradesh	0.89	0.24	1.50
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	.	.	.
3.	Assam	0.31	0.08	0.52
4.	Bihar	0.94	0.25	1.59
5.	Goa	0.01	.	0.02
6.	Gujarat	0.25	0.07	0.42
7.	Haryana	0.23	0.06	0.38
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.20	0.05	0.35
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.31	0.08	0.52
10.	Karnataka	0.60	0.16	1.01
11.	Kerala	0.52	0.14	0.87
12.	Madhya Pradesh	0.32	0.09	0.54

1	2	3	4	5
13. Maharashtra		1.16	0.31	1.95
14. Manipur		0.10	0.03	0.18
15. Meghalaya		0.03	0.02	0.05
16. Mizoram		0.04	0.01	0.06
17. Nagaland		0.05	0.01	0.08
18. Orissa		0.49	0.13	0.83
19. Punjab		0.43	0.12	0.72
20. Rajasthan		1.07	0.29	1.81
21. Sikkim		0.02	*	0.03
22. Tamil Nadu		2.77	0.75	4.67
23. Tripura		0.06	0.03	0.10
24. Uttar Pradesh		2.60	0.70	4.40
25. West Bengal		1.00	0.27	1.70
<b>U.Ts.</b>				
26. Andaman and Nicobar		*	*	*
27. Chandigarh		0.01	*	0.01
28. Dadra and Nagar Haveli		*	*	*
29. Daman and Diu		*	*	*
30. Delhi		0.04	0.01	0.08
31. Lakshadweep		*	*	*
32. Pondicherry		0.01	*	0.02
<b>Total</b>		<b>14.46</b>	<b>3.90</b>	<b>24.41</b>

\*Less than 500.

[English]

#### MPLADS

2434. SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK :  
SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- whether the MPLADS has been modified recently;
- if so, the details thereof; and
- the steps being taken by the Government for effective implementation of the MPLADS, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) The Government issued updated guidelines in September, 1999. These were circulated to all MPs on 11th October, 1999. The following changes have been incorporated in these guidelines :-

- Enhancement of entitlement of Rs. 1 crore to Rs. 2 crores per MP per year.
- Equal distribution of balance of predecessor Rajya Sabha MPs amongst the successor MPs in a particular State.
- Use of interest accrued on funds deposited in nationalised banks for the works approved under the guidelines.
- Construction of school buildings for unaided but recognised educational institutions.
- Construction of level crossing at unmanned Railway Crossing.

(c) Recently, the Government has taken a number of steps to expedite the pace of progress under the Scheme. Some of these are advice to District Collectors to process and sanction works recommended by MPs to the extent of their yearly entitlement of funds, request to MPs to give recommendations well in advance in a phased manner and not to cancel works which have already been sanctioned, and request to all the State Governments to expedite the works under the scheme and monitor the same.

[Translation]

#### Central Scheme for Production of Vegetables

2435. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to formulate any Central Scheme to identify the production of potatoes, Amla, Ghara, etc. for setting up food processing industries;

(b) if so, the time by when the scheme is likely to be implemented;

(c) whether the Government has conducted any survey to ascertain as to what percentage of local production of potatoes, vegetables and fruits are being utilised by food processing industries; and

(d) if so, the outcome of this survey ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) The Government of India is implementing schemes on Fruits and Vegetables which include Amla, potatoes etc. These schemes are being implemented from 8th plan period.

(c) and (d) No specific survey has been conducted but based upon data, the processing of fruits and vegetables prior to 1988 was less than 0.5% of total production. In 1997 this has increased to approximately 1.8% of production.

[English]

#### Loan under PMRY

2436. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE : Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications received by the Government for the loan under Prime Minister Rojgar

Yojana from the State of Andhra Pradesh particularly from Vijayawada during the last three years;

(b) the number of applications cleared out of them;

(c) the reasons for pending applications; and

(d) the time by which the pending applications likely to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) and (b) A Statement is enclosed.

(c) and (d) No. of applications sponsored to banks are restricted to only 125% of the allocated target. The pending applications of the preceding year are carried forward to the following :

#### Statement

*Number of applications received and cleared (sponsored to banks) in Andhra Pradesh and in Vijayawada (Krishna district) during 1996-97; 1997-98 and 1998-99 under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana*

(Figures in numbers)

Sl. No.	Items	1996-97		1997-98		1998-99	
		Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada (Krishna - district)	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada (Krishna district)	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada (Krishna district)
1.	Target	31900	2500	34200	2600	34200	2600
2.	Application Received	145125	13219	97523	6343	108096	8214
3.	Applications cleared (Sponsored by the District Industries Centres Task Force Committees to banks	52958	5354	54741	4576	60280	5869

#### Insult of Hindu God in Australia

2437. SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Hindu Gods insulted in Australia" appearing in "Asian Age" dated November 18, 1999;

(b) if so, whether the matter has been taken up with the Australian Government;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As a result of the efforts of the Indian High Commission, a written apology has been tendered by the organisers to the Hindu Council of Australia and all offending posters have been removed.

(d) Does not arise.

#### CAT's in States

2438. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Administrative Tribunal is tackling the State officers disputes besides IAS officers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether all the States have their own administrative tribunals;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) and (b) As per section 14 of the Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985, the service matters pertaining to officers belonging to All India Services, irrespective of the fact whether they are serving with the Central Government or State Government, fall within the jurisdiction of the Central Administrative Tribunal. Separate details in respect of service matters pertaining to members of All India Services including those serving with States dealt with by the Central Administrative Tribunal, are not maintained.

(c) and (d) So far Administrative Tribunals for the States under the Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985, have been set up in eight States. These States are Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal. Two more States viz. States of Gujarat and Punjab have requested for setting up of the Administrative Tribunals in the respective States.

(e) Under Section 4(2) of the Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985, an Administrative Tribunal for a State is set up only on receipt of a request in this behalf from the concerned State Government.

#### Industrial Committees

2439. SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have constituted Industrial Committees under his Ministry;

(b) if so, the names of industries for which the Committees were constituted;

(c) the dates of the last meeting of these six Committees were held; and

(d) the reasons for not holding the meetings on a regular basis ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The industrial committees constituted under the Ministry of Labour and the dates of their last meeting are place below :

Name of the Committee	Date of last Meeting
1. Industrial Tripartite Committee on Sugar	18.01.99
2. Industrial Tripartite Committee on Cotton Textile	26.07.99
3. Industrial Tripartite Committee on Jute Industry	18.07.95
4. Industrial Tripartite Committee on Engineering Industry	30.11.94
5. Industrial Tripartite Committee on Chemical Industry	04.02.94
6. Industrial Tripartite Committee on Electricity Generation and Distribution	13.11.92
7. Industrial Tripartite Committee on Road Transport	13.03.93

(d) In the case of Committees where meetings have not been held for more than one year, no specific agenda was received from Employer/Employee organisations for discussion in a tripartite forum.

[Translation]

#### Consultative Committees

2440. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the mechanism available for regular assessment of the functions performed by the Union Government Offices located in various States;

(b) whether the Union Government proposed to constitute State-level Consultative Committees comprising of public representatives for this purpose; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) All the Union Government offices located in various States are a part of the respective Central Ministries/Departments. It is, therefore, the responsibility of the respective Ministries/Departments to monitor the performance of various offices under their administrative control located in different parts of the country. The Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances also conducts studies on procedures/methods being followed by different Ministries/Departments and their offices from time to time on a sample basis.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Flood Control

2441. SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a study team of Japan Government, at the invitation of the Government of India, had conducted any survey for construction of a multi-purpose dam across the river Koshi in Nepal to control devastating flood every year in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the outcome of the survey report, if any ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

#### Suspension of IAS/IPS Officers

2442. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) Whether some officers of the Indian Administrative Service, Indian Police Service and District Magistrates were suspended/terminated during the last three years;

(b) the details thereof along with reasons therefor, State-wise; and

(c) the number of officers belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes out of them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. 84 IAS/IPS officers were suspended during last three years. A statement containing details of suspension/termination of IAS/IPS officers is laid on the table of the House.

(c) According to information available 26 officers of the above belong to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe.

#### Statement

##### *IAS/IPS Officers suspended during last three years*

Cadre	IAS	IPS	Reason
1	2	3	4
Agmut	2	0	Pending Criminal case
Andhra Pradesh	1	1	Pending disciplinary proceedings/dereliction of duties
Assam - Meghalaya	0	4	Departmental proceedings
Bihar	5	2	Pending criminal cases/dereliction of duties

1	2	3	4
Gujarat	1	3	Pending disciplinary proceedings/corruption charges/dereliction of duties
Haryana	1	3	Pending disciplinary proceedings/investigation into criminal cases/Observation of court/corruption case/dereliction of duties
Himachal Pradesh	1	2	Pending disciplinary proceedings/dereliction of duties
Jammu and Kashmir	2	1	Pending criminal cases/Irregularity in recruitment
Karnataka	1	0	Pending disciplinary proceedings.
Kerala	6	4	Pending disciplinary proceedings/criminal cases/corruption charges/dereliction of duties
Madhya Pradesh	4	4	Pending disciplinary proceedings/corruption charges/dereliction of duties
Maharashtra	3	1	Pending disciplinary proceedings/criminal cases
Manipur – Tripura	0	0	
Nagaland	0	0	
Orissa	3	2	Pending disciplinary proceedings/criminal case/dereliction of duties
Punjab	0	2	Alleged involvement in murder case/dereliction of duties
Rajasthan	1	2	Pending Criminal case/alleged rape case/pending judicial inquiry
Sikkim	1	0	Pending disciplinary proceedings/court case
Tamil Nadu	0	2	Corruption charges
Uttar Pradesh	11	8	Pending disciplinary proceedings/criminal cases/statement against Government/dereliction of duty/death in police custody/alleged involvement in murder
West Bengal	0	0	
<b>Total</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>41</b>	

*Details of IAS officers Terminated as a measure of penalty*

*Details of IPS officers Terminated as a measure of penalty*

**1997**

S.S. Jamwal (MH : 68) Compulsory retirement on conclusion of disciplinary proceedings

**1998**

Vijendra Kumar (HP : 87) Compulsory retirement on conclusion of disciplinary proceedings

**1999**

Nil

**1997**

Shri Hem Chand (WB : 71) On corruption charges

**1998**

Shri K.Narayan, (KN : 76) Conviction in murder case

**Privatisation of V.S.P.**

**2443.SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :**

(a) whether the Government propose to privatise the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant;

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

(c) the manner in which the interests of the employees are likely to be protected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) to (c) The Disinvestment Commission has recommended writing-off of the entire accumulated losses of the Company against its 'Share Money Pending Allotment' and 'Preference Share Capital' and part of Equity Capital. Simultaneously the Government should initiate the process of disinvestment of not less than 51% of its remaining equity in RINL to a strategic buyer.

No final decision has yet been taken on these recommendations.

#### Unauthorised Recruitment

2444. SHRI VERKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that a large number of job seekers are still being cheated by sponsors abroad and unscrupulous local agents;

(b) if so, the measures taken by the Government to check on unauthorised recruitment and recruitment by deceitful sponsors;

(c) whether the Government have any plan to reintroduce the system of attestation of work permit by embassy/consulate for the purpose of emigration clearance in the case of workers and housemaids; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (d) Sporadic complaints against unscrupulous agents and sponsors abroad are brought to the notice of the Government either by Indian Missions or the affected workers. The steps taken to curb such activities, inter alia, include the following :

- (i) Central Government have written to all the State Governments/Union Territories to keep a watch on unregistered agencies and to register cases against them.
- (ii) Immediate action is taken to refer the cases involving cheating by unauthorised agencies to the concerned police authorities for appropriate legal action.
- (iii) In the case of workers recruited by the registered agents, Indian Missions/registered recruiting

agents are requested/directed to solve the problems of the workers with the help of the concerned Government/sponsors.

(iv) Registration certificates of such of the registered recruiting agents who do not comply with the directions of the Registering Authority in the matter of solving the problems of workers deployed with the foreign employers are suspended/cancelled.

(v) Foreign sponsors who violate the terms of employment contract are placed in the 'Prior Approval Category'.

All workers belonging to unskilled category including housemaids are already required to produce the employment documents, duly attested by the Indian Missions concerned. In respect of workers who belong to semi-skilled/skilled category, Recruiting Agents are required to submit affidavit, duly sworn in, to the effect that workers have been trade tested and fulfil the other terms and condition of employment before clearance for emigration is given by Protectors of Emigrant. In the event of any of the contents of the affidavit being found false/incorrect at a later stage, suitable action is taken against the registered recruiting agents.

#### Punjab Agricultural University

2445. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Punjab Agricultural University (PAU), responsible for the green revolution is in the red and all its research activities have come to standstill due to lack of funds; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to make it effective again?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) No, Sir. The research activities of the University are going on at its normal tempo. The priorities in research have been fixed as per the problems of agriculture in the State. Recent achievements on varietal improvement are a landmark.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### ESI Scheme in Maharashtra

2446. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of the industrial workers at present under the Employees State Insurance Scheme in Maharashtra and the percentage of increase in the number of employees benefitted during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of ESI hospitals and dispensaries in Maharashtra as on date and the number of such hospitals and dispensaries proposed to be opened in 1999, district-wise; and

(d) whether the Government propose to upgrade or modernise dispensaries under ESI in Maharashtra ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) and (b) As on 31.3.99, there were 15.04 lakh employees covered under the ESI Scheme in Maharashtra marking an increase of 39.9% in coverage during the last three years.

(c) A statement is enclosed.

(d) In order to improve medical care facilities under the ESI Scheme the Corporation has since formulated an Action Plan providing, inter-alia, necessary basic equipments in ESI dispensaries in all States including Maharashtra.

#### Statement

*Number of ESI hospitals and Dispensaries in the State of Maharashtra, District-wise*

Sl. No.	Name of the District	No. of	
		Hospitals	Dispensaries
1	2	3	4
1.	Bombay and Thane	8	20
2.	Pune	1	4
3.	Solapur	1	4
4.	Kolhapur	—	5
5.	Satara	—	1
6.	Nasik	1	5
7.	Sangli	—	2
8.	Jalgaon	—	4
9.	Dhule	—	2
10.	Aurangabad	1	4
11.	Nanded	—	2
12.	Nagpur	1	16

1	2	3	4
13.	Akola	—	3
14.	Wardha	—	2
15.	Amravati	—	1
16.	Chandrapur	—	1
Total		13	76

In 1999 the ESIC has sanctioned establishment of one new dispensary in Dhahanu Road in Thane district. The Corporation has also completed construction of three new hospitals i.e. on each at Bibewadi, Chinchwad and Kolhapur and requested the Government of Maharashtra for their Commissioning.

[English]

#### Corruption in Kendriya Bhandar

2447.SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the sales in the consumer division of Kendriya Bhandar has fallen down considerably during the last six months;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor, store-wise;

(c) the details of the items introduced in the consumer division during 1998 and 1999;

(d) whether there is rampant corruption in the sale and purchase of items in the Kendriya Bhandar; and

(e) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) and (b) The sales figure in the Consumer Division during the last six months (1999) has shown a marginal decline as per enclosed statement.

(c) Over 100 consumer items falling under categories like shampoos, cream, washing powder, biscuits, blades etc. have been introduced in the Kendriya Bhandar during 1998 and 1999.

(d) and (e) No serious irregularity has come to the notice of Kendriya Bhandar in the recent past. However, it has a fullfledged vigilance unit to look into such complaints. Strict physical verification of the inventory in each store is also carried out every six months.

**Statement***Kendriya Bhandar**Sale of Consumer Items at Branch Stores*

S. No.	Outlet Name/ Sales	APR to Oct 98	APR. to Oct 99
1	2	3	4
1.	Pandara Road	4077144.71	3757325.04
2.	Raisina Road	3935408.00	3385348.00
3.	CGO Complex	3618467.00	3414179.00
4.	Pusph Vihar Sec-IV	3105989.56	2993051.75
5.	I.S.V. (Head Office)	3055639.67	4350311.82
6.	C.R. Building	2760266.76	2514494.40
7.	Hari Nagar	2394095.00	2180968.00
8.	Yojana Bhawan	2276930.15	2236711.26
9.	Andrews Ganj	2235939.40	2071820.42
10.	Vasant Vihar	2225503.00	2094167.00
11.	Sarojini Nagar B (Block)	2224150.30	2302219.79
12.	Lodi Colony	2203236.50	2077455.40
13.	Peshwa Road	2181347.04	2129294.22
14.	Minto Road	2159554.37	2071875.78
15.	I.A.R.I. Pusa	2107403.16	2226272.20
16.	Mall Road	2092277.95	2030361.55
17.	Patpar Ganj	1915886.26	1993479.52
18.	R.K. Puram-IV	1798644.20	1783117.50
19.	A-Block Store	1780070.70	1619117.91
20.	Timar Pur	1779083.92	1506419.26
21.	Krishi Kunj	1680399.00	1398369.00
22.	Moti Bagh-I	1592532.25	1353330.40
23.	Kidwai L Nagar	1573909.15	1149215.00
24.	B.B. Marg	1554836.53	1596708.40
25.	Pragati Vihar	1553669.75	1565811.74

1	2	3	4
26.	Pushpa Bhawan	1517446.70	1572996.45
27.	Sarojini Nagar- H Block	1509677.35	1580653.80
28.	Srinivaspuri	1500783.77	1485053.08
29.	Pushp Vihar	148226368	1272575.71
30.	Pitam Pura	1461091.30	1243495.80
31.	Netaji Nagar	1436966.15	1323948.80
32.	N.T.P.C.	1414190.40	1403862.00
33.	Chittaranjan Park	1329695.07	1249132.25
34.	Bapa Nagar	1297775.30	1353984.80
35.	Kali Bari	1295590.90	1350437.25
36.	R.K. Puram-IX (B)	1272265.00	1190938.30
37.	Krishi Vihar	1228428.30	1211941.55
38.	ST. Stephan	1156441.95	1177726.00
39.	R.K. Puram (West)	1131216.10	968861.65
40.	R.K. Puram-IX	1115497.02	858772.76
41.	Narauji Nagar	1092551.10	1096266.96
42.	U.P.S.C.	1064216.30	977552.95
43.	I.N.A. Colony	1053035.00	1152377.00
44.	D.I. Z Area	1015116.95	1022153.88
45.	I.I.T. (Hauz Khas)	990383.00	997648.75
46.	R.K. Puram-VII	977340.89	984692.90
47.	A.S.I.	951278.55	1276928.60
48.	North West Moti Bagh	858235.75	738310.05
49.	Kasturba Nagar	846135.43	1055480.45
50.	R.K. Puram-III	844229.40	805671.55
51.	Asia House	820342.29	729976.60
52.	R.K. Puram-V	810752.45	719852.50
53.	Curzon Road	789807.10	756020.50
54.	Wazirpur Deopt	787502.15	736144.50
55.	N.C.E.R.T.	726701.27	697347.09
56.	Patel Dham	715450.00	786358.30
57.	Nanakpura	713203.48	682117.00
58.	Panchwati	706141.75	706283.65

1	2	3	4
59. Kalkaji		597203.33	741772.28
60. North Block Central Sectt.		678857.65	570161.15
61. Noida Sec.-36		674321.10	
62. Moti Blagh-II (South)		632362.55	572073.50
63. Sadiq Nagar		622450.26	695232.15
64. Jal Vihar		540980.13	485450.95
65. R.K. Puram-II		516005.53	676536.95
66. I.A.A.I.		506873.60	1008728.05
67. Prem Nagar		477207.71	497482.67
68. R.K. Puram-I		475874.39	454641.60
69. FCI Barakhamba Road		345404.25	388853.90
70. Mobile Van-II		228320.00	243250.00
71. Manaser		220773.15	170942.25
72. Mobile Van-IV		164199.00	318747.00
73. Mobile Van-III		161222.75	355856.00
74. Mobile Van-I		98167.00	270927.00
Total		10,08,76,827	98410322.00

**Letters from MPs in Regard to  
Kendriya Bhandar**

2448. SHRI C.N. SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether some of the then Members of Parliament had written to the then Chairman, Board of Directors, Kendriya Bhandar for immediate transfer of some employees;

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

(c) whether the Members of Parliament have also written large number of letters to the Chairman, Kendriya Bhandar; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken on each letter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE

MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) and (b) A former Member of Parliament desired transfer of Managers of the stationery counter, Clerks who make computerised bills to the customers and also of Helpers selling general items like pens, pencils etc.

Kendriya Bhandar adopted certain guidelines in November 1998 for rotation of operational staff subject to certain conditions. The guidelines adopted for transfer of employees will be kept in view while rotating the operational staff.

(c) and (d) Some points on functioning of the Kendriya Bhandar like quality stationery and other items, transfer of staff etc. are raised by the Members of Parliament from time to time. All such letters are replied to as expeditiously as possible

**Funds to Assam**

2449. DR. JAYANT RONGPI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of fund released to Government of Assam during last three years, year-wise;

(b) the details of schemes for which the funds has been utilised; and

(c) whether the concerned State Government has submitted utilisation certificate in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) A Statement showing releases made to the Government of Assam during the years from 1996-97 to 1998-99 is enclosed.

(b) Plan funds to the State Government are released in the form of block loans and block grants in a consolidated manner which are not tied with any particular scheme/sector/programme.

(c) Yes, the State Government has furnished the departmental expenditure details against the sectoral outlays approved for the Annual Plans.

## Statement

Funds Released to the State Government of Assam during the last three years on various Accounts

(Rs. in Crores)

	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
1. Normal Central Assistance (including ACA for BMS, SDS, loan released through REC and grants through Ministry of Water Resources)	1072.99	1124.78	1152.13
2. Add. Central Assistance for EAP	7.34	22.10	33.16
3. HADP	46.32	46.32	50.16
4. BADP	4.12	2.06	4.27
5. CRF	37.51	39.58	41.60
6. NPRDG	249.94	92.08	27.81
7. Assistance from NFCR	21.00	-	59.90
8. AIBP	-	12.40	13.95
9. Non-lapsable Pool of Central Resources	-	-	23.96
10. ACA	-	-	85.49
11. Under TFC award :			
(i) Grant releases under upgradation and special problems	30.47	33.7	50.88
(ii) Grants released to local bodies	36.89	9.22	0.00
12. Share in Central Taxes	1180.76	1480.45	1345.53
13. Departmental actual expenditure furnished by the State Govt. against approved/revised outlays	1101.62	1217.26	1295.50

## Separate SSC for Karnataka

2450. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Kannada is the official language in Karnataka and all Central Government offices in Karnataka carry on its work in Kannada;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to introduce a paper in Kannada in all competitive written examination for Group B and C;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have any proposal to set up a separate Staff Selection Commission to facilitate the Kannada knowing people;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) Though Kannada is the official language of the State Government of Karnataka, the Central Government offices in Karnataka carry on their work in accordance with the provisions of the Official Language Act.

(b) and (c) Recruitment by Staff Selection Commission is done on the basis of the provisions of the recruitment rules for the common category posts. So far there is no provision in the recruitment rules for any group 'B' and 'C' common category posts requiring the candidates to pass a paper in Kannada language. Hence, there is no proposal to introduce a paper in Kannada language.

(d) to (f) A Regional Office of Staff Selection Commission is already functioning at Bangalore since 1st March, 1990.

#### Desilting of Barrage

2451. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to desilt the Durgapur barrage (DVC) and widen its right bank canal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the desilting work on the barrage is likely to commence ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) Operation and maintenance of Durgapur Barrage is the responsibility of State Government of West Bengal. The State Government has not formulated any proposal to desilt the Durgapur Barrage.

(c) The desiltation work on the barrage depends on how soon the methodology adopted for desilting the barrage and its scope of execution is decided and funds for the desiltation work are arranged by the State Government.

#### KVIC in Andhra Pradesh

2452. SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU : Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of industrial units sponsored/ administered by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission in the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the details of works done by these industries during last three years; and

(c) the total number of industries/institutions functioning under KVIC were provided assistance by KVIC Commission ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) 284 institutions directly registered with the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), 3062 institutions and 1,39,943 individuals

registered with State Khadi and Village Industries Board are functioning in Andhra Pradesh as on 31.3.99.

(b) The details of performance during the last 3 years are as under :-

Year	Production (Rs. in lakhs)	Employment (In lakhs)
1996-97	23517.24	3.59
1997-98	25898.07	3.60
1998-99	28433.43	3.59

(c) All the 284 institutions directly registered with the KVIC in Andhra Pradesh have been provided assistance by the KVIC.

[Translation]

#### Bansagar Dam

2453. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the date on which the work on the Bansagar Inter-State irrigation project commenced and the time by which the project is likely to be completed;

(b) the expenditure incurred on the construction of dam, canals and hydro-power generation under the project, separately;

(c) whether the State Government of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh are not giving their share cost for the completion of the project; and

(d) if so, the efforts being made by the Union Government to get share cost from these States and initiative being taken for completion of the project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) The work of Bansagar project was commenced during the year 1979 and the project is likely to be completed by June, 2002.

(b) As per information available with the Union Government, the expenditure incurred on the construction of dam, canals and hydro-power generation is Rs. 604.08 crores, Rs. 174.62 crores and Rs. 710.60 crores respectively.

(c) and (d) The State Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh have given their upto date share cost towards construction of the project. However, the State Government of Bihar is yet to pay their outstanding share cost of Rs. 70.5 crores. The Bihar Government is being regularly persuaded to clear their outstanding share cost.

The Union Government is providing funds for this project for early completion under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP). Upto the current financial year, an amount of Rs. 282.56 crores has been sanctioned towards this project under AIBP.

**Satellite Survey of Flood and Drought Hit Areas**

2454. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any survey through satellite had been or is likely to be conducted of the flood and drought hit areas in the country particularly backward districts in Maharashtra during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) : (a) to (c) Under the National Agricultural Drought Assessment System (NADAMS), the National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA) is preparing from 1992 monthly district level crop and seasonal condition reports, using satellite data, for eleven agriculturally important and drought vulnerable States. The reports cover all the districts of Maharashtra. The NRSA also carry out satellite based inundation mapping and damage assessment of selected flood affected areas. During the last three years, no such assessment in case of Maharashtra was carried out, as there was no major flood in the State.

[English]

**Welfare of Bidi Workers and Construction of Houses in A.P.**

2455. SHRI T. GOVINDAN :  
SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the concessions being offered to big cigarette manufacturers and MNCs adversely affects the bidi industry and workers in the country;

(b) if so, the steps being taken to protect the employment in this sector;

(c) the details of the action being taken on the representation of the Central Trade Unions in the matter;

(d) whether the Government have received proposal from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for building houses for bidi workers in Andhra Pradesh; and

(e) if so, the decision of the Union Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (c) A statement is enclosed.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Administrative sanction for 5,081 houses, for beedi workers, under the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund, has been issued during the current financial year for Andhra Pradesh.

**Statement**

Representations have been received from a number of Central Trade Unions expressing their concerns over adverse effects of the concessions given to the cigarette manufacturers and MNCs, with regard to excise duty and foreign equity participation. However, Government has not received any report substantiating any dislocation of beedi industries and retrenchment of beedi workers on account of these concessions. Concessions so referred have been given as part of the general policy regarding goods cleared from certain specific locations in the States of Assam and Tripura. The goods cover all tobacco products including cigarettes.

As regards issue relating to concessions for Foreign Direct Investments (FDI), the guidelines framed by the Government do not stipulate any ceiling on the extent of the foreign equity participation, inter-alia, in sectors pertaining to consumer non-durables, which includes cigarettes.

[Translation]

**Minimum Support Price of Paddy and Wheat**

2456. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have fixed the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of paddy and wheat for the year 1999-2000;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which their support price are likely to be announced ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) to (d) The Government has already fixed the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of paddy (common) at Rs. 490/- per

quintal and paddy (grade-A) at Rs. 520/- per quintal, for the year 1999-2000. The MSP of wheat for the crop 1999-2000, to be marketed in 2000-01, is at present under active consideration of the Government and is likely to be announced shortly.

[English]

**Training Course for Fruits and Vegetables Preservation**

2457. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Community Food and Nutrition Extension Unit of the Government of India has organised fifty one per cent short-term training course in fruits and vegetables preservation in November 1999 at Nagpur, Maharashtra;

(b) if so, whether this training is being imparted in other parts of the country or for only in Maharashtra; and

(c) to what extent this training has proved helpful to the farmers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) The Community Food and Nutrition Extension Unit of the Food and Nutrition Board, Department of Women and Child Development, Government of India located at Nagpur has organised two training courses in Home Scale Preservation of Fruits and Vegetables during November, 1999 for 55 participants (and not 51 per cent short-term training course).

(b) Training in Home Scale Preservation of Fruits and Vegetables and Nutrition is being imparted through 33 Community Food and Nutrition Extension Units of the Food and Nutrition Board located in 20 States/Union Territories. Two training courses of two week duration are organised every month.

(c) The training is organised mainly for the housewives and adolescent girls with a view to help them to preserve fruits and vegetables when available in plenty at low cost, for use throughout the year and to promote consumption of fruits and vegetables for obtaining much needed vitamins and minerals (micronutrients). The community is also encouraged to bring their raw material to the centre and prepare preserved products with the help of technical staff.

**Sea Wall**

2458. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether some coastal State Government have sought Central assistance for the construction of sea wall;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Presently, on Central Assistance is being provided to coastal states for undertaking anti sea erosion works including sea wall due to the decisions taken in the 43rd meeting of National Development Council held in December, 1991.

However, on the basis of proposals received from nine coastal States viz. Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal seeking central assistance for undertaking anti sea erosion works, National Coastal Protection Project (NCPP) has been prepared by the Central Water Commission which has been sent to various appraising agencies. The appraising agencies had offered their observations indicating the need to revise the original proposals. Coastal States, except Kerala and West Bengal, have not submitted revised proposals after complying with the observations of appraising agencies which are a prerequisite for firming up the NCPP.

In addition, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme to assist the maritime states for coastal erosion control works on critical stretches during Ninth Five Year Plan with an proposed outlay of Rs. 10.00 crore is under formulation during the Ninth Plan. Schemes submitted by the maritime states have been examined and sent to the States for revision. None of the maritime states have sent their revised proposals.

**Slaughter of Cattle**

2459. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made any assessment of meat requirement in the country during the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps being taken to improve the quality of both meat and milk to bring them to international standards;

(d) whether promotion of slaughter of cattle including cow calves and buffalo is in violation of Constitution of India;

(e) if so, the facts thereof; and

(f) steps being taken in this regard particularly in view of the report of World Health Organisation that meat eating leads to many serious diseases, viz. cancer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Department has been implementing a scheme titled "Modernisation/Improvement of Slaughter Houses" for improving the hygienic conditions and quality of meat. The Department has promulgated Milk and Milk Product Order 1992 under the provision of Essential Commodities Act, which provides for hygienic conditions in the dairy plants handling milk and milk products.

Besides, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has laid down standards for export of raw and chilled meat as well as processed meat. APEDA has also framed standards for export of milk products which have been sent to the Government for notifications.

(d) to (f) No, Sir. Slaughter of animals is a State subject and regulated as per State Acts, which are to be enacted as per Directive Principles of State Policy.

#### Dhruva Type Reactor

2460. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to build one more Dhruva type reactor in Trombay to increase India's production capacity of plutonium;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the modifications in the design incorporated based on operating experience; and

(c) the time by which the proposed reactor is likely to be become critical?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) and (b) It is proposed to build one more reactor in the country to meet the projected future requirements of research and radioisotope production.

However, the type of the reactor and its location are yet to be finalised. Therefore, the details of the same cannot be furnished at this stage.

(c) In view of (a) and (b) above, it is too early to indicate the time by which the proposed reactor is likely to become critical.

#### Safety of working Environment

2461. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a programme to improve the working environment and protect the workers' health in organised and unorganised sectors among vulnerable groups;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any monitoring is done of the diseases and ill-health emanating from work places; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) and (b) There already exist, in the Factories Act, 1948 and rules framed thereunder, provisions for improving the working environment and protection of health of workers working in the factories. Chapter IV-A of the Act contains provisions for safety and health problems of workers employed in factories carrying out hazardous process. Similarly, Sec. 7A of the Factories Act, dealing with general duties of the occupier lays down responsibility for preparing a written statement of the policy with respect to the health and safety of the workers at work and the details of organisation and arrangements for carrying out that policy. There are also provisions which require the occupier to provide, maintain or monitor safe working environment.

The Central Government have also enacted a number of legislations such as Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966; Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970; Beedi Workers Welfare Fund Act, 1976; Inter-State Migrant Workmen Act, 1979; Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996 etc. These legislations provide inter-alia for regulation of working conditions, hours of work, minimum wages, provision of canteen facilities, creche, first aid, night shelter and provision of residential accommodation in some cases, provision of overtime/extra charge etc.

(c) and (d) Section 41-C of the Factories Act, 1948 provides for specific responsibility of occupier in respect of hazardous process, for establishment of Occupational

Health Centres with the prescribed scale of facilities and having the services of the qualified medical practioner and para medical staff. It provides for medical examination of workers employed in hazardous process prior to, during and after cessation from such work. Periodical medical examination is required to be carried out atleast one in 12 months. The record of such medical examinations are also required to be maintained, undated and to be retained for a specific period for health monitoring purposes.

The workers in the beedi industry are provided certain benefits under the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund. These benefits include entitlement for medical treatment at certain centrally located hospitals and dispensaries. The facilities include financial assistance for reservation of beds in TB hospitals, domicillary treatment of beedi workers suffering from TB, treatment of cancer, treatment of mental diseases, treatment of leprosy, treatment of heart diseases and kidney transplantation etc.

#### Signing on CTBT

2462. SHRI R.L. BHATIA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Varying voices on CTBT" appearing in the 'Pioneer' dated December 1, 1999;

(b) if so, whether he and National Security Advisor had indicated that India would sign the controversial CTBT after arriving at the "Widest possible" national consensus;

(c) if so, whether the statement sounded a positive note on India is not wishing to stand in the way of CTBT;

(d) whether the statements made (of the two policy makers) on the CTBT issue by them have raised some questions on the Government's actual position on the controversial treaty; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In an interview published in the Hindu of November 29, the External Affairs Minister said that "The priority of our meeting the country's national security concerns having been addressed, the Government believes that we now need to convey reassurance to the international community and, in this regard, desires to develop a national consensus."

The National Security Advisor in an interview published in the Financial Times of 27 November also reiterated Government's position that India would not stand

in way of CTBT and emphasised the need for building national consensus.

Both the interviews reiterated Government's stand on the CTBT in accordance with the statement made by Prime Minister in Parliament in December 1998.

(d) No, Sir,

(e) Does not arise.

#### National Water Policy

2463. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to bring certain amendments in the National Water Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which water sharing disputes between several State Governments are likely to be resolved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

Since the adoption of the National Water Policy in 1987, a number of problems/challenges have emerged in the development and management of the Water Resources Sector. Therefore, the existing National Water Policy needs to be reviewed and updated in the context of the prevailing problems/emerging challenges and also in the light of the experiences gained over ten years of its implementation. Some of the important areas/aspects, which have to be considered for their inclusion in the existing National Water Policy, include multi-sectoral perspective and participatory approach towards resources planning and management, private sector participation integration of quantity, quality and environmental aspects in Water Resources Management, mandatory operation and maintenance, funding and related policies for revenue generation and reforms related to legislations, institutions, incentives/disincentives, environments and technology. The updated draft National Water Policy is to be put up very soon to the National Water Resources Council for consideration and adoption.

(c) A draft National Policy Guidelines for Water Allocation amongst States has been finalised by the National Water Board for consideration of the National Resources Council.

#### Flood Control

2464. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of rivers flowing from Nepal to Bihar;
- (b) whether these rivers cause heavy floods in Bihar every year;
- (c) whether the Government have any negotiation with the Government of Nepal in regard to water sharing and control the flood in Bihar caused by their rivers; and
- (d) if so, the progress made since the last few years alongwith the future plan of the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) River flowing from Nepal to Bihar are the Ghaghra, Gandak, Bagmati, Lalbakeya Adhwara, Kamla and Kosi.

(b) Ghaghra, Gandak and Kosi rivers cause heavy floods in Bihar every year.

(c) and (d) A few water resources development projects, with predominant flood benefit components, like Sapta Koshi High Dam, Kamla and Bagmati projects have been under consideration of both the Government of India and Nepal for a number of years. Sapta Koshi High Dam Project has been under active discussion in the Joint Committee of Experts constituted for the purpose of preparation of Detailed Project Report since 1992. Kamla and Bagmati Project are also under discussion in the Joint Committee of Experts reconstituted as Joint Team of experts in 1996. All the three projects are under preliminary stages of discussion. The water sharing aspects for rivers flowing from Nepal to Bihar is not under negotiation between the Governments of India and Nepal.

[Translation]

#### Treasures Grabbed under British Rule

2465. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government propose to make any fresh efforts to get back the treasures looted from India and taken to Britain during the British rule; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) and (b) We are not aware of any effort at the Governmental level, in the recent past to retrieve such treasures from Britain. We are however aware of certain individual cases where descendents of former Princely States in India have made efforts to reclaim their family heirlooms.

[English]

#### Units within Municipal Limits

2466. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY : Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether industry has opposed the draft rules that certain industries will not be allowed to set up new units within Municipal limits and upto 25 Kms. outside cities with a population of over one million;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Union Government have issued any instructions in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the reason of the industry thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) Yes, Sir. Objections have been received against the draft Rules published by the Ministry of Environment and Forests issued on 21.6.99.

- (b) The apprehensions of the industries in this regard, inter alia, include :
- (i) Such prohibition will result in loss of employment opportunities.
  - (ii) Such prohibition will not allow setting up of new industrial units as listed in Annexure - I of the said notification in the existing industrial areas, and estate parks, already developed by State Government agencies.
  - (iii) The criteria of distance and population are too stringent.
  - (iv) Such a blanket ban for setting up of industries will be more severe in case of smaller states and industrially backward areas.

(c) and (d) As per the Environmental (Protection) Act Rules, the Ministry of Environment and Forest will consider the objections before enforcing the Rules.

#### Use of Fly Ash

2467. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that scientists at Choudhary Charan Singh Agriculture University, Hissar (Haryana) have found encouraging results from the use of Fly Ash of Thermal Power Plants in agricultural production;

(b) if so, whether the use of fly ash is increasing the water holding capacity in soil;

(c) if so, whether it prevents crust formation in soil which is the main problem in cotton, Bajra and mustard cultivation;

(d) if so, whether the black colour of fly ash also helps in modifying the soil temperature in favour of crops; and

(e) if so, whether the Government have formulated any plan to examine the soil and use of fly ash is put to use to acquaint farmers for proper utilisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The application of fly ash increases the water-holding capacity of light textured soils.

(c) The study revealed that application of fly ash at the rate of 5-20% reduces the strength of soil crust and thus improves germination, growth and yield of bajra, cotton and mustard crops in loam and sandy loam soils.

(d) A slight increase in soil temperature during winter season was observed during the study. However, its favourable impact has not been indicated on crops.

(e) The Govt. of India under Department of Science and Technology has constituted a Fly Ash Mission to explore its use in various fields, including agriculture.

#### **Damage of Fruits and Vegetables**

2468. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large quantity of fruits and vegetables get damaged every year due to inadequate storage and marketing facility;

(b) if so the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government for the improvement of storage and marketing facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) :

(a) and (b) Although no scientific study has been carried out to ascertain the damages of fruits and vegetables due

to inadequate storage and marketing facilities, it is estimated that losses vary between 8 to 37 per cent in various crops in different stages after harvest as per the Report of the Sub-Working Group on Post-Harvest Management, Marketing and Exports for the Ninth Plan.

(c) The National Horticulture Board (NHB) under the Ministry of Agriculture has been implementing a Scheme of Integrated Project on Management of Post Harvest Infrastructure of Horticultural Crops under which financial assistance in the form of soft loan is provided for creation of post harvest infrastructure facilities including pre-cooling units/cool store and cold storages. The National Cooperative Development Corporation under the Ministry of Agriculture also provides financial assistance for establishing cold storages in the cooperative sector. Besides, there is a Scheme for Development of Infrastructural Facilities, which is being implemented by the Department of Food Processing Industries (DFPI). One of the components of this Scheme is to provide financial assistance for establishment of cold chain facilities and cold storages for horticultural produce and other items. Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) is also giving grant-in-aid for setting up modified/controlled atmosphere cold storages for export purposes. In order to give a major thrust to the development of cold storages and storages, Government have recently approved a Scheme of Capital Investment Subsidy for Construction/Expansion/Modernisation of Cold storages and storages for Horticulture Produce for implementation during the Ninth Five Year Plan (1999-2002) to be implemented by the National Horticulture Board.

#### **Israeli Arms to China**

2469. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWASI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware about the Israeli plan to sell Air Borne Radar System to China;

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

(c) whether this sale of ABRS to China may affect the security concern particularly air safety of India to a large extent;

(d) if so, whether US has also opposed this sale of system to China by Israel;

(e) if so, whether the Government have studied its effect particularly Chinese arms and technology transfer to neighbouring countries; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) to (f) Government have seen press reports to the effect that Israel is manufacturing an airborne radar system for the Chinese Air Force. It is our information that the US had raised objections to its sale to China. Government have also seen reports relating to transfer of Chinese arms and technology to other countries.

Government closely monitor all developments relating to India's security and takes necessary measures to safeguard the security, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country.

#### Financial Assistance for Industrial Training to Women

2470.SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the financial assistance provided to Uttar Pradesh particularly in the backward areas for imparting industrial training to women during each of the last three years, till date;

(b) whether the Government have also received complaints regarding misuse of the financial assistance;

(c) if so, the details thereof and whether there is any proposal for setting up of any monitoring group in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) As per information received from State Government, the details of financial assistance provided to Uttar Pradesh for imparting industrial training to women under the Vocational Training Project during the last three years is given in enclosed statement.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

#### Statement

*Details of ITIs for Women opened/New trades introduced in existing Women ITIs with financial assistance in Uttar Pradesh under Vocational Training Project*

#### 1. Establishment of New Women ITIs

Place	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
	(Expenditure in lakh rupees)		
Kanpur, Lucknow, Meerut, Gorakhpur, Agra, Allahabad, Varanasi, Bareilly and Jhansi.	86.820	149.327	33.78

#### 2. Introduction of New Trades in Existing Women ITIs

Place	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
	(Expenditure in lakh rupees)		
Mirzapur, Rampur, Dehradun, Kashipur, Aigarh, Bijnor, Mathura and Ghaziabad.	27.943	20.431	3.72

#### Welfare of Coir Workers

2471.SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have given grants to Kerala for the welfare of coir workers during each of the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the amount of grant earmarked for the current year;

(e) whether the Government are considering to increase the amount of grant to enable successful implementation of the various welfare schemes of the State for poor coir workers; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. During the last three years Government has released the following grant for the Kerala Coir Workers Welfare Fund Board :-

1996-97	Rs. 50.00 lakh
1997-98	Nil
1998-99	Rs. 10.00 lakh

(d) An amount of Rs. 10.00 lakh has been earmarked for the current year.

(e) and (f) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

### Maternity Leave

2472. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA :  
SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to grant maternity leave to mother of adopted children;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received any representations from social organisations in this regards; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) to (d) As the main purpose of allowing maternity leave to a natural mother is to allow her requisite rest consequent upon the birth of a child and to enable her to regain normal health and the CCS (Leave) Rules, 1972 already provide for grant of leave due and admissible (including leave not due and commuted leave not exceeding 60 days without production of medical certificate) for a period upto one year or till such time the child is one year old, there is no proposal to grant maternity leave as such to female Government servants adopting children. Some representations were received earlier from certain organisations/individuals and they have been informed accordingly.

[Translation]

### Water Management

2473. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :  
SHRI AJIT SINGH :  
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :  
SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Include water in concurrent list says Mahajan" appearing in the 'Economic Times' dated November 20, 1999;

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

(c) whether the Union Government propose to bring water management under the jurisdiction of Union Government by withdrawing it from the jurisdiction of State Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir, while inaugurating the Indo French Water Week on 19th November, 1999 the Union Minister (Water Resources and Parliamentary Affairs) pointed out that since water flows from state to state, it was desirable to bring it to Concurrent List of the Constitution of India to enable Centre to take effective decision for proper water management in the country.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal at present to bring the water management under the jurisdiction of Union Government by withdrawing it from the jurisdiction of State Governments.

### Agricultural Production

2474. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the ranking of India in the world in terms of agricultural production;

(b) the percentage of funds earmarked for agricultural sector in the current Five Year Plan;

(c) the share of agriculture sector in the Gross Domestic Product for the year 1999-2000;

(d) the percentage of fund earmarked for this sector for the current year;

(e) the amount provided to each State for agricultural development work during 1999;

(f) whether the Government have formulated schemes for adoption of latest techniques followed in Western countries for the development of agricultural sector in the country;

(g) if so, the details thereof;

(h) if not, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) : (a) As per FAO Production Year Book, 1997, India's ranking

in the world in respect of major agricultural products is given below :

Product	Ranking
Wheat	Second
Rice	Second
Total Cereals	Third
Total Pulses	First
Groundnut	Second
Rapeseed and Mustard	Second
Vegetables (including Melon)	Second
Onion	Second
Fruits (excluding Melon)	Third
Sugarcane	Second
Cotton	Third
Total Milk	First

(b) As per 9th Five Year Plan document, 4.9% of Public Sector Outlay has been earmarked for Agriculture and Allied Activities in the current Five Year Plan.

(c) As per the latest estimates made by Central Statistical Organisation, the share of Agriculture Sector in Gross Domestic Product at current prices during 1997-98 was 27.5%.

(d) As per Budget Estimates for Central Plan Outlay for the year 1999-2000, percentage of funds earmarked for Agriculture and Allied Activities for the current year is 3.6% of the total Central Plan Outlay.

(e) As intimated by the Planning Commission, the State-wise allocation of funds for Agriculture Sector for 1999-2000 is given in enclosed Statement.

(f) to (i) The Government of India have formulated and are implementing several schemes which are best suited to the Indian conditions for increasing production and productivity for agricultural crops, In order to increase production and productivity of agricultural crops, the Government is implementing centrally sponsored Integrated Cereal Development Programmes in Rice/Wheat/Coarse Cereals Based Cropping System Area, Accelerated Maize Development Programme, National Pulses Development Project, Intensive Cotton Development Programme, Special Jute Development Programme and Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping System. Under these programmes/projects, incentives are provided to farmers for use of high yielding varieties of seeds, application of integrated pest management, propagation of scientific water management including micro irrigation,

improved farm implements. Besides, field demonstration on farmer's holdings including training of farmers and farm labourers are organised for effective transfer of technology. Advance technologies like use of tissue culture for the production of quality planting material, drip irrigation, green-house technology and bio-technology are also being promoted.

#### Statement

State/UT. wise Allocation for Agriculture Sector  
(Including Forestry and Wild Life)  
during Annual Plan 1999-2000

(Rs. Lakh)		
S. No.	States/UTs	Allocation for Agriculture Sector
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	18127.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	5277.00
3.	Assam	20263.00
4.	Bihar	8265.00
5.	Goa	955.00
6.	Gujarat	41490.00
7.	Haryana	11808.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	20203.00
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	18549.29
10.	Karnataka	30334.86
11.	Kerala	25850.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	30225.24
13.	Maharashtra	41535.32
14.	Manipur	2988.31
15.	Meghalaya	4600.00
16.	Mizoram	3849.00
17.	Nagaland	2687.00
18.	Orissa	13264.47
19.	Punjab	15105.63
20.	Rajasthan	36669.06
21.	Sikkim	
22.	Tamil Nadu	34337.99
23.	Tripura	3281.83
24.	Uttar Pradesh	83945.00
25.	West Bengal	23992.65

1	2	3
26.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2140.00
27.	Chandigarh	366.00
28.	Dadar and Nagar Haveli	508.00
29.	Daman and Diu	113.00
30.	Delhi	2169.00
31.	Lakshwadeep	729.00
32.	Pondicherry	3398.00

\*Sectoral Break-up not yet finalised.

[English]

#### Soil Testing Laboratories

2475. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the funds released by ICAR to States for soil testing laboratories during the last three years;

(b) whether any target has been fixed for release of similar funds by 2000 A.D.; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :  
(a) ICAR has not released any fund in States for soil testing laboratories during the last three years.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Production of Tamarind

2476. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the tamarind production in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to improve and increase the production/yield of tamarind in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there are any externally aided schemes to develop tamarind groves in the country;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether there is any separate board for the production of tamarind; and

(g) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) :  
(a) At present, tamarind is grown on marginal land on its own and also in forest areas. Recently some commercial plantations have been started in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. No systematic data on production of tamarind is available.

(b) and (c) No schemes are being undertaken by Central Government for promotion of the cultivation of tamarind. University of Agriculture Sciences, Bangalore and Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, have initiated programme for the selection of high yielding cultivars and vegetative propagation. PKM-1 has been released as high yielding variety from Regional Station of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Periyakulam.

(d) and (e) There are no externally aided schemes to develop tamarind groves in the country.

(f) and (g) There is no separate board for the production of tamarind.

[Translation]

#### Gross Domestic Product

2477. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :  
SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the contribution of service sector to the Gross Domestic Product has increased in comparison to agriculture and industry;

(b) if not, the contribution of Agriculture, Industry and Service sectors to the Gross Domestic Product during the last years, separately; and

(c) the percentage of population of the country engaged in agriculture, industry and service sectors for earning their livelihood, separately ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE):  
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) The percentage of Principal and Subsidiary Workers (including Main With other work Workers) as on

1st October, 1993 engaged in agriculture, industry and service sectors is 64.3, 15.4 and 20.3 respectively.

[English]

### Employment Opportunities

2478. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether employment opportunities in the country have reduced after liberalisation;

(b) whether National Sample Survey Organisation has conducted any survey in this regard;

(c) if so, whether reducing employment opportunities has adversely affected the interests of the women as it will provide only a short term employment to the women instead of permanent employment;

(d) whether the number of unemployed women has increased in the country; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken to solve the employment related problems of the women ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) The estimates of employment as per Usual Status available from the last two quinquennial rounds of NSSO show that employment has increased from 324.29 million in 1987-88 (43rd round) to 374.45 million in 1993-94 (50th round).

(b) Estimates of unemployment are made by using data available from comprehensive quinquennial surveys on employment and unemployment conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) since 1972-73. The latest survey for which results are available was conducted in 1993-94 (NSS 50th round).

(c) to (e) Unemployment among women has reduced from 3.23 million in 1987-88 to 1.99 million in 1993-94.

### Amendment in Labour Law

2479. SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to amend Labour Welfare and Minimum Wages Act and other labour laws for the Bidi workers and labourers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether views of the other related Ministries/experts are likely to be considered before making major amendments in the said laws;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (e) The Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966 regulates the employment of these workers. The responsibility for implementation of the provisions of this Act rests with the State Governments who are also responsible for notifying the minimum wages for Beedi Workers within their respective geographical jurisdiction. The Beedi Workers' Welfare Fund Act, 1976 provides that the fund may be applied by the Central Government to meet the expenditure incurred in connection with measures and facilities which are necessary to provide the Welfare of such workers.

Review/updation of labour laws is a continuous process and amendments/fresh legislations are made depending on the result of the review. Views of all concerned including related Ministries/Experts etc. are taken into account while making amendments in various labour laws. However, the Second National Commission on Labour recently set up by the Government would suggest rationalisation in existing laws relating to labour in the organised sector and an umbrella legislation for ensuring minimum level of protection to the workers in the unorganised sector.

### Iron Ore Pellets Industry

2480. SHRI C. SREENIVASAN : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain multinationals have come forward to set up iron ore pellets industries at Salem using 45 crore ton iron ore available in Salem, Namakkal, Dharampuri and Thiruvannamalai district of Tamil Nadu.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Government propose to set up steel industry at Salem to manufacture steel making use of the iron ore obtained in the area ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) and (b) TIDCO, a State PSU, has proposed to develop iron ore deposits in Tamil Nadu. A project report has been got prepared by M/s. Dastur and Co., for mining 30 lakhs ton of raw iron ore per year in

the above areas of produce pellets. The estimated project cost is Rs. 600 crores.

As the iron ore deposits at Kanjamalai in Salem district and VEDIAPPANMALAI in Thiruvannamalai district fall under reserved forest area, TIDCO has identified alternate land for afforestation. It has also engaged consultants for EIA study. After getting necessary clearance from the Ministry of Environment and Forest and Ministry of Mines, Government of India, TIDCO will take steps to select a promoter for implementing the project in the associate sector. The question of involving multinationals will arise only at that stage and it is too premature to state who the promoters are likely to be.

(c) No, Sir.

#### Houses for Bidi Workers

2481. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received a proposal for construction of 10,000 houses for Bidi workers in Solapur, cost of which is proposed to be shared between the Union Government, State Government and allottee workers concerned;

(b) whether the State Government have also requested for increasing the Union Government share to Rs. 20,000/-.

(c) whether a meeting between the Central and State Government officers and the representatives of workers concerned was held in September 1998;

(d) if so, decisions arrived at therein; and

(e) the reasons for the delay in implementation of the project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) A meeting between Central and State Government officers was held in September, 1998 which decided to examine the extent up to which the existing rate of subsidy of Rs. 9,000/- for construction of houses for beedi workers could be raised.

(e) Necessary orders raising the rate of subsidy from Rs. 9000/- to Rs. 20,000/- per house or 50% of the actual cost of construction per tenement whichever is less, has since been issued on 11.11.1999.

[Translation]

#### Soya Industry Crisis

2482. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Soya Industry is facing acute crisis due to the steep fall in the prices of soyabean edible oil;

(b) whether the continuous decrease in the prices of imported edible oils is due to the decrease in import duty and other related duties;

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

(d) whether the Government propose to take any remedial step to improve the deteriorating condition of soyabean plants; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) :

(a) Reports have been received that Soya Industry is facing acute crisis due to steep fall in prices of soyabean edible oil and deoiled cake.

(b) One of the reasons for the continued decrease in the prices of imported edible oils appears to be decrease in import duty and other related duties.

(c) The Government is seized of the problem being experienced by Soya Industry and other solvent extraction units due to decrease in import duty on soya oil and has initiated steps to rectify the situation as considered desirable.

(d) and (e) No proposals are under consideration of the Government to take any remedial steps to improve the deteriorated condition of soyabean plant. However, in order to enhance the utilisation of installed capacity, the following steps are being contemplated :

(i) Increasing the production of oilseeds and oil palm through implementation of centrally sponsored schemes of Oilseeds Development and Oil Palm Development Programme.

(ii) Improving capacity utilisation.

(iii) Inducing the industry to improve technology.

(iv) Making indigenous product competitive with respect to Internationally available oil.

[English]

#### Child Development Programme

2483. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the details of steps taken or being taken to reduce the child labour in Orissa;

(b) whether the Government of Orissa has prepared any concrete programme in this regard; and

(c) whether World Bank or any other financial institutions are helping Government of Orissa in integrated child development service ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) and (b) Government has taken a series of steps to address the problem of child labour through the Scheme of National Child Labour Projects (NCLP). Under the Scheme of NCLP, 450 special schools/centres have been sanctioned to 16 districts of Orissa for withdrawal and rehabilitation of 32, 250 working children.

As per the information received from the State Government of Orissa, State level and District level Child Labour Prevention and Rehabilitation Societies have been set up. Show Cause Notices have been issued to Employers employing children in hazardous occupations. 138 prosecutions have been filed against erring employers employing child labour in hazardous occupations/processes.

(c) The World Bank, UNICEF, CARE INDIA and the World Food Programme (WFP) are providing assistance to the Government of Orissa for the Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) Programme through Department of Women and Child Development, Ministry of Human Resource Development.

#### Production of Betel Leaves

2484.CH. TEJVEER SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the States in the country producing betel leaves; and

(b) the estimated annual production and consumption of betel leaves in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) : (a) Betelvine is grown on commercial scale in the States such as Assam, West Bengal, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Meghalaya, Orissa, Karnataka, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Tripura.

(b) Official estimates on production and consumption of betel leaves in the country are not available. However, an area of about 45,000 hectares is presently under betelvine cultivation in the country.

#### Investment Limit in SSI

2485.SHRI DINSHA PATEL : Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have increased the investment limit on plant and machinery for small scale industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of SSI units, State-wise that have been benefited as a result in the change in the limit; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to improve the competitive strength of small scale industries and to promote export of small scale industries products during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) to (c) The SSI limit, which was earlier Rs. 60 lakh and subsequently raised to Rs. 300 lakh, is being reduced to Rs. 100 lakh. All units that fulfil the SSI limit and other conditionalities prescribed in this regard are eligible to have themselves registered as SSI units with the District Industries Centre/States Industries Directorate.

(d) Steps taken by Government to improve the competitiveness and export potential of Small Scale Industries, including those in the last 3 years, inter-alia, include liberal financing to eligible units under Technology Development and Modernisation Fund Scheme, various sector specific development programmes with the assistance of UNIDO and other international organisations such as Technology Bureau for International Industrial Partnerships, Automotive Component Programme, Cluster Development Programme, etc., consortium marketing through National Small Industries Corporation, excise duty exemption/rebate, neutralisation of indirect taxes by way of duty draw back facility, waiver of tax on export earnings in certain select sectors, etc.

#### CAT

2486.SHRI RAMSAGAR RAWAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the aims and objectives with which the Central Administrative Tribunal was set up has been defeated as it is taking more number of years to dispose of a case than was taken previously by the High Courts; and

(b) if so, the measures taken to bring down the delay and help justice becoming within the reach of the employees ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) and (b) The objective behind the establishment of the Administrative Tribunals was to render speedy and inexpensive justice to Government employees in service matters. The objective has generally been achieved as :-

- (i) nearly 85 per cent of the cases filed in the Central Administrative Tribunal since its inception have been disposed off upto September 30, 1999, and
- (ii) an applicant is required to pay only a nominal fee of Rs. 50 only along with the application and can also appear in person to present the case before the Tribunal.

However, Instructions have been issued from time to time by the Government to all the Ministries/Departments to ensure prompt and proper handling of cases before the Tribunal. Efforts are also made to fill up the vacancies of Chairman, Vice-Chairmen and Members of the Tribunal as expeditiously as possible.

[Translation]

#### Rust Disease in Soyabean Crop

2487.DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether soyabean crop has been inflicted with rust disease in some parts of Madhya Pradesh during the last few years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Jawahar Lal Nehru Agriculture University has sent any proposal to Indian Agricultural Research Institute in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the action taken by the IARI in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The potential soyabean growing districts which have been affected by rust disease since 1994 are : Betul, Chhindwara, Seoni, Jabalpur, Narsinghpur, Hosangabad, Indore, Ujjain and Dhar.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. One project entitled Epidemiology and Management of Soyabean rust was received from Jawahar Lal Nehru Agriculture University by Indian Council of Agricultural Research and the same was sanctioned on 23.3.99.

Another Project entitled 'Soyabean rust and its management' has been received on 18.11.1999 for funding under National Agricultural Technology Project of ICAR and is under process as per procedure.

[English]

#### Seed Development

2488.SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Union Government propose to implement two schemes under which assistance was provided to the States, part of which was to be spent on seed development in agriculture farms;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether any new scheme has been announced/propose to be announced for development of seed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) The Government of India have launched a Central Sector "Pilot Scheme on Seed Crop Insurance" from Rabi 1999-2000, in identified seed producing states for selected crops to cover the risk factor involved in production of seed in the event of unforeseen situations. The scheme is being implemented through General Insurance Corporation of India.

#### Cooperation in Space Programme

2489.SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government of Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Nepal have sought help from Indian Government to train their scientists, share the data collected and upgradation of their indigenous space programme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reaction of the Indian Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) India has offered to provide training for scientists from developing countries in the applications of space technology under the Sharing of Experience in Space (SHARES) Programme and at the UN sponsored Centre for Space Science and Technology Education in India and expressed willingness to consider bilateral cooperation in different aspects of space science, technology and applications. Several countries including Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Nepal have responded to this offer.

(c) The Government of India is willing to consider specific proposals from these countries in this connection.

#### Mid-Term Appraisal

2490. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a mid-term appraisal of the Ninth Plan has been made; and

(b) if so, the extent to which the growth targets have been met ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) : (a) The exercise for the Mid-Term Appraisal (MTA) of the Ninth Five Year Plan is currently in progress. The Editorial Committee of the Planning Commission, constituted for the Mid Term Appraisal Document is in the process of finalising the draft chapters.

(b) Against a target average growth rate in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of 6.5 per cent per annum set for the Ninth Five Year Plan, the growth rate achieved in the first two years of the Plan was 5 and 6 per cent for 1997-98 and 1998-99, respectively.

#### Sickness and Unemployment In Small Scale Industries

2491. SHRI ANNASHEB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of SSI units in the country at present;

(b) the status of this Industry in regard to sickness and unemployment;

(c) the reasons for the sickness; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to maintain health of this industry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) The number of SSI units in the country as on 31.3.1999 was estimated to be 31.21 lakh.

(b) As per the report compiled by the Reserve Bank of India, 2,21,536 units were identified to be sick as on 31.3.1998.

(c) Incidence of sickness in the SSI sector is due to various factors such as inadequacy of credit, marketing problems, managerial inadequacies, etc.

(d) RBI has issued elaborate guidelines to scheduled commercial banks and State Financial Corporations for early identification and rehabilitation of viable sick industries. In addition to this, Government have taken several measures to promote healthy development of Small Scale Industries which, inter-alia, include entrepreneurship development, technical advisory services, common facilities for testing and quality control and product-cum-process development, fiscal, concessions, infrastructure support, marketing support, etc.

#### Salem Steel Plant

2492. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the capacity of Salem Steel Plant;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Government propose to introduce Voluntary Retirement Scheme for employees in this plant ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) There is no such proposal, at present.

#### Special Package for Cash Crop

2493. SHRI ANADI SAHU : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Orissa for providing relief to the loss and damage to vast areas of betel vines, betel-nut gardens and coconut groves in Orissa during the super cyclone of October, 1999;

(b) if so, the relief given to the State of Orissa;

(c) whether Union Government have announced a special package for early revival of these cash crops; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO):

(a) Yes, Sir. The proposal regarding loss and damage to betelvine and coconut due to super cyclone during October, 1999 was received. The State Government requested assistance at the rate of Rs. 1,000/- per farmer in the shape of input for 2,000 betelvine growers and Rs. 500 per farmer for one lakh coconut farmers in the proposal.

(b) to (d) The Government of India have sanctioned Rs. 2.00 crores through Coconut Development Board for release to the Orissa Government for rendering assistance through the approved component of Coconut Scheme. As there is no approved scheme on betelvine growers, it was not possible to provide assistance as requested for betelvine growers.

An ad-hoc additional assistance of Rs. 500 crores from National Fund for Calamity Relief has been released for relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction measures in all sectors.

[Translation]

#### Jowat Irrigation Project

2494. SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the latest position of Jowat irrigation project in Jhabua district of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether the construction of this project has been delayed;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) An expenditure of Rs. 27.73 crores has been incurred on the project upto December '98 against the latest estimated cost of the project at Rs. 110.45 crores (at 98-99 price level);

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The main reasons for delay are inadequate financial outlays provided by the State Government, slow progress in land acquisition, rehabilitation and resettlement; works;

(d) the State Government proposes to complete the project by June, 2002.

[English]

#### Cost Escalation

2495. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADODA MANDLIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the cost escalation of many public sector projects;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As on September, 1999, of the 446 projects costing Rs. 20 crores and above on the monitor of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, 182 projects have reported cost escalation. The reasons for cost escalation vary from project to project. However, in general, the reasons include : under-estimation of project cost, change in scope, exchange rate variations, increase in customs and excise duties, increase in interest during construction and time overrun due to delay in land acquisition, late start of work on projects, delay in award of work contracts, failure of civil contractors, delay in supply of equipment, poor project management and fund constraints.

(c) The remedial steps taken to reduce cost overrun of these projects are as follows :

- (i) Realistic appraisal of projects.
- (ii) Monthly as well as quarterly monitoring by the Government. This enables the monitoring agencies to identify constraints and help the management in taking remedial measures.
- (iii) In-depth critical review of the progress by the Project Authorities and Administrative Ministries, Coordination with the respective State Governments, equipment suppliers, contractors, consultants and other concerned agencies.
- (iv) Reviewing Status of fabrications of equipment with suppliers as well as turnkey contractors.
- (v) Inter-ministerial coordination and holding facilitation meetings among concerned parties.
- (vi) Setting up of Empowered Committees for speedy finalisation of contract packages, solving of land acquisition and other problems.
- (vii) Making funds available to complete the projects on schedule.

[Translation]

#### Integrated Co-operative Development Project

2496.DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of the proposals, regarding Integrated Co-operative Development Projects received from Madhya Pradesh under consideration with the National Co-operative Development Corporation alongwith their places and the dates of their receipt; and

(b) the time by which these proposals are likely to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYA NARAYANA RAO) :

(a) The details are as under :

Place	Date
Jabalpur	30.3.99 and 22.9.99
Ratlam	25.5.99, 9.7.99 and 19.8.99
Rajgarh	9.7.99, 19.8.99 and 22.9.99
Mandsor	6.8.99
Dhar	19.8.99
Bilaspur	22.9.99

(b) The project at Jabalpur has been approved and sanctioned. The projects at Rajgarh and Ratlam have been

approved in October, 1999. As regards the remaining projects, NCDC may not be in a position to extend the ICDP at this stage due to slow implementation of the on-going programme by the State Government, overall availability of resources for the scheme and the need to cover districts in other States.

[English]

#### Annual Turnover of Food Processing Sector

2497.SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY :  
SHRI MANSINH PATEL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the annual turnover of foreign companies functioning in India as well as Indian companies in the food processing sector;

(b) the share of fruits and vegetables in it separately; and

(c) the incentives being given in regard to cold storages and deep freezing storages ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) Food Processing Industries are both in the Organised and unorganised sectors. The information regarding annual turnover of foreign companies as well as Indian companies in the processed food sector is not maintained centrally.

(c) The Department under its Plan Schemes for Development of Infrastructural Facilities provides financial assistance for development of post harvest cold chain infrastructure such as precooling cold storage, refrigerated transportation etc. The assistance is available to Public Sector Undertakings, Joint/Assisted/Private Sector companies, Non-Government organisations and Cooperatives.

[Translation]

#### Konar Irrigation Project

2498.SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether construction work of Konar Irrigation Project, Bihar has been suspended due to lack of consent between, Central Water Commission, Damodar Valley Corporation and the State Government of Bihar;

(b) if so, whether due to said dispute the estimated cost of the project has increased unexpectly;

(c) if so, the efforts being made by the Union Government to resolve the issue; and

(d) the time by which the work on the project is likely to be restarted ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (d) Konar Irrigation Project in Giridih and Hazaribagh Districts of Bihar was considered by the Technical Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Water Resources in March, 1984 for an estimated cost of 93.61 crore. The project was not accepted due to inter-state issues. The main inter-State issues involved are namely, (i) concurrence of Damodar Valley Corporation to the share cost of Kohar Dam payable by Bihar and (ii) acquisition of land at Panchet reservoir. The inter-State meetings were held on 2nd June, 1988, 16th November, 1989 and 5th December, 1997 but the issues could not be resolved. In the meantime, the State Government submitted an updated estimate of the project first for Rs. 187.67 crore in August, 1988; and subsequently for 350.55 crore in July, 1999. Comments on financial aspects etc. on the latter estimate have been forwarded to the State Government in September, 1999 for compliance which is awaited.

#### Malmatha Water Project

2499. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government to expand the old Malmatha Water project in Malegaon district Nasik in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be expanded ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) No such proposal has been received from the Government of Maharashtra.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

#### Prices of Stationery Items

2500. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether serious irregularities have come to fore in the Kendriya Bhandar, Super Bazar and National Cooperative Consumer Federation of India Ltd. and CBI/ CVC are looking into those irregularities; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to ensure that the rates of these three institutions are more or less remain same and they sell quality products of branded items ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) Kendriya Bhandar and Super Bazar have informed that no serious irregularities have come to their notice. In the case of NCCF some irregularities had come to the notice and disciplinary proceedings have been initiated, wherever necessary, in consultation with the CVC.

(b) In order to ensure that the Kendriya Bhandar sells quality products at competitive prices, it has been requested to undertake survey about the level of satisfaction provided by it to the various user Ministries/ Departments/other offices in the supply of stationery goods etc. The Kendriya Bhandar has also been asked to consider constituting a Monitoring Committee to make quality and price control effective. The Department of Consumer Affairs have also been requested to consider taking similar steps in respect of Super Bazar and NCCF.

#### Price of Computers

2501. SHRI C.N. SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "PC prices were falling, not any more blame the Taiwan quake" appearing in the Indian Express dated November 16, 1999;

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

(c) the details of computers with purchase and selling prices at Kendriya Bhandar during the last three years, State-wise;

(d) whether Kendriya Bhandar has reduced the prices of computers; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE

MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has been stated therein that earlier computer prices were falling but the trend is likely to be reversed after Taiwan quake.

(c) It is not possible to indicate price comparison of different brands of computers due to multifold configuration with each configuration having different accessories/components priced differently.

(d) In the Information Technology industries, new models are introduced regularly. At the same time, prices of old models keep on falling and ultimately they are phased out on the principle of first in first out (FIFO). Kendriya Bhandar is not an exception and its prices of old models of computers are regularly falling which are being replaced with new models. However, recently, prices of certain accessories like memory chips, CD ROM drives etc. have gone up.

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.

#### **Cancellation of Appointment by SSC**

2502.SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Staff Selection Commission has cancelled the appointment of 19 persons selected for appointment in the office of the Accountant General's office in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Staff Selection Commission is considering to appoint these persons in some other offices; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) to (d) As there was inordinate delay in the appointment of 19 candidates allocated to the Office of Accountant General, Karnataka for appointment as Lower Division Clerk on the basis of the Clerks Grade Examination, 1996 held by Staff Selection Commission, their nominations were withdrawn and they were

renominated to other Central Government offices located in Karnataka.

[Translation]

#### **Amount Released under PMRY**

2503.SHRI RAMANAND SINGH : Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the amount released by the Government during the year 1998-99 and 1999-2000 under Prime Minister's Rojgar Yojana for Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the amount spent under the above scheme in Madhya Pradesh during the said period;

(c) whether the Union Government have reviewed the scheme for its proper implementation; and

(d) whether large scale irregularities are being committed in the implementation of the scheme in Madhya Pradesh and the unemployed and educated unemployed are not being benefited by this Scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) The Central Government released Rs. 1,32,55,380 during 1998-99 and Rs. 1,02,88,200 during 1999-2000 (upto 08.12.99) under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana to Madhya Pradesh.

(b) The 'Utilisation Certificates' for the amounts released for the years 1998-99 and 1999-2000 are awaited from the Madhya Pradesh Government.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Between 1993-94 to 1998-99, 1,03,426 educated unemployed youth have been assisted under the PMRY scheme in Madhya Pradesh. Disbursement for the year 1998-99 will continue up to 31.12.99. No irregularities in implementation of the scheme have come to the notice of Government.

[English]

#### **Educated Unemployed Youth**

2504.SHRI T. GOVINDAN :  
SHRI A.-BRAHMANAIAH :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) The number of educated unemployed youths registered with the Employment Exchanges in the country during the last three years, year-wise; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to reduce unemployment in the Country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) The total number of educated (10th pass and above) job seekers, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, who are registered with the employment exchanges at the end of December 1994, 1995 and 1996 [latest available] is 239.8, 248.0 and 252.7 lakhs respectively.

(b) The primary objective of the Ninth Plan is to generate greater productive employment in the growth process itself by concentrating on sectors, sub-sectors and technologies which are more labour intensive in regions characterised by a higher rate of unemployment and under employment. The Ninth Plan recognised the high incidence of unemployment and increasing casualisation of labour and adopted a National Employment Assurance Scheme. A Task Force under the Chairmanship of Dr. M.S. Ahluwalia, Member, Planning Commission has been set up to look into the employment generation taking place and suggest measures to generate at least one hundred million jobs in a period of 10 years (Ten million) in each year.

#### Cross Breed of Cattle

2505.DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to breeding programme finalised by the Government cross-breed cattle would be increased substantially;

(b) if so, whether Bharatiya Cattle Resource Development Foundation has made strong representation in this regard and favoured development of indigenous breeds; and

(c) the details of programme developed to promote indigenous breed and justification for cross breeding programme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYANA YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir. It is intended to increase the number of adult crossbred cows to about 10.00 million from the 1992 figure of 6.5 million in order to meet the rising demand for milk.

(b) The Department do not agree with the views expressed by the Bharatiya Cattle Resource Development Foundation, as concurrent emphasis for indigenous breeds are also stipulated in the programme.

(c) The Central Herd Registration Scheme is engaged in identification of elite animals of Gir, Kankrej, Mariana and Tharparker breeds. There are two Central Cattle Breeding Farms at Chipplima and Suratgarh maintaining indigenous breeds Tharparker and Red Sindhi only.

A proposed Ninth Plan Scheme 'National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding' envisage action for the breeding tracts of indigenous breeds and would involve the State Governments, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, State Agricultural University, National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources, Non-Governmental Organisations, Gaushalas etc. for this purpose. The Scheme strives to strike a balance among rising demand for milk, requirement of draught power and need for conservation of indigenous breeds. This Scheme is yet to be formally approved by Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs.

#### Production of Steel

2506.PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the production of steel at Visakhapatnam Steel Plant during 1997-98, 1998-99 and in the first half of fiscal year 1999-2000;

(b) the target set for this year; and

(c) whether target is likely to be achieved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) The production of Saleable Steel at Visakhapatnam Steel Plant during 1997-98, 1998-99 and the first half of fiscal year 1999-2000 are as under :—

	(in '000 tonnes)		
	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000 (April – September)
Saleable Steel	2250	1933	1078

(b) and (c) The target set for the Company as per the Memorandum of Understanding for 1999-2000 between the Company and the Ministry of Steel for production of Saleable Steel is 23,05,000 tonnes. This target is likely to be achieved by the Company.

[Translation]

#### Sexual Harassment at Work Place

2507.SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Human Rights Commission had formulated a code for checking the sexual harassment at the place of duty in compliance with the directions of the Supreme Court;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure its compliance by the Government departments, Public undertakings and private employers; and

(d) the instructions issued to the States/Union Territories for compliance of the directions of Supreme Court ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Supreme Court of India had laid down detailed guidelines for prevention of sexual harassment of women at the work place in its judgement dated 13.08.1997. The Government has taken a number of initiatives to give effect to these guidelines. These include circulation of the guidelines for action as indicated therein, to all Secretaries to Government of India, Chief Secretaries of States/Union Territories, Chairmen-cum-Managing Directors of Central Public Sector Undertakings. Most of these authorities have since reported that action has been taken in accordance with the directives.

The Government have amended the service rules applicable to Central Government employees and officers of All India Services with a view to implementing the guidelines in Government Offices. Amendments have also been made to the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946 so that sexual harassment of women at work place in the private sector could constitute an offence for which a workman is liable for disciplinary action.

[English]

#### Bill on Cyber Law

2508. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to bring a Bill on Cyber Law to speed up electronic commerce in the country;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) if not, the other measures being taken to promote electronic commerce ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The salient features of the Bill are as follows :-

- The Bill provides that, unless otherwise agreed, an acceptance of contract may be expressed by electronic means of communication and information shall not be denied legal effect, validity or enforceability solely on the ground that it is in the form of an electronic record.

- The Bill provides for use of electronic records signed with secure digital signature both in the Government, public and private. The offences of computer crime like unauthorised access to computer data network, tampering with computer source document etc. have also been defined in the Bill.

- The Bill proposes amendments in the existing Acts such as Indian Evidence Act, 1872; the Indian Penal Code, 1860; RBI Act and the Bankers Book Evidence Act, 1891.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Command Area Development Programme

2509. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the funds released by the Union Government to State Government of Uttar Pradesh under the Centrally sponsored Command Area Development Programme during each of the last three years; and

(b) the target fixed and the achievements made by the State Government of Uttar Pradesh during the above period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) The funds released by the Union Government to the State Government of Uttar Pradesh under Centrally sponsored Command Area Development Programme during each of the last three years are as under :-

Year	Funds Released (in Rs. Lakh)
1996-97	2022.60
1997-98	3057.83
1998-99	3959.24

The targets fixed and achievements made on field channels, field drains and warabandi activities under the programme by the State Government of Uttar Pradesh during each of the last three years are as follows :

Area in 000 ha.

Year	Field Channels		Field Drains		Warabandi	
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
1996-97	121.00	126.00	65.42	53.77	225.00	205.79
1997-98	99.63	112.82	58.45	45.64	155.00	170.26
1998-99	102.13	114.27	67.45	61.37	158.50	152.23

[Translation]

### Development of Food Processing Industry

2510. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :  
SHRI J.S. BRAR :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the Government have explored the possibilities for the expansion and development of food processing industries in the country;

(b) if so, whether some fruits are grown in abundance in various regions of the country and their production is more than their local demand;

(c) if so, the names of such regions alongwith the fruits whose production is more than their local demand;

(d) whether the Government have prepared any scheme for promotion of food processing industry in these regions;

(e) if so, the details thereof, and

(f) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) The Government has taken a number of policy initiatives to promote the growth of processed food sector in the country. Some of these are as under:-

- (i) Automatic approval for foreign equity up to 51% is available for most of the processed food items.
- (ii) Food processing industries have been included in the list of priority sector for bank lending.
- (iii) Most of the processed food items have been exempted from the purview of licensing under Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951.
- (iv) Excise and Custom Duties for food processing items have been rationalized.

(v) Close interaction with Nodal Agencies of the State Governments is maintained.

(b) and (c) No comprehensive study has been undertaken to ascertain the production and consumption of various fruits in different regions.

(d) to (f) Under the Plan Schemes of the Department of Food Processing Industries, financial assistance in the form of soft loan and grant is provided to private industries, Public Sector Undertakings, Non-Governmental Organizations, Cooperatives, Human Resources Development Organizations and Research and Development Institutions etc., for the development of processed food sector. These schemes are project-oriented and not State specific. The Department do not set up any unit directly in any State.

### Agro Based Rural Industries

2511. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA : Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the schemes for setting up of agro-based rural industries and efforts made for their steady development;

(b) the amount provided/to be provided to each State under the schemes during the year 1999-2000; and

(c) the number of industries set up in Haryana during the last year and the number of such industries proposed to be set up during 1999-2000 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) The Khadi and Village Industries Commission has launched the Margin Money Scheme for setting up Agro Based and other Rural Industries. As per the scheme, 25% of the cost of the project upto Rs. 10.00 lakhs and additional 10% of the cost of the project above Rs. 10.00 lakhs but upto Rs. 25.00 lakhs, is being provided as Margin Money.

For the steady development of village industries under the Margin Money Scheme, the KVIC has taken the following measures :-

- (i) It has involved scheduled commercial banks and Regional Rural Banks.
  - (ii) Margin money has been placed in advance with 27 Public Sector scheduled commercial banks to finance the viable rural industries projects.
  - (iii) The State Khadi and V.I. Boards (KVIBs) have also been associated in implementation of the scheme and they have been empowered to sanction projects upto Rs. 25.00 lakhs.
  - (iv) The KVIC has arranged wide publicity through print and electronic media about this scheme.
  - (v) The KVIC has printed and distributed the details of the scheme in regional languages for the benefit of rural entrepreneurs.
  - (vi) The KVIC has provided promotional assistance to the KVIBs and State Directorates of Industries.
  - (vii) The KVIC has arranged District, State and Regional level workshops for popularising the Scheme.
  - (viii) The KVIC reviews and monitors the Scheme with banks regularly.
- (b) The total allocation made to each State/UT under Margin Money Scheme and the funds released during 1999-2000 (upto 30th November, 1999 are given in enclosed Statement).
- (c) During 1998-99, 229 units were set up in Haryana State and it is proposed to set up 462 new V.I. units during the year 1999-2000.

#### Statement

*Funds to be Provided for Margin Money Scheme during 1999-2000 and Funds Disbursed Till 30th November, 1999*

S. No.	State	Amount to be Provided during 1999-2000	Amount Provided Till 30th November, 1999
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	467.18	1.75
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0.50

1	2	3	4
3.	Assam	0	0.27
4.	Bihar	0	0
5.	Chandigarh	0	0
6.	Goa	0	0
7.	Gujarat	580.32	0
8.	Haryana	246.60	172.36
9.	Himachal Pradesh	86.19	0
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	227.83	20.62
11.	Karnataka	0	744.33
12.	Kerala	870.29	0
13.	Madhya Pradesh	714.00	23.32
14.	Maharashtra	658.06	152.57
15.	Manipur	573.53	0
16.	Meghalaya	0	5.00
17.	Mizoram	308.80	90.50
18.	Nagaland	229.65	0
19.	Orissa	2413.92	159.12
20.	Punjab	0	75.56
21.	Rajasthan	484.76	200.00
22.	Sikkim	0	0
23.	Tamil Nadu	0	0.55
24.	Tripura	32.69	0.50
25.	Uttar Pradesh	798.83	350.67
26.	West Bengal	138.97	0
27.	A&N Island	19.38	4.36
28.	Delhi	223.98	38.23
29.	Pondicherry	421.36	0.50
30.	Lakshadweep	0	0
Total		9496.34	2040.71

[English]

#### Distribution of Certified Quality Seeds

2512.SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of certified quality seeds distributed to farmers during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether the Government have fixed any target for distribution of certified quality seeds to farmers by 2000 A.D.;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) :

(a) The details of certified/quality seeds distributed to farmers during the years 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 in various States is given in enclosed Statement.

(b) and (c) The target for distribution of certified/quality seeds to farmers during the year 1999-2000 is 91 lakh Qtls.

(d) Not applicable.

#### Statement

*Certified/Quality Seeds distributed to farmers during the last 3 years, year-wise and State-wise*

S. No.	State	(Qty. in lakhs Qtls.)		
		Qty of certified/quality seed distributed		
		1996-97	1997-98	1998-99 (Anticip.)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10.27	11.34	12.45
2.	Assam	0.48	0.42	0.42
3.	Bihar	1.26	3.18	2.90
4.	Gujarat	2.98	3.16	3.41
5.	Haryana	3.93	3.17	4.23
6.	Himachal Pradesh	3.08	2.91	3.06
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.46	0.62	0.41
8.	Karnataka	5.18	5.21	4.83
9.	Kerala	0.38	0.43	0.33
10.	Madhya Pradesh	5.16	5.42	5.93
11.	Maharashtra	8.12	8.42	11.40
12.	Orissa	2.20	2.89	3.41
13.	Punjab	2.28	2.29	3.26
14.	Rajasthan	4.03	4.23	4.52
15.	Tamil Nadu	4.30	4.18	4.46
16.	Uttar Pradesh	12.37	13.16	12.07
17.	West Bengal	5.91	6.66	6.79
18.	Others.	0.88	1.10	1.09
Total		73.27	78.79	84.97

#### Eradication of Child Labour

2513. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the performance made under the National Child Labour Projects (NCLPs) set up to rehabilitate child labour during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the status of National Child Labour Project in Tamil Nadu; and

(c) the number of voluntary agencies given funds under Grant in-Aid Scheme in Tamil Nadu ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) and (b) The number of National Child Labour Projects (NCLPs) set up to withdraw and rehabilitate child labourers, State-wise (including in Tamil Nadu) till date is as follows :

State	No. of Project	Sanctioned Schools	No. of Children
1. Andhra Pradesh	22	915	58050
2. Bihar	08	194	12200
3. Karnataka	03	110	5500
4. Maharashtra	02	114	5700
5. Madhya Pradesh	06	137	9500
6. Orissa	16	450	32250
7. Rajasthan	04	120	6000
8. Tamil Nadu	09	425	21900
9. Uttar Pradesh	08	230	16500
10. West Bengal	07	279	14000

The performance of NCLPs is being monitored through receipt of periodic reports of project activities and inspections undertaken at the centre, State and District level. A Central Monitoring Committee has also been set up for the overall supervision, monitoring and evaluation of the NCLPs.

(c) In Tamilnadu, 2 voluntary Agencies are receiving funds under the Grant-in-aid scheme of the Ministry.

#### Rebate System in Steel

2514. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have applied the rebate system in selling the steel;

(b) if so, the amount of rebate allowed during year 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99; and

(c) The extent to which the rebate system has increased the sale of steel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI QILIP RAY) : (a) to (c) After the de-control of steel in January 1992, the prices of steel are driven by market forces. Government has no role to play in pricing of steel produced by the main producers. Secondary producers were free to fix their own prices even prior to 1992.

However, to encourage small scale industries Govt. since 1978 is providing rebate to such units through small scale industries corporations of each state for the off-take from SAIL and TISCO. The total amount of rebate given during last three years is given below :-

	Rs. in lakhs
1996-97	1816.21
1997-98	3296.38
1998-99	1949.26

such rebate has helped the small scale units using steel.

#### **Indian Organisations Blacklisted by U.S.A.**

2515. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some Indian organisations have been blacklisted by the United States of America;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the reason therefor;

(c) whether the Government have taken up the matter with United States of America; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) and (b) Following the nuclear test in May 1998, the US imposed certain restrictions on India under its domestic law. In addition the US published on 13th November 1998 a list of Indian Government organisations, research institutions, public sector units and private companies - the so called the Entities List - which were subject to tighter export restrictions.

(c) The Government has made it clear to the US that such measures are unjustified and counter-productive to the broadening of India-US Relations.

(d) The US Congress has passed a resolution, which is contained in the US Defence Appropriations Act

2000, enacted in October 1999, which states that the controls have been too broadly applied and that the control list requires refinement and a narrower focus.

#### **Synthetic Flavours and Colours**

2516. SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether measures have been taken by the Union Government to ensure and check that the various types of artificial colours and flavours, particularly those manufactured by the Small-Scale Industries, which do not have any well-equipped research and development infrastructure and which are at present being indiscriminately used not only in soft drinks but also confectionary, strictly comply with the provisions of the Food Products Order;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Union Government to discourage the practice of such synthetic flavours and colours?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No synthetic colour can be sold or used in any food preparation unless it conforms to the standards laid down under Bureau of Indian Standards for the specific colour. Similarly, the use of artificial flavours is also regulated under the provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act. Under the provisions of the Indian Penal Code, Prevention of Food Adulteration Act and the Fruit Products Order, action, including penal action can be taken for contravention of the provisions of the Act and Order. The implementation of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act and the Fruit Products Order is enforced by Inspectors and Inspecting Officers appointed by State and Central Governments.

(c) The use of synthetic flavours and colours in food preparations is strictly regulated taking into account its possible impact on health and food safety, on a continuous basis.

#### **Below Poverty Line**

2517. SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any representation has been received by the Planning Commission regarding revision of percentage of population living below the poverty line in rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, particularly of Andhra Pradesh;

(c) whether the Planning Commission has revised the estimates; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE):  
(a) Yes, Sir. The Planning Commission has received representation from the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Orissa in this regard.

(b) to (d) The State Government of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka represented for estimation of poverty after eliminating the impact of the price depressing effect of the food subsidy scheme, funded from the State Exchequer. The Government at Andhra Pradesh at a later stage also represented for reversion to the earlier methodology of poverty estimation, known as the Task Force method. The Government of Orissa has represented for adopting the national level poverty line for estimation of poverty in the State.

The Planning Commission in a meeting held on 10th March, 1997, under the chairmanship of the then Prime Minister had taken the view that estimates of poverty at national and State level be made from the methodology contained in the Report of the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor (Lakdawala Committee). After carefully considering the representations, it has taken the view that there is no justification for changing the official methodology for estimation of poverty.

[Translation]

#### Production of Mangoes

2518. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :  
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI :  
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether financial assistance is being provided by National Horticulture Board for increasing the production and development of mangoes.

(b) if so, the amount of assistance provided to the State Governments particularly to the Government of Maharashtra during the last three years;

(c) the percentage of increase in the production of mangoes in each State during the above period;

(d) whether the increased production is sufficient for export;

(e) if so, whether Government are contemplating to constitute a Mango Board to increase the export of Mangoes; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) :  
(a) and (b) In so far as the financial assistance to the State Governments for production of mangoes is concerned, assistance is provided to the State Governments for the purpose under the Central Sector Scheme namely 'Development of Tropical, Temperate and Arid Zone Fruits'. The National Horticulture Board (NHB) under the Ministry of Agriculture provides assistance for setting up post harvest management infrastructure for horticulture crops including mangoes. Assistance provided under the Scheme 'Development of Tropical, Temperate and Arid Zone Fruits' to the State Governments including Maharashtra during the last three financial years is as under :-

(Rupees in lakh)

Year	Assistance provided to the State Governments including Maharashtra	Assistance provided to the Government of Maharashtra
1996-97	1527.00	124.20
1997-98	1672.00	100.00
1998-99	1984.00	214.00

(c) and (d) Information on State-wise production of mangoes during the financial years 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 is given in enclosed Statement. Export of mangoes is not linked with production. The same constitutes only 4 per cent of the total production.

(e) There is no proposal under consideration at present for constituting a Mango Board.

(f) Does not arise.

#### Statement

##### Production of Mangoes

State/UT	Production (In MT)		
	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
1	2	3	4
1. Andhra Pradesh	3256320	3314340	1865636

1	2	3	4
2. Arunachal Pradesh	112	112	112
3. Assam	7811	8005	17173
4. Bihar	910410	1838844	1858069
5. Goa	12000	3990	12000
6. Gujarat	288928	288928	382539
7. Haryana	24780	28100	29188
8. Himachal Pradesh	19144	4024	4024
9. Jammu & Kashmir	10066	14028	13063
10. Karnataka	1106683	1176460	1176460
11. Kerala	266346	266345	249679
12. Madhy Pradesh	154000	162000	153000
13. Maharashtra	196488	196488	197000
14. Manipur	613	613	990
15. Mizoram	2555	2611	2994
16. Nagaland	1416	1982	534
17. Orissa	409435	417420	490681
18. Punjab	96674	96674	100506
19. Rajasthan	45856	41544	41544
20. Tamil Nadu	413900	135905	559260
21. Tripura	44444	44444	44444
22. Uttar Pradesh (Hill)	71139	71630	66834
23. Uttar Pradesh (Plain)	2418714	1659499	1775052
24. West Bengal	211660	502272	339370
25. Andaman & Nicobar	3611	3611	3611
26. Chandigarh	1310	1250	1250
27. Daman & Diu	1115	1115	1115
28. Pondicherry	5720	5720	5720
<b>Total :</b>	<b>9981250</b>	<b>10287954</b>	<b>9391853</b>

[English]

#### National Informatic Centre

2519. SHRI C. SREENIVASAN :  
SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to make National Informatic Centre as a software giant;

(b) the areas identified to expand the activities of NIC;

(c) the number of National Informatics Centre offices functioning in the country alongwith the number of persons employed in each centre, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government propose to set up fresh NIC centres in the country particularly in Tamil Nadu; and

(e) if so, locations identified therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN) : (a) and (b) National Informatics Centre (NIC) provides Computer based support to Central Government Departments, State Governments, UTs, District Administrations and other Government offices. It has developed and implemented more than 6,000 Management Information Systems/databases. These involve development of over 7,000 software packages. Newer areas of Electronic Commerce, Geographic Information System, On-line applications, WEB services, Internet and E-Mail services and Computer Aided Design are being implemented.

(c) The details of NIC offices and number of persons employed in each office are given in enclosed Statement.

(d) and (e) NIC State Centre at Chennai in Tamil Nadu is already functioning.

#### Statement

##### List of NIC State Centres

State/U.T. Unit	Total Staff Strength
1	2
Andaman & Nicobar	13
Andhra Pradesh	164
Arunachal Pradesh	22
Assam	57
Bihar	104
Chandigarh U.T.	13
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1
Daman	3
Nichq (Including NCT of Delhi)	1380
Goa	33
Gujarat	71
Haryana	70

1	2
Himachal Pradesh	54
Jammu & Kashmir	55
Karnataka	121
Kerala	74
Lakshadweep	13
Madhya Pradesh	139
Maharashtra (Including Central Govt. Projects)	279
Manipur	25
Meghalaya	27
Mizoram	11
Orissa	110
Nagaland	20
Pondicherry	19
Punjab	63
Rajasthan	101
Sikkim	20
Tamil Nadu	131
Tripura	15
Uttar Pradesh	183
West Bengal	102
<b>Total Staff Strength</b>	<b>3493</b>

#### **Re-Appearance of River Saraswati**

2520. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI :

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Saraswati Nadi Ke Punah astitwa me ane ke sambhawana", appearing in the 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated November 12, 1999;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government has seen the news-item captioned "Saraswati Nadi Ke punah

astitwa me ane ki sambhawana", which has appeared in a section of the press. The Central Ground Water Board in association with State Ground Water Department of Rajasthan and other organisations has taken up a study to confirm the existence of previous course of river Saraswati.

#### **Package to Rajasthan**

2521. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Rajasthan is reeling under severe drought/famine condition for the third consecutive year;

(b) whether 55% people of Western Rajasthan (Thar Desert) are below poverty line;

(c) whether people are migrating to neighbouring States in search of their livelihood because their crops and cattles are perishing due to acute shortage of fodder and drinking water; and

(d) if so, whether the special package is likely to be announced to mitigate the problems of Thar Desert people ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In Western Rajasthan more than 25% people are below poverty line.

(c) 26 districts of the State are severely affected by drought conditions due to failure of rains causing widespread damage to crop. There is acute shortage of employment, fodder and drinking water in affected areas. Position of Western districts is particularly more serious because of the non-availability of fodder and drinking water. People of these areas generally migrate in search of employment in hard times but this year, the migration has been on a larger scale.

(d) The State Government has planned to incur Rs. 1311 crore to mitigate the disaster.

#### **India's Foreign Policy**

2522. SHRI R.L. BHATIA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether USA has understood India's foreign policy strategic concern;

(b) if so, whether the understanding of USA's policy makers is compatible to India's foreign policy goals; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) and (b) India and the US are engaged in a dialogue on security and non-proliferation issues. The latest discussions were held in London on November 16-17, 1999. The dialogue is continuing. It is our understanding that there has been some progress in creating a better understanding and appreciation of India's security concerns by the US authorities. Both sides have agreed that the purpose of the dialogue is to lay the foundations of a broad-based and forward looking bilateral relations.

(c) The Government has stated its intention to deepen and broaden relations with the US, improving understanding of respective points of view and enhancing mutually beneficial relations.

#### **Industrial Units Sponsored by KVIC**

2523. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of industrial units sponsored/administered by Khadi and Village Industries Commission in Orissa;

(b) the details of works done by these industries during each of the last three years, till date; and

(c) The number of Khadi and Village Industries/Institutions functioning under KVIC which were provided assistance by KVI Commission during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) 61 institutions directly registered with Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), three Cooperative Societies and 408 individuals registered with State Khadi and Village Industries Board of Orissa are functioning in the State as on 31.03.1999.

(b) The details of performance during the last 3 years are as under :-

Year	Production (Rs. in lakhs)	Employment (In lakhs)
1996-97	7206.19	2.05
1997-98	7604.47	2.10
1998-99	6051.70	1.98

(c) All the 61 institutions registered directly with the KVIC in Orissa have been provided assistance by the KVIC.

#### **Expenditure on Agriculture Research**

2524. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether total expenditure on agricultural research is much less as compared to other developing countries;

(b) if so, the percentage expenditure being incurred on agricultural research with regard to total GDP in India as compared to (i) SAARC countries (ii) western countries;

(c) extent of which the Krishi Vigyan Kendras are helpful in carrying out research work on agriculture; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Union Government to increase the allocation of funds to agricultural research?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) India's expenditure on agricultural research is comparable to other developing countries.

(b) By the end of the VIII Plan, India's expenditure on agricultural research and education was 0.66% of Agricultural Gross Domestic Product (AGDP). The corresponding figures for the developed western countries is about 2.4%. The expenditure incurred by the SAARC countries on agricultural research is 0.55% of AGDP.

(c) Krishi Vigyan Kendras are mandated to undertake farmers' training on the principle of teaching by doing, and not to conduct research.

(d) The DARE/ICAR has been making concerted efforts with the Planning Commission to raise the plan fund allocations in respect of IX Five Year Plan/Annual Plan allocation in order to meet the fund requirement of on-going institutions/schemes/projects as well as a few new initiatives in order to cope up with the thrust areas of priority sectors in the field of agricultural research, education and extension.

However, in view of the limited resources available, the Planning Commission has been allocating the funds

on competitive basis. Despite this, the DARE/ICAR has been successful in getting its original IX Plan allocation of Rs. 1600 crore raised to Rs. 2100 crore alongwith a one-time catch-up grant of Rs. 400 crore for renovation of buildings and existing infrastructure of the institutes/schemes including the replacement of equipment. Still the efforts are on at various levels to get further increase in the IX Plan allocation that will result in the increase in Annual Plan allocation too.

[Translation]

#### Drip Irrigation Scheme

2525.DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have kept the Madhya Pradesh in the 'C' category under the Drip irrigation scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

(c) whether the Farmers of Madhya Pradesh have to pay 25 per cent more price as compared to the Maharashtra on the purchase of drip system as a result of this categorisation;

(d) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh sent a proposal to the Union Government to keep the State under 'B' category;

(e) if so, the reasons for not taking any decision in this regard;

(f) whether the Government have received the report of the Committee constituted in this regard; and

(g) if so, the time by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) :

(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Since the drip manufacturers were unable to provide the drip systems at a uniform price through out the country due to variation of price of components from State to State depending upon the level of awareness, potential of drip irrigation in the State and taxes levied, the States in the country are categorised as 'A', 'B' and 'C'. As the level of awareness in Madhya Pradesh in implementing the drip irrigation programme was very low while initiating the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Use of Plastics in Agriculture by the Government, the State was put under category 'C'. As per the guidelines of the scheme, for all category 'C' States the system cost can be raised upto 25% over the cost of category 'A' State, i.e. Maharashtra.

(d) to (g) The State Government of Madhya Pradesh had furnished a proposal in January, 1997 requesting for placing Madhya Pradesh State under category 'B'. The proposal for recategorisation of the States was under consideration of a Committee constituted for the purpose of reviewing the price structure of drip irrigation system. The report of the Committee was received by the Government in July, 1999 and the recommendations have already been incorporated in the programme for the IX Plan. The decision on the programme along with the revised categorization is expected to be taken by the Government shortly.

[English]

#### Integrated Foodgrains Development Programme

2526.SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Integrated Foodgrains Development Programme for rice was undertaken in different States;

(b) if so, the progress made under this scheme State/UTs-wise during the last three years; and

(c) the amount released by the Union Government for the said programme during the last three years and current year also ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO):

(a) Yes, Sir. A Centrally Sponsored Scheme on 'Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice Based Cropping Systems Areas (ICDR-Rice)' is being implemented since 1994-95. The main objective of the scheme is to increase production in the major rice growing States/U.T.

(b) A statement showing Statewise estimates of production of rice during last three years is enclosed.

(c) The amount released by the Union Government for ICDP-Rice during last three years and current year, so far, is given below :-

(Rs. in lakh)

Year	Amount released (GOI share)
1996-97	3411.96
1997-98	4141.00
1998-99	3595.30
1999-2000	2554.11

## Statement

S. State No.	Estimates of Rice Production		
	1996-97	1997-98	(Thousand Tonnes) 1998-99 (ADV.)
1. Andhra Pradesh	10686.0	8510.0	11434
2. Assam	3328.2	3382.9	3269
3. Bihar	7280.7	6774.9	6461
4. Gujarat	946.0	1042.3	1016
5. Haryana	2463.0	2545.0	2425
6. Himachal Pradesh	108.6	120.4	119
7. Jammu and Kashmir	431.4	549.3	549
8. Karnataka	3211.6	3334.3	3144
9. Kerala	831.6	661.0	852
10. Madhya Pradesh	5939.1	4488.0	5374
11. Maharashtra	2614.4	2394.6	2459
12. Orissa	4438.4	6204.6	5345
13. Punjab	7334.0	7897.0	7940
14. Rajasthan	174.2	190.2	205
15. Tamil Nadu	5805.3	7052.0	7118
16. Uttar Pradesh	11770.7	12165.4	11620
17. West Bengal	12636.8	13236.5	13656
18. Others.	1736.7	1751.3	1753
Total	81736.7	82299.7	84739

## 15-Point Programme for Minorities

2527. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether in pursuance of the 15-point programme for minorities for fuller integration of minorities in national

life there are any instructions/guidelines to States with respect of registration and placements of minority job-seekers by Employment Exchanges;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of States/UTs which have failed to observe these instructions/guidelines; and

(d) the number of registrations, submissions and placements made by the Employment Exchanges State-wise during each of the last three years in respect of minority job-seekers and the total number of minority job-seekers on the Live Register at the end of each of these three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) and (b) Employment Exchanges are under the administrative control of the State/UT Governments. In pursuance of the Prime Minister's 15-point programme for welfare of minorities for fuller integration of minorities in all aspect of national life, instructions have been issued to the State Governments for ensuring that no discrimination is made against the minority communities in matters of registration and sponsoring of names at Employment Exchanges. The State Governments have been advised to create monitoring cells to monitor the progress in the matter of their registrations and placements. They have also been advised to instruct Employment Exchanges under their control to organise mobile registration camps in minority concentration areas.

(c) No complaints have been received in this regard, by the Government of India.

(d) Registration, Submission, Placement and number of job-seekers on the Live Register of the Employment Exchanges in respect of Minority Communities as on Dec. 1998 were of the order of 4.6., 1.9, 0.2 and 53.8 lakhs respectively. Latest State-wise figures are available for the years 1990 and 1994 and the same are given in enclosed statement.

## Statement

## Employment Exchange Statistics in respect of Minorities Community for the year 1990 &amp; 1994

Sl. No.	State/Union Territories	1990 (in thousand)				1994 (in thousand)			
		Registration	Placement	Submission	Live Register	Registration	Placement	Submission	Live Register
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>States</b>									
1. Andhra Pradesh		32.7	0.9	21.5	241.1	31.4	0.5	47.3	250.1
2. Arunachal Pradesh		0.1		0	0.3	3.5	0	0.1	02.1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
3.	Assam	27.5	1.4	24.4	165.5	21.2	0.5	6.7	205.1
4.	Bihar	60.1	2.1	36.8	249.2	65.8	1.4	15.1	292.9
5.	Goa	3.5	0.1	5.7	20.8	3.1	0.1	4.1	24.3
6.	Gujarat	11.2	0.9	6.5	70.5	5.1	0.8	6.5	72.6
7.	Haryana	4.9	0.6	1.8	17.0	5.9	0.4	2.6	19.7
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1.4	0.2	2.2	9.2	2.4	0.1	4.6	12.4
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	11.7	1.3	5.5	47.5	14.4	0.3	5.9	62.1
10.	Karnataka	22.5	0.7	10.4	128.1	26.4	1.7	15.8	178.2
11.	Kerala	131.5	3.8	46.8	1109.4	77.5	3.4	38.4	1312.8
12.	Madhya Pradesh	22.9	1.2	6.2	117.1	23.7	0.9	5.9	127.7
13.	Maharashtra	54.2	2.3	39.5	340.5	47.9	2.1	26.7	387.1
14.	Manipur	8.5	0.1	9.7	50.9	11.3	0.1	12.2	75.9
15.	Meghalaya	5.2	0.3	4.1	16.6	6.1	0.5	3.0	21.2
16.	Mizoram	7.7	0.9	5.0	36.5	7.8	0.2	3.6	42.6
17.	Nagaland	5.7	0.3	4.9	20.3	6.4	0.1	1.9	20.6
18.	Orissa	5.8	0.6	6.6	29.6	5.0	0.1	2.2	31.9
19.	Punjab	1.7	0.1	2.0	7.3	44.3	0.8	28.2	227.3
20.	Rajasthan	8.7	0.4	6.7	54.9	8.2	0.4	2.8	53.4
21.	Sikkim*								
22.	Tamil Nadu	94.0	3.9	94.1	434.8	50.3	1.3	33.0	549.5
23.	Tripura	0.5	@	0.2	3.2	0.3	@	0.2	4.3
24.	Uttar Pradesh	37.0	1.7	9.8	256.8	60.9	0.5	17.3	238.8
25.	West Bengal	46.7	0.6	11.2	648.5	24.6	0.3	7.5	669.9
<b>Union Territories</b>									
26.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	0.9	0.2	2.8	2.7	-	-	-	3.0
27.	Chandigarh	3.8	0.5	8.7	12.1	5.5	0.4	2.7	23.7
28.	Dadar and Nagar Haveli	@		@	0.1	@	@	0.1	0.1
29.	Delhi	8.2	4.0	12.9	33.9	8.4	1.5	8.6	34.0
30.	Daman and Diu	@	@	@	0.1	0.1	@	0.6	0.6
31.	Lakshadweep					1.1	0.3	2.5	8.5
32.	Pondicherry	0.8	0.1	1.0	21.6	1.3	@	1.4	24.0
<b>Total</b>		<b>619.5</b>	<b>29.2</b>	<b>387.1</b>	<b>4146.2</b>	<b>569.9</b>	<b>18.8</b>	<b>307.2</b>	<b>4974.3</b>

Note : \* No Employment Exchange is functioning in this State.

@ Figures less than fifty.

### Optimum Use of Land

2528. SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated a time bound programme for optimum use of land to support the growing population;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the land available to be put for optimum use;

(d) the total land in the country affected by soil erosion; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) :

(a) and (b) National Land Use Policy Outline (NLPO) was approved in February, 1986 by the National Land use and Waste-lands Development Council Functioning under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister, is given in enclosed Statement-I NLPO has been circulated among all the States/Union Territories and concerned Central Ministries/ Departments/Organisations to act as a framework for individual States to develop their Land Use Policies, since Land is a State subject.

(c) A statement-II showing details of the available land in the country is enclosed.

(d) and (e) According to Ministry of Agriculture's estimate 173.6 million ha. land of the country is suffering from soil erosion and land degradation. Various Centrally Sponsored Schemes on land and water conservation are being implemented for development of degraded lands.

#### Statement-I

##### National Land Use Policy - Outline

1. Land Use Boards at the State level should be revitalised. Wherever they do not exist, they must be created.
2. Land Use Policy must be evolved by all users of land within Government jointly and must be enforced on the basis of both legislation for enforcing land use as well as their promotional and preserving methods.
3. Urban Policy must be restructured so as to ensure that highly productive land is not taken away. Town planning should also provide for green belts.
4. A National campaign should be launched for educating the farmers and Government Departments about the need to conform to an integrated land use policy.
5. Cropping pattern should be reviewed specially in drought prone/desert areas, so that maximum advantage is taken of improved soil and water management practices.
6. Land and Soil survey should be completed and inventory of land resources should be prepared in each State so that resources allocation is based on a reliable data base.
7. Heavy penalties should be imposed against those who interfere with land resources and its productivity. It must be recognised that environmental protection cannot succeed unless this is done.
8. The problems of waterlogging, salinity and alkalinity must be brought under control by the use of appropriate technologies and by the adoption of proper water management practices.
9. The management of Command Areas should be reviewed, restructured and revitalised within a specified time limit so that water is used efficiently. Necessary investments for treating the catchments must be met to prevent the collapse of irrigation system due to premature siltation.
10. Technologies relating to dry farming, land shaping and water harvesting must be propagated and adopted in the interest of moisture conservation and optimal use.
11. Special programmes of conservation and afforestation in the desert areas and of reclamation and rehabilitation in the ravine areas must be launched with greater vigour in order to prevent wind and water erosion.
12. The practice of shifting cultivation should be controlled in order to protect valuable forests.
13. Land use planning should be integrated with rural employment programmes in such a manner that loans and subsidies are given only for those productive activities which represent efficient land use.
14. Rights of Tribals and poorer Sections on common land should be protected through legal and administrative structures.
15. Stall feeding should be popularised, especially in such areas where grazing land is already degraded.
16. Special Fodder Development Programme in selective blocks should be launched together with a Livestock Development Programme. The aim should be to limit the Live stock population to economically productive stock.

17. Plantations for meeting commercial and industrial needs should preferably be located far away from the habitat.
18. The Policy of supplying forest raw materials on subsidised basis to users other than the rural poor should be reviewed so that raw material is supplied at the prevailing market price, with a view to induce such users to go in for massive afforestation programmes, as also to motivate small and marginal farmers to grow forest based raw material for industry at remunerative prices.
19. The use of alternative packaging material, such as corrugated card boards, plastic bags etc., instead of wooden packaging, must be explored and encouraged.

### Statement-II

#### Details of Available Land

(Million Hectares)	
Heading	1994-95 (P)
I. Geographical Area	328.73
II. Reporting Area for Land Utilisation Statistics (1 to 5)	304.88
1. Forests	68.39
2. Not Available for cultivation (A+B)	41.28
(A) Area under non-agricultural uses	22.51
(B) Barren and unculturable land	18.77
3. Other Uncultivated Land Excluding fallow Land (A+B+C)	29.08
(A) Permanent Pastures and other Grazing Lands	11.24
(B) Land under Miscellaneous three Crops and Groves not included in net Area sown	3.63
(C) Culturable Waste	14.21
4. Fallow Land (A+B)	23.30
(A) Fallow land other than current fallows	9.77
(B) Current fallows	13.53
5. Net Area sown	142.82

(P) - Provisional

### Integrated Pest Management

2529. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether high level of insecticide use by cotton growers in India, China and Pakistan has prompted the Food and Agriculture Organisation to come up with a \$ 12.7 million project to help farmers in these countries;

(b) if so, the main aims of this project and to what extent the scheme is likely to help the cotton farmers of India; and

(c) the number of cotton farmers trained/likely to be trained in Integrated Pest Management under the scheme so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) : (a) and (b) The European Commission have entered into an Agreement with the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) for providing financial assistance of EURO 12,000,000 (US \$ 13.7 Million) for a regional project entitled 'Integrated Pest Management for Cotton in Asia' for a period of five years. The project which is yet to become operational is proposed to be implemented through the FAO in the following six countries : Bangladesh, China, India, Pakistan, Phillipines and Vietnam. The main aim of the project is the sustainable, profitable and sound production of cotton in the participating countries through the development, promotion and practice of IPM by farmers and extension staff, developing a cadre of IPM trainers to train farmers, promoting cooperation for cotton IPM among Govts., research institutions, development agencies and other non-governmental organisations. The project is likely to help the cotton farmers in India by reducing production risk, increasing economic efficiency, introduction of safer production methods and less damage to the environment in pilot IPM cotton areas.

(c) The project envisages the training of approximately 90,000 farmers in cotton IPM by the end of the Project in the six countries.

[Translation]

### Renovation and Modernisation of Irrigation Projects

2530. SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA :  
SHRI RAJO SINGH :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the major, medium, expansion renovation and modernisation (ERM) irrigation projects in the country at present; State-wise particularly in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the estimated cost and amount incurred in each project during the last three years, project-wise and State-wise;



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
16. Mizoram	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
17. Nagaland	1	111.02	2.95	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18. Orissa	6(-1)*	4953.85	1156.55	10	499.95	410.23	1	1409.90	177.70	
19. Punjab	1(-1)*	3379.53	2704.93	1	88.49	0.20	8	1025.06	298.10	
20. Rajasthan	8(-2)*	4692.81	2346.01	6	240.24	12.22	5	395.99	122.70	
21. Sikkim	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
22. Tamil Nadu	-	-	-	2	108.75	29.58	1	1143.30	23.91	
23. Tripura	-	-	-	3	154.00	92.96	-	-	-	-
24. Uttar Pradesh	10(-1)*	7539.44	3339.74	2	54.81	39.99	6	986.51	770.92	
25. West Bengal	4(-1)*	2037.41	930.83	17	90.42	60.78	6	669.38	20.49	
Total		172	103186.89	39003.29	240	8283.62	4424.12	74	14847.71	3569.42
		-10*								

\*Deduction for I.S. Projects counted more than once.

#### Statement-II

##### Renovation and Modernisation Irrigation Projects

(Rs. in Crores)

S. No.	State	Major Outlay for IX Plan	Medium Outlay for IX Plan	ERM Outlay for IX Plan
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3142.12	316.63	511.25
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-
3.	Assam	85.10	59.60	0.10
4.	Bihar	1123.00	147.50	175.00
5.	Goa	280.00	0.30	1.00
6.	Gujarat	11060.09	67.43	208.13
7.	Haryana	221.00	-	1117.62
8.	Himachal Pradesh	43.37	0.20	0.50
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	33.00	39.65	54.69
10.	Karnataka	2600.00	173.35	2344.00
11.	Kerala	480.00	50.00	-
12.	Madhy Pradesh	1504.39	133.24	-
13.	Maharashtra	7051.83	946.00	-
14.	Manipur	181.59	23.11	8.50
15.	Meghalaya	-	13.50	-
16.	Mizoram	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5
17. Nagaland		10.85	-	-
18. Orissa		1063.60	154.60	1216.68
19. Punjab		18.00	77.00	263.31
20. Rajasthan		1709.64	88.25	129.00
21. Sikkim		-	-	-
22. Tamil Nadu		-	82.21	1179.37
23. Tripura		-	60.66	-
24. Uttar Pradesh		2340.35	14.96	421.12
25. West Bengal		724.03	31.96	19.70
Total		36671.96	2480.15	7349.97

#### Facilities for Kailash Mansarovar Pilgrims

2531. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBHA MANDLIK : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide financial assistance for the boarding and lodging to pilgrims visiting Kailash Mansarovar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to increase this assistance; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) to (d) The Kailash Manasarovar Yatra, along the traditional route across Lipulekh Pass in Pithoragarh District of UP, is co-ordinated by the Ministry of External Affairs and conducted with the assistance of various Central and State Government agencies. Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam (KMVN) arranges boarding and lodging for Yatris on the Indian side. MEA provides Rs. 3250/- per Yatri to KMVN to partially offset the expenditure incurred by the Yatris. Government provides free medical inspection and assistance, security and escort cover, insurance cover and communication links for the duration of the Yatra. Government also deputes a Liaison Officer and a doctor with each batch of Yatris. The Delhi Government provides free stay to Yatris at Ashok Yatri Niwas in New Delhi for 4-5 days during their onward and return journey. It is the constant endeavour of Government to improve and upgrade facilities for the Yatris.

[English]

#### Government Purchases

2532. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that cheap and quality stationery/goods for office use are available at the cooperative store North-Block, New Delhi as compare to Kendriya Bhandar/Super Bazar/NCCF, New Delhi; and

(b) if so, the reasons for which purchase are not made by Government departments from this store ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) and (b) As per existing instructions, Government offices are authorised to purchase stationery and other items only from the three Consumer Cooperative Stores viz. Kendriya Bhandar, Super Bazar, and NCCF (which were set up by Government of India) and KVIC (for file covers only). These societies have substantial Government investment in share capital and also received financial assistance from the Government of India from time to time by way of subsidy, loans etc. The Government of India exercise direct and close control over their activities and their Board of Directors have senior officers as representatives of the Government.

The Cooperative Store, North Block does not fall in the above category and hence is not covered by the scope of instructions issued by the Government in the matter.

[Translation]

#### Slaughter Houses and Export of Meat

2533. DR. CHARANDAS MAHANT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the modern mechanised slaughter houses operating in the country and the meat export capacity of each of them, State-wise;

(b) the quantum of meat exported during the year 1998-99;

(c) the States wherein modern mechanised slaughter houses have been set up and the amount sanctioned therefor during the above period;

(d) whether any of the mechanised slaughter house in the country has exported meat more than the capacity sanctioned by Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[English]

#### Purchase of Stationery

2534. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the rampant squandering of public money by the Government offices in purchase of office stationery and other items at higher rates from National Cooperative Consumer Federation of India Ltd.; and

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to order investigation into this as to why majority of the Government offices are making purchases from NCCF ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE

MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) National Cooperative Consumer Federation (NCCF) makes supply of stationery and other items to Government Departments etc. at competitive prices. The suppliers are registered after verification of the quality of goods and prices of the same by NCCF. The allegations of supply of goods at higher rates by NCCF are not correct.

(b) Government Departments etc. are free to make purchase from any of the approved agencies viz. (Kendriya Bhandar/Super Bazar/NCCF).

#### Welfare of Fishermen

2535. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has submitted any proposal to release Rs. 80.25 lakhs as Central share for implementation of Centrally Sponsored Scheme "National Welfare of Fishermen" in the State;

(b) whether any decision has since been taken by the Union Government thereon;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which decision is likely to be taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) The Government of Karnataka had submitted a proposal during 1998-99 under Development of Model Fishermen villages component of the Centrally Sponsored National Welfare of Fishermen Scheme involving release of Rs. 80.25 lakhs as Central share of assistance.

(b) and (c) After taking into account the unspent balance available with the State Government as on 1.4.98 and matching provision available in the State budget, an amount of Rs. 50 lakh was released to the State Government as first instalment of Central share against the above proposal of the State Government. The balance would be released on achievement of satisfactory progress in the construction work by the State Government.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Clearance of Projects

2536. SHRI T. GOVINDAN :  
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the proposals of the State Government of Madhya Pradesh and Kerala pending with the Union Government for clearance relating to development of Animal Husbandry;

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

(c) the time by which the proposals are likely to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Import of Inputs

2537. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large quantity of cooking coal has been imported for use in Visakhapatnam Steel Plant;

(b) if so, the total imports of inputs for Visakhapatnam in 1998-99;

(c) whether other cost-effective replacement has been made; and

(d) the steps taken to improve operation at Visakhapatnam Steel Plant ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) During 1998-99, 1.795 M.T. of Cooking Coal was imported by Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL)/Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP).

(b) The total imports of inputs for Visakhapatnam Steel Plant in 1998-99 are as under :-

SMS Limestone	-	379921 tonnes
Sea Water Mangnesia	-	12168 tonnes
Ferro Silicon	-	1657 tonnes
Ferro Manganese	-	220 tonnes
Coke	-	182000 tonnes

(c) The following cost effective replacement measures have been taken by VSP;

(i) Use of imported Soft Coking Coal which is cheaper as a part replacement of costlier coking coal.

(ii) Use of Nut Coke as a part replacement for Blast Furnace (BF) Metallurgical Coke.

(iii) Use of LD Slag in place of Lime.

(d) The following steps have been taken by RINL/VSP to improve operation at Visakhapatnam Steel Plant :-

- (i) Use of higher percentage of sinter in Blast Furnaces to improve productivity.
- (ii) Increase in hot blast temperature to reduce coke consumption.
- (iii) Adoption of slag splashing to increasing the life of the converter.
- (iv) Provision of ladle heating furnace in Steel Melting Shop (SMS).
- (v) Provision of additional track for transportation of steel ladles in Steel Melting Shop.
- (vi) Improvement in refractory lining life to give more production and productivity of steel.
- (vii) Introduction of Amanoscope in Blast Furnace top to maintain the required parameters.
- (viii) Increase in captive power generation.
- (ix) Improvement in rolling practices.
- (x) Reduction in generation of defectives.

#### **Bovine Leukaemia Virus**

2538.DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bovine Leukaemia Virus has come to India due to cross breeding programme with European breeds;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the preventive measures being taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise. Import of Cattle into India is permitted only if the herd of origin of the animal is free from leukosis disease. In addition, as per quarantine regulations, the exported animal is subjected to the Agar gel immunodiffusion (AGID) and Enzyme Linked Immunosorbant Assay (ELISA) tests. Thereafter, in India the animal is kept under close observation for 30 days in Quarantine Station before its release.

[Translation]

#### **Employment to Widows**

2539.SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the employment is being provided to the widows without any delay through the employment exchanges;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide employment to the widows without any delay;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (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 Group '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]

#### **Quality in Administration**

2540.SHRI C.N. SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a seminar on quality in Government had organised recently;

(b) if so, the details of matters discussed therein to improve the governance to the country; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the governance of the Government Departments and consumer co-operative societies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) The 7th Quality Summit of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) was organised from 17 to 19 November, 1999. In the course of this Summit, CII organised a concurrent session on "Quality in Government" on 18 November, 1999 in association with the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances and the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA), Mussoorie.

(b) In the course of this concurrent session, experiences on the following topics were presented :-

- (i) Accountability and Responsiveness,
  - (ii) Road Map for Total Quality Management in Government,
  - (iii) Quality Management Systems in the Office of the Controller of Defence Accounts.
  - (iv) Information Technology for improvement in Government Services, and
  - (v) Citizens' Charters.
- (c) A statement is enclosed.

#### Statement

Administrative efficiency and effectiveness are matters which receive the attention of the Government on a continuous basis. An Action Plan, relating to making administration accountable and citizen-friendly, ensuring transparency and Right to Information and measures to cleanse and motivate Civil Services, was discussed in the Conference of Chief Ministers of States and Union Territories held on 24 May, 1997. The Conference resolved that the Central and State Governments would work together to concretise the Action Plan dealing with the following themes :

- (i) Accountable and citizen-friendly Government;
- (ii) Transparency and Right to Information; and
- (iii) Improving the performance and integrity of the public services.

Measures have been accordingly taken to make the administration accountable, transparent and responsive to the needs and expectations of the people. Several Ministries/Departments/Organisations with considerable public interface have already introduced Citizens' Charters indicating broadly the quality of service the public would be entitled to, within a specified time frame. Information and Facilitation Counters have been set up by 45 Ministries/Departments/Central Government Organisations to provide information on procedures and the schemes of the concerned organisation as well as to access information pertaining to the status of individual cases.

2. Steps have also been taken to strengthen the existing machinery for redress of public grievances. Most of the Ministries/Departments have fixed time limits for handling grievances received from the Members of Parliament, and the names of the officers handling grievances have been publicised. A system of categorising all the grievances and their computerised monitoring has been installed in various Ministries/Departments and this is linked to the main terminal in the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances.

3. The Government has also taken steps for simplification of laws, rules and procedures. Towards this end, over 40 Departments have undertaken, through expert Task Forces or by internal exercises, a detailed review of all the laws, regulations and procedures administered by them.

4. A Commission on Review of Administrative Laws was set up on 8 May, 1998 under the Chairmanship of Shri P.C. Jain with a view to identify proposals for amendment/ repeal of existing laws, regulations and procedures having inter-sectoral impact so as to make them objective, transparent and predictable. The Commission submitted its report on 30 September, 1998.

5. The important recommendations of the aforementioned Commission include repeal of almost 50% of Central Laws (1382 out of 2500 Laws), expeditious amendments to a list of 109 identified Acts, documentation of administrative laws (rules, regulations, executive instructions) by all the Ministries/Departments, harmonisation of statutes and laws with reference to the perspective of domestic and foreign investors, trade and industry, consumers, exporters and importers, and development of a viable alternative disputes resolution machinery.

6. The Government has constituted a Standing Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Personnel) for monitoring the follow-up action on implementation of the recommendations contained in the report. The Committee has held fifteen meetings with different Ministries/Departments in groups. Most of the Ministries/Departments have initiated action to make suitable amendments/modifications to or repeal the Acts and Laws being administered by them with a view to improve service delivery and bring about transparency in the functioning of Government.

7. In addition to the specific measures mentioned above, the Government has also taken certain steps to improve its efficiency and effectiveness. These steps include modernisation of Government offices, a software package to track the movement of files, a scheme to grant awards to members of the public and the employees for suggestions made to improve the overall efficiency, productivity and work culture of the staff, documentation of best practices in Central and State Government organisations etc.

8. The Consumer-Co-operative Societies are functioning under the Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 1984 or the respective State Cooperative Societies Acts. The Government helps in 'strengthening these cooperative societies by way of contribution in the share capital, loan and subsidy, accommodation at concessional rates, deputing Government officers to hold senior level posts (as

per the agreement with these cooperative societies and the Government) etc. Although the cooperative societies are autonomous having their own board of directors to take decisions on day-to-day administration and business matters, the Government endeavours to speed up the decision-making process in the consumer cooperatives without affecting their basic character.

#### United Nations World Food Programme

2541. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether United Nations World Food Programme has decided to continue to provide nutritious food to the Integrated Child Development Services Schemes running in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount provided for implementation of the scheme so far;

(d) whether the Government have utilised the funds; and

(e) the details of schemes introduced in India with the funds provided by the United Nations World Food Programme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the Operational Contract for World Food Programme (WFP), Project 2206 Expansion VII signed between Government of India and World Food Programme on 30.06.99, WFP will provide 1,55,000 MTs of micronutrient fortified blended food for a period of 3 years w.e.f. 01.04.1999 to the states of Assam, Kerala, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

(c) and (d) WFP provides only 'food' as assistance. During Expansion-VI of the Project 2206 (July, 1995 to March 1999) WFP had provided 1,55,840 MTs of food under ICDS programme and the same has been utilised.

(e) The details of projects implemented/under implementation with WFP aid since 1993-94 are as under:

(i) 2206 Exp. VI – Support to Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), scheme in states of Assam, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

(ii) 2303 Exp. II – Rural Development in the Krishna Basin Area, Karnataka.

(iii) 2600 – Assistance for new Settlers in the Indira Gandhi Nahar Area, Rajasthan.

(iv) 2773.01 – Employment through Forestry Activities and Tribal Development in Rajasthan.

(v) 2774 – Forestry and Tribal Area Development in Kerala.

(vi) 2783.01 – Poverty Alleviation through Forestry Activities and Tribal Development in Gujarat.

(vii) 5569 – Improvement of Food Security in Tribal Area of Bihar, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh through Forestry Activities.

(viii) 2206 Exp. VII – Support to Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), Schemes in States of Assam, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

#### Status of Industry to Agriculture

2542. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to accord status of Industry to agriculture sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the said status is likely to be provided; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the schemes likely to be formulated by the Union Government for all round development of agriculture sector ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) :

(a) to (c) The National Agriculture Policy, for all round development of agriculture, is in final stage of drafting. The draft seeks to bestow on the agriculture sector, in as many respects as possible, benefits similar to those obtaining in the manufacturing sector.

#### National Watershed Development Project

2543. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the allocation/utilisation of funds under National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPR) during each of the last three years and current year;

(b) the details of the Internationally/Bilaterally aided projects to improve Rainfed Farming System in the country;

(c) the allocation of fund/utilisation so far under the various externally aided projects; and

(d) the performance under DANIDA aided projects in Tamil Nadu during the last two years and the target for the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) :  
(a) The allocation/utilisation of funds under National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas during each of the last 3 years and current year is given in enclosed Statement-I.

(b) and (c) Two Internationally aided projects are under implementation :-

(i) Integrated Watershed Development Project (IWDP-Hills)

(ii) EEC aided - Doon Valley Project.

The details of these projects are given in enclosed Statement-II.

Bilaterally Aided Watershed Development Projects by DANIDA; KFW (Germany), ODA (U.K.) are being implemented. The details are given in enclosed Statement-III.

(d) DANIDA assisted comprehensive Watershed Development Projects are being implemented in the State of Tamil Nadu. The performance is given in enclosed Statement-IV.

#### Statement-I

#### Fund released and expenditure incurred under National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDR)

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	1996-97		1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000		Reported upto
		Releases by Central Govt.	Expenditure reported by State Govt.	Releases by Central Govt.	Expenditure reported by State Govt.	Releases by Central Govt.	Expenditure reported by State Govt.	Releases by Central Govt.	Expenditure reported by State Govt.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	320.00	681.717 *	700.00	731.40 *	900.00	717.375	600.000	626.860 *	10/99
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	37.600 *	10.00	45.29 *	31.00	41.287 *	17.000	-	10/99
3.	Assam	-	665.364 *	-	431.50 *	125.00	40.000	-	125.000 *	10/99
4.	Bihar	-	289.040 *	-	170.84 *	125.00	34.235	-	13.870 *	9/99
5.	Goa	-	15.867 *	-	1.70 *	8.00	19.278 *	3.000	-	
6.	Gujarat	332.00	997.900 *	700.00	350.29	2000.00	1270.100	2000.000	1325.000	10/99
7.	Haryana	60.00	92.100 *	80.00	42.57	220.00	138.670	35.000	39.500 *	6/99
8.	Himachal Pradesh	60.00	219.290 *	120.00	80.00	175.00	194.250 *	106.000	142.000 *	10/99
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	-	20.991 *	108.00	-	38.00	Nil	15.000	-	
10.	Karnataka	1095.00	1548.360 *	2100.00	1705.29	2000.00	2427.280 *	1308.000	806.790	10/99
11.	Kerala	700.00	698.481	500.00	13.57	1434.00	300.000	350.000	749.000 *	10/99
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3700.00	3613.340	1434.00	1208.00	1609.00	1819.890 *	1683.000	1220.000	11/99
13.	Maharashtra	2754.00	2816.720 *	2500.00	2549.40 *	3060.00	2150.240	650.000	350.000	10/99
14.	Manipur	100.00	100.000	250.00	75.00	200.00	30.000	100.000	225.000	10/99
15.	Meghalaya	-	40.530 *	-	67.78 *	200.00	200.000	165.000	-	
16.	Mizoram	-	37.030 *	225.00	147.28	700.00	577.710	260.000	330.000 *	10/99
17.	Nagaland	18.00	18.000	160.00	117.89	500.00	500.000	337.000	390.180 *	10/99

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
18.	Orissa	1000.00	1422.830 *	1200.00	1500.00 *	550.00	914.970 *	200.000	-	
19.	Punjab	-	51.240 *	40.000	24.71	45.00	50.650 *	8.000	-	6/99
20.	Rajasthan	3016.00	3539.600 *	2581.00	2577.58	4000.00	3827.978	1990.000	1840.000	10/99
21.	Sikkim	41.00	52.610 *	90.00	74.46	150.00	138.270	97.660	6.000	6/99
22.	Tamil Nadu	240.00	810.918 *	900.00	414.80	1650.00	1769.838 *	1070.000	686.240	10/99
23.	Tripura	4.00	16.985 *	130.00	80.00	300.00	266.650	240.000	224.430	8/99
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1000.00	1956.190 *	1000.00	1200.00 *	1750.00	2982.860 *	850.000	507.000	10/99
25.	West Bengal	-	873.814 *	10.00	-	600.00	674.923 *	425.000	-	
26.	D and N Haveli	-	-	1.00	Nil	1.00	0.573	-	-	
27.	A and N Islands	50.00	26.924	25.00	24.42	65.00	34.295	32.000	10.750	10/99
Total		14490.00	20623.441	14864.00	13633.77	22436.00	21121.322	12541.660	9417.620	

\*The excess expenditure relative to release is on account of the previous year's unspent balance.

#### Statement-II

##### *Project wise details of World Bank(WB) and EEC Aided Watershed Development Project*

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Donor	Project period	Total project cost (Rs.)	Cumulative Expenditure upto March, 1999	Expenditure during 1999-2000
1	IWDP-Hills Phase-II	World Bank (WB)	15.9.99/ 30.6.2004	954.60	Nil*	18.79 upto 9/99
2	Doon Valley	European Economic Community (EEC)	1.4.93/ 31.12.20001	82.95	51.4	6.44 upto 10/99

\*Project commenced in September, 1999.

#### Statement-III

##### *Details of Danida, KFW (Germany) and ODA (UK) Assisted Bilaterally Aided Watershed Development Projects*

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Project period	Approved project cost	Cumulative utilisation upto reporting time	State in which implemented
1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>Danida Assisted</b>					
1.	Karnataka Comprehensive Watershed Development Project Phase-II	2.6.97 to 2.6.2004	21.01	1.56 10/99	Karnataka
2.	Tamil Nadu Comprehensive Watershed Development Project, Tirunelveli Phasell	5.8.94 to 4.8.2001	41.72	19:76 10/99	Tamil Nadu

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Tamil Nadu Comprehensive Watershed Development Project, Ramanathapuram	8.11.94 to 31.12.99	13.00	8.10 10/99	Tamil Nadu
4.	Watershed Development Project in Western Madhya Pradesh	13.3.97 to 13.3.2002	13.15	1.16 8/99	Madhya Pradesh
5.	Comprehensive Watershed Development Project, Koraput, Orissa	5.10.92 to 4.10.99	13.25	7.08 3/99	Orissa
<b>KFW (Germany) Assisted</b>					
6.	FRG (KFW) assisted Watershed Development Project, Karnataka	1994-95 to 2001/02	55.08	11.09	Karnataka
7.	Indo-German Watershed Development Project in Maharashtra, Phase-I	12/91 to 12/2000	19.73	29.65	Maharashtra
<b>ODA (UK) Assisted</b>					
8.	Karnataka Watershed Development Project (KAWAD) Society	1.4.98 to 1.10.2003	81.17	0.82	Karnataka

**Statement-IV***Details of Performance under Danida Aided Projects in Tamil Nadu*

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Performance during 1997-98		Performance during 1998-99		Target for 1999-2000	
		Phy. (In ha.)	Fin. (Rs. in lakhs)	Phy. (In ha.)	Fin. (Rs. in lakhs)	Phy. (In ha.)	Fin. (Rs. in lakhs)
I.	Comprehensive Watershed Development Project, Tirunelveli, Phase-II	5000	436.10	6813	561.10	5812	635.06
II.	Comprehensive Watershed Development Project, Ramanathapuram	1200	182.78	1492	245.42	912	241.50

**Small and Marginal Farmers**

2544.SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether number for small and marginal farmers are increasing in the country during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details of average number of small and marginal farmers in the country during the beginning of Eighth and Ninth Five Year Plan, State-wise; and

(c) the criteria fixed by the Union Government to identify the small and marginal farmers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) :

(a) and (b) The year-wise data on number of small and marginal farmers are not collected. However, information on small and marginal holdings is collected through quinquennial Agricultural Censuses and a Statement on statewide number of small and marginal holdings based on quinquennial Agricultural Censuses with reference years 1985-86 (July-June) and 1990-91 is enclosed.

(c) In Agricultural Census, the operational holdings with less than one hectare of operated area is classified as a marginal holding. The holding with operated area between one to two hectares is classified as a small holding.

**Statement***Number of Small and Marginal Holdings*

(Holding in '000 numbers)

S. No.	States/UTs	Small		Marginal	
		1985-86	1990-91	1985-86	1990-91
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1714	1972	4461	5211
2.	Assam	546	560	1451	1521
3.	Bihar	1327	1438	8976	10193
4.	Gujarat	737	915	801	924
5.	Haryana	265	304	502	622
6.	Himachal Pradesh	155	166	463	532
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	187	197	875	902
8.	Karnataka	1293	1586	1792	2262
9.	Kerala	282	280	3993	5016
10.	Madhy Pradesh	1613	1917	2733	3136
11.	Maharashtra	2104	2728	2488	3275
12.	Manipur	48	49	67	69
13.	Meghalaya	51	51	59	59
14.	Nagaland	19	21	8	13
15.	Orissa	910	1035	1868	2118
16.	Punjab	208	204	256	296
17.	Rajasthan	920	1019	1358	1517
18.	Sikkim	10	11	13	26
19.	Tamil Nadu	1260	1275	5498	5848
20.	Tripura	70	69	211	217
21.	Uttar Pradesh	2964	3118	13782	14819
22.	West Bengal	1175	1107	4343	4639
23.	A and N Islands	2	2	1	2
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	16	17	14	16
25.	Chandigarh	Ng	Ng	2	1
26.	D and N Haveli	4	4	6	6
27.	Delhi	5	8	15	26
28.	Goa	10	8	58	58
29.	Lakshwadeep	Ng	Ng	5	6
30.	Mizoram	19	23	21	29

1	2	3	4	5	6
31.	Pondicherry	5	5	25	26
32.	Daman and Diu	Ng	Ng	3	3
Total		17922	20092	58147	63389

Ng – Less than 500 holdings; Totals may not tally due to rounding off the numbers.

**Child Labour Issue Raised in  
Chogm Summit**

2545. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :  
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the issue of child labour in India and other developing countries was raised by the UK in the recent Commonwealth Heads of Government Meet in London;

(b) if so, the stand taken by Indian therein; and

(c) the number of children working in various hazardous industries in each State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As per the 1991 census, the number of working children in the country is 11.28 million. Industry-wise number of working children are not maintained.

**Under Ground Water**

2546. COL. (RETD) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item caption "Bad news from Punjab" appearing in the Hindustan Times, dated November, 11, 1999;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether any meeting of experts has been held recently to discuss UN report which, has stated that India is heading toward water crisis; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the concrete efforts being worked out by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government has

seen the news item under the caption "Bad news from Punjab" which has appeared in a section of the press. According to the information furnished by the Central Ground Water Board, fall in ground water level in certain parts of the State of Punjab has been observed. The details are shown in the enclosed Statement. With a view to tackling the problem of falling ground water level, the Central Ground Water Board has taken up studies on pilot basis on 'Artificial Recharge of Ground Water' in association with the State Government of Punjab in parts of Amritsar, Jalandhar, Kapurthala, Sangrur, Patiala and Ludhiana Districts of the State.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. However some International Agencies have estimated that the progressive reduction in per capita availability of fresh water in India may decline

to 1600 Cubic metre by 2017 A.D. leading to water stress conditions.

Planning, formulation and execution of water resources schemes is the responsibility of the State Governments. Since the beginning of the Plan era, various steps have been taken for exploitation of available water resources. A number of small and large dams were taken up and as a result of this, the total live storage capacity has increased from 15.64 BCM at the beginning of plan era to about 177 BCM in 1995.

The total water requirement projection of 1050 BCM for the year 2025 can be met by harnessing fully, the utilisable surface water resources of about 690 BCM and by utilising about 360 BCM of exploitable ground water resources.

### Statement

#### *Position of Fall in Ground Water Levels in Certain Parts of Punjab*

S. No.	District	Rate of Fall of Ground Water Level (CM/Year) (the rate of fall of ground water level in certain parts of the Distts. various and is shown below
1.	Amritsar, Kapurthala, Jalandhar, Gurdaspur, Nawan Shehar, Ludhiana, Sangrur, Patiala, Western part of Fatehgarh Sahib, Northern Part of Bhatinda, Eastern part of Moga, Northern part of Ferozepur.	0-10
2.	Amritsar, Kapurthala, Jalandhar, Gurdaspur, Nawan Shehar, Ludhiana, Sangrur, Patiala, Western part of Fatehgarh Sahib, Northern Part of Bhatinda, Eastern part of Moga, Northern part of Ferozepur.	10-20
3.	Sangrur, Patiala, North Bhatinda, Western part of Ludhiana, Jalandhar, Amritsar, Northern part of Ferozepur.	20-40
4.	Sangrur, Patiala.	above 40

### MPLADS

2547. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount sanctioned, allocated and released to each Member of Orissa under the MPLADS during the last three years;

(b) whether any amount remains unutilised;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the details of the works recommended by Members of Parliament of Orissa considered and completed during the last three years in Orissa; and

(e) The time by which the incomplete works is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) : (a) A statement-1 indicating the details of the funds released under MPLADS to the MPs from Orissa during the year 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 (as on 6.12.1999) is enclosed. The dates indicated in the various columns of the statement denote the dates of release of instalment of Rs. 50 lakhs each to the MPs whose names are mentioned in column-2 of the statement.

(b) As the funds are non-lapsable, funds not released in a particular year are carried forward for release





1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
14. Keonjhar (ST)											
	Madhaba Sardar	7/7/97	-								
	Upendranath Nayak	-	25/6/98	26/11/98	26/3/99	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Ananta Nayak	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15. Koraput (ST)											
	Giridhari Gamang	25/11/97	-								
	Giridhar Gamang	-	15/7/98	26/3/99	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Hema Gammang	-	-	-	4/11/99	2/12/99	2/12/99	-	-	-	-
16. Mayurbhanj (ST)											
	Sushila Tiriya	1/10/97	-								
	Salkhan Murmu	-	24/3/98	26/11/98	26/4/99	7/7/99	7/7/99	-	-	-	-
	Salkhan Murmu	-	-	-	-	-	-	4/11/99	-	-	-
17. Nowrangpur (ST)											
	Khagapati Pradhani	25/11/97	-								
	Khagapati Pradhani	-	21/8/98	18/1/99	7/7/99	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Parsuram Majhi	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18. Phulbani (SC)											
	Mrutyunjaya Nayak	4/11/97	-								
	Padmanava Behera	-	27/11/98	20/5/98	26/3/99	26/4/99					
	Padmanava Behera	-	-	-	-	-	2/12/99	-	-	-	-
19. Puri											
	Pinaki Mishra										
	Braja Kishore Tripathy	-	-								
	Braja Kishore Tripathy	16/10/98	27/3/99	7/7/99	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20. Sambalpur											
	Krupasindhu Bhoi	25/11/97	-								
	Prasanna Acharya	-	25/6/98	27/3/99	9/7/99	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Prasanna Acharya	-	-	-	-	22/11/99	-	-	-	-	-
21. Sundargarh (ST)											
	Frida Topno	7/8/97	4/12/97								
	Jual Oram	-	-	10/11/98	1/2/99	30/3/99	26/4/99	-	-	-	-
	Jual Oram	-	-	-	-	-	-	4/11/99	-	-	-

Note : First Name is for 11th Lok Sabha MP  
 Second Name is for 12th Lok Sabha MP  
 Third Name is for 13th Lok Sabha MP



**Statement-II**

State : Orissa (18)

Sl. No.	M.P. Name (XIIIth Lok Sabha) Constituency	1993-2000			
		Release by G.O.I (Rs. Lakhs)	Amount Sanctioned (Rs. Lakhs)	Expenditure incurred (Rs. Lakhs)	% Utilisation over Release
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Sh. Naveen Patnaik (LS) Aska	505.0	449.9	336.5	66.6
2.	Sh. Mahameghabahan Aira Kharabela Swain (LS) Balasore	655.0	604.0	428.1	65.4
3.	Sh. Anadicharan Sahu (LS) Berhampur	455.0	403.4	320.4	70.4
4.	Sh. Arjun Charan Sethi (LS) Bhadrak (SC)	455.0	399.2	221.7	48.7
5.	Sh. Prasanna Kumar Patasani (LS) Bhubaneswar	455.0	387.7	286.8	63.0
6.	SMT. Sangeeta Kumari Singh Deo (LS) Bolangir	555.0	511.3	409.2	73.7
7.	Sh. Bhartruhari Mahtab (LS) Cuttack	705.0	605.0	419.1	59.4
8.	Sh. Debendra Pradhan (LS) Deogarh	555.0	543.9	355.5	64.1
9.	Sh. Kamakhya Prasad Singh Deo (LS) Dhenkanal	655.0	653.9	301.5	46.0
10.	Sh. Trilochan Kanungo (LS) Jagatsinghpur	455.0	457.7	388.3	85.3
11.	Sh. Jagannath Mallik (LS) Jaipur (SC)	505.0	418.2	322.0	63.8
12.	Sh. Bikram Keshari Deo (LS) Kalahandi	455.0	375.1	281.6	61.9
13.	Sh. Prabhat Kumar Samantray (LS) Kendrapara	605.0	512.1	320.9	53.0
14.	Sh. Ananta Nayak (LS) Keonjhar (ST)	505.0	452.0	236.4	46.8
15.	Sh. Hema Gammang (LS) Koraput (ST)	505.0	518.4	436.1	86.4
16.	Sh. Salkhan Murmu (LS) Mayurbhanj (ST)	650.0	600.0	345.8	53.2

1	2	3	4	5	6
17.	Sh. Parsuram Majhi (LS) Nowrangpur (ST)	505.0	455.0	358.4	71.0
18.	Sh. Padmanava Behera (LS) Phulbani (SC)	555.0	465.0	230.1	41.5
19.	Sh. Braja Kishore Tripathy (LS) Puri	455.0	417.9	350.6	77.1
20.	Sh. Prasanna Acharya (LS) Sambalpur	555.0	466.1	277.0	49.9
21.	Sh. Jua! Oram (LS) Sundargarh (ST)	655.0	610.9	395.3	60.3
State Total :		11400.0	10307	7020.9	61.6

State : Orissa (18)

1993-2000					
Sl. No.	M.P. Name District	Release by G.O.I (Rs. Lakhs)	Amount Sanctioned (Rs. Lakhs)	Expenditure incurred (Rs. Lakhs)	% Utilisation over Release
1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>Present Sitting Members of Parliament</b>					
1.	Sh. Sanatan Bisi (RS) Sambalpur	500.0	423.7	187.3	37.5
2.	Sh. Rahas Bihari Barik (RS) Keonjhar	705.0	681.7	391.7	55.6
3.	Sh. Bhagaban Majhi (RS) Nowrangpur	550.0	500.0	409.0	74.4
4.	Dr. M.N. Das (RS) Balasore	200.0	148.4	44.3	22.2
5.	Sh. Ramachandra Khuntia (RS) Jajpur	150.0	78.1	13.6	9.1
6.	Sh. Ranganath Mishra (RS) Cuttack	150.0	62.8	13.1	8.7
7.	Sh. Dilip Kumar Ray (RS) Sundargarh	400.0	343.4	141.0	35.3
8.	Sh. Maurice Kujur (RS) Sundargarh	400.0	313.7	171.7	42.9
9.	Sh. Ananta Sethi (RS) Bhadrak	400.0	305.5	133.9	33.5
10.	Miss. Frida Topno (RS) Sundargarh	200.0	120.0	22.1	11.0

1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>Rajya Sabha Ex-Members of Parliament</b>					
11.	Smt. Illa Panday (RS) Rayagada	405.0	355.0	241.4	59.6
12.	Sh. Somappa R. Bommai (RS) Khurda	305.0	139.4	56.3	18.5
13.	Sh. Narendra Pradhan (RS) Cuttack	455.0	455.0	332.3	73.0
14.	Sh. Basant Kumar Das (RS) Kalahandi	205.0	202.1	175.7	85.7
15.	Smt. Mira Das (RS) Jagatsinghpur	205.0	105.0	105.0	51.2
16.	Sh. Sharada Mohanty (RS) Cuttack	205.0	205.0	175.9	85.8
17.	Sh. Pravat Kumar Samantaray (RS) Kendrapara	205.0	191.8	179.9	87.7
18.	Sh. K.C. Lenka (RS) Cuttack	5.0	5.0	5.0	100.0
19.	Sh. Man Mohan Mathur (RS) Kalahandi	5.0	3.0	0.0	0.0
20.	Smt. Jayanti Patnaik (RS) Cuttack	200.0	102.5	30.1	15.1
State Total		5850.0	4740.9	2829.3	48.4

**Pathetic Conditions of Vetrinity  
Hospitals**

2548. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the pathetic condition of vetrinity hospitals and dispensaries in the country;

(b) if so, the facts thereof and reasons therefor;

(c) the number of such hospitals where the basic facilities are not available for insemination, vaccination etc., State-wise;

(d) whether the Government propose to open some more hospitals and insemination/vaccination centres throughout the country to cover more area;

(e) if so, the locations identified therefor; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor and plans chalked out by the Government for their betterment and to allocate more funds during the ninth five year plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) :  
(a) to (d) Animal Husbandry and veterinary services is a State subject, and includes establishment and maintenance of veterinary field institutions. The Central Government supplements the efforts of the States in controlling animal diseases by extending financial assistance under Central schemes such as Assistance to States for control of Animal Diseases, and The National Project for Rinderpest Eradication. The establishment of hospitals, dispensaries, insemination and vaccination centres etc. is undertaken by the State Governments, to enhance the animal health cover.

(e) and (f) In addition to the schemes mentioned above, the Central Government is also assisting the State Governments through other related schemes such as Extension of Frozen Semen Technology, National Bull Production Programme, Integrated Dairy Development Programme etc. These three schemes are a part of the Special Action Plan for which enhance budgetary allocation has been made during the 9th Plan.

[Translation]

### IIAD Scheme

2549.DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA : Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether some areas of Madhya Pradesh have been selected under the Integrated Industrial Area Development Scheme of the Union Government under which the development of small industrial areas is carried out in pursuance of the instructions of the Union Government and the loans advanced by the Small Industrial Development Bank of India;

(b) if so, the details of the sanctioned schemes in this regard; and

(c) whether cases are under consideration under the above scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) and (b) The Integrated Infrastructural Development (IID) Scheme for rural/backward areas is being implemented by the Central Government in the whole of the country under which IID Centres (upto the estimated cost of Rs. 5.00 crores) are set up. The project cost is shared between the Government of India and SIDBI in the ratio of 2:3. The share of the Central Government is in the form of grant and that of SIDBI as loan. The cost in excess of Rs. 5.00 crores is borne by the respective States/UTs/Implementing Agencies under the IID Scheme. Two Centres one at Village Nadantola, District Satna and other at Village Bandol in District Seoni have been sanctioned so far. Work on Nadantola IID Centre is in progress and Rs. 89.00 lakhs of Central Government Grant has already been released.

(c) Two proposals to set up IID Centres, one in District Mandasaur and other in District Khargaon are under consideration.

[English]

### Agency for Transit of Goods between India and Bangladesh

2550.SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Bangladesh had decided to nominate their own agency for transit of goods from Calcutta to areas in the North East; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) and (b) Under the provisions of the India-Bangladesh Protocol on Inland Water Transit and Trade, the Competent Authority for the purpose of the Protocol from the Bangladesh side is the Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Corporation (BIWTC).

During the visit of the Commerce Minister of Bangladesh in May 1999, it was agreed to set up a Joint Group of Experts to consider, inter alia, the modalities for the movement of goods from one point in India to another through Bangladesh in pursuance of Article VIII of the India-Bangladesh Trade Agreement of 1980 and Article 12 of the Agreement on SAPTA of 1993, by Bangladesh carriers.

[Translation]

### Recognition of Hindi by UNO

2551.SHRI RAMANAND SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that several languages have been recognised by the UNO which are spoken by less number of people than that of Hindi; and

(b) if so, the measures taken to get the recognition of Hindi by the United Nations Organisation ?

THE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The question of introduction of Hindi as one of the official languages of the UN has received the attention of the Government. At present, the UN has six official languages viz. English, French, Spanish, Arabic, Russian and Chinese. The introduction of an additional official language is governed by the established rules of procedure of the Organisation and would require the approval of a majority of the Member States of the UN. An important consideration in getting adequate support would be the number of national delegations who use the language, and the additional financial implications for the Members States of the UN for such a move. The introduction of an additional official language would involve significant expenditure from the regular budget of the UN which is solely financed by assessed contributions of its Member States. Article 17(2) of the UN Charter provides that "the expenses of the Organisation shall be borne by the Members as apportioned by the General Assembly". In the light of the financial crisis facing the UN,

proposals for additional official languages would not appear feasible. However, the Government have been making arrangements for on-the-spot translation of speeches made in Hindi by Indian leaders in the UN General Assembly.

[English]

### Space Capabilities

2552. SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had made available its space capabilities commercially to international companies through Antrix Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are also considering offer of the Chinese Government for launching of INSAT-3 Satellites at a competitive price; and

(d) if so, the present status thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) and (b) The Department of Space, through its commercial arm, Antrix Corporation Limited, headquartered at Bangalore markets the various products and services available from ISRO. These include :

- Providing access to remote sensing data through the constellation of IRS satellites and marketing of IRS data products through an agreement with Space Imaging, USA. Seven stations around the World are at present receiving IRS data.
- Supply of satellite components and subsystems to various international space agencies such as Hughes Space and Communications, USA, Matra Marconi Space, France etc.
- Ground system support is given to World Space, European Space Agency (ESA) and others.
- Launch services were provided to South Korea and Germany.
- System studies were done for International Maritime Satellite (INMARSAT) and others.
- Consultancy and training provided to South Korea and Arab Satellite Communications Organisation (Arabsat).

(c) and (d) The launch Services for INSAT-3A and INSAT-3B by Arianspace, France, have already been finalised. The question of further launch service needs is yet to be taken up. All the candidate launch vehicles, including the Chinese launchers, will be considered appropriately.

### Recommendation of Seed Policy Review Group

2553. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether seed policy review group has suggested to the Union Government that a long-term policy for exports with the objective of capturing 5 to 10 per cent of the international market must be evolved;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the review group;

(c) whether the Government have considered these recommendations; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) With the objective of capturing 5 - 10% of the world trade in seeds over a period of 10 years, the following important recommendations were made on export of seeds.

- (1) Decisions on export proposal should not be made on ad-hoc basis.
- (2) In order to facilitate quick decision on export proposals of items on the Restricted List, annual quantitative ceilings should be prescribed. These ceilings should be revised and the Restricted List should be kept at a minimum.
- (3) Seed Policy must facilitate custom production for export.
- (4) 4-5 regional level Seed Testing Laboratories should be provided assistance to obtain membership of the International Seed Testing Association.
- (5) Seed Industry and its organisation should examine the possibility of setting up of Seed Promotion Council with limited assistance from the Central Government.

(c) and (d) The matter is under active consideration of the Government for implementation at the earliest.

**Co-operative Store in Central  
Secretariat Complex**

2554. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the co-operative stores being run in the Central Secretariat Complex;

(b) whether Central/Delhi Government and Semi-Government Departments were used to buy stationery and other office items from the North Block co-operative stores in the past;

(c) whether the Government purchases could be made only from the Kendriya Bhandar/Super Bazar/NCCF as per the orders of the Department of Personnel and as a result of which these organisations have the monopoly with regard to the Government purchases which has led to corruption in these organisations;

(d) whether the Government propose to allow the Government purchases from the other co-operative stores by making improvement in the present Government procurement system to keep Kendriya Bhandar/Super Bazar/NCCF corruption free;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) The position as received from the Registrar, Cooperative Societies, Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi is given in enclosed statement.

(b) Government have not issued any orders authorising the Central/Delhi Government offices etc. to make purchase of stationery and other office items from the North Block co-operative stores.

(c) to (f) Keeping in view the substantial investments made in the share capital of Kendriya Bhandar, Super Bazar and NCCF and close control exercised by the Government over the activities of the three Consumer Co-operative Societies, the Central Government offices etc. located in Delhi, New Delhi are required to purchase stationery and other items from the aforesaid Co-operative Societies. The Ministries/Departments etc. have also been allowed exemption from following the tender procedures

or purchases made from these Co-operative Societies which have their own fullfledged vigilance units to enquire into complaints of corruption, if any.

There is no proposal to extend the scope of these instructions to cover other cooperatives with no Government control.

**Statement**

*List of Cooperative Stores being Run in the  
Central Secretariat Complex*

S.No.	Name and Address of Store	Reg. No.
1.	Central Secretariat Consumer Co-operative Store, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi	143
2.	Department of Agricultural Consumer Co-operative Store Ltd., Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi	659
3.	Khadya Vibhag, C.C.S. Ltd. Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi	785
4.	Ministry of Civil Supplies C.C.S. Ltd, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi	551
5.	C and I Employees' C.C.S. Ltd, Udyog Bhavan, New Delhi	359
6.	New Sangam C.C.S. Ltd. Udyog Bhavan, New Delhi	574
7.	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare C.C.S. Ltd, Nirman Bhavan, New Delhi	248
8.	Ministry of Finance, C.C.S. Ltd., North Block, Central Secretariat, New Delhi	753
9.	Rail Mantralaya C.C.S. Ltd., Rail Bhavan, New Delhi	1
10.	President Estate C.C.S. Ltd., Shop No.3, New Delhi	1658

[Translation]

**Development of Fishery, Poultry and  
Livestock**

2555. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the extent of financial assistance provided by the National Co-operative Development Corporation for the development of fishery, poultry and livestock to Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the details of plans/project which are in progress in this regard;

(c) the reasons for not making sufficient efforts for the development of fishery, poultry and livestock in Madhya Pradesh through the co-operative sector inspite of their huge potential; and

(d) whether the Government will provide immediate financial assistance for the development of the poor and weaker sections by formulating schemes/projects by conducting proper survey in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARYAN YADAV) : (a) The Government of Madhya Pradesh has availed financial assistance of Rs. 1.262 lakhs approximately from NCDC upto 31st March, 99 for development of fisheries.

(b) On the recommendation of the State Government, NCDC has sanctioned assistance of Rs. 474.19 lakhs for weaker section activities in fisheries, poultry and dairy sectors in the State of Madhya Pradesh. The amount has been sanctioned under the Integrated Co-operative Development Projects (ICDP) scheme.

(c) and (d) Development of Co-operative societies is a State subject. The State Governments are primarily responsible for conducting surveys, identification of potential areas for development of various co-operative activities and formulation of suitable proposals/projects for exploitation of potential areas. NCDC supplements, the efforts of the State Governments by providing assistance for Co-operative activities through or on guarantee of the State Governments.

[English]

#### MPLADS

2556.SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has taken any decision to implement by November 1, 1999 the works recommended by the Members of Parliament of the Twelfth Lok Sabha before April 26, 1999;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether necessary directions have been issued to the district authorities;

(d) if so, whether a copy of the instructions issued in this regard is likely to be laid on the table of the House; and

(e) if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (e) All the District Collectors were advised vide this Ministry's letter No.C/48/97/-MPLADS dated 1.11.1999 to sanction all the works recommended by the MPs of 12th Lok Sabha and received by the District Collector upto 26.4.1999 within 30 days from 1.11.1999; the date of issue of instructions, provided all other conditions of the guidelines were fulfilled. A copy of instructions is given in enclosed Statement.

#### Statement

#### Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme

V.K. Arora  
Director

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND  
PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION  
Sardar Patel Bhavan, New Dehli-110001  
FAX : 3364197, 3732138  
E-mail : mpi@mpi.delhi.

Dated .....

No. C/48/97-MPLADS

1st November, 1999

To

All District Magistrates/  
District Collectors/  
Deputy Commissioners

**Sub : Principles to be followed for taking up works recommended by the MPs of 12th Lok Sabha.**

Sir/Madam,

This is in continuation of this Department's letter of even number dated 6th July, 1999 on the above subject.

2. Many of the Collectors could not sanction the works recommended by the MPs of 12th Lok Sabha after issue of the above referred clarification as the Election Commission of India announced the operation of Model Code of Conduct for elections on 11th July, 99.

3. Now that the election process is over, clarifications are being sought by the Districts as to what action is to be taken on the pending recommendations received from the MPs of 12th Lok Sabha.

4. The matter has been considered and it has been decided that all works recommended by the MPs of 12th Lok Sabha and received by the District Collectors upto

26th April, 99 may be sanctioned within 30 (thirty) days from the date of issue of the present clarification provided these fulfil other conditions of the guidelines.

Yours faithfully,

(V.K. ARORA)

#### Central State Farm, Raichur

2557. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the land acquired by the Central State Farm at Javalgere in Raichur district in Karnataka;

(b) the acres of land put to cultivation or for research activities therefrom, separately;

(c) the extent of land unutilised so far; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government to put the unutilised land to proper use ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) :  
(a) and (b) An area of 7400 acres of land was acquired in 1969 for the said farm. No research activity is undertaken in this farm. The area put to cultivation during the last four years is as under :-

Year	Area in acre
1995-96	3555
1996-97	3482
1997-98	2222
1998-99	1877

(c) The details of land unutilised is as under :-

Year	Area in acre
1995-96	3845
1996-97	3918
1997-98	5178
1998-99	5523

(d) In order to augment the irrigation facilities at the farm, the Corporation has prepared a project proposal for lifting 31.5 cusecs of water from Tunghbhadra. This is expected to bring in 3500 acres of land under assured irrigation. Besides, a proposal for development of 3500 acres of unculturable land has also been formulated. The matter is being examined.

#### Gangavaram Port

2558. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Government has sought 1100 acres from authorities of Viskhapatnam Steel Plant for development of Gangavaram port;

(b) if so, whether VSP authority have agreed to this request; and

(c) the status of the matter at present ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The matter is under consideration in consultation with Government of Andhra Pradesh and other Central Government Ministries/Agencies. No final decision has yet been taken.

#### Production of Cash Crops

2559. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are any schemes under the Union Government to scientifically develop the cash crops in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount allocated, amount actually released and expenditure incurred under the scheme during the last year, State-wise and the amount released so far for the current year;

(c) the extent of implementation of these schemes for the development of cash crops in the States particularly in Haryana during the said period;

(d) the incentives given/likely to be given for the production of cash crops in Haryana and other parts of the country in year 1999-2000 and 2000-2001; and

(e) the position of Haryana in the production of cash crops in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) :  
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) For the development of cash crops, three Centrally Sponsored Schemes namely Intensive Cotton Development Programme (ICDP), Special Jute Development Programme (SJD), and Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping System (SUBACS) are being implemented in the Country. The SJD is 100% funded by Government of India, while expenditure in other two schemes are shared by Central and State Governments

on 75 25 basis. The State-wise allocations, releases and expenditure as Central share during 1998-99 and amount allocated and released till November, 1999 during the current year i.e. 1999-2000 are given in enclosed Statement-I, II and III.

In Haryana, only cotton and sugarcane schemes are being implemented as jute is not grown in the State. The incentives are being given to the farmers for the increasing production and productivity of these cash crops through transfer of technology involving field demonstration, farmer training and supply of critical inputs like certified seeds of newer varieties, identified farm implements, etc. The

allocation for the year 1999-2000 is given in Annexure I, II and III, while the allocation for the year 2000-2001 is to be made after receipt of proposals from the States.

(e) The average production of these cash crops in Haryana and country for the triennium ending 1998-99, are as under.

Crop	India	Haryana	% of Total
Cotton (Lakh bales)	124.20	11.70	9.42
Sugarcane (Lakh tones)	2814.93	78.16	2.78

#### Statement-I

*State-wise Central Allocation, Release and Expenditure during 1998-99 and Allocation and Releases (Till Nov' 1999) for 1999-2000 under intensive Cotton Development Programme (ICDP)*

Rs. in lakh (Central Share)

State	1998-99		Expdr.	1999-2000	
	Allocation	Release		Allocation	Release
Andhra Pradesh	195.37	153.00	165.18	208.97	144.10
Gujarat	118.69	104.00	83.38	86.58	26.00
Haryana	103.69	66.77	57.87	126.61	39.00
Karnataka	98.14	92.00	95.96	122.50	76.60
Madhya Pradesh	106.81	60.00	59.70	59.58	18.00
Maharashtra	406.59	307.00	317.78	361.53	108.00
Orissa	64.39	41.00	40.88	48.05	48.05
Punjab	456.38	259.00	131.04	570.47	171.00
Rajasthan	440.27	323.00	178.49	99.36	30.00
Tamil Nadu	221.63	112.00	221.29	206.71	62.00
Uttar Pradesh	89.10	64.00	41.56	76.31	23.00

#### Statement-II

*State-wise Central Allocation, Release and Expenditure during 1998-99 and Allocation and Releases (Till Nov' 1999) for 1999-2000 under Special Jute Development Programme (SJDP)*

Rs. in lakh (Central Share)

State	1998-99		Expdr.	1999-2000	
	Allocation	Release		Allocation	Release
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andhra Pradesh	37.79	12.50	25.94	26.03	21.24
Assam	100.00	88.00	9.30	87.05	20.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
Bihar	29.65		24.09	44.22	6.47
Meghalaya	50.00	51.00	36.00	8.90	5.00
Orissa	45.10	68.00	42.85	33.49	33.42
Tripura	15.00		18.74	12.41	5.00
Uttar Pradesh	20.30		9.58	12.55	5.00
West Bengal	195.78	180.50	109.11	182.35	55.00

## Statement-III

*State-wise Central Allocation, Release and Expenditure during 1998-99 and Allocation and Release (Till Nov' 1999) for 1999-2000 under Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping System Areas (SUBACS)*

Rs. in lakh (Central Share)

State	1998-99		Expdr.	1999-2000	
	Allocation	Release		Allocation	Release
Andhra Pradesh	166.70	148.00	115.45	135.00	58.18
Assam	48.42	-	-	18.00	5.00
Bihar	156.32	-	135.15	78.00	39.78
Goa	12.95	-	5.17	5.26	3.00
Gujarat	137.57	105.00	84.62	96.00	29.00
Haryana	93.29	71.00	44.21	75.00	23.00
Karnataka	213.42	127.00	102.35	198.00	60.31
Kerala	40.38	38.00	10.29	30.00	16.68
Madhya Pradesh	106.93	73.00	63.81	78.00	23.00
Maharashtra	580.27	580.00	417.09	447.00	201.63
Manipur	30.00	20.00	18.59	21.00	8.13
Mizoram	30.00	21.30	19.73	21.00	10.72
Nagaland	22.51	17.10	9.83	21.00	6.00
Orissa	49.64	27.00	25.51	33.00	33.00
Punjab	82.80	43.00	10.02	51.00	35.00
Rajasthan	116.05	69.00	28.86	81.00	24.00
Tamil Nadu	165.30	94.00	121.87	126.00	59.63
Tripura	15.01	-	6.22	15.00	5.00
Uttar Pradesh	541.49	91.00	144.30	450.00	186.30
West Bengal	46.04	24.00	-	30.00	9.00
Pondicherry	19.98	-	2.72	10.00	3.00

### Child Development Service

2560. SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to eliminate the child labour from the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any programme prepared by the State Government has been forwarded to the Union Government for approval;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the integrated child development service has been financed by the World Bank; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) and (b) Government has taken a series of steps to progressively eliminate child labour in Andhra Pradesh. National Child Labour Projects (NCLPs) have been sanctioned in 22 districts of Andhra Pradesh. Under these projects, 915 special schools/centres have been sanctioned for withdrawal and rehabilitation of 58,050 working children.

(c) and (d) The State Government of Andhra Pradesh had forwarded two project proposals for withdrawn and rehabilitation of child labour in the districts of Mahboobnagar and Adilabadd under the schemes of National Child Labour Projects. Government has since approved the proposals for setting up 40 special schools/centres of 50 children each in both the above districts.

(e) and (f) Government has approved the World Bank assisted Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Project under Andhra Pradesh Economic Restructuring Programme (APER) in the State of Andhra Pradesh, on 23.3.99. The project envisages expansion of ICDS scheme in 143 new blocks and enriching quality of services in 108 existing ICDS blocks of Andhra Pradesh. The total project cost for 5 years is Rs. 392.75 crores. World Bank assistance to the extent of US\$ 75 million is available for the project.

### Irregularities/Corruption in NAFED

2561. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :

SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL :

SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have noticed any irregularities/corruption in the National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED) involved crores of Rupees scam during the emergency union handling operations last years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have conducted any inquiry in this regard; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken by the Government against the guilty officers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) : (a) to (d) The National Agriculture Co-operative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) has informed that their Vigilance Cell has conducted a preliminary enquiry in onion purchases made during the year 1998 and the enquiry report is under examination. If charges are found proved against any officials of NAFED, disciplinary action will be initiated under the Conduct, Disciplinary and Appeal Rules of the Federation.

### Extradition of Criminals

2562. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for tardy progress in extradition of criminals;

(b) the number of criminals extradited;

(c) the details of countries who have extradition treaty with India;

(d) the details of those countries in the list of Extradition Treaty who are likely to be signed in near future;

(e) the details of special provisions to deal with economic offences; and

(f) the extent to which the Government have been successful ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) All extradition requests are sent through diplomatic channels to the concerned foreign country for consideration. These requests are then examined by the Government and the Competent Court of the Requested State, to establish whether a prima facie case exists and whether the fugitive criminal can be extradited. This process often does take time as the person whose extradition has been sought takes recourse to the legal remedies available, thus delaying extradition.

(b) and (f) Seven (7) fugitive criminals have been extradited to India during the period 1995-99. India has also made requests for extradition of 10 other fugitive criminals, currently under consideration of various countries. India has also extradited 4 fugitive criminals to other countries during the same period.

(c) India has signed Extradition Treaties with following 11 countries. Belgium, Bhutan, Canada, Hong Kong, Nepal, Netherlands, Russian Federation, Switzerland, U.A.E., U.K. and U.S.A.

(d) India has initialled, at official level, Extradition Treaties with five countries – France, Mongolia, Oman, Poland and Tunisia – which are likely to be signed in the near future.

(e) Economic offences, whether relating to taxation, revenue or of purely fiscal character, are extraditable offences under the Extradition Treaties and, therefore, all the provisions of Extradition Treaties are applicable to economic offences as well.

#### Discussion on Kargil Issue in G-8 Summit

2563. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the statement made by German Foreign Minister about the deliberations on Kargil issues in the recent G-8 Summit in Cologne;

(b) if so, whether the G-8 Foreign Ministers made no mention of the Pak-aided instructions in Kargil in the meeting and stressed that "the West could not permit itself to play the role of an onlooker to Kargil";

(c) whether the nuclear power like USA, France, United Kingdom and Russia asserted their desire and need to mediate in the conflict in the summit; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) to (d) Pakistan's aggression against India in the Kargil sector of the State of Jammu and Kashmir has been condemned by the international community including the G-8. The G-8 was critical of Pakistan's attempt to change, through military action, the status quo on the Line of Control. They characterized this action as "irresponsible" and called for the immediate restoration of the LOC. They also called upon Pakistan to resume its dialogue with India in the spirit of the Lahore Declaration. The international community has emphasised on Pakistan the need to resolve all issues with India through bilateral negotiations.

With regard to the remarks attributed to the German Foreign Minister, German Foreign Ministry has clarified that what was attributed to the Minister was inaccurate.

Government have welcomed the reaction of the international community including the G-8. We have reiterated our commitment to resolving all outstanding issues with Pakistan in accordance with the Simla Agreement and the Lahore Declaration. For this, Pakistan must demonstrate its adherence to these agreements through its abandonment of cross-border terrorism and hostile propaganda against India. Government have also reiterated that there is no place whatsoever for any third party involvement in India-Pakistan relations.

#### Below Poverty Line

2564. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Orissa Government have submitted any representation to the Planning Commission to revise the percentage of population below the poverty line in rural areas of Orissa;

(b) if so, whether the Planning Commission has revised its estimate of the percentage of population of Orissa below the poverty line.

(c) the present percentage of the population of Orissa below the poverty line; and

(d) the decision taken by the Union Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of Orissa had represented that a national level poverty line be adopted for estimation of poverty in the state.

(b) and (d) The Planning Commission after carefully considering the recommendation of the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor (Lakdawala Committee) has adopted the methodology for estimation of poverty recommended by the Expert Group. Under this methodology, state-specific poverty lines calculated from state-specific price indices is to be used to estimate poverty, rather than a national poverty line – applied uniformly for all the states.

(c) According to the latest estimates, 48.56 per cent of the people in Orissa lived below the poverty line in 1993-94

[Translation]

#### Child Labour

2565. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the child labourers are being exploited at large scale in the country particularly in tribal areas of the country;

(b) whether the Government have received complaints regarding violation of labour laws in these areas during the last three years;

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

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (d) Employment of children below the age of 14 is prohibited in 13 occupations and 51 processes listed in the schedule to the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986. The employment conditions of children in other occupations and processes is regulated under the Act. The Central Government and the State/UT Governments ensure enforcement of labour legislation under their respective spheres. The Central Government is responsible for enforcement of the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986, in Railways, major ports, mines, oil fields and establishments under the control of the Central Government. No large scale exploitation of child labour has been noticed in the above mentioned establishments. In all other cases, State/UT Government's are responsible for enforcement of the Act. Employers found employing children in occupations and processes prohibited under the Act are prosecuted under the provisions of the Act. State/UT Governments furnish information to the Central Government on implementation of the provisions of the Act. As per available information, the violations detected and prosecutions launched under the Act for the year 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 are as follows :-

Year	Violations detected	Prosecutions launched
1996-97	1868	458
1997-98	2329	1749
1998-99 (Provisional)	798	1235

The enforcement of the labour laws is reviewed from time to time to identify gaps and take remedial steps. National Child Labour Projects (NCLPs) have been set up for withdrawal of children from work and their rehabilitation. A majority of the projects have been set up in States with a large tribal population, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu.

[English]

#### Delayed Projects

2566. SHRI C.N. SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether more than one hundred public sector projects involving over Rs. 1000 crore are monitored by Prime Minister's office and many of these projects have been delayed;

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay in execution of those projects and the steps taken to expedite the same;

(c) whether Standing Committee in each Ministry/ Department has been constituted to fix responsibility for time and cost overrun in projects costing Rs. 50 crore and above;

(d) if so, whether those committees have fixed the responsibility; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against the officials responsible for delay and cost cost overrun ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) : (a) As on November, 1999, 35 projects costing Rs. 1000 crores and above are being monitored by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme implementation. Of these, 23 are delayed with respect to the latest approved schedules.

(b) The reasons for delay varies from project to project. However, in general, the reasons include; administrative and procedural delays, delays in land acquisition, delay in award of work contracts, failure of civil contractors, delay in supply of equipment, faulty implementation procedures and unresponsive monitoring system. The steps taken to reduce time and cost overrun of these projects are as follows :

(i) Monthly as well as Quarterly monitoring by the Government. This enables the monitoring

authorities to identify constraints and help the management in taking remedial measures;

- (ii) In-depth critical reviews of the progress by the Project Authorities and Administrative Ministries and follow up with the State Government, equipment suppliers, contractors, consultants and other concerned agencies to minimise delays;
- (iii) Inter-ministerial coordination for resolving problems of inter-ministerial nature;
- (iv) Review of projects by the empowered Committees of the concerned Ministries/Departments for speedy finalisation of contract packages, solving of land acquisition and other problems;
- (v) Making funds available to complete the projects in advanced stage of implementation, as per the schedule; and
- (vi) Reprioritisation of projects for implementation within the available financial resources.

(c) to (e) A Standing Committee has been set up in each Ministry/Department headed by Additional Secretary/ Joint Secretary with the representatives of Planning Commission, Department of Expenditure, and Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation for fixation of responsibility for time and cost overrun in projects costing Rs. 50 crores and above under them on continuous basis. As on 15th October, 1999, 28 projects for review by the Standing Committees were discussed by the Standing Committees of different Ministries/Departments. The findings of the Committees with specific action proposed by the concerned Ministries/Departments forms part of the revised cost estimates and the same are submitted for approval and directions of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs.

#### Godavari Action Plan

2567. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has urged the Union Government to take up the Godavari Action Plan as a Central Project; and

(b) if so, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Financial Assistance to State Fishery Development Corporation

2568. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the extent of financial assistance provided to the Madhya Pradesh State Fishery Development Corporation (Madhya Pradesh Rajya Matsya Vikas Nigam) during the current year under the Central Scheme for development of fishery;

(b) the dates on which the above assistance was provided and the details of works for which it was provided;

(c) whether the above scheme has been implemented properly and the amount of financial assistance was utilized for the purpose;

(d) if not, the names of the persons responsible for improper utilization of the sanctioned amount under the above scheme; and

(e) the action being taken by the Department in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) No financial assistance has been provided to the M.P. State Fisheries Development Corporation (M.P. Rajya Matsya Vikas Nigam) during the year 1999-2000 under Central Scheme for development of fishery.

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

[English]

#### Indo-China Border

2569. SHRI R.L. BHATIA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) Whether India and China had held any meeting on November 24, 1999 on the boundary question aimed to find an amicable solution to the protracted problem;

(b) if so, the details of issues discussed and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether the Government have made any progress on border question with China; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) The 7th Meeting of the India-China Expert Group of Diplomatic and Military Officials (EG), which is a sub-group of the India-China Joint Working Group on the Boundary Question, was held in New Delhi

on November 24, 1999. The meeting discussed boundary-related issues, including measures for confidence building along the Line of Actual Control in the India-China border areas. The meeting also reviewed bilateral relations.

(c) and (d) The two sides are discussing the boundary question in the framework of the Joint Working Group. India and China have reiterated the objective of seeking a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable settlement of the boundary question through dialogue. Both sides have reiterated their commitment of the Agreement on Maintenance of Peace and Tranquillity along the Line of Actual Control in the India-China Border Areas (1993) and the Agreement on Confidence Building Measures in the Military Field along the Line of Actual Control in the India-China Border Areas (1996) which provide an institutional framework for the maintenance of peace and tranquillity in the India-China border areas. The border areas have generally remained peaceful.

#### Employees Provident Fund

2570. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK :  
SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Board of Trustees of the Employees Provident Fund has proposed for hiking the minimum yield on Provident Fund to 13 per cent against 12 per cent now; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the decision taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Mineral Deposits

2571. SHRI P.D. ELANGOVA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the evaluation of heavy mineral deposits in Tamil Nadu by the Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research were fruitful;

(b) whether the occurrence of heavy mineral in Molybdenum in the Harur Taluk, Dharmapuri District, Tamil Nadu has been included in the AMDs research and development of heavy mineral resources needed for the nuclear power programme and Rocket propellant research; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) The results of exploration and evaluation of the heavy mineral deposits (containing minerals like ilmenite, rutile, zircon, monazite, etc., which have been declared as prescribed substances under the Atomic Energy Act, 1962) by the Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD) over 580 kilometres (km) along the coast and of inland teri sands deposits over 170 sq. km. in Tamil Nadu have benefited the industries concerned.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) AMD's mandate is to explore the occurrence and evaluate the deposits of minerals which have been notified as prescribed substances under the Atomic Energy Act, 1962 and molybdenum is not a prescribed substance.

#### Indo-Pak Talks

2572. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the new Pak regime has given any indication that they are ready to talk with India on options other than the UN resolutions on Kashmir and welcomes positive talks; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto indicating the headway made in Indo-Pak talks since the Lahore Declaration ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) and (b) The military coup in Pakistan has not altered Pakistan's aggressive approach, hostile policies and propaganda against India. Pakistan has continued to sponsor cross-border terrorism in the State of Jammu and Kashmir and elsewhere in India. Pakistani forces continue to fire across the LoC and the International Border in Jammu and Kashmir. Recent statements made by spokesmen of the military regime also indicate Pakistan's continued assertion of territorial claims on the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

Government's policy has remained consistent and principled. The State of Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of the Indian Union. A part of the territory of this State is under the forcible and illegal occupation of Pakistan. India remains committed to resolving all outstanding issues with Pakistan in accordance with the

Simla agreement and the Lahore Declaration. We expect Pakistan to demonstrate its adherence to these agreements through its abandonment of cross-border terrorism and hostile propaganda.

**Land Boundary Agreement between  
India and Pakistan/Bangladesh**

2573.SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the implementation of the Land Boundary Agreement between India and Pakistan/Bangladesh an amendment in the constitution is required in term of Article 3 of Constitution of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which such an amendment is likely to be brought before Parliament; and

(d) the position in the matter as on date ?

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

(c) and (d) The demarcation of about 6.5 kms of the India-Bangladesh land boundary is yet to be completed. Legal advice given to the Government has suggested that a fully demarcated boundary is necessary to arrange enabling legislation and the requisite amendment to the Constitution. The Government propose to complete the task of demarcation of the boundary with Bangladesh with the cooperation of the concerned State Governments.

The subject figured in the discussions held by the Prime Minister during his visit to Dhaka in June 1999. The Government of India is committed to an early settlement of all boundary-related matters with Bangladesh.

**Welfare Schemes for Agricultural  
Workers**

2574.SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the welfare schemes implemented for agricultural labourers in U.P. Bihar, Punjab and other States during each of the last three years;

(b) the extent to which the agricultural labourers have been benefited by these schemes;

(c) the amount allocated for the purpose during each of the last three years and also during Ninth Five Year Plan period;

(d) whether the Government propose to give more incentives to agricultural labourers in various States; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (e) There are no schemes approved by the Union Government specially for agricultural labour in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Punjab and other States. However, some of the major schemes undertaken for the welfare of rural workers including agricultural labour in the country are Jawahar Rojgar Yojana (JRY) known as Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana w.e.f. 1.4.1999, Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS), Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM), Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA) etc. A New Programme known as "Swarnjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana" (SGSY) has been launched from April, 1999 by amalgamating some of these schemes like IRDP, TRYSEM and DWCRA. This is a holistic programme covering all aspects of self employment such as organisation of the poor into self help groups, training, credit, technology, infrastructure and marketing.

The details of financial coverage under the various schemes in the last three years are given below :

Rs. in lakhs

All India	Name of the scheme					
	Year	IRDP	EAS	JRY	TRYSEM	DWCRA
	1996-97	109721.16	242379.34	223679.48	9025.00	7500.00
	1997-98	113351.23	246047.50	249921.18	9025.00	7500.00
	1998-99	145627.78	248514.77	259702.50	4500.00	15586.20

*Allocation of funds for Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Punjab during this period is as under*

Rs. in lakhs

	Year	Name of the scheme				
		IRDP	EAS	JRY	TRYSEM	DWCRA
Uttar Pradesh	1996-97	20316.50	26630.94	42334.91	1669.12	1017.00
	1997-98	20988.66	39310.08	47301.56	1669.12	1017.00
	1998-99	27883.22	34075.58	52742.94	858.04	2986.70
Bihar	1996-97	16218.24	26556.25	34075.58	1274.48	760.50
	1997-98	16754.81	22792.50	38073.25	1274.48	760.50
	1998-99	25336.66	23245.00	47925.96	779.64	2715.04
Punjab	1996-97	521.53	1225.00	1089.39	43.00	165.75
	1997-98	538.77	2300.00	1217.19	43.00	165.75
	1998-99	832.40	3400.00	1574.54	25.61	89.20

Allocation of funds during IXth Plan period under these schemes is as under :

*Allocation of Funds during Ninth Five Year Plan*

Name of the scheme	Amount (Rs. in crores)
"Swarnjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana" (SGSY)	4690.00
Jawahar Rojgar Yojana (JRY) (known as Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana w.e.f. 1.4.99)	7095.90
Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS)	8690.00

[Translation]

**World Food Programme**

2575. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the districts in Madhya Pradesh where land conservation programmes under "World Food Programme" are undertaken;

(b) whether the Government propose to include Damoh, Panna and Chhatrapur districts of Madhya Pradesh under a World Food Programme; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) :  
(a) The names of the districts in which 'Improvement in Food Security in Tribal Areas through Forestry Activities in

Madhya Pradesh' is under implementation with the help of World Food Programme are :

Baster, Dantewada, Kanker, Balaghat, Mandla, Dindori, Bilaspur, Korba, Janiger-Champa, Surgujan West Surguja, Sidhi, Shadol, Raigarh, Jashpur, Chhindwara, Hoshangabad, Jhaabua and Seoni.

(b) and (c) There is no proposal to include districts of Damoh, Panna and Chhatrapur under the "World Food Programme" in the current year.

[English]

**Crop Insurance Scheme**

2576. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :  
DR. ASHOK PATEL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of crops covered under the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme;

(b) the number of crops are being considered to be included under the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme;

(c) whether every farmer have to get the benefits of the CIS on the damage caused to any kind of crop irrespective of taking loan from the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the total expenses incurred by Union Government towards the scheme including subsidy outgo during each of the last three years;

(f) the number of farmers benefited by the GIS during the above period;

(g) the extent to which Centre and States have agreed to share the cost of Crop Insurance Scheme; and

(h) the salient features of the proposed Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO) : (a) and (b) Crops covered under the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS) (which remained under implementation from Kharif 1985 to Kharif 1999 season) were – rice, wheat, millets, oilseeds and pulses. The CCIS has since been replaced by new scheme titled National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) effective from Rabi 1999-2000 season. Apart from crops covered under CCIS, annual horticultural/commercial crops are also brought under the purview of new scheme subject to the availability of past yield data.

(c) and (d) Farmers who availed crop loans from rural financial institutions viz., Commercial banks, cooperatives and regional rural banks for raising notified crops in the notified area were covered under CCIS and eligible for compensation in accordance with the provisions of the scheme. However, under the new scheme all farmers (loanee and non-loanee) are eligible for coverage.

(e) and (f) Details of Central assistance (including subsidy) released under Crop Insurance and number of farmers benefited during the last three years are as under :-

Year	Central Assistance Released (Rs. in crores)	Farmers benefited
1996-97	110.42	145562
1997-98	110.00	178544
1998-99	110.00	70950*

\*As on 29.11.1999

(g) Under CCIS claims liability was shared by the Centre and State Governments in the ratio of 2:1 while new scheme envisages sharing liability in the ratio of 1:1,

(h) Salient features of the new scheme are as under:

- (i) Coverage of all farmers including share croppers and tenants.
- (ii) Coverage of annual commercial/horticultural crops, besides food crops and oilseeds.

(iii) Farmers have option to select the sum insured as high as 150% of average yield.

(iv) Assessment of crop losses on individual basis for localised calamities to be experimented in few areas.

(v) Premium rates in respect of food crops and oilseeds may range from 2.5% to 3.5% during Kharif and 1.5% and 2.0% during Rabi or actuarial rates whichever is less. In respect of annual commercial/horticultural crops, premium will be charged based on actuarial rates.

(vi) Small and Marginal farmers will be eligible for subsidy in premium to the extent of 50% which would be phased out over a period of five years.

[Translation]

#### Bus Service

2577. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India has resumed the bus service with Bangladesh;

(b) if so, the main issues on which both countries have reached consensus;

(c) whether the Government had also raised the issue of Bangladeshi infiltrators during this discussion; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government of Bangladesh in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) and (b) A passenger bus service between Calcutta and Dhaka was inaugurated on June 19, 1999 during the visit of the Prime Minister to Dhaka. Earlier, on June 17, 1999, the Government of India and the Government of Bangladesh signed an Agreement for Regulation of Motor Vehicle Passenger Traffic and a Protocol regarding Operation of Passenger Bus Service between Dhaka and Calcutta. The Agreement and the Protocol cover various issues relating to the operation of the bus service, such as specification of the route, requirement of necessary documents, frequency of services, fare and ticketing, baggage, security etc.

(c) and (d) Discussions held during the Prime Minister's visit to Dhaka, covered all aspects of the multi-faceted relations between the two countries. Both sides reiterated their commitment to co-operate with each other in the mutual interest.

### National Planning

2578. YOGI ADITYA NATH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government's planning have been proved to be a failure in providing basic amenities to every citizen of the Country even after fifty years of independence;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to solve these problems on the priority basis;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) It has been the endeavour of the Government to provide basic amenities to all the people in the country since the beginning of the planning processes. While substantial progress has been made towards fulfilling this objective, the goal of achieving full coverage for the entire population has not been realised.

Great strides have been made to ensure access of all to primary education, primary health care and safe drinking water. As per the latest available information, 83% of the total habitations in the country were served by a primary school within 1 km of walking distance. As compared to an enrolment of 19.2 million children in age group 6-11 year in primary schools, enrolment in 1997-98 was 108.7 million. Literacy too increased from 16.6 per cent in 1951 to 62 per cent in 1997. Access to Primary Health Care has also witnessed significant achievements. At the All India level, the objective of setting up a network of Sub Centres (SC's) and Primary Health Centres (PHC's) has been fully achieved as per norms. The improved situation in the provision of Primary Health Care is reflected in marked improvement in health indices : Crude Death Rate (CDR) has declined from 25.1 in 1951 to 8.9 in 1996, Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) has declined from 146 in 1951 to 72 in 1996 and Life Expectancy has risen from 32 years in 1947 to 61.1 years in 1991. Considerable progress has also been made insofar as access to Safe Drinking Water is concerned. In respect of Water Supply to rural areas, as on 1.4.98, 74.1% of all habitations had access to Safe

Drinking Water, 21.9% of all habitations had partial access to Drinking Water with only 4% of the habitations lacking access of Safe Drinking Water. In Urban areas, 85% of the total Urban population as on 31.3.93 had access to Safe Drinking Water as per norms.

(c) to (e) Keeping in view the objective of achieving full access of both rural and urban population to basic amenities, the Basic Minimum Services (BMS) programme was launched in 1996. Seven Basic Services were identified for priority attention. The Services are Safe Drinking Water for all; Primary health service facilities for all; Universalisation of primary education; Provision of Public Housing Assistance to all shelterless poor; Nutrition to certain disadvantaged Sections; Provision of connectivity to all unconnected villages and habitations; and Streamlining of the Public Distribution System with a focus on the poor.

In addition to the provision of funds for BMS made in the Plans of the State and Union Territories (UTs) and funds routed through the Centrally Sponsored Schemes, in 1996 the Centre introduced a system of Additional Central Assistance (ACA) to States/UTs exclusively for BMS. In 1996-97, the Centre allocated Rs. 2244 crore as ACA for BMS to States and UTs which was increased to Rs. 2970 crore in 1997-98 and further enhanced to Rs. 3410 crore in 1998-99. In 1999-2000 Rs. 3700 crore have been provided by the Centre for BMS. The distribution of ACA among States is based on the relative gaps in the BMS infrastructure in the States. The total BMS outlay of the States/UTs is earmarked in their Annual Plans so that no diversion to non-BMS sectors is possible. States and UTs have full freedom and flexibility to spend ACA among the seven BMS areas as per their own priorities. The implementation of the BMS Programme rests entirely with the States and UTs.

Special action Plans have been drawn up for the BMS sectors of Safe Drinking Water, Primary Health Care, Primary Education and Housing for the Shelterless Poor in the Ninth Plan.

[English]

### National Labour Projects

2579. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the details of national labour projects launched in the country as part of the International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC);

(b) the date when these projects were launched;

(c) the amount received so far from International Labour Organisation for these projects during each of last three years;

(d) the number of children benefited so far under these IPEC projects;

(e) whether these IPEC projects are facing a threat of closing down;

(f) if so, the detail thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(g) the efforts made by the Government to save these IPEC projects from closing down ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (d) As per information received from the International Labour Organisation (ILO), no National Labour projects have been set up under ILO's International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC). However, India has been participating in the ILO's-International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) Programme. Under the programme, 154 child labour projects have been approved during the period 1992-93 to 1998-99. The number of children benefited under the projects is 90,500. The total commitment made for these projects is US \$69,65,684/- for the period 1992-1999.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) and (g) Does not arise.

#### Milk Powder

2580.SHRI MOINUL HASSAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Dairy Association has called upon the Government to take immediate steps to protect the domestic dairy sector;

(b) if so, whether subsidised and sub-standard milk powder is being dumped into the country;

(c) whether any meeting has been held with the Indian Dairy Association; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to protect the domestic dairy sector ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) to (d) The Indian Dairy Association has drawn the attention of the Government to the likely effect of import of milk products on zero import duty under Open General License. No meeting has been arranged with the Association by the Ministry of Agriculture. Ministry of Commerce has informed that the Government is already in the process of negotiations with the concerned trading

partners for enhancement of tariff on import of skimmed milk powder which is presently bound at nil tariff rate.

As regards sub-standards milk powder being dumped in the country it is stated that standard of import of any food articles is governed under Prevention of Food Adulteration Act administered by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. The Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) has issued directions to all the Port Health Officers to ensure that each consignment of food articles is subjected to analysis.

[Translation]

#### Foreign Capital Investment

2581.SHRI J.S. BRAR :

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of foreign capital investment proposals have been cleared after liberalisation of industrial policy by the Government in 1991;

(b) if so, the number of proposals cleared from 1991-92 to September, 1999 and the number of proposals out of them submitted by the multinational companies;

(c) whether a very few proposals of MNCs have been implemented so far; and

(d) if not, the number of such proposals which have been implemented so far and the foreign capital invested therein ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) and (b) Since liberalisation in July, 1991 till Sept., 1999, Government has approved 631 foreign investment proposals envisaged a total foreign investment of Rs. 10518 crores approx. in the various sectors of Processed Food.

(c) and (d) As per information available so far, 114 projects envisaging foreign investment have been implemented in the Processed Food Sector. As per Reserve Bank of India, the total inflow of foreign investment in this sector upto June, 99 is Rs. 1944 crores approx.

[English]

#### Decline in Prices of Agricultural Commodities

2582.SHRI ANIL BASU : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether prices of agricultural Commodities are declining sharply during the last few years;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the corrective measures taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The prices of agricultural commodities generally are not declining. The following statement shows the annual percentage rise in the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) numbers of agricultural commodities during the last five years.

Year.	% rise over the previous year in the WPI of agricultural commodities
1995	10.4
1996	6.7
1997	4.7
1998	11.6
1999 (P) (Upto Nov. 99)	4.4

(P) – Provisional

[Translation]

#### Sixth Hindi Vishwa Sammelan

2583. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of rules and regulations for selection of representatives for Sixth Hindi Vishwa Sammelan;

(b) whether these rules and regulations have been followed by his ministry;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons thereof;

(e) the names of persons in the list of representatives; participated in the said sammelan;

(f) the objectives of organising the Sixth Hindi Vishwa Sammelan and the contribution of the Government therein;

(g) the details of persons from whom the articles were invited and the persons whose articles were published in the said Sammelan; and

(h) the steps taken by the Government to follow the rules and regulations properly?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) to (d) All Hindi lovers and Hindi organisations were welcomed to participate in the Sixth World Hindi Conference and details of the event were widely disseminated. To facilitate this a web site was also created. A deadline was given by which the participants were requested to confirm participation. Air India offered 50% concession on the excursion fare on the Delhi-London-Delhi sector.

Government of India official delegation consisted of 26 members and was headed by the then Minister of State for External Affairs, Smt. Vasundhara Raje. Dr. Vidya Niwas Mishra was the Deputy Leader of the delegation which included Hindi literateurs as well as journalists and publishers. The members of the Co-ordination Committee and the Committee, constituted to select eminent Hindi Scholars to be honoured during the Conference were also part of the Delegation.

20 foreign and 13 Indian scholars were selected by a committee headed by Shri Ashok Vajpeyi, Vice-Chancellor of International Hindi University, Wardha and honoured at the closing ceremony of the Conference. Air fare for these scholars were paid by the Government of India.

(e) List of the Government of India-official delegation as well as the 33 scholars honoured is given in enclosed Statement.

(f) World Hindi Conferences are organized with a view to popularizing Hindi, to bring Hindi to the common man and to involve all Hindi lovers and organizations around the world. Another main objective of such Conferences is to project Hindi as a modern language capable of being used in an effective way in day-to-day life, including science and technology. These Conferences also provide a platform to pursue efforts for making Hindi one of the languages of the United Nations.

As per past practice, the responsibility for arrangements on the ground was entrusted to a local Organising Committee which consisted off the following organisations :

- a. Hindi Samiti, U.K. London
- b. Gitanjali Bahubhashiya Sahityik Samudaya, Birmingham
- c. Bhartiya Bhasha Sangam, York and
- d. Other collaborators like the Nehru Centre, London, Bhartiya Vidya Bhavan, London and SAMPAD, Birmingham.

Government of India actively collaborated and supported the activities. The main contributions of the Government of India to the Conference were :

- (i) Sending of a Government delegation of 26 members led by the then Minister of State for External Affairs, Smt. Vasundhara Raje;
- (ii) Air fare for 20 foreign and 13 Indian scholars who were specially honoured at the Conference for their contribution to Hindi language and literature. At the closing ceremony they were presented with mementoes, shawls and certificates of appreciation.
- (iii) DAVP organised a Book and Photo Exhibition. A Computer Exhibition showing the latest Hindi software was organised by C-DAC.
- (iv) All arrangements connected with the inauguration and closing ceremonies as well as the academic sessions.
- (v) X.P. Division of MEA sent films for a film Festival as well as a contingent of journalists to cover the Conference.

(g) and (h) As per past practice, papers on specific topics were invited from scholars all over the world by the Organizing Committee. An Academic Committee headed by Dr. Mahendra Verma, Professor Linguistic and Hindi, Department of Language, University of York went into the screening and selection of papers. Based on the academic and literary quality of over 300 abstracts received, 120 papers were chosen to be read out during the Academic Sessions of the Conference. These articles would be published in a souvenir to be brought out in due course.

#### Statement

##### *Official Delegation for VI World Hindi Conference*

- |                              |               |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Smt. Vasundhara Raje, MOS | Leader        |
| 2. Sh. Vidya Niwas Mishra,   | Deputy Leader |
| 3. Dr. L.M. Singhvi, MP      |               |
| 4. Sh. Narendra Mohan, MP    |               |
| 5. Smt. Mridula Sinha        |               |
| 6. Sh. Vishnu Kant Shastri   |               |
| 7. Sh. Baleshwar Agarwal     |               |
| 8. Dr. Devendra Deepak       |               |
| 9. Sh. Ashok Vajpeyi         |               |
| 10. Dr. Kamal Kishore Goenka |               |
| 11. Sh. Tarun Vijay          |               |

12. Sh. Namwar Singh
13. Sh. Chandrika Prasad Sharma
14. Smt. Chitra Mudgal
15. Dr. Durga Prasad Gupta
16. Dr. (Prof.) Miss Rama Singh
17. Sh. Bhanu Pratap Shukla
18. Sh. Manohar Puri
19. Sh. Vishambhar Sharma
20. Sh. Maheshwar Prasad Sinha
21. Sh. Prabhat Kumar
22. Dr. V.R. Jagannathan
23. Secretary/Joint Secretary,  
Department of Official Language
24. Joint Secretary, Ministry of Human  
Resource Development
25. Director of Central Hindi Directorate
26. Director General (ICCR)

#### *List of Scholars who were Honoured during VI World Hindi Conference*

##### Scholars From Abroad

- |                                    |            |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| 1. Ms. Mariola Ofridi              | Italy      |
| 2. Prof. Shyam Manohar Pandey      | Italy      |
| 3. Mr. Tomio Mizokami              | Japan      |
| 4. Miss Linda Hess                 | USA        |
| 5. Mr. Onkar Nath Srivastava       | UK         |
| 6. Ms. Suchitra Ramdin             | Mauritius  |
| 7. Mr. Rajendra Arun               | Mauritius  |
| 8. Mr. Vivekanand Sharma           | Fiji       |
| 9. Mr. Mahatm Singh                | Suriname   |
| 10. Mr. Ravi Msharaj               | Trinidad   |
| 11. Ms. Maria Nageysi              | Hungary    |
| 12. Mr. Surya Nath Gope            | Nepal      |
| 13. Mr. Fatih Gueyamovich Teshabev | Uzbekistan |
| 14. Mr. Diemstag                   | Netherland |
| 15. Mr. Danula Staslik             | Poland     |
| 16. Mr. Melmut Nespital            | Germany    |
| 17. Mr. Barkhudarov                | Russia     |
| 18. Mr. Nikolai Balbir             | France     |
| 19. Mr. Vinant Kelvert             | Belgium    |
| 20. Mr. David Lauranzo             | Mexico     |

**Scholars From India**

1. Dr. L.M. Singhvi, MP
2. Sh. Narendra Mohan, MP
3. Smt. Shivani
4. Sh. Madhukar Rao Chaudhary
5. Smt. Mahrunnisa Pervez
6. Sh. Srilal Shukla
7. Dr. Maheep Singh
8. Sh. Vishwanath Iyer
9. Sh. Kalyan Mal Lodha
10. Sh. Shaurie Rajan
11. Sh. Naresh Mehta
12. Sh. Govind Chand Pandeya
13. Sh. Ram Vilas Sharma

[English]

**Atrocities on Indian Women Employed  
in Gulf Countries**

2584. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN :

SHRI V.S. SIVAKUMAR :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that there have been numerous reports regarding ill treatment, harassment and sexual abuse of Indian women who are employed in Saudi Arabia and in other Gulf countries particularly as house maids;

(b) if so, the measures taken to protect Indian women working in these countries;

(c) whether the Union Government have received any suggestions from the State Governments in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) There have been some reports of ill-treatment, harassment and physical abuse of Indian women, particularly female domestic workers employed in some Gulf countries. However, considering the large Indian work force in the Gulf countries, the number of such complaints is very small.

(b) Complaints regarding ill-treatment of women workers are attended to promptly by the concerned Indian

Mission/Post. The Mission attempts to first resolve the matter by discussing the problem with the employer. Wherever necessary, assistance of the local authorities is also sought. If the problem still persists, the Mission concerned makes every effort to facilitate repatriation of the affected worker to India.

(c) and (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

12.00 hrs.

**PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYA NARAYAN JATIYA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Central Amendment Rules, 1999 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 386 in Gazette of India dated the 20th November, 1999 under sub-section (3) of section 15 of the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 801/99]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :-

(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 Electronics Trade and Technology Development Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Electronics Trade and Technology Development Corporation Limited, 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 802/99]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Semiconductor Complex Limited, S.A.S. Nagar, for the year 1998-99.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Semiconductor Complex Limited, S.A.S. Nagar, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts

and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 803/99]

- (c) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the CMC Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 1998-99.
- (ii) Annual Report, of the CMC Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 1998-99, 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 (a) of item (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 804/99]

- (3) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the CMC Limited and the Ministry of Information Technology for the year 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 805/99]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (DR. C.P. THAKUR) : Sir, I bag to lay on the Table :-

- (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 National Projects Construction Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Projects Construction Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, 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 806/99]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Water Development Agency New Delhi, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Water Development Agency, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 807/99]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : Sir, I bag to lay on the Table:-

- (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 Manganese Ore (India) Limited, Nagpur, for the year 1998-99
- (ii) Annual Report of the Manganese Ore (India) Limited, Nagpur, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 808/99]

- (2) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Metallurgical and Engineering Consultants (India) Limited and the Ministry of Steel and Mines for the year 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 809/99]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Uranium Corporation of India Limited and the Department of Atomic Energy for the year 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 810/99]

- (2) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Electronics Corporation of India Limited and the Department of Atomic Energy for the year 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 811/99]

[Shrimati Vasundhara Raje]

- (3) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Indian Rare Earths Limited and the Department of Atomic Energy for the year 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 812/99]

- (4) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited and the Department of Atomic Energy for the year 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 813/99]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 814/99]

- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Institute for Plasma Research, Gandhinagar, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Institute for Plasma Research, Gandhinagar, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 815/99]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Remote Sensing Agency Hyderabad, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Remote Sensing Agency Hyderabad, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 816/99]

- (8) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National MST Radar Facility, Gadanki for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the

working of the National MST Radar Facility, Gadanki for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 817/99]

- (9) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of the section 3 of the All India Services Act, 1951 :-

- (i) The All India Services (Discipline and Appeal) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 130 in Gazette of India, dated the 25th July, 1998.

- (ii) The All India Services (Prevention of Sexual Harassment) Regulations, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 143 in Gazette of India, dated the 8th August, 1998.

- (iii) The All India Services (Discipline and Appeal) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 177, in Gazette of India, dated the 12th September, 1998.

- (iv) The All India Services (Conduct) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 229, in Gazette of India, dated the 28th November, 1998.

- (v) The All India Service (Study Leave) Amendment Regulations, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 57 in Gazette of India, dated the 14th March, 1998.

- (vi) The All India Service (Leave) First Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 60, in Gazette of India, dated the 14th March, 1998.

- (vii) The All India Service (Leave) Second Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 71, in Gazette of India, dated the 28th November, 1998.

- (viii) The Indian Police Service (Uniform) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 194 in Gazette of India, dated the 10th October, 1998.

- (ix) The Indian Service (Uniform) Amendment Rules, 1998, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 244, in Gazette of India, dated the 19th December, 1998.

- (x) The All India Service (Provident Fund) - Amendment Rules, 1999, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 179, in Gazette of India, dated the 12th June, 1999.

(xi) The Indian Administrative Service (Probation) Amendment Rules, 1999 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 152, in Gazette of India, dated the 17th July, 1999.

(xii) The Indian Police Service (Probationers' Final Examination) Rules, 1999, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 335 in Gazette of India, dated the 16th October, 1999.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 818/99]

(10) 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 Antrix Corporation Limited, Bangalore, for the year 1998-99.

(ii) Annual Report of the Antrix Corporation Limited, Bangalore, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 819/99]

(b) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1998-99.

(ii) Annual Report of the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 820/99]

(11) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 821/99]

(12) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Footwear Training Institute, Chennai, for the year 1998-99 alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Footwear Training Institute, Chennai, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 822/99]

(13) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Footwear Training Institute, Agra, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Footwear Training Institute, Agra, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 823/99]

(14) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Process and Product Development Centre, Agra, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Process and Product Development Centre, Agra, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 824/99]

(15) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Process cum Product Development Centre, Meerut, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Process cum Product Development Centre, Meerut, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 825/99]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :-

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Paddy Processing Research Centre, Thanjavur, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.

[Shri Syed Shah Nawaz Hussain]

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Paddy Processing Research Centre, Thanjavur, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 826/99]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) The 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, 1999 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 39 in Gazette of India dated the 30th January, 1999.
- (ii) The Apprenticeship (Amendment) Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 40 in Gazette of India dated the 30th January, 1999.
- (iii) The Apprenticeship (Amendment) Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 41 in Gazette of India dated the 30th January, 1999.
- (iv) The Apprenticeship (Amendment) Rules, 1999 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 58 in Gazette of India dated the 27th February, 1999 together with a corrigendum thereto published in Notification No. G.S.R. 125 dated the 24th April, 1999.
- (v) The Apprenticeship (Amendment) Rules, 1999 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 190(E) in Gazette of India dated the 28th February, 1999.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 827/99]

- (2) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 426(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th June, 1999, reconstituting with immediate effect the Central Apprenticeship Council and appointing the Union Minister of Labour/State Minister of Labour as Chairman, the Union Minister of State and Deputy Minister for Education as its Vice Chairman and other persons mentioned therein as members together with a corrigendum thereto published in

Notification No. S.O. 2268 dated the 7th August, 1999.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 828/99]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) 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 Fertilizer (Control) Amendment Order, 1999, published in Notification No. S.O. 329(E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th May, 1999.
- (ii) S.O. 300(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th May, 1999 seeking to amend the Notification No. S.O. 759(E) dated the 5th November, 1997.
- (iii) S.O. 201(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 1999 directing that the manufacturers specified in the Scheduled shall sell the fertilizers produced by them, to the registered fertilizers dealers during the Kharif season 1999 upto 30th September, 1999.
- (iv) S.O. 999 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st October, 1999 directing that the manufacturers specified therein shall sell the fertilizer produced by them to the registered fertilizer dealers during the Rabi season 1999-2000 upto 31st March, 2000.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 829/99]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 830/99]

- (3) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956-

- (i) Review by the Government on the working of the J&K Horticultural Produce Marketing and Processing Corporation Limited, Sri Nagar, for the year 1988-89.
  - (ii) Review Report of the Jammu and Kashmir Horticultural Produce Marketing and Processing Corporation Limited, Srinagar, for the year 1988-89.
  - (iii) Annual Report of the Jammu and Kashmir Horticultural Produce Marketing and Processing Corporation Limited, Srinagar, for the year 1988-89, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General, thereon.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 831/99]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Sixty-Seventh Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Statistical Institute, Calcutta, for the year 1998-99.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Statistical Institute, Calcutta, for the year 1998-99, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Statistical Institute, Calcutta, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 832/99]

12.02 hrs.

#### MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha :-

- (i) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 13th December, 1999, agreed without any amendment to the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Amendment Bill, 1999, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 8th December, 1999."
- (ii) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation (No.4) Bill, 1999 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 9th December, 1999 and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

12.04 hrs.

#### MOTION RE : THIRD REPORT OF BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That this House do agree with the Third Report of the Business, Business Advisory Committee Presented to the House on the 14th December, 1999."

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do agree with the Third Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 14th December, 1999."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will call you one by one. If all of you speak at the same time, then how can I allow you ? Dr. Jaswant Singh Yadav.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will give you a chance. Please resume your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will give you a chance. Please resume your seat. Let me conduct the House. I will give you a chance. Please do not behave in this way. Please resume your seat.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let me conduct the House. All of you will get a chance. Dr. Jaswant Singh Yadav.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV (Alwar) : Hon'ble Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Rajasthan is in the grip of severe famine. The situation is so grave that farmers of Rajasthan have no other option but to commit suicide or to leave the village. The situation is adverse to such an extent but the Rajasthan Government is sitting idle. State Government is doing nothing to help the farmers as well as people of the State. Such incidents are being noticed that people are deserting their animals after applying Tilak on their heads as they have no fodder to feed their animals. So far Rajasthan Government has not opened any fodder depot to provide relief in famine to save the livestock. All the handpumps in the villages have dried up due to low water level. Drinking water is not available for the people. Farmers are not getting electricity and crops are getting damaged. Rajasthan Government is unwilling to spend a single penny out of Rs. 300 crores yearmarked for famine relief. Only on the basis of National calamity. . . .*(Interruptions)*

*(English)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record. I am conducting the House. Everybody will get a chance. If you shout like this, you will not get the chance.

*(Interruptions)\**

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You will get a chance. I am calling the names, according to the list.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Dr. Jaswant Singh is standing, and I have given the floor to him. If all of you talk at the same time, then the 'Zero Hour' will be dispensed with, and we will go to the next item on the agenda.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Sir, they are responsible for the plight of the people of Rajasthan.

\*Not recorded

. . .*(Interruptions)* The irresponsible Congress Government of Rajasthan is doing\*nothing to help the grieved people.

. . .*(Interruptions)* They are favouring them. . . .

*(Interruptions)* They want total exodus from Rajasthan.

. . .*(Interruptions)*

*(English)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)\**

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please go back to your seats.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : SHRI Ram Prasad, would you please resume your seat ? Please go back to your seat.

*[Translation]*

SHRI NAGMANI (Chatra) : It is a conspiracy to defame the leader of poor people hon'ble Shri Lalu Prasad. . . .*(Interruptions)* Mr. Deputy Speaker, please see this news paper. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai South Centre) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Farmers of Maharashtra are not getting remunerative prices for their crop. A farmer has also died there. Today they are going to demonstrate against it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Congress Government is in power there which is anti-farmers. Farmers are in agony there. . . .*(Interruptions)*

*(English)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please resume your seat. If this is the behaviour of the Members, then I may have to dispense with the 'Zero Hour' and then nobody would be required to speak. Everyone will get their chance, and still why are you not going back to your seat ? How do I conduct the 'Zero Hour' like this ?

*[Translation]*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Conspiracy is being hatched to defame the leader of poor people Shri Lalu ji.

*(English)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Hon. Members, would you please hear me ? All those who have given notice, would

\*Not recorded

get chance to express their view on matters of urgent public importance.

[Translation]

SHRI NAGMANI : It has created tumult in the whole of Bihar. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Here also, you are creating uproar. Please take your seat. You want a reply for every aspect, resume your seat. Your name will also be called out. It should not happen.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have allowed Shri Jaswant Singh Yadav.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to talk about Rajasthan. Therefore, first he should be asked to sit down.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The Prime Minister wants to say something in this regard. Please listen to him.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a grave situation has arisen in many parts of our country like Rajasthan, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh. . . .(Interruptions) due to drought. It's effect on our agriculture production will be known in future. There is no hope of rainfall. The shortage of drinking water is a big crisis before the country. State Governments are taking steps in this regard. Government would like the House to discuss it. We can rectify the shortcomings by holding a mutual discussion. The matter is not confined to a State. It is not a political issue. We shall have to face this national crisis. Therefore, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, please fix an exact date after consulting all the leaders. A separate discussion should be held on it. Government will come fully prepared and furnish all the facts and figures and will welcome your suggestions. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Maharashtra is under the rule of Congress Party. A farmer has died there. Farmers of Nagpur are going to demonstrate. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SHANKERSINH VEGHELA (Kapadvani) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, farmers are agitating for the last 11 days. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM (Badagara) : Sir, thank you for this opportunity.

I would like to bring to the attention of this august House the callous, indifferent and irresponsible attitude of the Airports Authority of India and a private company. Otis, which had slaughtered a young girl of eight years in the early hours of Monday. There was no one to attend to the emergency situation, neither the personnel of the Airports Authority of India nor the personnel of the Otis. About 45 minutes elapsed before anybody came to deal with this tragic situation. Neither an ambulance nor a first-aid kit was available in the premises of the airport.

I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the serious lapses on the part of the Airports Authority of India throughout the last year. During the last winter a very bad situation developed at the airport due to fog. The Airports Authority of India failed to combat with the situation which caused loss of crores and crores of rupees to the exchequer and inconvenience and loss of money to the passengers thereby creating a very embarrassing situation.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : There cannot be a discussion during 'Zero Hour'. What do you want the Central Government to do specifically ?

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM : Sir, I am drawing the attention of the House to the serious lapses on safety and security arrangements in the airport premises. Not even an ambulance was available during the time of this shocking incident. Even the first-aid kit was not available. It is a very serious matter.

Now, Winter season has come, and if the fog is not combated, that will lead further to a serious and dangerous situation. So, I am drawing the attention of the Government to see to the entire situation on safety measures.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, Shri Tufani Saroj.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You can also associate yourself with what she has said.

(Interruptions).

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : Sir, for 45 minutes, there was no medical facilities available. There was no doctor available. There was even no ambulance

[Shri Somnath Chatterjee]

available during the time of incident. So, something should be done about it. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI TUFANI SAROJ (Saidpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I represent the Saidpur Lok Sabha Constituency in Uttar Pradesh. Orihar-Jaunpur meter gauge line between Varanasi and Jaunpur is not being used since 1994. Attention of the Railway Ministry has been drawn towards it for many a times but no progress has been made in this direction.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, we have come to know that then and there an offer of money was made to the affected family members, which was totally rejected by them. Sir, that was not the occasion to offer money. I read in the newspapers that after being offered the compensation, the affected family members said, 'what is this? We will give you money, give us our daughter.'

So, we want to know the response of the Government here.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN) : Sir, I will ask the Minister of Civil Aviation to make a statement in this regard tomorrow. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : All Right. The concerned Minister will make a statement tomorrow.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, the incident had taken place day before yesterday. Now, he says that the concerned Minister will make a statement. When will he make a statement? . . .(Interruptions) He should have come with a *suo motu* statement yesterday itself.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has already said that he will convey to the Minister of Civil Aviation, to make a statement.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (Dausa) : Sir, check it up whether the money was offered or not. He has asked a valid question that whether the Government had offered them money on the spot. If it is true, it is very hurting. The Minister must have known all the facts by this time. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : In his statement, all these things can be mentioned.

Now, Shri Tufani Saroj.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : Sir, the hon. Minister had made several statements on the airport during the day of incident. But nothing has been said by him in the Lok Sabha. It is only on our insistence now that the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs says that he would ask the hon. Minister of Civil Aviation to make a statement in this regard. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (Khajuraho) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have also given a notice regarding on this subject. . . .(Interruptions) Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is a very serious matter. It has not happened for the first time. Such incidents have taken place earlier also at airport.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has already said that the concerned Minister would make a statement tomorrow. Now, please sit down.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, only the statement given by the Minister will not serve the purpose. My submission is that a discussion should be held on it.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : If senior Members are also behaving like this, tell me, how I can conduct the House?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI TUFANI SAROJ : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Orihar-Jaunpur metregauge line is not in use since 1994 Attention of the Railway Minister has been invited so many times towards it.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, on such occasions, the concerned Minister should come before the House and instantly inform the House about the developments. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi, let me tell you that this is the 'Zero Hour'. When there are

some matters of urgent public importance, the Government takes note of it. He has already said that the concerned Minister would come and make a statement tomorrow. But again you are raising it. Please understand that so many important issues are listed in today's 'Zero Hour'. Let others also get the chance to speak.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI TUFANI SAROJ : Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I represent the Saidpur Lok Sabha constituency in Uttar Pradesh. The Aurihar Jaunpur railway line under Varanasi Mandal is lying closed since 1994 and the attention of the Ministry of Railway have been drawn a number of times towards it but no progress whatsoever has taken place in this direction. Having been linked to Jaunpur Tehsil and Saidpur district headquarters, the railway station of Jaunpur is a central point, Where the people from distant place travel every day. On the other hand Jaunpur is the commercial centre. The traders have to travel everyday from Oriha to Jaunpur. Even the Government bus service is not available between Briha and Jaunpur. Private vehicle operators who run on this route, extract the exorbitant rates from the people. The people do not reach their destination at the right time due to which the people of this region are very unhappy. I hope that the Railway Ministry would try to pay attention towards this matter without delay for which I shall be grateful to you.

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH (Arrah) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I had given notice to speak on a different subject but now I would like to speak on the subject of the marriage of Misa Bharati which has also been highlighted in the newspapers, it is the first time in history that the income tax Authorities have given notice to a reputed person while not even a fortnight has passed after the marriage of his daughter. It seems that it is preplanned and has been done with malafide intention and motivated by a sense of political rivalry. It was specifically mentioned even on the invitation card not to bring any gift. It is a conspiracy so that a person belonging to backward caste, minority and Dalit community may not become either the Prime Minister or the Chief Minister in this country. This step is being taken with the intention of political revenge. I would like that the Income Tax Authorities should be asked to give their clarification in this regard and those found guilty should be suspended, they should also be asked as to whether such marriages have not taken place in the country. The marriages of the daughters of big Rajas and Maharajas and leaders have taken place but no one has been served any notice. They are opening a black chapter of the history. It is a very serious matter. .

*..(Interruptions)* History and the country will never forgive them. Hon. Prime Minister is also sitting here. He is also a renowned politician and the country have full faith in him. He should see to it as to why this step is being taken with the malafide political intention. . . .*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : This step has been taken to mollify the image of Shri Laluji. It can not be tolerated. The hon. leaders throughout the country were invited in this marriage. All persons are obliged to get their daughters married and invite one's nears and dears in it. But the way in which for the first time in the history of the country, this derogatory action has been taken, is being done at the behest of the centre. I would like to draw the attention of all the hon. Members that such kind of tactics should not be applied which may divide the country. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH : We would like to Prime Minister to give a statement in this regard. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Adityanath.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : I would like that the action should be taken against those officers . . . .*(Interruptions)* All this is being done in Bihar with the feeling of revenge. . . .*(Interruptions)*

YOGI ADITYANATH (Gorakhpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the notice of the High Court published in some newspapers in which the mention has been made about the amount of money owed to the Indian Airforce by four former Prime Minister and a former Minister of Defence. I would like to draw the attention of the Government of India towards the payment of this sum. . . .*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, You have brought the matter before the House. Please sit down now.

*[Translation]*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : The Government is moving a case of Income Tax Evasion against him and by this way the entire Bihar is being insulted. . . .*(Interruptions)* The Government is conspiring against Bihar. Hence it should be considered. . . .*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

Mr. Deputy Speaker : Hon. Member, Please take your seat.

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYA NATH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member himself is the presiding officer too and when he himself is not disciplined, how can he teach us to be disciplined. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the House towards a very important matter. A large amount of money of the Army, Air force and various department is outstanding against four former Prime Ministers and one former Defence Minister. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have given from the permission to raise the matter. Sri Rarn Prasad Singh, please take your seat. You have raised the matter in the "Zero Hour", what else do you want.

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH (Arrah) : Sir, the Prime Minister should give a reply in this regard. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record except what Yogi Aditya Nath says.

(Interruptions)\*

12.33 hrs.

*At this stage Shri Mohammed Anwaarul-Haque and some other hon. Members came and sat on floor near the Table.*

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYA NATH : This list include one former Prime Minister Shri Devegowdaji who owes Rs. 26 crore 45 lakhs. Shri Narasimha Rao who owes Rs. five crores and 52 lakhs, late Shri Rajiv Gandhi owes Rs. one crore and 86 lakhs, Shri Chander Sekharji owes five crores and 92 lakhs. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You are a new Member. Please go back to your seat.

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYA NATH : He had used to air crafts of the army and the Airforce in his capacity as a Minister of Defence. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You, please resume your seat. It should not be so in the 'Zero Hour'. You please, go back to your seats.

\*Not recorded.

YOGI ADITYA NATH : These people have undertaken 307 journeys by these aircrafts and out of which 24 were absolutely private visits and as on date they have to pay Rs. 41 crores to the Army and Air Force. Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to ask the Government as to why double standard are being adopted. One the one hand if revenue of rupees five hundred is outstanding against any farmer he is lodged in jail and his house is attached and on the other hand crores of rupees are outstanding against the four former Prime Ministers and the Defence Minister. . . .(Interruptions) But no action has been taken in this regard so far. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You please go to your seats otherwise, I will have to think about you. I have given you time to speak and you have raised this matter in the zero hour. Please go to your seats now. Stern action can be taken against you as you are new member. Please go to your seats. Raghuvanshji please ask your members to go to their seats. I have allowed you to raise this matter and it does not mean that the new Members could come and stand here. You can raise any matter in the zero hour but it is not necessary for the Government to react on every matter. Please ask your Members to go back to their seats. If it will continue like this in the zero hour then it will have to be dispense with.

[English]

Hon'ble members, I seek your cooperation. There is limit for every thing. Please go back to your seats.

(Interruptions)

12.35 hrs.

*At this Stage Shri Mohammad Anwarul Haque and some other hon'ble Member went back to their seats.*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Raghuvansh Prasadji you are senior Member and you know that I cannot direct or compell the Government to react on the matter raised in the Zero Hour. It is on the Government to react or not.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, that should be got investigated. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER :- Shri Prabhunath Singh, please cooperate with me.

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYA NATH : Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards an important issue of public interest in which a High Court had issued notice to recover the outstanding amount due to the Army and the Air Force from the former Defence Minister and four former Prime Ministers.

Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to know from the Government that on the one hand a farmer is lodged in jail if an amount of rupees five hundred of revenue is outstanding against him and on the other hand recovery is not being made from the persons who have been on higher posts. What sort of justice is this? On the basis of notice issued by the High Court I want to inform the House that an amount of rupees 26 crores 46 lakhs is outstanding against the former Prime Minister Shri Devegowda. Similarly rupees 1 crore 86 lakhs is outstanding against our late Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi, 5 crores 52 lakhs is outstanding against Shri Narsimha Rao and rupees 5 crores 92 lakhs are outstanding against Shri Chandrashekharji. Former Defence Minister Shri Mulayam Singh Yadavji undertook 360 visits out of which 24 visits were personal ones and he owes rupees 41 crores to the Government.

Sir, I want to know from the Government as to why double standard are being adopted. To recover a revenue of rupees five hundred a poor farmer is put behind the bars and why action is not taken against the persons who are on higher posts to recover the dues against them? The High Court has issued notice to recover this amount. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Yogi Aditya Nathji, you are not a new member. You are a senior Member. You know whatever you have said in the House, you will have to authenticate that otherwise you will be in trouble. Are you ready to authenticate whatever you have said in the House?

YOGI ADITYA NATH : Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, these are not the fabricated figures. These figures have been given in the notice issued by the High Court. I am ready to authenticate these figures. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Sambhal) : Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, I also give notice that.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : All right, you can also give the notice.

(Interruptions)

YOGI ADITYANATH : Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, this has been published in all the newspapers of the country. Who can deny the fact that the High Court has issued notice. I am saying this in the House with full responsibility. . . .(Interruptions) I am ready for that.

Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, that amount should be recovered and should be deposited in the Government account. . . .(Interruptions) Why atrocities are being committed on the farmers? . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Yogi Aditya Nathji, you can raise only one matter.

YOGI ADITYANATH : Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am raising the same matter not any other matter. This matter is related to public interest and the High Court has issued notice and this amount should be recovered. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI A.C. JOS (Trichur) : Sir, it now seems that anything can be mentioned during the 'Zero Hour'. It has become something like Matters Under Rule 377.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : That is why I am trying to conduct it properly.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA : Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, it appears to me that zero hour is converting into matters under Rule 377. Zero hour has its importance in the sense that the hon'ble Speaker may allow my Members to raise any matter exactly at twelve o'clock after the due notice having been given by the Member regarding the developments that have taken place during the past 24 hours. It is for the hon'ble Speaker to permit any member to raise any matter. I am grateful to the hon'ble Prime Minister for giving statement regarding drinking water. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please do not conduct the House sitting there.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Major General Khanduri, I will take care of it.

[Translation]

SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA : Just now during the question hour Shri Mulayam Singhji has said but drinking water riots have erupted in Gujarat. Yesterday

[Shri Shankar Singh Vaghela]

we had given a memorandum to the Prime Minister for making available drinking water facility from Narmada Sardar Sarovar Project. At the same time firing was taking place at Phalla in district Jamnagar over the farmers. Three farmers were killed at point blank range. The members of the farmer union and your people have been holding agitation for the last 11 days. There are doing so over the question of providing drinking water to the Jamnagar city. The water is available for only half an hour each alternate day. Rajkot is being supplied water once in three days. The villagers and the farmers do not get water even after covering 10 kilometres in search of water. Farmers and the people living in cities, both are claiming the water as their own. The agitation which has been going on for the last 11 days, took a violent turn yesterday and 3 persons were killed at point blank range. 13 people have been admitted in hospitals. The dead bodies of the three killed are still lying there. The farmers are saying that they will handover the dead bodies only when the Chief Minister pays a visit there and merely participating in the last rites of politicians is not enough. I would like to say that it not a simple political issue. I am grateful to the Prime Minister for intervening in the matter. I am referring to the issue of water scarcity raised in the Parliament. You need not go into the formality of rule 193 or any other rule for resolving it. You should raise the issue of water scarcity cutting across party line. Now the winter session is going on. We do not know as to what will happen in summer. I had heard about riots taking place over food scarcity but now the riots have started over the water also. I would like to say that you should hold a discussion with all the political parties on the issue of firing over the farmers who were organising Rasta Roko Andolan. The States should not be left alone to resolve their problems as they have limited resources. They would argue it is happening because of B.J.P. other would say that it is due to Congress and so on but a Government is a Government. The drinking water neither has colour nor smell, it is simply water. Pondering over this matter and taking the entire House into confidence, the States should be dictated that at least there should be no violence over water. As to from where drinking water should be made available, thought should be centred around the fact because on one hand farmer is saying that he should be given water and on the other the people living in cities are putting forward their claim. You should ponder over this issue. Everybody should get drinking water.

SHRI HARPAL SINGH SATHI (Haridwar) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, you very much for giving me the time to speak. Many senior Members are present in the House. Through

you, I would like to say that two third of Indians are Hindi speaking who either speak or understand Hindi. In the Parliament you have provided us the facility to have papers in Hindi also. We speak and understand Hindi but there are several offices in India where the English is thrust upon us ignoring Hindi. Through you, I would like to assert that Hindi in our official language. It is our mother and we designate Hindi as the Queen of all languages. But now it is becoming a trend that, the Queen no longer has any importance and the maid is riding on the crest.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : What do you want to say ?

SHRI HARPAL SINGH SATHI : I would like to say it through you. I do not want to thrust Hindi. I am not a language antagonist. . . .(Interruptions) I am not opposed to English. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : What do you want to say?

SHRI HARPAL SINGH SATHI : It is my humble submission that work should be done in Hindi in the Hindi speaking States. I hope that the Government will pay attention towards it and Hindi will be implemented in the Hindi speaking States.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Mr. Deputy Speaker, What is going on ? You must slightly control it.

[English]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to bring a very serious matter to your notice and to the notice of this august House. On the other day, the hon. Minister, Shri Bachhi Singh Rawat, had stated that the Government was intending to recruit more people to the Army. He gave an open call to the youth who are wishing to join the Army that they should first go to the RSS to acquire the necessary training in the RSS *shakas* before joining the Army. This is a step which is fraught with very serious consequences. Earlier, we witnessed an incident when the BJP Members of Parliament were briefed by the Army personnel on security matters. Now, they have gone a step further giving out a clear indication as to what is in store for us in the coming days. This is a move towards fascism.

[Translation]

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI (Garhwal) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, just now you had interrupted a Speaker.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I had not interrupted him but had explained the full facts.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Khanduri, please do not interrupt. If it is not true, you can give a notice for privilege under Rule 222.

[Translation]

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI : Whether he will also authenticate ? . . . (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Khanduriji, you can give two privilege Motions.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : You talk of authenticating. . . (Interruptions) The Chief Minister of U.P. had said on television about Ayodhya. After that hon. Prime Minister came and denied him having said so. One says something, otherone denies it. What kind of convention is this developing ?

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : What do you want the Government to do ?

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : It is not the question of only wanting the Government to do something, but here the conscience of the entire country pricks. The RSS want to extend their influence over every branch of the Government including the Armed Forces which is a very very serious matter and we must condemn it outrightly. The concerned Minister should come to the House and give clarification as to whether he has said so or not. This is how the Government want to treat the Armed forces of the country.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Shri Bachi Singh Rawat is a Member of this House. He has made such a statement. . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : I would request you that the Defence Minister Shri George Fernandes should clarify on the floor of the House that whether he said so or not. . . (Interruptions) It is a danger before the democracy. . . (Interruptions)

It is a serious threat to the democratic institution. . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : The hon. Member has raised a very serious matter. You cannot ignore it. . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN) : If you want to say something against the Member of the House their :-

[English]

Shri Bansal should have first given a notice to him, obtained his consent and then should have come to the House.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : He is a Minister of the Government of India.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : So what ? You are making a personal allegation.

[Translation]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : He wants to condemn our right.

[English]

Sir, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs wants to curtail our right to speak in the House.

[Translation]

Besides, the persons belonging to R.S.S. are being appointed as the head of the institutes also. . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : The Minister has not contradicted it. Let him contradict it.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : This rule applies when something derogatory is said. It is not a derogatory statement. The Minister is repeating what has been said by him on behalf of the Government.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : He did not say it on behalf of the Government.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : The Minister has made a statement. Let the Prime Minister say that he is categorically against it.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Kindly tell us, can a Minister speak on his own behalf ? . . (Interruptions)

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Nobody knows whether did he speak ? The hon. Member is making a point based on some newspaper cutting. How can the Government react on it ?

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : The statement was made at Loha Ghat in U.P. I have got a photocopy of the newspaper cutting.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : In which Paper did it appear ?

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : It appeared in the *Amar Ujala*, which is a popular newspaper.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You shall have to authenticate it.

[Translation]

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a Member of the council of Ministers has uttered something outside the House and the same has been raised here as an issue. Before raising the issue, it would have been better for both the sides, to inform the concerned Minister and the Member to through you so that they could have been able to be present in the House to give explanation on the issue. To make such statements is objectionable. It is impossible for the Government to have such a policy. I do not think that he would have made such a statement and if he has made it, it is incorrect. . . . (Interruptions) If he has said so. . . . (Interruptions) Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, had the Minister been given information earlier. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL (Patan) : There should be training classes for Ministers. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Everybody is trained here, what should I say. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : There should not be any running commentary here. You should not interrupt the Prime Minister.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Before coming to this side, I have taken 40 years training.

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL : I am not talking about you. I respect you. I am talking about the Minister. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : I too respect you. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI : Sir, I want to know whether this statement comes under Rule 353 or not. . . . (Interruptions) You read Rule 353. This says that the

notice should go to the Minister. . . . (Interruptions) I want to know this for my future reference. Sir, I am asking this for your ruling.

SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH (Tamluk) : Sir, the Government of West Bengal intends to open a television channel for Bengali people. They have already applied to the Videsh Sanchar Nigam for uplinking. They have also sought approval from the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. The Bengali channel will be news oriented. It would also telecast news on sports, culture, etc. So, I request the hon. Prime Minister to give permission for opening up of this channel. It is a very important channel as it would highlight the cultural heritage of West Bengal. It would be a news oriented channel. I want to know whether the Government of India is giving approval to the proposal submitted by the West Bengal Government. I want to have a reaction from the Government of India on this.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, I would like to raise a very important issues. The first Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, at the time of inaugurating a fertilizer unit of Fertilizer Corporation of India – which was the first public sector undertaking – at Sindri in Bihar in 1952, said that he is inaugurating not only an industrial unit but a temple of modern India.

Sir, these temples of modern India are now being demolished one after another. Ten years back, one fertilizer unit of the Fertilizer Corporation of India at Gorakhpur was closed down. It has not yet been re-opened. Then in Baraoni, there is no production. The Durgapur unit is closed for months together. Out of three units of Namrop, only one unit is functioning. Two other units are closed in Assam. Both the units of Talchar – coal based fertilizer units – are also closed in Orissa. Ramagundam unit in Andhra Pradesh is also closed. It is also a coal based fertilizer unit. The Haldia Fertilizer Unit has not started its production since its inception. For the last 15 years, it has remained closed.

We are depending on import of urea. We are spending more than Rs. 2300 crore to import urea. A proposal to revive and revamp the fertilizer units of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation was approved by the United Front Government at a cost of Rs. 2200 crore. When this Government came to power, that proposal was shelved.

I want to know from the Government, particularly from the hon. Prime Minister, whether the Government of India will take firm steps to revive our own indigenous fertilizer units of the Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation and the Fertilizer Corporation of India, so that we need not depend on import of urea. This is very important. We are depending on the import of urea whereas we are not

reviving our own indigenous fertilizer units. I urge upon the Government to take immediate steps to revamp, revive and restart the indigenous public sector fertilizer units of our country.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I also support it.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2 p.m.

12.56 hours

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.05 hours

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at five minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

#### MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

MR. SPEAKER : The House will now take up Matters under Rule 377. Shri Ravindra Kumar Pandey.

- (i) **Need for early completion of work of Damodar Rail Project**

[Translation]

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY (Girdih) : Sir, the laying of Damodar rail under Central Coal Fields Limited was started in 1982. with an estimated initial amount of Rs. 200 crores. Due to very slow pace of construction work by the management and some other reasons, its estimated amount increased manifold.

Due to delay in the project work Bokaro-Kargal coal mine is on the verge of closure. Coal workers and staff are becoming surplus. Coal workers are getting salaries without any work. Unprecedented increase in project amounts has been adversely affecting the exchequer. Project work is still pending, however, 90% of the displaced persons have got their appointments in the project. On early completion of the project work, the people of the area will be benefited a lot and the coal will be available in the concerned coal mines for the next 25-30 years.

Therefore, I request the Government to enquire into the slow pace of project works and the existing

irregularities. After removing anomalies, the project should be completed as early as possible.

- (ii) **Need to sanction Rs. 100 crore for Malajkhand Copper Project in Balaghat District of Madhya Pradesh**

SHRI PRAHALAD SINGH PATEL (Balaghat) : Sir, Balaghat district of Madhya Pradesh has good mines of Copper and Magnese. Out of them Malajkhand Copper Project is a plant which has been having a record of producing copper even today at a lesser cost in comparison to the international production cost of copper. However, the officers/employees of Malajkhand copper Project are the victims of the recession due to loss being incurred in other parts of the country. Therefore, I request the Government that keeping in view the good production record of Malajkhand copper Project, an amount of Rs. 100 crore should be sanctioned in the form of non-plan expenditure for the said project alongwith it copper smelting plant should also be set up in Malajkhand so that the Government could save the transport expenditure from Malajkhand to Khetri Rajasthan.

- (iii) **Need to Run Shuttle Service between Chalisgaon Pachora of Central Railway and Dharamgaon Amavner Stations of Western Railway in Erandol Parliamentary Constituency, Maharashtra.**

SHRI ANNASAHAB M.K. PATIL (Erandol) : Sir, there are so many important stations at Central railway and Western railway e.g. Chalisgaon and Pachora. Dharamgaon and Amavner which are located in my Parliamentary Constituency. More than 4 thousand passengers travel daily through these stations for attending educational institutions and to their respective occupation and services. These commuters travel from Bhuswal to Manmad and Bhuswal to Nandurbar.

Therefore, I request the Central Government that a fast shuttle train service should be provided for them.

- (iv) **Need for early declaration of Amritsar Airport as International Airport.**

[English]

SHRI R.L. BHATIA (Amritsar) : Sir, it was declared by the Government that Amritsar Airport would be made International Airport soon, but no progress has been made so far. The Punjab Government has acquired the necessary land for the purpose. But the Airport authorities are not proceeding in the matter.

I request that early action should be taken in the matter.

**(v) Need to set up a low power T.V. Transmitter at Digras in Yavatmal district of Maharashtra.**

SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL (Yavatmal) : Sir, there is a strong demand to establish a low power Transmitter of Doordarshan at Digras in Yavatmal district of the State of Maharashtra. This being a backward and tribal belt, there is no T.V. facility and therefore, I request the hon. Information and Broadcasting Minister to sanction the project for Digras.

**(vi) Need to issue necessary permission to use HSD for the smooth functioning of Thermal Power Plants in Jaisalmer district of Rajasthan**

COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY (Barmer) : Sir, despite local availability of natural resources, Thar districts are industrially backward. A large quantity of superior natural gas is available in Jaisalmer district. To meet the power requirement of the area, two gas-based thermal Power projects were installed during 1994 and 1996. The first thermal power project is closed due to low calorific value of gas supplied by GAIL. A project report for 160 MW capacity costing Rs. 550 crore was prepared of which 1x35.5 MW has already been installed under Phase-II. The remaining generating units are proposed to be installed after commitment of additional 10 lakh M3/day gas from GAIL. An additional requirement has already been registered with the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas during June, 1997.

Government of Rajasthan has earmarked Rs. 45 crore for provisioning of one more 35.5 MW power plant based on gas and HSD. This project is held up for want of good quality gas and permission to use HSD in case sufficient and good quality gas is not available at Ramgarh, district Jaisalmer. Proposal to this effect for setting up of Power Project Stage-III is sent to Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. I request that the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas should take necessary action to provide gas of good quality from other gas wells at Ramgarh and also issue necessary permission to use HSD in case there is a shortage of gas.

**(vii) Need to provide special grant to State Government of Kerala to check menace of wild animals of Kannur and Wayanad districts.**

SHRI A.P. ABDULLAKUTTY (Cannanore) : Sir, many villages of Kannur and Wayanad districts of Kerala are badly affected by the serious menace of attacks by wild animals causing a great loss to agriculture and human lives.

The northern districts of Kannur and Wayanad of Kerala have a vast forest area, about 25 kilometers in length lying on the border with Karnataka State.

The most effected areas are : Thirunelli, Panchayats in Wayanad district and Aralam in Kannur district.

Last year alone, six persons were killed, many others seriously injured in attacks by wild elephants and caused loss to agriculture amounting to lakhs of rupees. In November this year, the Government-run Aralam Farm was virtually devastated by hards of elephants destroying hundreds of coconut trees.

At times, when there is a shortage of food and water inside the forest, the animals, especially the wild elephants, venture out of the forest to the human-inhabited areas in search of food and water resulting into the less of human lives and destruction of properties.

To prevent this menace, immediate steps are to be taken like fencing and digging of trenches alongside the forest.

I, therefore, request the Government to kindly take note of the seriousness of this problem and take necessary action so that lives and properties of the people in this area are protected. I request that special grant should be provided to the State Government of Kerala for this purpose.

**(vii) Need to set up LPG bottling plant at Thiruvannamalai in Tamil Nadu**

SHRI D. VENUGOPAL (Tirupattur) : \*Though economic liberalisation process is on, the responsibility to develop infrastructure to meet basic needs still vests with the Government. Without having to hesitate about capital and investment, Government can set up industrial units that can never be unwieldy. Government must accord top priority to set up gainful infrastructure development units in industrially backward areas. At a time when Government are keen to make LPG available to all places in the country, LPG bottling plants can be set up in industrially backward areas to help promote more job opportunities. Now that there are Bharat Petroleum, Hindustan Petroleum apart from Indane, any one of these companies can set up a mini-bottling plant in the district headquarters of Thiruvannamalai in my Thirupattur constituency. This would benefit Chengam, Thandarampattu, Thirukkavilur, Vattavalam, Kalaspakkam, Kalampur, all within a radius of 40 kms. from Thiruvannamalai which is connected by railways. This would be better than Vellor which has highways connecting Chennai and Bangalore and can get LPG easily. Bottling plants are no-loss units creating job opportunities and this would also enable Chengam and Thandarampattu to get more gas connections and also gas agencies which are not there now.

\*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

**(ix) Need for upgradation of Salem Railway Junction to a Division**

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI (Salem) : Presently more than 700 kms. broad-gauge line spread over seven Western districts of Tamil Nadu are controlled by Palaghat Division which is far away from Salem Junction. Therefore, there has been a demand to upgrade the Salem Junction to a Division and this demand of the people of Salem and other six Western districts of Tamil Nadu has been kept unfulfilled for the past several decades. Salem Junction is the biggest junction on the broad-gauge line in Tamil Nadu.

Salem is a junction of five railway lines. If the Salem Junction is upgraded to a Division, the Railways can run express trains to Mumbai, Tirupathi, Bangalore, Chennai, Rameshwaram and Nagoor profitably. Moreover this industrial town also requires Salem Junction to be upgraded as a Division to handle expeditiously the growing freight movement of both industrial as well as domestic. I would also like to point out here that the then hon. Minister of Railways in 1991 had given an assurance to the people of Salem that the Salem Junction would be upgraded as a Division in the Budget for the year 1992-93. However, this has not been done so far. Therefore, I urge upon the hon. Minister to announce for creation of Salem Division in the Budget for the year 2000-2001.

**(x) Need to provide financial assistance to State Government of Orissa to rehabilitate the weaves and artisans affected due to recent super-cyclone.**

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO (Jagatsinghpur) : In the recent Super Cyclone of the 29th/30th October 1999 in Orissa, Jagatsinghpur parliamentary constituency which is worst hit and totally ravaged, thousands of weavers' families are devastatingly affected. All the work sheds (Tantashala) which are normally built of mud walls with straw thatches have been razed to the ground. Frame looms and their accessories like Tani Drum, Nurge Guria, Beam, Barnish Baw, Sura Pania, Shuttle (Manku) and Duby, etc. have been fully damaged. The cost of a "frame loom and its accessories" would be nearly Rs. 10,000 (Ten thousand rupees) only. Processing yarn which normally they receive from the society has been soiled and damaged under the mud. These village artisans are not accustomed to manual works other than weaving. Villages, where weavers' concentration is more and weavers' societies exist in Jagatsinghpur District are Boda Bag, Sidhala, Dada Pur, Dondua, Kanpur, Alanahat, Kendal, Odisa, Purohitapur and many other Villages. I urge upon the Textile Ministry and National Handloom Corporation to

undertake relief and rehabilitation programme of these worst affected artisans on war footing by giving them adequate grants for erecting their worksheds' obtaining new handloom sets; repairing if possible, damaged sets and writing off the loans for processing yarns which have been soiled and damaged under the mud. Till they are rehabilitated, gratuitous relief should be granted in favour of weavers' families.

Textile Ministry should act promptly to rehabilitate the affected weavers and bring about substantial change in their quality of life and financial status.

**(xi) Need to Shift Office of General Manager, Raigarh Telecom Circle from Shantakruz to Pen City, Raigarh, Maharashtra**

[Translation]

SHRI RAMSHEETH THAKUR (Kulaba) : The office of telecom general Manager of Raigarh district is located in Shantakruz Mumbai instead of Raigarh. That area has no connection with Raigarh.

As this office is located in Shantakruz Mumbai, the Government as well as the telephone subscribers have to suffer heavy fiscal losses. The Government have to pay 25% extra amount of house rent Allowance to the telecom officers i.e. General Manager, D.E.T, O.C., S.D.A., J.O., J.T.O. because the offices are located in Mumbai. Thus the Government have to bear an extra financial burden of Rs. 2-3 crores every year. High ranking officers and the employees have to go to Raigarh from Mumbai and vice-versa on official tour for 3-4 days in a week for which the Government have to bear a burden of Rs. 2-3 crores per year as TA/DA being paid to them. Telephone subscribers have to go to Mumbai again and again for the redressal of their complaints because these complaints are never resolved in a single time. It costs them extra financial burden and they have to undergo physical sufferings also.

The building of Telecom Department of Raigarh was constructed in the Pen city of Raigarh district 10 years ago and is complete in all respect but till date the office has not been shifted in Pen city of Raigarh.

Shifting of this office in Pen city will help in providing a good telephone service to the subscribers of Raigarh and their unnecessary expenditure would also be saved.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government to shift the office of the Raigarh Telecom General Manager from Shantakruz, Mumbai to pen city of Raigarh.

14.20 hrs.

## DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

**Issue of National Security and Rise of Militancy  
in Various Parts of the Country Especially in North-  
East and J & K - Contd.**

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : Now, let us take up discussion under Rule 193. Shri L.K. Advani to reply.

*[Translation]*

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, first I would like to thank Shri Vilas Muttemwar and Shri Rajesh Pilot for initiating discussion on this important subject. They have given an opportunity to the House to express its opinion and give suggestions regarding the ongoing crisis of internal security in various parts of the country particularly in Jammu and Kashmir and North-East. I am happy that in all 23 hon'ble members took part in this debate. Though the time of the debate was fixed for two hours, it continued for 4½ to 5 hours. I can say that it was a constructive Debate.

No member ever tried to take political mileage over the performance of the various Governments. Three things were common in the speech of all hon'ble Members. First, that the situation is serious and they should not take it lightly. Secondly, they have collectively resolved that they should tackle this problem at any cost. Thirdly, this problem should not be viewed from party angle. We should unitedly think over this problem and find solution to it. The issue relates to the entire country. However, I shall deal with Jammu and Kashmir and north east separately. First, I will discuss about Jammu and Kashmir and after that I will discuss north-east region. I admit that till seventh decade of this century, We did not know about terrorism. There was no terrorism in the country but violence was there in some parts of the country. We have faced insurgency in some parts of the north-east. But terrorism i.e. killing of innocent people at will, bomb blasts, killing of any person coming in the way or selective killing, this kind of situation was not there till the seventh decade. I, sometimes remember my personal experience when I became a part of Government for the first time. At that time Shri Morarji Bhai was the Prime Minister. I got an opportunity to visit Pakistan. My birth place is Karachi, and I have been a resident of Karachi. Therefore, when I received the invitation I went there. At that time there was military rule in Pakistan as it is prevailing today. The presence of army contingents could be seen everywhere in Karachi. At that time General Zia was the President

of that country. I stayed there for two days. The Indian Ambassador to Pakistan formally asked me as to where I wanted to go. I told that I wanted to see my place of residence and my school. I mentioned those places to refresh my old memories. A Pakistani officer accompanied me wherever I went. When I was casually walking around, people enquired about me. He told them that I was a Union Minister of the Government of India. They were surprised because in their country there was so much security. This incident dates back to 1978 or early 1979. They were surprised to see that I was walking around without any security whereas their members, legislators and Ministers walk with entire paraphernalia. This incident was of 1977 and now the situation has changed totally. Today, the Black Cat Commandos accompany me wherever I go and many security guards accompany the hon. Members. In some States security guards are provided to every MLA. Such in the situation which reflects the great difference that has taken place in the environment of internal security during the last two decades. I understand that perhaps he was Ajit Choudhary, I was listening to his statement which he had made at the end of his speech. He had mentioned that.

*[English]*

The genesis of militancy in Jammu and Kashmir lies in the 1971 war.

*[Translation]*

He had said something like this only.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell that whatever he has said is a correct analysis in a way. The defeat which Pakistan faced in 1971 compelled them to think that it was not easy to fight with the Indian army face to face and after this they changed their strategy after having talks with Military Generals and the news about their changed strategy was published in some newspapers. It was stated that General Zia-ul-Haque held a discussion with his military commanders and concluded that now we have to adopt a different strategy and a mission named "Topac" was set to be followed. This speech dates back to 1973-74 but a lot of time has passed in preparing and implementing it.

*[English]*

In the eighties, it was implemented or executed.

*[Translation]*

and they started it from Punjab in a planned manner.

SHRI SHYAMACHARAN SHUKLA (Mahasamund) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of

Advani towards one thing. He will agree that Pakistan has encouraged militancy in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir fearlessly during 1985, 1986 and 1987.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I do not want to go into it as it is my own analysis that after the Shimla Agreement, while working contrary to what it had promised us, Pakistan initiated steps towards going nuclear.

[English]

This was part of an overall strategy.

[Translation].

What happened after Shimla Agreement.

[English]

I do not want to score points today, I want to simply point out that

[Translation]

after that proxy war started. The proxy war is an outcome of their defeat in 1971 war and when they felt that they were not succeeding in proxy wars also as gradually India was checking it. That resulted into Kargil war. After Kargil, it has encouraged proxy war and terrorism.

[English]

So, all the steps of Pakistan result from failure and frustration, not from confidence and hope.

[Translation]

Earlier, Pakistan had faced defeat in proxy war, in 1971 also Pakistan had faced defeat, and when they did not get success in proxy war, they started intrusion in Kargil sector, which led to violence prevailing these days. The incidents taking place these days in Badami Bagh and other areas are result of it. These incidents have never ended. I see figures also, but on the basis of these figures. I will never claim that the number of militants killed in encounters is more than our people. I understand that we have not incurred as much loss in war, as in proxy war. Therefore, Muttemwarji had said that the number of our people killed in direct war is not as much, as it is in proxy war. I have got figure of last 16 years. According to it, 7690 innocent civilians have died.

[English]

I am simply counting the number of toll from 1988-89 onwards.

[Translation]

The militants have continuously been killed by security personnels.

[English]

Ten thousand seven hundred and twenty seven militants had been killed during the same period though the cost that we have had to bear is the death of 2039 securitymen.

[Translation]

Our 2039 securitymen were killed. No Securitymen from that side was killed. The biggest disadvantage of proxy war is that :-

[English]

It is our securitymen, our Jawans, our Armymen, our paramilitary forces men who are being killed and not one from the Pakistan side. On the other hand.

[Translation]

In war if 400 people of our side were killed in Kargil, the 600 securitymen and sub securitymen of that side were also killed. Their securitymen were also killed. They were not mercenaries. Good thing about it is, as mentioned by Shri Rajesh ji, that Rajivji had once said, we may be heading back to year 1990. I understand that the terrorism which had taken place in Jammu and Kashmir.

[English]

The worst years were 1989, 1990 and 1991. These were the worst years. But that phase continued for a long time.

[Translation]

The main source of livelihood in Jammu and Kashmir, particularly in Kashmir valley is tourism.

[English]

Tourism has absolutely dried up.

[Translation]

I have got tourism figures with me which are surprising. In 1995, 322 domestic tourists visited Jammu and Kashmir from all over India. 375 in 1996, 7029 in 1997, 99,636 in 1998 and 1, 84, 32 in 1999. I have not included 1,10,345 Amarnath pilgrims in the figures of year 1999. I am also not including 4 lakh pilgrims who visited Vanashno Devi shrine. I understand that it is a barometre gauge to see whether situation over there is heading towards normalacy or not.

[English]

This is a more correct barometre rather than the number of people killed.

[Shri L.K. Advani]

[Translation]

I think rather than taking into account how many people are killed and how many are not, this parametre is more correct because the people will visit only if there is sense of security. As 322 people had visited in a year, 375 people had visited next year, no body is ready to go. As far as I have observed in these years that earlier foreigners used to visit, domestic tourist did not go there. Then an incident took place in which five foreign tourist from different countries were abducted, and till today have not been found. Their relatives come and meet me. The Ambassadors of those countries also meet me. We have not been able to trace them, probably they would have been killed. But on the basis of this parametre. We can be confident that it might be a crisis time the violence is still prevailing, we have not been able to curb violence completely but we would be able to win over it and the basis of this confidence is our experience in Punjab. There was a time when it appeared that nothing will change in Punjab. No change will take place over there. It will continue for years. Roads used to get deserted in the evening and nobody would dare to get out of his house. But the change took place. I had always maintained about bringing change, and today also I will say, my colleagues from North-East are present here, who always come to me with the request to send paramilitary forces and Armed forces etc. to that area. I do tell it to everybody that our experience of Punjab tell us that these will be helpful in checking terrorism. Arm forces and paramilitary forces would be helpful. But mainly the victory could only be achieved with the help of the people, Government and police of that state. This is also true in the context of Jammu and Kashmir. The more the people, Government and local police of that state will be prepared to counter terrorism, the more success will be achieved. The Arm forces of Union Government and paramilitary police will prove helpful in attaining this task, but this crisis cannot solely be resolved on the basis of Armed forces of Union Government and paramilitary forces. Whether it is Jammu-Kashmir or North East. I understand, the best thing that has happened these days is that earlier in 1980-90-91 the youth of Jammu and Kashmir were trained by ISI people of Pakistan in terrorist activities, and were sent back to India, gradually it had ended. The terrorists arrested or killed in last few years are not from Jammu Kashmir, their percentage is very low. Most of them are from Pakistan, Afghanistan and other countries. In a reply to the question I would have told the number of terrorists killed and the country to which they belong.

[English]

But all of them are mercenaries recruited by Pakistan to be sent here as cannon fodder.

[Translation]

them, and let them be killed. Therefore, our Defence Personnel say that in this war our securitymen are killed not their's. But the good omen is that our people go there in very less number. Gradually their number is reducing. The quantum of our success will be equivalent to the quantum of decrease in their number.

I can say this thing exactly about the North East Region. During the previous years citizens have resisted the terrorist in Assam and they have also lunched them and helped in their arrest. They have not only resisted them publicly but they have also gathered in thousands to protest against them and they have said that they will not tolerate the terrorist activities. I can give several such instances and I have got reports about several such incidents in many districts. Two such incidents have taken place each at Dhubri, Barpeta, Kamrup Nalbari districts and at Udaigiri. I have got information about eight such incidents in which common people have shown courage to vent their anger against the ULFA terrorists and they have protested against them openly. The more we will encourage this trend the more we will be able to combat terrorism.

Rajeshji has pointed out one thing but I do not know why he has said so. He has said as to why there is difference between the security related expenditure pertaining to Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir. It is not correct. We are providing security related expenditure to Jammu and Kashmir in similar way as we have provided to Punjab. Sometimes there may be controversy as to which expenditure should be treated as security related expenditure. This sort of controversy we will resolve. In the name of security related expenditure we have provided about Rs. 1498 crores to Jammu and Kashmir. . . . (Interruptions) As I have said that there is a controversy that this expenditure should be treated as security related expenditure or not. As I have already said that we will sort out this controversy. We have provided Rs. 18 crores for security related expenditure this year. Just now Vaidya Vishnu Datt was rightly saying that in addition to our Army and our Para military forces, the village Defence Corp. set up to take on terrorists is very effective. He has expressed his desire to augment its strength further. I agree with him and I would like to inform him that the expenditure is incurred by the State Government and thereafter the union Government reimburses it to the State Government. When decision was taken to set up the village Defence corps, the number of troops in village Defence Corps was 12885

at that time but now we have conveyed to them that we are ready even to reimburse the expenditure of the number of troops be increased to 18,000 in the village Defence Corps.

I am very happy that several members from North East have expressed their views. Not only the members from North East spoke on this issue but four members from West Bengal also spoke on this issue. Krishnaji had said that ISI menace was prevalent in her State and we should be concerned about it. I would like to tell her that like her the Home Minister from her State had also expressed concerned about this menace. He came to me some days ago and made a complaint that whenever we mention about the ISI and its threat to our internal security, we mention Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab and North East in our public statements but we never mention West Bengal in our public statements. He had come to tell me that this problem in West Bengal is also very serious and the Union Government and the Government of West Bengal should join hands to tackle this problem. He came to me to say all this. I told him that I welcome your views. I would like to say that our Government have made an earnest attempt to create an atmosphere in the country as well as abroad about the activities of ISI. I also told him that this problem is not of any particular State. So long as the World community does not prepare itself to combat the cross-border terrorism unitedly the entire World will continue to face the problem of terrorism. So long as the world will see this problem only as Indian problem and will consider Kashmir as the bone of contention behind this problem as a result Pakistan is reacting to it and will adopt an indifferent attitude towards this, the whole World will have to pay for this, we have tried to communicate this view to the World community. I am of the view that efforts should be made to create similar atmosphere in the country about this menace. I was thinking that several questions have been asked by the hon'ble Members about the activities of ISI during the previous two years. When I consulted the question list from 1991 to 1997 I found that very few questions were asked about this problem. It is a good sign. Thereafter meeting of the consultative committee of the Ministry of Home Affairs was held in which our Ministry in a two hours presentation, revealed as to how ISI has augmented its activities. After that presentation all the members who were present there including Shri Somnath Babu and Shri Banatwalaji were of the opinion that such things should be presented before the country and perhaps Shri Banatwalaji had demanded that a white paper should be brought out on this issue and now the Government propose to bring out that white paper. Publication of that white paper has been delayed due to some reasons but it will be published very soon and put before you. This is

what I can say. There are seven states in the North East. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SHYAMACHARAN SHUKLA : I want to ask one question from you as to why we are unable to get Pakistan declared as terrorist state at the international level.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Declaring Pakistan a terrorist state will have its impact on America because it has its own law in this regard. It is an overdue demand to declare Pakistan a terrorist State and it is the first time in 1999 that America made some comments regarding Pakistan involvement in Cross Border terrorism. Prior to this nobody was even ready to realise it. Earlier it was their opinion that it is a common phenomenon and both India and Pakistan are involved in such activities.

[English]

They never took notice of it.

[Translation]

I remember that after the Kargil incident America also made comment in this regard publicly for the first time and condemned the act of Pakistan. We are making continuous efforts in this direction. However, I am of the view that if we want to eliminate the terrorism, we will have to do it at our own and alongwith the cooperation of our people. Foreign pressure and international opinion will be helpful in it and we will leave no stone unturned in this regard and our success or failure will not depend on whether any other country declares that country a terrorist state or not. This much I want to say in this context.

So far as North Eastern states are concerned, the council of seven North Eastern states is existing and the Government are of the view that Sikkim also be included in it. In all there are eight states in the North Eastern region. Out of these eight states more or less peace is prevalent in four states. Terrorism is not prevailing in these four states in that form as is prevailing in the other four states. These four states are Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Meghalaya. Peace is prevailing in these states. But in other four states i.e. Assam, Tripura, Manipur and Nagaland situation is somewhat different. In Nagaland ceasefire has been reached today between the Government and NSCM (I.M.).

It had happened before we came to power. The ceasefire is being observed. Earlier it was for a short period, at present it is going on for the last one year. Yesterday, a colleague from Nagaland had said something, which has got weightage, I would only like to say that the ground rules laid for ceasefire, had been violated. Our security personnels should see that those rules should not

[Shri L.K. Advani]

be violated. We have given them directions in this regard. We are concerned and serious in that direction. During last days, there was an attempt on the life of Chief Minister of Nagaland. It is a very serious incident, we have taken notice of this. An hon'ble Member himself had made a mention about his security. I have told the Ministry of Home Affairs to make proper security arrangements and the same will be done.

[English]

SHRI K.A. SANGTAM (Nagaland) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, could I just seek a clarification from the hon. Home Minister? Since this is directly related to the State of Nagaland, which I represent, I would like to seek a clarification.

Sir, an attempt on the life of the hon. Chief Minister of Nagaland was made on the 29th. I would like to ask him about the findings of the investigations made on the case by the Ministry of the Home Affairs. What kind of action is being proposed against the culprits and what measures are being adopted to protect the lives of the leaders of Nagaland who have been targeted a number of times in the past?

Sir, again, this morning I was reading a reply. . . .  
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Let the hon. Minister complete his reply and then you can ask clarifications on that.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I am not merely dealing with Nagaland here. I picked up the two points mentioned by you. I have noted that. If there is any separate question, then certainly I would answer that.

[Translation]

The hon'ble Member from Assam, Shri Bwiswmuthiary had requested many times to create Bodoland. He had been requesting for this, but yesterday he had said something, and I welcome that. He said that he opposed the terrorist groups who talked of the secession from the country and he would not make any compromise with that type of secessionist tendency. I welcome him for this. There are many difficulties in the creation of separate state of Bodoland and he himself is aware of these difficulties, because due to these difficulties an agreement was made in 1993, which is called Bodo-Accord. There are shortcomings in the implementation of Bodo-Accord. He has been discussing all these things with me. The efforts will be made to remove those shortcomings but in view of the total number of Bodo population vis-a-vis its density and the area which they want to make as Bodoland, even

if it is created as a separate state, even then the Bodo population of that state will not be more than 30-35 per cent.

[English]

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY (Kokrajhar) : Excuse me, Sir, but I strongly oppose this argument. This is not at all correct.

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister has not yielded. Please sit down.

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : You have got full right to oppose any of my arguments. First of all, the secession was opposed by the entire House including, the representatives of Bodoland. I welcome this. Another thing which I understand that their problems could be solved by discussion, not by terrorism. If any Government, listens the language of violence, it cannot do the welfare of the country. Therefore, I am always in favour of holding dialogues, but dialogues should not be held in such a way, as may appear that it is a result of bomb and bullet culture. There is no other alternative but to hold negotiations. Now if the peace is prevailing in Mizoram, the reason behind it is the negotiation which were held in such a situation when many people realised that things cannot move with bomb, bullet and violence. Therefore, whosoever may be in power at the centre, it should always keep in mind the circumstances in which dialogue should be held and in which it should not be held and with whom it should be held. It should always be kept in mind that the political objectives cannot be achieved through violence and terrorism. Atleast the Government will never accept it. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY : Sir, may I seek a clarification from the hon. Minister regarding what he said about Assam.

MR. SPEAKER : Not now please.

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I would also like to inform you that the negotiations are constantly going on will be representatives of that area. The Governor of the State has also informed me that he also has been holding discussions with them. I think that their genuine problems will be resolved by us. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY : What is the problem, Sir. Officials are not the decisive

authorities to deal with the Bodoland issue. It is the political leadership which has to deal with this issue with positively for finding out means and ways to resolve the issue politically on a permanent footing.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I agree with you.

[Translation]

I share the concerns expressed by the Samar Choudhury in regard to Tripura. Many innocent people have been killed there and many have been abducted. Samarji is aware of this. Four-five key officers of Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh are missing since last August, whereabouts of them are not known as yet. The Union Government and the State Government have made joint efforts, but they have not achieved success so far. A few days back the Chief Minister of Tripura had met me, he also met the Prime Minister. And I do not think it is due to the shortage of central forces. I was observing. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Dolpur) : Sir, I had the opportunity to go there on a visit. After my visit, I submitted a report to the Prime Minister. I wrote to the Home Minister also. It is an open border of 895 kilometres which is not there even in Punjab . It is a very sparsely populated State because of its terrain. Near the border, they go to Bangladesh in no time and people are able to see it. People cannot go to Bangladesh because 30 camps are being run in Bangladesh. They are coming and going with great ease. There are plain areas also there and Bangladesh is just across the road.

I fully agree with the view that people should resist it. But this facility should also be provided. Security forces are necessary. It is a very small State with a population of three million people.

[Translation]

15.00 hrs.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I agree with what Shri Somnath ji has said. This is geography, there cannot be two opinions about it. I have got figures, in 1995, there were 30 companies of CRPF in Tripura, but at present in 1999 there are 75 companies. It is true that we have removed some companies from there at the time of Kargil war. But at present also, the condition over there is much better than pre-kargil. But despite this, there are many difficulties, and the reasons for those difficulties are. . .

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : I was also dealing with Tripura. I request the hon. Minister to deploy

Assam Rifles there because it is the most effective force for Tripura.

[Translation]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Nobody wants CRPF over there.

[English]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev may be aware that Assam Rifles are under the overall control of the Army and I cannot deploy them there.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : You can request for it.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I have already requested, but they also have their own problems, Because of those problems, today they have been able to perhaps spare 18 companies of the Assam Rifles. Eighteen companies are still deployed there in Tripura.

SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHURY (Tripura West) : But now, they are not there. Earlier, once that deployment was there. But Army has already been lifted and shifted from Tripura. One Army cantonment was there earlier but that is completely dry. Now, not a single battalion of army security force is there who can defend Tripura. Assam Rifles were also reduced. This is the position there.

[Translation]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : You should once go there and observe.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : All right, I will see it after personally visiting there. I had just talked to Chief Minister Sahib in detail. Our officers who deal this matter, have went and observed the situation there. Even our forces are paying maximum attention towards Tripura only after Jammu and Kashmir. I know about the geography and land of Tripura. I also know as to how ISI has tried to intensify its activities in Nepal, Bangladesh and adjoining countries. We have made multi pronged effort everywhere to check this problem. We also have regular talk with Nepal, Bangladesh, Burma and Bhutan as how to check this problem.

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN (Coochbehar) : The insurgents are being trained in Bhutan itself. What steps are being taken to stop it ?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Six years before they used to run all their activities from Assam. But their support kept on languishing there. Hence they had to leave Assam and take refuge somewhere else. Our talks with Bhutan keep on going. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I may have laid my stress on

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the security forces but no one can deny that the attention has to be paid simultaneously both towards the security as well as towards the development for fighting terrorism. Both these things go side by side. None of these can ever be neglected. I would like to make an announcement regarding the North-Eastern region. It has been discussed with the Prime Minister and soon we are going to hold a conference on security and development, comprising all the Chief Ministers and governors of all the North Eastern states either on 20th or 21st January to consider the Eastern theme.

[English]

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY : What about political solution, Sir ?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Yes, there will be a political solution.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Bwiswmuthiary, please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Even about their problems, there can be only political solutions and except that no other solution is there. But those political solutions should be brought about in a manner as not to put a premium on violence and the extremism.

[Translation]

In the recent past a lot of discussion took place with regard to ISI. I simultaneously tried to take account of as to what actually happens ? I am happy to state that during the last year and half to two years, a total 45 modules, as they are called in the language of the intelligence were detected and smashed. They can be called 45 groups. It will not be proper to call them as hideout. The hideout refers to a place. We have achieved success in detecting and smashing 45 groups organised by ISI. During the entire process, 116 persons were arrested and 8 persons were killed in the operation itself. Which gives rise to our confidence that we will be able to stick to the policy of the Government announced publicly by the hon. President before the country and the Parliament. He has made a very tall and ambitious declaration.

[English]

It is stated as follows in paragraph 34 of the Address of the President of India on October, 25th :-

"The Prime Minister has announced that Government will follow the principle of "Zero Tolerance" while

dealing with terrorism. Simultaneously, Government will continue to focus international attention on the deadly impact of trans-border terrorism that has claimed countless lives all over the World. There is no dearth of evidence how state-sponsored terrorism has affected peace and stability in South Asia and beyond. India is actively working to initiate concerted international opinion and action against state-sponsored terrorism in any part of the World. The menace of illicit drug trafficking, money laundering, and narco-terrorism has also to be effectively countered through both national and international efforts."

[Translation]

We declared our policy through this statement. It is a two pronged policy. One reflects the Zero tolerance attitude of the Government towards terrorism in the country and the second deals with mobilising all the countries of the world against terrorism. I am hopeful that the Government would surely meet with success in achieving it.

[English]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (Dausa) : I would like to raise one point.

MR. SPEAKER : You may ask for one or two clarifications. I can allow only one or two clarification.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Yesterday, I had asked very pointed questions. Today the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs gave some very proper replies. Yesterday, I had in my mind to ask as to whether militancy has been squared or not in Jammu and Kashmir. You stated that more people outside and less from the state itself are engaged in spreading militancy there. Against the last three years, more intruders have entered this year. You check the record and apprise us about the exact figure. The intrusion has occurred at the maximum during 1999. Here 40 per cent intruders have crept into the state. . . .

(Interruptions) When Advaniji was in the opposition there was a proposal to make cantonment in Doda. Funds were also allotted for it but what progress has been made in this regard. Whether the cantonment is being made there or not ? It has not been mentioned here. The talks with N.S.C.N. have been going on for the last three years. Whether the parliament has no right to ask as to what progress has been made in that regard ? Negotiations are going on. I guess that the Government are not sincere to resolve this issue. Now, a chance has come to settle this issue once for all. We should not let this opportunity go waste: I feel that he has made up his mind to resolve

this issue. As the Advanji has cited the example of Mizoram. Government should take initiative to bring the negotiation on the right track.

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : I could not participate yesterday in the debate as my aircraft was late by 4½ hours.

MR. SPEAKER : Today also you are late.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : I would like to raise three pointed questions and nothing else. My first point is that whether the hon. Home Minister is aware that Barrak Valley which is known as the Island of Peace, is now under terrorist activities and our main victim is the tea industry. Every day there are incidents of kidnappings of Managers and Assistant Managers. The Police is now an ineffective lot. They do not have any army to counter it. Only Army and para-military can do it. I have written to you in this regard. What action are you taking?

I would like to draw your attention to the news item that the Governor of Assam and the Army have said that they would give safe passage to terrorists to go to their respective homes with the idea that there will be some change in their minds. We are now nearing the 31st December. I saw that a Mr. Pillai also gave a statement. I would like to know if it is a fact and if so, what is being done about it.

Thirdly, I understand that you are trying to start negotiations. Will there be some negotiations within the Constitutional framework? Earlier, there were some reservations from the Assam parties that negotiations should not be held in foreign countries. But now all parties are saying that if it is within the framework of the Constitution of India, they have no objection to negotiations even outside India.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (Khajuraho) : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask a very sensitive question from the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You have already participated in the debate. You can only ask a specific question. Otherwise, it becomes a debate.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : You can put your question. . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I understand, this is an important matter. If you have any questions, you can put them.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : Hon. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am asking only one question that as far as terrorism is concerned, India is not the only country which is facing this problem. Terrorism is also there in Israel and America. The question I want to ask is as to whether Indian Government will contemplate the policy of dealing with 'Kindergarten of terrorism' as has been done by Israel. Whether the Government will consider to frame a policy of smashing down the training camps of terrorists situated on the Indian borders?

[English]

SHRI K.A. SANGTAM (Nagaland) : I put one question on the floor and the reply which I got was that the hon. Minister is not inclined to accept that question. This is very serious because after the attempt on the Chief Minister's life, an intelligence report has been sent to all the important newspapers saying that 14 numbers of AK-47 ammunition empty cases, 11 numbers of 7.62 empty cases and a lot of other items were found when the search of the spot and area was made. Today, why are they declining to give the reply to us? I want to have a reply because it is the privilege of this august House to know.

MR. SPEAKER : What is your question?

[Translation]

SHRI K.A. SANGTAM : I want to know as to who is directly involved in this assault and what action has been taken? My question is straight forward and there is nothing puzzling about it.

[English]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE (Jadavpur) : I want to make one proposal. This is very important for the whole nation. . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : We have debated this subject for almost four hours and fifteen minutes.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE : I asked the Home Minister yesterday, apart from strengthening security positions in Jammu and Kashmir, whether they are considering some political negotiations. In the process, we can try to isolate those groups who are openly pro-Pakistan. Are we thinking of bring careful with some of the groups who are not blatantly pro-Pakistan so that we do not do anything that would push them into the arms of Pakistan. We should try to get them to the negotiating table. I did not get an answer to this.

[Translation]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : I would like to tell the Home Minister that he has categorically explained the stand of the Government. But I would like to draw his attention towards one thing that he himself had told that they were in the process of negotiation with the border states to solve the problem of Tripura. May I request you that the problem of Tripura is complicated and you will have to initiate dialogue with the Prime Minister of Bangladesh for early solution of this problem and only then you will be able to solve it.

[English]

The exchange of talks between the officials of the paramilitary forces or the exchange of visits of the VIPs between two countries will not bring any solution unless diplomatic intervention is sought.

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI (Salem) : Sir, I have not got a reply from the Minister.

MR. SPEAKER : The procedure is, discussion under Rule 193 ends with the reply of the Minister. Seeing the importance of the matter, I have allowed some of the Members to seek clarifications. You have already participated in the discussion yesterday.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat. This should not become a debate.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This is not good. Every time you stand up and seek clarifications.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Shri Rajesh Pilot ji has asked a pointed question today. I could not take note of it yesterday. There is a years long pending demand of establishing an army cantonment at Doda. This demand has not been met for the last so many years. A decision has been taken in this regard and it has been accepted and amount had also been allocated for that but in the mean time Kargil incident took place due to which expected progress could not be made in this regard. But I will pursue this matter.

Your second question which you have asked is about the infiltration. It is true that infiltration has been there and it is difficult to check it due to geographical situation of that

region. But to say that there has been maximum infiltration this year is not correct. The army and state intelligence agencies have sent different figures about infiltration. But there is no doubt that infiltration has taken place in that region. Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev has drawn the attention that there has been violence in the valley this year. I will ask the State Government to investigate and furnish information in this regard. But ultimately the State Government will have to take steps in this regard. You have asked one more question that whether any dialogue is going on with the militants or not. No dialogue is going on with them as they are not willing to abide by the frame work of constitution. ULFA people are always talking about separate Assam. The stand of our Government is that the discussion should be held under the frame work of the constitution. Shri Chaturvediji has advised us to adopt the same policy as has been adopted by Israeli. But I do not know as to what the Israeli people had done and how they have done, I would try to get information in this regard.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : I am talking about zero tolerance. Certainly we should strike at the root of terrorism.

[English]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : I think, it is a suggestion for action. It is not a question.

[Translation]

Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, actually we at this stage permit only those questions which have been raised earlier during the course of discussion and which have not been replied to. It should not be so that any member can rise suddenly to ask any question. Shrimati Krishna Boseji has given a suggestion that there should be discussion on Jammu and Kashmir. In this regard I have said that the Government do agree that ultimately solution of any problem can be find only through dialogue but discretion should be used as to whom we should talk and when we should talk and by using my discretion I can say that in prevalent circumstances the local support to the terrorists is eroding there and as such we should take into account all these things.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : We will have to do something about border fencing.

[English]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Border fencing on the Eastern frontier has been done to a certain extent not in Tripura. But I will pursue it.

MR. SPEAKER : Now, the House will take up item No. 15. The time allotted for this Bill is two hours.

15.20 hrs.

NATIONAL TRUST FOR WELFARE OF PERSONS WITH AUTISM, CEREBRAL PALSY, MENTAL RETARDATION AND MULTIPLE DISABILITIES BILL

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill to provide for the constitution of a body at the national level for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

The Government of India has become increasingly concerned about the need for affirmative action in favour of persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disability.

In acknowledgment of a wide range of competencies among these individuals, the Central Government seeks to set up a National Trust to be known as a National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disability. The said Trust will be promotive, pro-active and protectionist in nature. It will seek primarily to uphold the rights, promote the development and safeguard the interests of persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disability and their families.

15.21 hours

[SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA - in the Chair]

Towards this goal, the National Trust will support programme which promote independence, facilitate guardianship where necessary and address the concerns of those special persons who do not have their family support. The Trust will seek to strengthen families and protect the interests of persons who are suffering from these problems after the death of their parents.

The Trust will be empowered to receive grants, donations, benefactions, bequests and transfers. The Central Government will make a one time contribution of rupees one hundred crore to the corpus of the Trust to enable it to discharge its responsibilities.

The Trust will be set up as a statutory body. The overall management of the Trust will be vested in a Board constituted initially by the Government and thereafter partly through process of election.

The Trust shall not be liable to income Tax or any other Tax in respect of its income, profits or gains derived.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved :

"That the Bill to provide for the constitution of a body at the national level for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA (Dhandhuka) : Hon'ble Madam Chairperson, at the outset I thank the hon'ble Minister for presenting the National Trust for welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities Bill, 1999 in the House. As per my information this Bill was introduced in the House on 6.12.95 but at that time it could not be discussed. Some disturbance was created yesterday when it was presented in the House for discussion and it is being discussed today. For this the Hon'ble Minister should be thanked. However, this Bill should have been brought much earlier because the number of blinds, deafs and mentally retarded persons in the society is on increase. We can easily imagine the plight of a blind or lame person crossing road or any intersection. Sometimes mentally retarded people die on roads due to accidents. Have we ever thought that they too are human beings ? They have right to live and due to disability sometimes they curse their parents and they have lost faith in the 'God'. Through this Bill a trust is being set up for the welfare of mentally retarded and other disabled persons and an amount of rupees hundred crores have been earmarked for this and it is being started with an initial investment of rupees one crores. I thank the hon'ble Minister for this also.

A child is not responsible for his disability. Poverty is prevailing in the country and a large chunk of our populations is living below the poverty line. Expected mothers do not get nutritious diet during pregnancy, they are not taken care of and there are no health centres to take care of their health and as a result some children are born disabled. Some children are born blind. Sometimes children sustain injuries while playing which later becomes permanent disability in them. Sometimes they lose their mental balance due to some incident out of fear. Sometimes some children lose their eyesight due

[Shri Ratilal Kalidas Verma]

to some injury on eye while playing. I want to say that the people who sustain injury after their birth also fall in miserable condition. There are some people who are not handicapped by birth, or have not become handicapped by an accident, but have become handicapped as a result of some disease. They become dependent on others. Their life becomes difficult. They pray to God for their early death.

Besides, their economic condition is also responsible for it. Due to poor economic condition, they do not get nutritious diet as well as basic amenities due to which the number of handicapped persons is increasing. Today, pollution is increasing in our country. Pollution is also a major factor which leads to increasing disability. The problem is mostly found in developed countries where the number of disabled is fast increasing. Their number will increase by another 2 crore by the year 2000, which is a matter of great concern. In my opinion, the two most important reasons of disability are industrialisation and urbanisation. The population is increasing in cities, due to which people are forced to reside near the rivulets and drains. People are living in slums, and that is also one of the reasons. Besides another important factor is the tremendous change in our life styles.

Therefore, the problem of disability will become dreadful in the coming century. I appreciate the Bill presented today in the House which seeks to help them out and make them self dependent. 5-6 percent of our population is disabled whether physically or mentally. It means 60-70 million people in our country are disabled. It is a matter of pleasure that the due attention will be paid towards the disabled persons through this Bill.

The disabled persons do not get equal rights. They even do not get equal participation. Who is ready to give them their due rights? Who is ready to give them chance to participate? Who is ready to give them their due share? If there is a disabled person in a family, he is told to sit in a corner. He is served him two square meals a day and is told not to intervene in any domestic matter. His opinion is not taken and his company is avoided. He is not taken for an outing or for recreation. Nobody bears his burden, and he is advised to sit at home and watch TV. Nobody is bothered as to what he thinks? Those who are well to do can afford to watch TV but the disabled who are poor, live in slums and do not have TV they jeeres if they are living in jail. They lead their life in that way. As I have said these 60-70 million disabled people

do not get participation. They cannot work at equal footing. Similarly according to UNICEF one person out of every six people is disabled in some way or the other. It is written in the report.

[English]

"Ninety per cent of the existing institutions in the country for rehabilitation cater to the urban areas whereas eighty per cent of the disabled Indians live in the rural areas. The Government alone cannot fill this gap not only for the sheer size of the resources required for launching suitable remedial programmes in the rural areas, but also for its lack of proper understanding of the local ethos and culture."

[Translation]

It cannot be done by the Government only. The social organisations too have to extend their support. The social organisations have to come forward. This issue could be resolved only when social organisations will come forward. The slogan of 'Education for all' by the year 2000 has been raised. It is being said that everybody would be educated. But would we be able to educate mentally retarded and disabled people? In my view, only one per cent mentally retarded, disabled, and visually handicapped people get education. We do talk of their welfare by the Government and social and voluntary organisations but in my view along with the welfare, attention should also be paid towards their rights. When we talk of jobs, it is said that jobs would be provided to handicapped persons. But who is ready to provide jobs to them? Nobody gives them job, they earn their livelihood by begging. The jobs are given to very few people, rest of the people do not get jobs despite having professional training. There are many people in the country who do not get special education. Trained disabled people also do not get jobs. In my constituency, the parents come with their wards and ask to provide jobs to those who have passed SSC or B.A. They do not get Government jobs.

Sometimes ago, there was Indo-China discussion on the disabled'. As per information obtained through this discussion. 70% disabled people have got jobs. According to my information—

[English]

1600 welfare factories in China, where more than 40 per cent of the work force is disabled, any Chinese enterprise which is having more than 35 per cent or more of disabled employees, they are exempted from paying

business income-tax and those with 50 per cent or more of their employees being disabled do not have to pay any tax.

[Translation]

This facility has been provided in China. If somebody employs more than 50 per cent disabled people. They do not have to pay any tax, and others have to pay 50% tax. We too have to provide this type of facility and incentives to the factories and industries of our country, only then people will come forward, otherwise nothing is going to happen. Similarly, in Japan also, the factories and industries have been set up for disabled people, and the arrangement for marketing products manufactured in those factories is made by the Government. Disabled people earn and live their life respectfully. In our country also special industries should be set up to grant jobs to the disabled people. If our people have this will power, then only this task could be accomplished. But I am sorry to say that the steps which should be taken for mentally retarded people have not been taken till date. The reason behind this is lack of will power. No State has the will power.

Today, hon'ble Menakaji has expressed her will power. I thank her because this work could be accomplished only by will power. Issues are raised time and again. This is a democratic country. The national parties sometimes raise the issue of minorities, majority, sometimes of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, sometimes of women and other matters, and do not allow the proceedings of the House even for two-three days. Has anybody ever raised the issue about disability, handicapped, and visually handicapped people?

Sometimes the political parties say one thing and sometimes the other. Sometimes they promised that they would do something for them but due to lack of strong will power, they did not fulfil their promises. As a result the whole family of the disabled person had to suffer a lot. I want to say that we merely make tall talks about the disabled people in seminars and we go back to our homes after giving prizes and citations to them. After this, nothing is done for them. No attention is paid to them after this and no one loves them. We never tried to understand their problems. We need enthusiastic persons who can help us in these works. I have read the entire Bill. Corporation of the encouraging people should be sought in this regard and only the experts should be appointed in the Board. We have to assist and bring forward all those voluntary organisations which want to

help the aggrieved, exploited, disabled and mentally retarded people. We have to make them self-sufficient so that they can live respectfully with their families. Besides this, we have to provide them facilities also. I had said earlier also that even the family members of disabled people treat them as burden and ask them to beg. Frequently we find while at crossings, a disabled person comes and cleans our vehicle or ask for money with folded hands. Hence we should pay attention towards them and we should also take care to see that no disabled person should be left unattended on roads.

My request to hon'ble Minister is that its offices should be opened in every state and along with this its offices should be opened in major districts also. As far as the provisions regarding appointment of members from the Government is concerned, only the position in the Government offices held by the person should not be taken into consideration. It is mentioned in the provision that only the persons working in these Departments should be appointed as members of the Board. Merely working in these Departments does not mean that they are sympathiser of disabled people or human being. Everyone can get job but being affectionate is a different thing. Only those persons should be appointed who have a soft corner for them. My request is that only those officers should be appointed who are attached with such social institutions. The Chairman of the Board should be appointed such a person as has a cooperative nature and humanistic attitude. We have to set up special schools for this. The schools which are functioning today are less in number. Some people are deliberately doing wrong things for their own interest. We should make more effort to make the Leprosy Eradication Mission successful. Gujarat is doing a lot in this regard. Today in Gujarat, you will not find even a single person begging who is suffering from leprosy. A year ago they used to beg. All leprosy patients were brought at one place. They were provided accommodation and jobs. They were asked not to beg. Today we will not find even a single person begging in Gujarat. I wish that the other states also may follow the Gujarat example.

Today the National Institute for the visually Handicapped is functioning in Dehradun. The National Institute for the orthopaedically Handicapped is functioning in Calcutta. The Ali Vyavar Jung national Institute for the Hearing Handicapped is functioning in Mumbai. The National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped is functioning in Secunderabad. Alongwith these, the Institutes for the Physically Handicapped are functioning in New Delhi. I demand that such Institutes should also be set up in Gujarat on large scale.

[Shri Ratilal Kalidas Verma]

Under the equal opportunities, protection of Rights and Full participation Act, 1955, the Government of India is to provide 3% reservation to the disabled persons in Government jobs. Has any enquiry been conducted by the Government regarding the implementation of this provision? No enquiry is being conducted for this. An enquiry should be conducted in this regard and employment should be given as per provision of this Act. Out of the 3% one per cent is reserved for blinds, one percent is for hearing impaired and one per cent is reserved for other disabled persons. So far as the question of employment exchanges are concerned, handicapped persons do not get employment through them. They are only registering the names and collecting data as to how many disabled persons are unemployed. The reason is that recruitment is made directly and no one is called for employment through them. There is mismanagement in employment exchanges, you should look into that also. According to my information there are 51 per cent special employment exchanges and 39 special cells in our country but through them no response is given to the disabled. The disabled people have difficulty in boarding the buses. Hence they are unable to travel anywhere in Delhi. When such is the condition of buses how the disabled persons travel in them. Besides making arrangement for them in buses I would like to draw your attention towards the stalls at the railway stations. An opportunity to set up stalls at the railway stations is given to physically normal persons and not a single disabled can be seen running them. Stalls at Railway stations are given to the known persons. As far as the question of bank loan facility is concerned, these people are unable to go to banks. My suggestion is that the banks should be instructed to call such peoples and help them in filling forms etc. The Officers should go personally and provide loan facility to them.

Apart from this, 11 centres are opened in the country under District Rehabilitation centres scheme but there is not even a single centre in Gujarat. My request is that such a centre should be opened in Gujarat also. Similarly, the activities of the National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation, 1997 should be augmented. The corporation was set up with good cause but people are not aware as to how to take advantage from it. It should be propagated so that disabled people may come to know about it. There is one couplet of Kabir.

"Kabir hai gareeb ki kabahu na khali jaye,  
Muye door ke charm loha bhasm ho jaye."

Sighs of poors will never go futile.

Finally, I would like to say only this that this Bill is a good one but it should be implemented in proper manner. The purpose with which this Bill is introduced should be fulfilled. While supporting this Bill, I conclude my speech.

15.43 hours

[English]

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY (Khammam) : Madam, I thank you very much for allowing me to speak on this subject.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : Has the order been changed? . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Jafar Sharief was called but he was not there.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Therefore, the Congress Party has lost the chance!

MR. CHAIRMAN : In the second round, we have given them a chance.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : The first round is not complete, Madam. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : Anyway. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I concede your right. . . . (Interruptions) I concede the opportunity that is given to her.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : Thanks. That is very charming and chivalrous.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA (Guna) : A chivalrous gentleman!

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : Yes.

Now, this is a subject that has been gathering dust for some time now. If I am not mistaken, this Bill was brought forward in the Rajya Sabha at one point of time. Then, it went back and it has now come up. This is a very sensitive subject, something for which perhaps the country needs to be sensitised because many of us are uncomfortable when we look at someone with a disorder like this. Many of us do not know how to handle such retardation or cerebral palsy.

Even less is understood about autism. It is sad that less is understood because statistics say – if I am not wrong – that almost one in every 500 suffers from some

kind of autism or the other which is often not understood. The parents are not equipped to deal with this. Social structures are virtually non-existent. So, what is the first thing that strikes us for the need to have a Bill like this? What is the first need that strikes us all? As parents or surrogate parents when we look at the children, and the dream, barring cutting across all religious and economic lines, the one dream that all of us have and the anxiety that all of us have is; what happens to my children after me? The norm is that, at least, we live a shorter life span than the children do. Fortunately or unfortunately, these children who are afflicted with this disease or disorder are the people who can live a perfectly normal span of life. So, the first anxiety that needs to be set at ease is that we should have the facility that parents can give their money which will be monitored and kept in security and which will be executed for the welfare of that particular child. This would mean great trust, great transparency and the ability to handle this so that in our life time, we have the peace of mind that this money is going to go where it needs to go.

There was a letter addressed to the present Prime Minister. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. This letter was addressed by a group of parents and professionals who have drawn his focus to this Bill so that a substitute care giver could be appointed for the protection, care and decision-making of those who are incapable of such decisions. I am extending this to those who do not need this help and who undermine their ability and their aspirations. This national Bill was envisaged, as I see it, as a substitute care giver.

Regarding parents of such people who live in perpetual fear, there is a lot of enigmatic development that has to take place; and the dynamics of implementing this have to be remained very sensitive and responsive to a system which has shown that time and again we have failed to deliver the goods. So, this is what we call the individual contractual capacity. Basically, it has to be a contractual capacity so that the people will be able to take care of their children after their own life time.

Mental retardation often needs guardian. Now, when we come to mental retardation, the other check point that I would like to impress upon is quite often very cruelly this concept of diagnosis of such children and the ability for parents to palm off such children is misused. It has happened. We shudder the thought of it. The fact remains that quite often a small disability, even something as dyslexia is viewed as retardation. Due to influences of various kinds, we have misused the powers and we have

had such people certified and put away. So, it is harmful to digress from this concept a little bit. We have seen this happened to women who are in lunatic asylums, who sit there, who are perfectly normal but are not wanted by their own people of their society.

When it comes to autism, it is acknowledged as one of the most heart breaking disease. Nobody really knows what causes autism, whether it is genetic or whether it is something that you acquire as you go along. Nobody knows this. On one side, we are doing DNA splicing, we do gene interference but we are not able to understand what autism is. Some of these children who are autistic can be very brilliant. They have a pre-determination towards some kind of art or Mathematics.

Let me tell you this for the interest of the House. If I am not mistaken, it was brilliantly portrayed by one of the film stars in the West, known as reins man. This very prominent film star, Dustin Hoffman acted in it. It helped portray the poignancy of this disease.

Now, autism comes along with multiple burdened problem. It does not come in one direction, which is the worst tragedy. It means it compounds the injury. So, we have children with autism who then suffer from cerebral palsy, down syndrome, wet syndrome, facial disorder or visual impairment among others. So, when we decide that we are going to empower somebody else, then I will urge, with all the anxiety that I have at my command, that we must see that we cater to the periphery, to the range of all these, to the entire concept of what autism is, not say it 'autistic' and put them in somebody's care. The monies are not understood and translated for the care of all these diseases because we have red tape which comes in. The bureaucratic red tape which comes in and says; "Oh, but this child has been given this money for autism and not for cerebral palsy, or you know that this has been for treatment of cerebral palsy which does not take in visual impairment or seizure that comes under the heading of visual impairment; 'seizure disorders' could be epilepsy. So, it does not come under this heading."

So, there is a great complexity about understanding the disease in itself and how we are going to apply it and how we are going to cater to all the needs. On the one hand, India can take pride in being the leader in considering progressive legislations. We can give us a pat on the back because we have taken legislations for persons with disabilities in general and we have taken the lead in South Asia on having passed the progressive Acts such as the Persons with Disabilities Act, Equal

[Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury]

Opportunities Act, Protection of Rights Act and Full Participation Act, We have also taken a very bold and laudable step by considering the inclusion of autism in the said Act because autism was not known, it is still not known and even Parliament does not know. It would be nice if the hon. Minister could organise some kind of sensitization or awareness to a programme to be given to the Members of Parliament because we go into our constituencies, we find people who come to us with their children and they do not know what is wrong and the local infrastructure is not capable of diagnosing or prescribing anything for them. Likewise, the National Trust Bill for Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities Bill is a progressive Act. That faces up squarely to the States' responsibility of providing care, protection and substitute decision-making for those citizens who need help. Because of the contractual incapacity, persons with mental retardation, etc. often need guardianship, even after reaching adulthood. Many people believe that this kind of a disease affects the youngsters and it is over and done with and after that adults are not their concern. We must constantly remember that children who are affected with this disease grow into adults and still have the disease, still need monitoring, sexual needs, habits, sanitation and hygiene, etc. which need to be cater to.

Now, the procedure for appointing a guardian was available to persons lacking contractual ability under the Indian Lunacy Act of 1912. The Lunacy Act was repealed and then the Mental Health Act of 1987 did not include the mental disabilities which gave us a hard time. Hence, no legal procedure was available to appoint guardians for those who so required it. So, in consonance with its philosophy of providing protection with autonomy, the National Trust Bill incorporated a procedure for appointing guardians for those adults with mental retardation and autism and cerebral palsy of those who needed them. While such a procedure is specially needed to protect the quality of life for the above disabilities, it has no relevance for physical disability.

So, what we need to focus when we constitute such a Bill is the quality of life. There have been horrifying reports. Even in cash rich countries, in well-developed nations, so called developed nations like the U.S.A. where the care taking for older people showed gross neglect. They are the people who could afford care, who paid for it but they are neglected terribly whereby then often died because of malnutrition and other related disease caused by unhygienic conditions, such as bed sores which ate away the flesh and where the bones were revealed in their

hip-joints, etc. because the quality of life was denied to them.

They died of malnutrition because old people need time to be able to chew and swallow and the attendants often did not care to wait that long. I cannot think of more cruel insensitive side of human being and our natures if we can go out of our way to do less for such people then to do more for them. Persons with physical disabilities are also seeking equal opportunities, full participation and recognition of their own capacities. They are asking for the right to speak for themselves. And it is to this and that the Disabilities (Protection of Rights) Act to 1995 was enacted. This National Trust Bill is meant to include those with physical disabilities which undermine their ability to take care of themselves. People with disabilities are now fully capable of exercising their rights which were needlessly denied to them earlier.

The Prime Minister has been appealed to add one point and we hope that the Government will be responsive enough. This Bill was first brought in the National Trust Bill form in 1991. It has taken nearly ten years and I think it is befitting that we are bringing this Bill towards the end of this millennium so that we start the new millennium with hope, with care and with good health for all of you.

So, drawing your attention to these few issues, I support this Bills and I congratulate the Minister for having brought this Bill.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Madam Chairperson, this is an extremely important piece of legislation which is being considered now and I hope it will be passed unanimously. I congratulate the hon. Minister for having brought this Bill. It is better late than never. I also congratulate Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury for a very illuminating speech that she delivered.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : You are in a very chivalrous mood for all the ladies, I think.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I am lamenting the dearth of ladies. I want 33 per cent of them. Therefore, I would like to continue with chivalry. The only thing is they do not look at me. What can I do ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do not fish for compliments in the House.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Madam, at least if I can keep three of you happy, then I shall be happy.

As I said, this is a very welcome Bill. A large number of people who are, unfortunately, afflicted with

these diseases, were not within the ambit of the earlier Bill. Of course, we have a lot to say about the implementation of that Bill and what was left out. There was a very strong demand for providing an appropriate legislation.

Why I chose to speak today, Madam, is because some time back I had attended a seminar on disabled persons and what I saw that day – apart from what we see everywhere in the country – and what I heard that day, prompted me to say something out of my own experience. That very day, I had raised the matter on the floor of the House and made a request to the Government of the day to bring forth the legislation at the earliest. A lady saw me there. She had come to that seminar with her son, the only child, who was mentally retarded.

16.00 hrs.

She said that she had never been anywhere except her house and had come to the convention to tell the people, the organisers and the speakers who would be participating to look at her condition and the situation in which she was in. She said: "I have never seen anything in life – no drama, no theatre, on cinema, no social call." Apart from that fact, whatever she has, whatever the family has, they are trying to look after that child who remains a child for ever, unfortunately because of the disease he is suffering from or afflicted with.

Even during the lifetime of the parents it becomes sometimes important to provide protection for them. Therefore, I am a little worried on one thing: The hon. Minister may clarify. I believe that once the hon. Minister has said in her statement that this is not meant for those who have family members. If it is not, it is all right. I am happy. The family members are also affected. Apart from the lack of financial resource, they themselves become almost mental wrecks. Therefore, for proper protection of those people who are suffering from these diseases, something is to be done. Naturally the parents are the most concerned. Even they are not able to look after them properly. Mere best wishes will not do. Therefore, this has to be looked into.

Recently I had a conversation with Shri Javed Abidi whom you must be knowing very well. He said: "Please implore upon the hon. Minister that for every law, it needs to be properly implemented", Implementation should be more sincere. So far as the earlier Act of 1995 is concerned, there is much to be said. It provides for things like education for disabled people – not the aggravated

forms of disablement that we are considering in this Bill – but the ordinary disablements like hearing impairment, blindness and things like that. They are mentioned in the 1995 Act. Even those are not being implemented.

There are things like education to them. My friend has rightly referred to the provision for employment which is not at all being implemented. Even the three per cent reservation is only on paper. Although this is a mandatory provision of law, from Government downwards nobody bothers to provide for that. We hear that in China there are so many inducements. Apart from the inducements they are still doing it. Therefore, what was not done was implementation. Mere good wishes and pious wishes and pious wishes will not help.

Therefore, I implore upon the hon. Minister that these are the matters in which the hon. Minister may have to take personal interest so far as monitoring is concerned. If I am not misunderstood in saying so, I know that she is ruthlessly efficient in certain other matters in implementing them. We appreciate that. I appreciate her tenacity also. But what is needed is very faithful, honest, sincere and as the law contemplates, adequate implementation of what we are going to do today and also of the earlier Act.

Madam, I will make one or two comments. I do not want to make it a controversial law. It may be considered now. I have not given any amendments. The Board as provided may be too large. There is a chairperson. There will be nine persons representing parents and eight persons from high bureaucratic level officials and three persons for philanthropic activities. Apart from that there will be a Chief Executive Officer who will again be a bureaucrat of the rank of Joint Secretary. Then there will be another eight persons who may be associated. It becomes a total of 30 persons.

I think, it is too large a Board. I have been told of another Council, but I will not name it. I will not name the individual who is more busy publishing his photographs. Madam Chairperson, you must be knowing him. Somebody says that he is more busy publishing booklets with his photographs as beautifully made out as can be. But that is not helping the work. The work is not helped. Some of the people who are aware, who are working in this sphere say that Rs. 100 crore for a country like ours where seven crore of people are disabled, in these days of escalating costs, will not be sufficient.

I do not know whether the hon. Minister's Ministry has made a study about how many homes they should start

[Shri Somnath Chatterjee]

in the country, what is the number of people they wish to accommodate in those sheltered homes and what will be the per head expenditure. Therefore, will this amount of Rs. 100 crore kept in deposit and probably Rs. 10 crore of money earned every year, cannot be sufficient for this stupendous task. The amount that may be given by individuals will be meant for those persons or their wards. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister to consider this. If necessary, she may come with amendments at a suitable time.

The more important thing is the persons who feel most are the parents and the family member of the disabled. There are good organisations. Even there is an organisation called National Federation of Parents Association. It is felt that the representation of the parents and the members of the family of the disabled should be more compared to others. I have nothing *per se* against the bureaucrats, but somehow that bureaucratic attitude is taken up. They have to look into so many rules, regulations and procedure. Even if they want to overcome it, there will be too many inhibitions, either mental or procedural, which will affect the functioning of this Trust board.

Who are going to be made associates? It is there in clause 3(5). The hon. Minister must have noticed that professionals are contemplated to be associated. They may be taken out of the registered organisations or of professionals. Therefore, professionals by profession means, probably, doctors and others who are looking after these persons. Therefore, I would have preferred more representation of parents, experts and professionals. Of course, some philanthropic organisations may be there. I am sure that the Minister will consider, after a trial is given, whether to change it or not. But let it not be an organisation just like those which remained only to provide for paraphernalia of the Chairperson, Chief Executive, officers, cars and travelling. Let this good money not be utilised or misutilised for that.

The other thing I wanted to say about this Bill is about the objects of the Trust. The Bill says that the objects of the trust are to strengthen facilities to provide support to persons with disability to live with their own families and to extend support to the registered organisations to provide need-based services during the period of crisis in a family of persons with disability. Now, both these areas have to be very seriously looked into because, as I said, those who live in the family need help, apart from the guardians,

which has been provided here. How can such help be rendered to the families? That is a matter which has to be very seriously looked into. The other thing is the local-level committee which is the most important committee.

The Local Level Committee, under Chapter 6, will select the persons who, according to them, will be entitled to the assistance of guardians etc. That Local Level Committee, Madam, if you kindly see clause 13, consists of an officer of the Civil Service, not below the rank of a District Magistrate or a District Commissioner of a District, then one representative of a registered organisation, and a person with a disability, as defined in clause (t) of Section 2 of the other Act. Now, I have some doubts about the utility of this because we do not know whose interests the registered organisation represents or it comprises of what. As Shrimati Chowdhury correctly said, these particular types of diseases are different from ordinary impairment, ordinary disability; as I said, they are aggravated forms of disability, and the people with these particular types of diseases must be properly represented. Supposing a blind person is there, it does not necessarily mean, in spite of his best efforts, that he can do this.

As far as the Collectors are concerned, again, this bureaucratic approach is there. I am not *per se* against the Collectors or the District Magistrates, but this is a matter which has to be tackled differently from a different point of view. Therefore, I do not know why these Local Level Committees should be comprised of three persons. One may not have any connection with this, the other is just giving a bureaucratic sort of leadership, and the third is an organisation's representative – it may not be of a parents' organisation. These are the doubts which have been expressed by those who are working in this area. I cannot ask for change of the law here and now, unless she brings on amendment today.

Now, there is a provision for appointment of guardians. Will they be honorary persons? If not, then a provision has to be made for their payment. I do not find it here, and that has to be adequate. The Minister is shaking her head and, therefore, I think, they will be paid. In that case, that has to be adequate. Do not just indulge in tokenism; that would be neither here nor there. We are trying to make some suggestions to make this Bill as better workable as possible. Therefore, this is a matter which may please be looked into.

I will not take more time. The last point is, the Board has been given the power to receive bequests only on movable property. Supposing a family gives a house, either

you can convert it to a home or you can sell it. Why do you compel the family to sell it and give it to you? Why not receive bequests of immovable property also from any person for the benefit of persons with disability? This is a matter which may be looked into.

Madam, I am reading one or two sentences of a letter which a mother has written to the Prime Minister.

"Myself and my husband have been struggling to provide education, vocational training and an occupation to my son. Our aim is to provide him with the normal facilities, opportunities, the avenues of life, which are available to the other citizens of this country. . . ." (Very deserving thought.)

She says :

"We want an answer to the all pervading question, "After us, who?"

This answer has to be given to the parents of persons with mental retardation, cerebral palsy and autism for whom sheltered homes are being set up with funds being provided by the Government to the National Trust and donations collected by it. Therefore, this is a question which is perennial in the minds of the people of those, whose children, unfortunately, are suffering from these disease. However, with great difficulty, I may carry on to look after them. But after me, what will happen and who will look after them?

These are matters which have to be looked into. I know, no such law could be properly implemented without an attitude of care, compassion, love and concern for these people. Merely we have passed a law, and it would be one of those laws which would remain in the Statute book. Money would be provided but how far would it go to those who really need them?

I express my hope and faith that the hon. Minister would see that this law is not a mere paper provision. It should be implemented and I am sure, with the zeal for protection of those who need protection, this would be a legislation which we all shall be happy to have it not only in the statute book but also to see that it is properly implemented.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY (Khammam) :  
Madam, Chairperson, may I just make a suggestion?

An hon. Member was telling me that when he tried to give money to one of the Centres, from the MPLADS, who look after these children, he was not allowed on the

ground that this was not within this scheme. We should work collectively towards that to change this. I would rather fund an institute than to give a borewell or something like that.

Madam, the other thing about which I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister is Alzheimer. Alzheimer is a mental incapacity that comes with the onset of age. India has not woken up to this fact. Alzheimer is very much there in India, especially given the longevity of life. Would the hon. Minister include Alzheimer also under the purview of the Bill so that we could look after them?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Next speaker is Smt. Jayashree Banerjee not present.

Shri Anadi Charan Sahu.

SHRI ANADI SAHU (Berhampur, Orissa) : When I rise to support this Bill, Madam, Chairperson, I am reminded of a strange coincidence. When you were the hon. Minister of State for Youth Affairs at the Centre, I was the Director (Sports and Youth Services) Government of Orissa. You were then kind enough to sanction money for organising an athletic meet for the disabled persons, including those who are mentally retarded.

Madam, I would like to cite one instance here which has remained poignant and etched to my mind. This is about a 14 year old mentally-retarded boy who was brought by his parents from Bolangir to participate in that athletic meet. It was a very simple athletic meet which was conducted with the help of the doctors. There were only jumping, running and throwing events in that meet. Amongst all those mentally-retarded children, that boy was distinguished by good clothes and by the fact that his parents were hovering around him.

That boy, in the running event, got the first prize. His mother started crying in joy and this boy – although he was 14 years old was behaving like a two year old child – went to his mother and kissed and hugged her and threw the prize up in the air in joy. His father was a mute spectator to all this and was crying but laughing as well. That incident has remained etched in my mind and it is a strange coincidence that I am narrating this here again.

Madam, this Bill is a very good Bill and has been brought with a good purpose as well. Right from the year 1991 when it was thought of giving equal rights to the disabled, India has been thinking of the incapacitated. In 1994, there was a Convention in Delhi and on the basis of that Convention, the Act, of 1995 relating to the

[Shri Anadi Sahu]

mentally-retarded persons was drafted which became an Act in 1996. The most important fact in that Act was about education and employment. As Shri Somnath Chatterjee has said, we have enacted an Act but we have not yet implemented it fully.

Madam, Chairperson, there are lofty ideals in the Bill. Madam Minister has lofty ideals, but to be able to implement it, there must be some good people with understanding of the problem that has to be tackled. This Act, as has been mentioned by Smt. Renuka Chowdhary proposes to give a new definition and an attempt has been made to define the ailments.

The objective is to instill a sense of purpose in the parents who brought a child to this world. That is the most important thing. Let them not feel, in the poetic words, "Tell me not in mournful numbers life is but an empty dream." Each child who has come to the earth should feel happy and should feel that he is among equals. He may not be better placed but the purpose is to prevent any sort of discrimination against him, to protect and promote his rights, and to develop and safeguard the interest of the disabled.

The difficulty is that there is a plethora of Acts. In 1965 Act, Section 3 has the provision of a Board. It has provision for some District and local level Committees also. The present Act also has provision of Boards in Clause 3 and then District level Committees at clause 13. As per the 1995 Act, there is a set of Boards. As per this Act, one will have another set of Boards. It may create problems, as Shri Somnath Chatterjee was saying. We have created a corpus of Rs. 100 crore for this but to man the Boards also the corpus may be eaten away.

There is a provision in Clause 10 of this Act which, *inter alia*, could mean that funds could be given to the guardian. If we read through the lines, we can find that it is there. A regulation has to be made as to the manner in which funds have to be given to the guardian. Otherwise, it would be difficult to implement. There is another provision in Clause 17 which says that if the guardian is not taking any steps, the child, the patient, or the disabled person, is to be taken out. A difficulty may arise here because there is no penal provision. Supposing there is some inter-State property, if the disabled person has been taken away or dies how is that property to be recovered? An important fact is that nobody is an ideal person. Maybe, Madam Minister is very ideal in her thinking but the persons who will be implementing the law may think of taking the money. Therefore, the first important thing for this provision is that the Public Demands Recovery Act has to be taken into account. There may be many people with ulterior motives,

who would like to misappropriate funds. Implicitly, why not give the responsibility with the financial support, as it has been indicated in Clause 14, saying that the parents themselves should be the guardians? Why appoint another person as guardian? These are a few things which should be sorted out.

As Shri Somnath Chatterjee has said, the Boards should not be very big in their size comprising 29-30 people. Academicians and medical officers should form part of the Board which has not been indicated in the Bill. At the District level Committee, the District Magistrate cannot do anything. With my experience in District administration, I know that a District Magistrate is the chairperson of sixty to seventy Committees. He does nothing except sitting over the Committees. At times, the District Magistrate does not even know for what purpose the Committee he is chairing is constituted.

If it is possible, now of course it cannot be amended, it should be provided that the Chief District Medical Officer should be the Chairman of the Committee with some academicians and professionals as members. As Shri Somnath Chatterjee has said, if they can be taken into this Committee it would be possible to give some thrust to the objective the Minister has thought of. Otherwise, it would be better to have family support. It would be better to give some money to the family and see that they take up the activities of these mentally retarded people, in right earnest.

It is possible. If you have a better atmosphere for them, they could do wonders. This has been clearly indicated in the London Charter which Madam Minister had attended probably, in September, 99 the Draft Charter of Disability for the Third Millennium finalized in London calls for compassionate policy that respects the dignity of all people, and the inherent plans and benefits derived from the varied diversity of people. This is the main thrust on which this Act has come.

I would not dilate much. I would not go into the details of other things. So, what are the requirements? They are adequate genetic services to alleviate the physical and psychological impairments caused by the inescapable ravages of environment. That can be done if the parents are involved, and not the guardians. I do not know how a guardian would be able to take care of a person who is mentally retarded and requires lots of affection. By merely enacting or by making some people a registered body, we cannot implement this Act in a better manner.

So, although I support it, I would request that while finalizing the rules and regulations, kindly keep all these things in mind. With these words, I conclude. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members, there is a statement to be made by Minister at 4.30 p.m. So, the next speaker would be disturbed in between his speech, Or can finish before the Statement is made.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY (Mohanlalganj) : Madam, first of all, I would like to thank the Hon'ble Minister for introducing a bill to provide for the constitution of a body at the national level for the welfare of persons with Autism, cerebral palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

It is true that the disabled persons are the most neglected section of our society. There is a need to undertake the work of rehabilitation of the disabled at a very large scale and it is our prime duty to adopt a sincere, kind hearted and sympathetic approach towards them.

A survey was conducted in 1991 by S.S.O. according to which 70% of the disabled persons residing in rural areas were illiterate. 46% handicapped persons were found to be illiterate in urban areas. As per the census of 1991, 48% of the total population is illiterate. This indicates the level of backwardness of the disabled in the field of education in comparison to the normal persons. Only 4% of the disabled in the rural areas and 12% in the Urban areas manage to reach the level of secondary education. There are around nine crore disabled persons in the country out of which the number of mentally retarded persons is approximately 2.40 crore. The accurate data regarding the people suffering from various kinds of disabilities is not available. As per an estimation, the number of disabled persons stood at 80.44 lakhs in 1991. 36.26 lakh people were visually handicapped, 29.24 lakh were deaf and the number of dumb persons was 17.68 lakhs. 80% of the disabled persons throughout the country live in villages and there are no special schools for disabled children in 97% villages of our country. The disabled persons face maximum problem in villages. I have been elected to this House for the second time from a rural area. I feel that through pension facility as well a host of other facilities have been provided for the disabled but they are unable to avail of all these facilities. They come to us, fill up the forms and even after going through a laborious procedure, they remain deprived of all these facilities. This is what I feel. I am not against the bureaucrats but I do feel that a particular atmosphere is created due to their excessive interference. Disabled persons are not physically fit to that extent that they may pursue their cases vigorously like normal persons to avail of the facilities earmarked for them. Hence our first priority should be to make the procedure simple and easy to

enable them to avail of the facilities intended for them. The disabled persons should not face any difficulties in this regard. I feel that in the case of disabled persons also, the males still enjoy a better position in society as compared to their female counterparts who tend to face more complications. They encounter psychological problems in finding a place for themselves in society. The atmosphere of compassion and familial bond is missing more in their case than in the case of men. The disabled do not need our pity. They need our love, affection and family bonding. This is our most important responsibility. The disabled are not given due importance from social, economic and political point of view. As has been stated earlier also that the condition of disabled is much worse in rural areas. Reservation facility has been provided for the disabled in jobs, however, the official data reveals that the target of even 3% reservation is not achieved. Nobody is interested in giving jobs to the disabled. Only 0.23% jobs are provided in the private sector whereas there is a provision for providing 5% jobs as per the law for the disabled enacted in 1995. Tax exemption is also given in case of providing jobs to disabled, still there is no worthwhile change in this regard.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to say that we should pay more attention towards the soldiers who lose their limbs while fighting on our borders. You can imagine the mental agony of a normal person who loses his limbs. In such a situation, a lot of attention is paid towards them initially, however gradually, there is a change in our attitude and outlook. This is a bitter truth. They have to struggle hard to survive later on. Hence I would like to submit that if a board is constituted, all these points should be kept in mind.

Sir, Industrial pollution is also causing mental retardation amongst children which is rapidly growing into a health hazard. The hon'ble Minister should pay attention in this regard also. I am pleased to note that a trust has been set up and I would like to congratulate her for having taken this step. However, I feel that it would be better to involve the parents in the endeavour because nobody else can be a better friend and well wisher than the parents. In my opinion, the bureaucrats should not be involved in this work. Besides, I would like to suggest that it would be appropriate to involve people's representatives. Such persons come to me from the area from where I have been elected to seek assistance.

Hon'ble Minister has introduced a very good bill in the House and I am confident that through this bill, we will be able to make people realise that the disabled are also a part of the society and are as capable as us.

16.35 hrs.

### STATEMENT BY MINISTER

#### Accident that occurred on 13th December, 1999 at I.G.I. Airport, New Delhi

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA) : Sir, it is with a deep sense of regret that I have to inform the House that on 13.12.1999 when passengers of Air India flight No. AI-720 from Dubai arrived at IGI Airport, Delhi, were going towards Immigration area, in a tragic accident a young girl, Jyotsana, aged 7 years, died and four passengers were injured.

The accident occurred due to a strap of the bag of one of the passengers having got stuck between the steps of the descending Escalator at 02.52 A.M. As the passengers tried to pull the strap out, and did not get off the Escalator, there was lot of confusion amongst the other passengers behind because of the blockage. It also appears that a metal plate at the foot of the Escalator at the last step was yanked out by force applied by the passenger whose strap had got struck. As a result, a gap opened up in the flooring of the Escalator.

First, a lady fell down and her leg was stuck in the gap between the steps of the Escalator and the side wall, then the 7 year old girl, Jyotsana fell down and her head stuck the last step of the Escalator and was crushed by the movement of the Escalator steps. The Escalator stopped automatically, possibly as a result of jamming.

A police official on duty in the Immigration Hall informed the Senior Airport Manager of Airports Authority of India, who in turn, called the doctor on duty and the technician. The Sr. Manager and the Doctor reached the scene in about five minutes. The technician came soon thereafter.

The escalator was reversed manually and the girl's body and the lady's leg released. The Doctor, after checking the girl declared her clinically dead at 3.20 A.M. and the body was handed over to the police. The lady was given immediate first aid and due to severe lacerations was sent to Apollo Hospital by AAI at about 3.20 a.m. The four passengers injured in the accident are : 1. Rajesh Jethani 30 years Male Multiple abrasions 2. G.P. Katyal 64 years Male An abrasion and a small cut on the forearm. 3. Parmanand Jethani 60 years (Grand-father of deceased) Male A small cut 4. Smt. Usha Rani Nagpal 55 years received (Deep lacerations). While the three gentlemen had minor abrasions and cuts, Smt. Usha Rani Nagpal suffered lacerations on her left leg which required plastic

surgery. She has been admitted at Apollo Hospital, New Delhi. AAI has made all the arrangements for the treatment. The rest of the family departed for Jodhpur on the 13th evening and all arrangements for the departure were made by the AAI.

We express our sincere sympathy to the bereaved family. Though one is fully conscious of the fact that no words or actions can compensate the family for its loss, Ministry has announced a relief of Rs. five lacs to the affected family.

The Escalator was installed by the OTIS Company, an internationally leading supplier, in 1986. It is maintained by them through a comprehensive maintenance contract, with monthly checking and on call as and when necessary. There has never been an incident like this since its introduction.

An Inquiry Committee consisting of Shri S.H. Khan, Executive Director and Dr. K. Ramalingam, General Manager, Airports Authority of India has been ordered to inquire into the accident and investigate the reasons for the occurrence of the incident with meticulous details, that will submit its report within 48 hours, i.e. on 15th December.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : Madam, this is a very serious matter. I take strong objection of the fact that the incident took place right in the capital on 13th December and the Minister has come to the House after 48 hours to make a statement. What prevented the Minister to make a statement yesterday ?

Secondly, the Head of the Airport Authority has been appointed a member in the committee to inquire into the incident.

[Translation]

PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Madam, there is no such thing. . . (Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : I am speaking after taking permission from the Madam, do not take this lightly.

[English]

The entire responsibility of the security and management lies with the Airport Authority of India and the Government has appointed its head as a member to inquire into the incident. Are you taking the matter lightly ? You cannot do like this. It has been reported in the electronic and print media that for 45 minutes the escalator went on rolling. There was nobody to stop it. Nobody knew how to stop it. The Minister has simply said that the

escalator rolled and the child got crushed because someone was behind her. It is not a fact. The Minister has to state the facts properly. It went on rolling for 45 minutes and there was nobody to stop it. Why has the Government appointed someone to be a member of the Inquiry Committee who himself is answerable to the country? The Government should have appointed somebody else.

It was reported that the Government instantly offered Rs. 5 lakh as compensation to the family but they refused to accept it. Do you have some concern for humanity? At that time did anybody ask for the money? Instead of punishing the guilty, the Government instantly offered the money.

This is a very serious incident. We are not at all satisfied with the statement. Will the Government change the authority being appointed to inquire into the incident and appoint someone who is free from the control of the Airport Authority?

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am not allowing a discussion on this. Since this is a serious matter, Members are allowed to raise a few points.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hoogly) : I would like to say that it should be a judicial inquiry. No less than a sitting judge should go into what has happened, otherwise, there will be the suspicion and the doubts that have been raised in the minds of not only Indians but the people abroad. To assuage the feelings as also to remove any lurking doubt about the functioning of the Airport Authority, it should be inquired into by a sitting judge.

It is being said that it is maintained by OTIS through a comprehensive maintenance contract with monthly checking. My query is, when was it checked last time?

[Translation]

PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Madam, I have been told that last time it was duly checked on 25th November, and all the time their man is present over there, and he tries to prevent any such type of incident. There has never been an incident like this, and I understand there has been some delay in reaching the accident site.

MR. CHAIRMAN : According to the newspaper this type of incident had taken place earlier also.

PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : The incident took place day before yesterday. Hon'ble Minister and myself had visited the accident site that very time and had viewed every thing. Mother of the girl had contacted us and we met her family members. Three years ago when they had last visited India, their one year old daughter had died. We

do not want to hide any of the facts of the incident that took place. Now that this incident has taken place, we would also like to remove other malpractices prevailing over there. I would like that the hon'ble Members should extend their cooperation in this regard. If they are having any complaint, they should tell us about it. As mentioned by him the inquiry committee includes Member of Airport Authority of India. The Airport Authority had already announced the constitution of this committee. If necessary. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : You said if necessary. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

You do not think that it is a serious matter. What are you talking? . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Until the report is submitted, nobody can be held guilty. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : The hon'ble Minister said that Chairman had announced it earlier. You are responsible towards the House. If you knew that they had announced it earlier, you could have changed it by taking the responsibility. You are the Minister. Why do you say that if necessary you will see it later on.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You cannot have a discussion on a statement.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Madam, the international tourism sector is shocked by this incident. I want to help the Minister but he is taking it lightly. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : If anybody is found guilty in this accident, he will not be pardoned. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL (Kanpur) : In his statement, the hon'ble Minister has not mentioned the time of accident and the time at which the injured were taken to hospital. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : I was expecting a reply stating the fact about the suspension of the persons of the Airport who are responsible for this. I thought you

[Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi] .

would constitute an inquiry. But you left the matter to the Chairman itself. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN Hon'ble Minister is saying something.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL : The time of incident and the time at which the injured persons were taken to hospital is not given. The glaring shortcoming of this statement is that the time of accident is not given. . . .(Interruptions)

PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : The three officers of Airport Authority, who were responsible for this accident have been suspended.

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL : Mr. Chairman, this statement is incomplete. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Why are you suppressing the information? He did not say so in the statement. But now he comes out with the facts. This is not the way. You cannot take the House lightly. Why did you suppress the information? Madam, he should have mentioned the fact regarding suspension. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please give him the chance to reply.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : If the Minister comes with a statement, suppressing the basic fact of suspension, do you think it is the proper way to inform the House? . . .(Interruptions) Madam, had I not raised this point, the House would have been kept in dark. . . .(Interruptions) I am not talking to you. I am talking to the Minister. Madam, it amounts to breach of privilege.

MR. CHAIRMAN : If it amounts to breach of privilege, you have different ways of raising it.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Acharia, we are not having a discussion on this subject.

(Interruptions)

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore) : Sir, the Minister has already suspended them. He has taken action against them. But instead of being happy, he is raising objections. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : You are not the Minister. I am talking, through the Chair, to the Minister.

I have nothing against the Minister as a person. But how can he afford to make a statement ignoring and suppressing the basic facts that they took some action against some officers? On my enquiry, he comes out. Is it being fair to the House?

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : If he has done so, what is the harm? What would he have gained by suppressing the facts. He might have forgotten.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : He is not the Minister, Madam.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : I know, I am not the Minister. But I know that your intention just cannot be this.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : We were told that the statement would be presented today. The statement was not made earlier when we raised the matter during Zero Hour. In spite of that, we had to wait up to a quarter to five o'clock for this statement. The incident took place on the early morning of 13th December. Today he is making a statement without full facts. He is suppressing the facts. This is a contempt of the House. When he is making the statement he should come out with full facts. What action has he taken against the officers? He should inform the House as to why he has suppressed the facts.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He has made a statement which has been circulated. Shri Dasmunsi raised a question and asked whether he has suspended anybody. The Minister said yes, they have suspended three people.

[Translation]

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL : Tell us at what time the accident took place?

MR. CHAIRMAN : The time is given in the statement.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Shri Dasmunsi sought a clarification and asked a question whether anybody has been suspended. Then the Minister replied that some officers have been suspended. Why did he not say that at the time of making the statement? Why did he suppress that fact?

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA (Shimoga) : With your permission Madam, I ask a simple question to the hon. Minister. When was those three officers suspended? . . .(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Everybody is agitated over this question. Let them make a mention of their view points for two minutes and we will finish it.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : When have they been suspended ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Acharia, you have asked your question. Please take your seat.

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA : I am posing only one question to the Minister. When was those three officers suspended ? What are their names ? Please answer this question.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The same question. That will be the end of it.

PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, yesterday I intended to make a statement but due to uproar in the House, I was not able to make it. Today preliminary inquiry took place. After that three officers were suspended among whom the first was Incharge of Telephone exchange, the second was Incharge of Electrical Group and the third person was the one who was on Escalator duty. As soon as they felt.

[English]

that they were at fault, they were not on duty, and they were not performing their duty properly, the authorities have suspended them.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The matter is closed.

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh) : How can it be closed ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : I cannot tell the Minister to change the inquiry here on the floor of the House.

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : Let the preliminary inquiry report come. If necessary, we will change it.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He has said so. If necessary, they will then change it. Let him get the preliminary report and see what has happened.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : The incident is so serious that there should be a judicial inquiry.

I would like to know whether he agrees to it or not. Please tell it today itself. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO (Bolangir) : Madam, I just want to make a submission. It is very unfortunate that such a tragedy has taken place and the life of a young child was snatched away. . .

(Interruptions) Now, the hon. Members from the opposition are not interested in knowing the truth. It is very unfortunate. They are just trying to make accusations all the time and bulldozing the House. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Tell us, whether you will order a 'judicial inquiry ?' Will you tell about it in the House or outside ? . . .(Interruptions)

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI (Garhwal) : Do you want that everything should be done without conducting an inquiry ? Let some inquiry be conducted.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Basu Deb Acharia, please sit down. The matter is closed now. We are having the next speaker to speak.

(Interruptions)

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA : Who is running the Government - the Ministers or some Members of Parliament running the Government ? The Minister is answering. . . .(Interruptions) Some Members from that side are also answering. What is this ? Let me know this first. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO : When you are answering, we are also entitled to do it. . . .(Interruptions)

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI : Shri Bangarappa, you are a Member of Parliament. I am also a Member of Parliament. . . .(Interruptions) You have expressed your views. I am not replying as a Minister. I am talking as a Member. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA : When a question is put to the Minister, another Member from that side has got up to answer to that. What is this ? . . .(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO : When you are answering, we are also entitled to it. . . .(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL : We are concerned that judicial inquiry will not be conducted after this inquiry. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Kumaramangalam, do you want to say something ?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Kumaramangalam has got to say something. Let us hear him and then we will conclude it.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM : Madam, I am really adding to what my good friend, the hon. Minister of State for Civil Aviation has said. I am saying it in terms of clarifying it and bringing to light the facts in all its fashion. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : This has got nothing to do with power. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM : It is one of the most unfortunate incidents that we have heard in the recent past. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Madam, he cannot say that yesterday the House was out of order. I say this because business was transacted beyond eight of the Clock. Why did he say that the atmosphere was not good? How can he say that? . . . (Interruptions) When the Prime Minister could come to make a statement last night, could the Minister not come and make the statement? What is he talking? . . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JASWAL : Yesterday, the proceedings of the house took place from 4 p.m. to 8.30 p.m., then how can you say that proper atmosphere was not there. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Madam, this is not a good defence.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM : Please hear my words. I have never said that it was out of order. . . . (Interruptions) Madam, am I going to be permitted to speak or not? Otherwise, I will sit down. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members, please sit down. I have permitted the Minister to say something. The point is you want an answer. If you do like this, you will not get the answer.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO : They cannot bulldoze the House for all the time. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM : Shri Munsii, are you going to speak? Or, shall I speak? I do not know. . . . (Interruptions) I am sorry, this is wrong. With all humility, I want to say one thing.

[Translation]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : The Prime Minister himself has come but the Minister has not been able to reach? . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Munsii, you have had your say. You want a reply. Let the Minister say something. He is giving a reply.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : It is my duty to help them? I can only alert them. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : So, they are very much grateful to you.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM : Madam, Shri Dasmunsi was my leader. So, I should not say very much. He does have the personal right always to make me sit down. . . . (Interruptions) But I would only say this much that he has the personal right to intervene. But the normal courtesy in the House is that when any Member is speaking, not the Minister, we do not intervene without asking that Member to yield. I am just reminding him about this. Of course, in my personal case, he can always do so. If I may submit, I never said anything. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : We have all seen you in form.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM : I have never said anything more than that. We have shown our good intentions. The issue is very serious. We are not saying that it is a light issue. The hon. Minister did try to bring to the notice of the House one thing. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : In what capacity is he speaking?

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM : I am speaking as a Member of the Cabinet. He did say one thing. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : When the Departmental Minister concerned is here, how does he reply to this?

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM : I am sorry, I think this point must be clarified in terms of the procedure.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Let it be clarified. Madam kindly give your ruling.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM : I would agree to it.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I think it is a joint responsibility. I have permitted him to say.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : In a Cabinet System of Government, the Prime Minister represents the Government. But the hon. Minister does not represent the Government. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is the Joint responsibility.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM : I think the ruling is very clear. We have the collective responsibility.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : It is very unfortunate. If the Minister concerned was not here, certainly he could speak. . . .(Interruptions)

17.00 hrs.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM : Madam, I have only said that I would only add something to what the hon. Minister had already said.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I thought you were helping to sort out the problem.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM : I thought I was helping, but it looks like my good friend, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi does not want me to do that.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Madam, I only want that he should do good work there and not defend them wrongly. I want that his career should always be bright.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM : I only wish to assure them that, as a Government, we have taken it very seriously and we are looking into it.

17.01 hrs.

NATIONAL TRUST FOR WELFARE OF PERSONS WITH AUTISM, CEREBRAL PALSY, MENTAL RETARDATION AND MULTIPLE DISABILITIES BILL - CONTD.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House will now take up the discussion on the Bill which is before us. Shri Sudarsana Natchiappan to speak now. Shri Natchiappan, please be brief, because we have to conclude it by 5.30 p.m. when we take up the Half-an-Hour Discussion.

SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN (Sivaganga): Madam, it is really a very emotional and sensitive Bill

which is before this House. It is about those people, who cannot represent their grievances, come and agitate for their welfare or demand anything for them before this Parliament.

I would like to trace the history of this Bill. In the year 1993, when the Congress Party Government was in power, this Bill was drafted along with the Disabilities Bill and both the Bills were presented before Parliament in 1995. But, due to the telecom scandal involving Shri Sukh Ram, the House was continuously being adjourned for about a fortnight. In the meanwhile, there was an agitation by the disabled persons and they represented their grievances before the then Prime Minister and the then Leader of the Opposition, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. At that time, only the Disabilities Bill was passed and this Bill remained pending. It could see the light of the day only now. Therefore, I would request the whole House to pass this Bill as early as possible, so that the welfare activities for the disabled persons can start immediately.

We have got the experience of the Act of 1995 where a three tier system was created, with the Chief Executive, the Central Coordination Committee and also the Central Executive Committee. The constitution of the Committee itself took about two years, the nomination of the Chief Executive took about four years and finally only on 01.09.1998, the entire body was constituted. This was constituted three years after the passing of the Bill and even now, that body is not functioning fully. I wish that the same thing should not happen in the case of the Trust which is envisaged under this Bill, because the disabled children cannot go and plead their case before anybody. They are suffering so much. So, the Bill, which is a Bill of the 20th Century, should become an Act before the 21st Century begins.

Madam, the hon. Minister has so much of sympathy for the animals, but the disabled persons are human beings and they cannot argue their case before anybody. So, I would request the hon. Minister to take the initiative to constitute the Trust before 1st January, 2000 and present it as a new year gift to the disabled children so that they are protected. I would request the hon. Minister to take it as a challenge and see that the body starts functioning before 1st January, 2000.

While participating in the Helen Keller Award Presentation Ceremony on 2nd December, 1999, the President of the Congress Party has said :

"Legislation, of course, is not enough. Disability is not just a legal or welfare issue."

". . . at heart, it is human rights issue. Our 60 million disabled are very much citizens of our country and

[Shri E.M. Sudarsana Natchiappan]

it is incumbent on the State to allocate adequate resources for their well-being and special needs. A much higher allocation is needed. I urge upon the Government to make this a reality when it presents the Budget for 2000-2001."

This is the request made by Shrimati Sonia Gandhi as President of the Congress Party at a function on 2nd December, 1999.

I would request in the same manner that Rs. 100 crore are not sufficient for so many people who are suffering a lot in the villages. Especially in my constituency, a local committee may be constituted. In Shivaganga, there are plenty of people who are disabled. Such type of mentally-retarded people are living in the villages. Nobody is taking care of them.

Regarding the constitution of body, I just request that a provision for parents' representation is to be made in clause 13. In that clause, there is no representation for presents. But it is only for representation of registered organisations while the other clause, that is, regarding apex body, gives more representation for parents. This clause should also have some more representation for parents.

Chapter VI is a very very good initiative to give duties of the guardian and appointment of guardianship. That should be properly followed so that the guardians protect the interests of the children.

Finally, I would request that there should be softness towards implementation. A total involvement should be there. Then only, this can be achieved. This achievement will lead to a real civilisation where we are living and where the lot of the suffering human beings can also be accepted by other civilised people who are having money in their hands but, at the same time, are also having the heart to help the people. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister to take more interest in these types of people and make an initiative. Let it be a pioneer thing in India. Actually, we are the people who are caring for the messes who are not at all having a feeling that they are cared about.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Hon'ble Madam Chairperson, there is a serious mistake in Hindi translation of the Bill, the copy of which has been given to us. The title of the Bill has been wrongly translated. It looks ridiculous. In the beginning it has been written

'Rashtriya Swaparayanata' which is the translation of 'National Trust' and it seems to be ridiculous. The person who has translated it into Hindi has committed mistake. The word 'Rashtriya' which has been written in the beginning should have been at the end, i.e. between the words. 'Kalyan' and 'Nyasi' and thus the title of the Bill should be "Swaparayanata, Pramastiskaghat, Mansik Mandta aur Bahunishkatatagrast Vyakti Kalyan Rashtriya Nyas Vidheyak, 1999." When there is a mistake in the title itself mistake is bound to creep in while passing the long title and enacting formula etc. It may be correct in English but it will be wrong in Hindi. Therefore, it should be rectified. For the words 'National Trust' 'Rashtriya Nyas' should be written in Hindi. It is ridiculous to write the word 'Rashtriya' with the word 'Swaparayanata'. Therefore, there is a need to amend its title itself.

Madam, it is a matter to ponder over for the civilised society, underdeveloped or developing countries or the society which is humane. An able person can develop his mental level and he can get education. But it may be the will of the 'God', nature or malnutrition or any other reasons due to which children suffering from mental retardation and disability are born. Swaparayanata is the difficult word for 'Autism' according to me it would be better to use the words 'Kamhosh' or 'Kamsakun' for the word 'Autism'. Moreover, I have not come across such a long title of any Bill till now. It has been given title 'National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities Bill'. I am of the view that this title should be brief. It is a good effort and the intention behind it is good but proper care has not been taken while drafting this Bill. The title of any Bill should be brief. This Bill is meant for the mentally retarded people and I want to know whether the people who have drafted it are also mentally retarded? Even an able person cannot pronounce the name of this Bill. Somnathdada is an eminent lawyer. It is difficult to even read such a long title of any Bill. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : What is there in the name of . . .(Interruptions) leave the name. . . .(Interruptions)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Please tell me how will you refer to this Bill? What is the law? National Trust for welfare of person with Autism means definition etc. all are included in the title itself.

[English]

The National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities Bill, 1999.

[Translation]

This Bill is meant for the mentally retarded persons but its title is drafted in such a way that even an able person cannot pronounce it.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have given the suggestion. Hon'ble Minister will look into it. Please proceed further.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : I wish that it should be rectified. It should be brief and correct. There is serious mistake in its translation from English to Hindi.  
 . . .(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Should someone rectified the translation.

(Interruptions)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : It's title itself is very difficult. How a common man can pronounce it ?  
 . . .(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Dr. Raghuvansh Prasadji, please do not try to reply to the queries of the hon. Members.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Law has been enacted. As such what can I say ? Even educated people will find it difficult to pronounce the title of this Bill. The percentage of such people is 6 or 7 per cent in our country. The other day, Shri Jaipal Reddy was saying that it is 6 per cent. About six per cent of our population i.e. 6 crores 42 lakh people are mentally retarded and physically disabled. The number of such people is estimated to be between six and seven crores. It means a considerable chunk of our population is disabled in one or the other form. They are looked down upon in the society on the one hand they are deprived by the nature and on the other they are looked down upon in the society. Any Bill or effort for their welfare is welcome and commendable.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Please support this bill, why are you making a speech ?

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : There are some lacunae also in it. It is not that a disable person is not capable. If you go through the ancient history you will find that 'Ashtavakra' though physically handicapped was a great scholar. So far as knowledge was concerned, no able bodied person could stand before him. 'Surdas' and English poet 'milton' were blind they were very talented. Handicapped persons are neglected in the society. Any meaningful efforts to check this trend and to ensure their welfare are welcome and we support such efforts. The law in this regard was enacted in 1995 but some aspects were left out at that time and the same are being incorporated now and we support it. We are not against such

constructive work. There are some lacunae in it. It has been said in the Bill that a national body will be constituted. There after it has been stated that a board will be constituted. It is not clear whether it. Will be a Trust Board or the Trust and board will be separate entities; it is really confusing.

It has been stated in clause 3 that a board will be constituted as an individual trust. Thereafter it has been said that a Board will be constituted. It is very confusing whether that body will be a board or a Trust Board or the trust and the board will be two separate entities. Attention needs to be paid in this direction. . . .(Interruptions) The words 'National Autism' is incongruous for the objectives of this Bill. The word 'National' should be separate. A body should be constituted by the name of 'Rashtriya Swaparayanata Pramastiskghat Mansik Mandta our Bahunishkatagrast Vyakti Kalyan Rashtriya Nyas.' When the body has been constituted then what for the Board exists. It is further stated that the general supervision, direction and management of the activities and the transactions of the trust will rest in the Board. When the body has been constituted, it will also act as the Board. So the trust is itself a board then what is the need for separately constituting a body and then a board. I feel that the same thing has been termed at one place as a Board and another place as a body. Hence the law should be clear and unambiguous.

It is also said that local level committee will be constituted. The area for which these local level committee will be constituted has not been specified. It is said that the area will be decided afterwards. It is also stated that a District Magistrate or a Deputy Commissioner will be the president of the committee. What should we take as an area district or commissioner or some smaller place ? I find that it is also not clear in it.

I feel that this problem will be considered and resolved at the time of the formation of the rule book related to units. It has not been made clear in it as to how an allocation of Rs. 100 crores will help the mentally disabled persons. I feel that the amount of Rs. 100 crores for six or seven crore persons is not sufficient. When I visit my constituency, the people bring several kinds of disabled persons to me. There is already a provision that the certificate of disability is required for getting any kind of assistance. The disabled person keeps on running for getting that certificate. He is asked to furnish photographs and paste it on the proforma. This entire process is very cumbersome which causes a lot of problem to the disabled persons instead of giving them some kind of relief. It is the need of the hour that a simplified procedure is adopted for the welfare of six or seven crore disabled persons of the country so that they may get some assistance and

[Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh]

gain a respectable place in the society. The clause of giving three percent reservation to the physically and orthopedically handicapped persons is never followed in its letter and spirit. The helpless disabled persons are struggling and nobody cares for them. When even the able bodied persons are not getting any attention in this Government then who will pay any heed to the sufferings of the disabled under this Government. I do not know as to how much regard the hon. Minister gives to humans but I get to hear that she pays more attention to the care for the animals. She had visited our area. It was published in the newspapers that she had even made the donkeys free from their enclosures. In the countryside, the people free the donkeys for grazing. She has freed the donkeys from the bondage. Poor washerman might be on a mission to find his donkey. I am of the opinion that more compassion, more liberty and more importance should be given to the humans. After that if one who is more liberal may take to giving resort to dogs and cats. But I do not approved this notion of giving more importance to animals than humans. Humanity is the name of a feeling of compassion to all the living beings and it should be so. But in practical life I observe that more importance is being given to the animals. In this context, a line of Dinkar's poem seems to be most appropriate 'shavano ko milta doodh bhaat, bhooke bache akulate hain'. The dogs are enjoying the share of milk and rice in the homes of rich people while the children of the pors are not getting milk, then who will pay heed to handicapped person, the Government, society and all of us should take the responsibility to minimise the hardships of the disabled because the god has made them deprived and unlucky. If we wish that the world may consider our society and Government as a civilized one we should make such an arrangement for disabled as they may like respectfully. The society which does not regard for the humanity cannot be termed as a civilized one and moreover it can never be called as a developed society at any cost. Hence with this view, I agree with the direction and intention of this legislation but it seems that there is a lack of will power to implement this and less attention is being paid and less expenditure is being incurred over it. Hence more money should be spent over it and it should be properly implemented so that the disabled may get facilities and cooperation of the society.

It is what I expect.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I just want to mention that there are still seven speakers left and we have a Half-an-Hour discussion also coming up at 5.30. I would request the

Members to be brief because everyone is supporting the Bill and there are no amendments also. If you could please be brief and not repeat the points it would help the Minister is very keen on finishing it because it has to go to the Rajya Sabha.

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE (Vijayawada) : Madam Chairperson, India is the land of the apostle of non-violence, Mahatma Gandhi. It means that there should not be any distinction not only between caste and creed but also between the able-bodied human beings and the disabled human beings. But, on the contrary, we find that in India, there are hardly any facilities for persons with cerebral palsy, mental retardation and multiple disabilities.

The lot of the mentally handicapped and disabled persons is the worst in India. The country lags behind in areas from the detection of mental deficiencies to rehabilitation.

17.24 hours

[DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH *in the Chair*]

The majority of the parents of the retarded or disabled do not have a clear understanding of the problem. What to talk of gainful employment of the disabled. There are certain disabled who are intellectually alert, but in spite of that, they are denied employment opportunities because the employers are concerned about the possible loss in productivity in handling them in the work place. As a result, they continue to be a liability for the family and the society.

The present day family problem has to be transferred into a social issue so that collective action can be taken to look into the welfare of such persons with cerebral palsy, mental retardation and multiple disabilities.

The existing infrastructural facilities in the country are very limited for providing facilities for vocational training of such persons in the country. As such, creation of a National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities Bill is a welcome step from the Government side because such a Trust can provide grants for extending facilities for preparing the mentally retarded for taking part in primary and tertiary activities. I propose that apart from efforts for creating a National Trust, the Government should also open some institutes to train the retarded and disabled persons for related jobs rather than for a particular job.

Such steps warrant innovation which also need money and such a Trust will be helping in the matter.

I, therefore, welcome this Bill and hope that the Trust will be able to solve the problem of mentally retarded and multiple disabled persons.

I, on behalf of my Telugu Desam Party, welcome the Bill.

[Translation]

DR. GIRIJA VYAS (Udaipur) : I am recollecting the verse of a Tamil poet in which he had written :

[English]

It is privilege to be born a human being and more so without disability.

[Translation]

Right now you had mentioned the name of Ashtavakra in your speech. I am also starting my speech from there itself. When Asthavakra entered the Court of King Janak, all the courtiers started laughing at him. At that time, Asthavakra had spoken two shalokas which are relevant even today. When the king became angry over their behaviour, he asked the king not to be infuriated with their behaviour as I do not consider them more than cobblers as they are making fun of my body which is curved at eight places. But I am grateful to my parents and teacher who have helped me to reach in your court at this age of eight. I do not know as to who either the God or someone else is responsible for creating my curved and abnormal body. He addressed the third question to the king as to why he (Ashtavakra) has come to king's court. And he himself answered it by saying that your heart is filled with sentiments of love and compassion. Today the need of the hour is that sensitive attitude should be adopted in regard on disabled. When you have taken to this cause after responding to the cries of speechless birds and animals, we are very sure that a lot will come out alongwith this Trust. But we have to look at it from two points i.e. mentally retarded as well as multiple disabled. Even from that point of view we have to divide it into three parts one is children, secondly adults and thirdly women. The problem is that when we talk about disabled, we include all into one category. If the children are given the treatment from the very beginning and of their childhood is somehow returned to some extent, they can lead a normal life to some extent, I would like to mention the name of a writer 'Logan'. He had written in the preface of his book 'condemn mean' that 'right from the time when I took birth as a handicapped from to my school time and even after that I was forced to lead a cursed life. Had my childhood been normal, I would have begged the nobel prize at the age of 20 as a writer.' I do not know as to what extent he was right. It is unfortunate that the parents do not have a necessary awareness about the disability of their children. This is more so in rural areas where people consider it as curse

and go to temples and other places for their treatment. Just now it was being mentioned, even you had also mentioned that out of 7 crore disabled people only one lakh people were provided employment but 5 lakh people are such as have been provided some resources. Through you, I would like to urge the Hon'ble Minister to formulate some separate schemes for the rehabilitation of the disabled children.

Particularly, I would like to mention about women. In both the situation, the women whether she is physically weak or mentally weak, must get protection, particularly when she is mentally weak, we find that they are not kept in their homes. They bear children but they are not taken care of by their families. My request is that separate schemes should be formulated for women. It is necessary that she should be made economically self-sufficient. I was having a look at your bill and was reading your statement. No provision has been made in detail in the Bill regarding the economic self-sufficiency. There is a mention that care would be taken after guardian's/parent's death. My question is whether proper care would be taken or total care would be taken. There is no such mention. This should have been mentioned. In case of guardian's death, a mention should be made about the total care otherwise proper care should be there.

Similarly, there is a need for social security for all these categories. From the psychological point of view it is necessary to explain this thing to their guardians, their teachers and to themselves. From the point of view of security, social security is necessary. The Government have enacted a new law in this regard.

Sir, I do not want to talk more about it and support this Bill. It is essential to create awareness among the family members of disabled persons from sensitive point of view. Strict law is essential and alongwith this disabled persons need Government protection and political solution. If there is no political will to implement this law then it would become infructuous like other laws. Therefore, through you, I would like to request that if the disabled person gets the cooperation of the Government and the social organisations and besides he gets the cooperation of all the people and also when he gets the protection of this Bill, the fate of the ignored in the family will definitely improve and then this bill will prove very good from the point of view of their welfare. I support this bill. The way the Hon'ble Minister is trying to help the disabled, is a clear reflection of her will in this regard. With these words, I support this Bill.

17.32 hrs.

## HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

**Funds for Child Care and Safe Motherhood**

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH (Mandi) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, in reply to a starred Question on 23rd November, the Minister of Health has admitted that under the child care and safe motherhood programme which is known as maternity and child Health Programme since 15th October, 1997, all districts of the country will be covered in a phased manner within a span of 3 years. Under this RCS Programme an amount Rs. 5112.53 crore approximately will be spent on family planning, health care of mother and child and for preventing sexual diseases. Besides this, during the Ninth Five Year plan, foreign economic assistance of one billion American dollars will be spent on this programme. In his reply to part (b) of the question, the Hon'ble Minister has also admitted that during the last two years grants were also given to various State Governments by the Union Government. In this reply to part (c) of the Question he has admitted that a review is done at national and State level and central teams are also deputed for the purpose and alongwith this, review is done at district level also. I wanted to have some information through supplementary question but I regret to inform that I did not get that information in the House. Therefore, I requested the Hon'ble Speaker and got the permission of Half-an-Hour discussion for which I express my gratitude.

Sir, it is true that crores of rupees are being spent under RCS programme. This fund can be properly utilised only when infrastructure and adequate number of staff are available. The Hon'ble Minister has said that the issues of hospitals and staff is a state subject. I do not agree with his statement. When the entire amount is released by the Union Government as grant, I think that the Government of India has full power to obtain information regarding the programme for the states. States, doing good job should be encouraged and those states which are not working properly should be punished and it is necessary that they should be made answerable for their performances.

The hon'ble Minister had said that surveys were conducted from time to time. When I asked about the outcome of the survey, I could not get any reply. I hope that today the hon'ble Minister will tell me in detail about the outcome of the said survey. It has been stated in the annual report of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for the year 1998-99 that according to the National Family Health Survey, mortality rate of women is shown one on every 200 to 250 pregnant women and which is 40 to 50

times higher as compared to developed countries and infant mortality rate is shown as 24.2 percent.

Sir, you will agree that due to lack of basic health care services in the rural areas, a large number of deliveries are taking place at home even today. There is shortage of consultancy services to pregnant women facing high risk. In rural areas particularly inaccessible and hilly areas health services are not available at many places even today. There is shortage of health workers particularly of female health workers. Proper facilities are not available for the patients. At some places there are no labour rooms. So many other such facilities are not available there.

Sir, I would like to put some suggestions before the hon'ble Minister and this August House and if feasible, these may be included in the R.C.H. programme. Many thing should be taken into consideration while opening health institutes, be it sub centres, PHC or CHC. At present Population is the only criterion, but I think population alone should not be the base. Other geographical conditions of that particular area should also be taken into consideration so that health care facility could reach the common people. I would like to cite an example of Himachal Pradesh in this regard. The total area of Himachal Pradesh is 55,000 square kilometre and its population has reached upto 60 lakhs but the number of sub centres under the scheme of Union Government is only 2069 i.e. one sub centre for a population of 2900 people. The health workers there have to cover a distance of 26.7 kilometre and it is extremely difficulty for them to reach every house in absence of roads. The Government have launched the immunization programme twice a year which is an appreciable move. Ninety percent coverage has been reported officially but you will agree that this is beyond truth. How it is possible for an employee posted in a sub centre to cover distance of 26 square Kilometre. Besides several dispensaries of Ayurvedic, Homeopathy have been opened at several places. I want to know from the hon'ble Minister as to why only the health workers posted in sub centre are pressed into the immunization programme. If there is shortage of staff why the staff deployed in Ayurvedic and Homeopathy sub centres or dispensaries is not pressed into service as they are familiar with those areas. There is no proper building facilities in sub centres and P.H.C. dispensaries in villages. As I have said in the beginning that most of the child birth is taking place at homes due to lack of labour rooms in the villages.

Sir, I appeal the hon'ble Minister that at least he should issue directions to construct the labour rooms in the Primary Health Centres under the C.H.C. programme so that the money meant for it could be utilised properly.

Sir, Similarly you will agree with the point that today there are no trained midwives in villages. Selection of

midwives is done either at district or state level. Being the women workers, these midwives do not go to remote rural area. Today there is great shortage of midwives. Will the hon'ble Minister ensure that atleast one local woman will be trained in this profession and full kit will be provided to her after declaring her as Government employee so that she could go to every village and help the women in the work of childbirth. That woman worker should be a daughter-in-law instead of a daughter of that village. It is my personal experience that if any unmarried girl is trained in a Village, she leaves that village after marriage and again the village remains deprived of the services of a trained midwife. I am sure that the hon'ble Minister will give a detailed reply in this regard and thus satisfy the Members of this august House. I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to say to the hon'ble Minister of Health and Family Welfare that perhaps he is not fully aware of the traditions of our villages. When there were no sub health centres in the villages there used to be experienced midwives who were very expert in conducting deliveries and the villagers used to give them tips and remuneration according to their capacity. Now these centres have been set up to which the Government are providing the financial assistance. Be it R.C.H. programme or C.F.C. programme, the Government are bearing the entire expenditure though the Mother and Child Welfare centres. Therefore, it should be ensured that where there are Primary health Centres, the labour rooms and trained Nurses must be there. The health workers do not go to villages. If they are transferred to villages, they merely go there to mark their attendance and return to cities or towns. Therefore, the Union Government should do the monitoring work of these centres. Grants are being provided to the small units in the form of kit. Therefore, periodical inspections should be conducted in this regard to ensure that grants are being utilised properly. The Union Government and the State Governments should make arrangements of monitoring at their own level. I want to know whether the Minister of Health and Family Welfare will assure the House that the Union Government will pay special attention towards monitoring the R.C.H., C.F.C. and maternity and the child welfare programme at its own level and whether the Government will take the necessary steps to impart training to the conventional midwives in villages.

DR. LAXMINARAYANA PANDEYA (Mandsaur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is a very important subject. The funds provided by the Central Government for the implementation of various schemes are not being utilized properly. The money given for the maternity and child health care programme and infant life protection and maternity care programme is not percolating down to the lowest level and

it is not being properly utilised. Such an agency should be constituted which may look into as to whether the money is being utilized properly. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he has ordered an inquiry to ascertain whether the money provided to the Madhya Pradesh Government is being properly utilised? Whether there is any agency which may look into the various aspects of funds utilisations.

My second submission is that there should be an arrangement of midwives in the primary health centres of villages. There is no such arrangement at present. There are no primary health centres. There should be proper arrangement of boarding and lodging for the midwives and nurses in the health sub-centres. The State Government should be directed to properly utilise the funds for this purpose. Funds are allotted but midwives are not appointed. A large number of health sub-centres have been constructed in Madhya Pradesh but their premises are locked. Funds are allotted but it is not properly utilized. There was a proposal to appoint assistant midwives along with midwives. Child birth and child health care programme is not new. It is an essential programme both for maternity care and for saving the life of infants. If midwives are not available, then assistant midwives should be appointed and arrangement should be made for their training. There is no proper and complete arrangement for their training at the state level. Arrangement should be made for opening of primary health centres even at the lowest level. Today the scheme is only on papers. It should be made compulsory to appoint midwives in the primary centres. To achieve this aim, arrangement for monitoring the funds allotted to various State Government should be made. Crores of rupees are allotted for the implementation of these schemes but it is not utilised properly. It is all that I wanted to say. The Hon. Minister may please give its reply.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : Sir, I want to know whether the discussion on National Trust for Disabled People Bill will be replied to by the Minister tomorrow.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : After it, discussion will take place over the legislation.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, contribution of Government towards RCH programme is Rs. 1535 crore

[Shri N.T. Shannugam]

and the contribution of donor countries is Rs. 3,577 crore. Thus, the total outlay comes to about Rs. 5112.53 crore for RCH programme for the period from 1997 to 2002. The hon. Member said that there are no nurses and midwives available in tribal areas and that the Government has the authority to ask the State Governments to provide these services in rural areas. Sir, we are giving salaries for ANMs and there are also male health workers in sub-centres in rural and hilly areas. However, the powers of establishing hospitals and staffing rest with the State Governments. We are giving funds to State Governments for providing additional staff also in areas which are vast and without adequate facilities. We are allowing them to commission contractual nurses in those areas to provide health services. We are issuing two kits—Kit A and Kit B – to provide health service to pregnant women at the time of delivery.

The Government of India is also monitoring about the utilization of funds by the State Governments. I am just giving the figures.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Sir, the hon. Minister should give pointed reply.

SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM : Yes, I am giving the reply.

[Translation]

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH (Mandi) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, all the details are given in it but when no reply has been given to our question, what is the purpose of this 'Half an Hour Discussion'. I have asked some of the questions and those should be answered.

[English]

He should reply to those questions. The details which he is giving now is already with us.

SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM : Sir, the Government of India is watching whether the funds allotted to the States are being utilized by them properly or not. Take the case of Andhra Pradesh. During 1997-98, the total amount released to them was Rs. 266.63 crore out of which they had utilized only Rs. 86.60 crore. It means that they had utilized only 25 per cent of the total funds released to them.

Sir, similar is the case about the utilization of funds by the State Governments of Bihar, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Andaman and Nicobar Islands. They had also utilized only 25 per cent of the total amount released to them by the Centre.

Likewise, the State Governments of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya Nagaland, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Chandigarh, Daman and Diu had utilized between 25.50 to 30 per cent of the total funds earmarked to them. Similarly, Tripura also utilized between 50 to 75 per cent of the total funds allocated to them. But Mizoram had been able to spend 75 per cent of the funds given to them.

Sir, the hon. Members said that the medical facilities are not available in the rural areas. In fact, there are so many steps being taken in this regard. We are giving money for constructing hospitals and providing labour rooms and other purchases relating to labour work. We are also giving stress to strengthen the primary health centres and sub-centres. We are giving Rs. 10 lakh to each district for this purpose. The main thing is that the State Governments have to come forward with their plans and say as to what amount they would require for increasing and improving the primary health centres and sub-centres. On the basis of RCH per year, we are giving aids to the State Governments. The original scheme was 'Child Survival and Safe Motherhood Programme.' Under that scheme, in the hilly areas, especially the tribal areas, the birth attendants were being given training to attend to the pregnant women during the time of delivery. But now, it has been handed over to the NGOs. They will impart such training to the birth attendants.

Some Members said that due to large population, we are not able to go everywhere to do registration of a large number of pregnant women and to attend to them. Sir, in this regard, we are giving funds also. On contractual basis, the State Governments can appoint nurses and health workers. Due to non-availability of lady doctors in the rural areas to attend to the pregnant women, all the State Governments have been entitled to engage lady doctors on contractual basis for the delivery of pregnant women. We are providing Rs. 200 to every doctor, Rs. 100 to every nurse and Rs. 50 to every attendant.

[Translation]

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH : Doctor is a big thing. I am only saying that a village woman should be appointed as mid-wife who could help the pregnant women at the time of delivery in their homes itself ?

Secondly, the central Government used to give funds for opening these health centres. The hon. Minister has given the details in which he has stated that all the funds were not utilised. I would like to know as to whether, the centre after conducting a survey would direct the State Governments to open more sub-centres and appoint more lower staffs in these centres. I do not know as to when the doctors would be ready to go to these centres. Doctors

do not want to be posted there. Trained midwives will do the job there.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Is there anything more to say.

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH : Then you will say that half an hour has passed.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : You must direct the State Government to issue instructions in this regard that doctors should be posted in health sub centres so that the programmes could be implemented effectively.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please listen the reply.

DR. LAXMINARAYANA PANDEYA : As the hon. Minister has told only 25 per cent of the funds have been spent in Madhya Pradesh. Is there any agency to check as to whether the funds allotted for these schemes are being properly utilised. How these facilities would be extended upto remote areas. The allotted funds are not being properly utilised. If there is no such agency then a central agency should be set up so that the funds may be utilised properly.

[English]

SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM : The RCS Programme is utilised on the community need assessment. What is community need assessment? The ANML will go and find out what are the necessary components for that area. She will go to every house where she is working and will find out what are the components necessary for the child. After consulting the community and the NGOs, she gives the report to the District Headquarters. From the District Headquarters, it goes to the State Government. The State Government is making plans to meet the community needs of that area. On that basis only, we are giving allocation to the State Government.

An hon. Member wanted to know whether they will give training for women in the remote and tribal areas. Originally we were doing that in the Child Survival and Safe Motherhood Programme from 1990 to 1997. When this programme was conducted, the lady attender was given training at the time of delivery. Now we have handed over the same to NGOs.

I would like to give the details of provision of additional ANM to the Scheduled Tribes in the rural areas and the amounts that are allocated to the States for this purpose.

[Translation]

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I do not want to know about the amount allocated. That is already there in the record. There were only four to five basic questions. Whether you will issue direction to the

State Governments to recruit midwives and train the local village women in such far flung areas and give them the status of Government servants. Would you ensure setting up of labour rooms in primary Health Centres. When you claim that it is your right, you also conduct surveys then you can also direct them to do so and make proper utilization of money.

18.00 hrs.

[English]

SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM : The hon. Member has given a good suggestion. We will consider this suggestion to give training in the rural areas and the tribal areas. We will make arrangements for that after considering it.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA : The hon. Minister has said that we have given training to some local women and we also have trained nurses and midwives and you are giving good suggestion, you are giving contradictory statements. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH : One thing I would like to suggest regarding ambulances is that if the State Governments are not purchasing those then these vehicles should be sent from here.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We will take note of all the suggestions.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : The hon. Minister has already agreed to implement the suggestion

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME (Birbhum) : I have a very important suggestion to make.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : We will take note of the suggestions of all the hon. Members

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Mr. Chairman, the hon. Minister has accepted the suggestions of the hon. Members and has given assurance to implement them, I congratulate him for it. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Your name is not in the list.

[English]

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME : Since I am a doctor, I would like to make a suggestion.

The success of this programme depends absolutely on the traditional *dais*. What is the position of the training

of these traditional *dais*? That is very much neglected. Their position is not at all satisfactory. You must take up this programme earnestly. Otherwise, safe motherhood will not be achieved.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You take your seat, your name is not in the list.

If the members agree to extend the time of the House, it will be done so. As the discussion over the legislation is still going on and still a little bit of discussion is yet to take place.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the discussion going on over the legislation was Half an Hour discussion, I am of the opinion that the time of the House should be extended till the discussion is completed and all the replies are given. The rest of the business may be taken up tomorrow.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The duration of House is extended till this bill is passed.

18.02 hrs.

NATIONAL TRUST FOR WELFARE OF PERSONS  
WITH AUTISM, CEREBRAL PALSY, MENTAL  
RETARDATION AND MULTIPLE  
DISABILITIES BILL-CONTD.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, I welcome the National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities Bill, introduced by hon'ble Manekaji. This Bill is in fact an indication of National Democratic Government's sensitivity and Shrimati Manekaji has introduced this Bill in a very short span of time. Though at the time of previous Government's also this Bill had been considered but there is a saying better late than never, I welcome and strongly support this Bill. Many laws have been enacted for the welfare of disabled persons. It has been said that there are about 9 crore handicapped persons in our country out of which the number of mentally retarded persons is about 2 crore. One of the feature of this Bill is that in this 'Autism' has been defined which means that it is condition in which the communicability and social interactions of a persons get affected and alongwith it in case of cerebral palsy the damage is caused to the brain during delivery or in childhood due to which abnormality takes root. Besides the new Bill has been brought for such persons also who are suffering from multiple disabilities.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, sense of belonging and sympathy is required for such people and there should not be any kind of discrimination towards handicapped people. I welcome the provision regarding constitution of trust. But I would like to tell that when its offices are opened in the capital of every State there will be one Central Office also. There are around 78 NGO's in it.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, grants will also be given to those who are working in this region and for this purpose, a provision of Rs. 100 crores is made which I think is on the lower side. Though it is written in it that this amount will be enhanced after taking money from various voluntary organisation, organisations of parents of affected persons, resourceful people and from donors or capable persons but I feel that in the beginning itself more funds should be provided for the purpose.

Sir, one thing which I would like to tell is that every care should be taken while deciding the guardian of a disabled person because today's world is full of cunning people. As Swami Vivekananda had said for such deeds. There is no greater and truer worship than to serve grief-stricken mankind. We should have such feeling. Our Cultural Scholars have also said :-

"na twaham kanye rajyam, na swarganacha  
Punarbhava, kanye dukhadapranam pranninam  
arritinashanam"

Oh God, I do not seek the emple, neither I desire for the heaven nor of rebirth, I only desire that I may be given the capability to serve people who come under the category of grief-stricken and handicapped. Therefore, I feel that today there is also a need to change the psyche of the society with regard to disable persons. Such people need sympathy, love and cordiality. It is a human problem and it should be solved on humanitarian grounds. It should be ensured that the families to be given the custody of such children do not exploit them.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, my request to hon'ble Minister is that the Welfare Ministry should monitor the activities of NGOs which would be provided funds under the Bill. They should enquire whether those organisations possess resources like building, school and arrangement for setting up workshop etc. only then grants should be given. The law is there but it should be implemented properly only then we will be able to achieve the objective of the Bill. Everybody has a right to live in the society. We should provide humble guidance to disabled persons so that they could lead life independently. We should take care of all these points while entrusting them to various institutions or while rehabilitating them. I thank you for giving me time to speak. With these words, I conclude my speech.

[English]

DR. V. SAROJA (Rasipuram) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support this Bill. The Government of India seek to set up a National Trust known as National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disability. This Trust seeks to strengthen families and protect the interests of persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disability after the death of their parents.

The ultimate object of forming this trust to render a service to mentally-retarded society will not be fulfilled because there is no medical personnel in the trust. A Physiotherapist, an occupational therapist and definitely a person not less than a neuro-surgeon or a neuro-physician should find a place in this trust. The handicapped society, with whom we are dealing with, has the associated complications. They are very sensitive. It is very difficult to understand them or handle them. So, if we constitute this trust with officials who do not have any expertise in handling such a community, the ultimate aim of forming this trust will be defeated. So, some one from the medical profession, a physiotherapist, is a must. There is no mention about the social workers. The social workers, who are trained to identify and classify the handicapped children, have the utmost importance in the society. So far as rehabilitation is concerned, there is no mention about the residential schools. They have mentioned about the residential hospitals and residential hostels but there is no mention of the residential schools. Job-oriented courses should be started. There should be increased employment opportunities for the rehabilitated society so that they could find proper placements. Giving them protection as also food are more important than appointing some guardian.

Chapter 4 mentions about the powers and duties of the Board. I appreciate the counselling and training being given to the family members of the disabled persons. It is much more important than the formation of local committees. I am one who believes in community participation. I would say that without community participation on scheme for that matter no Government-can achieve hundred per cent success. In the formation of these local committees, there is no place for the local elected representatives like MLAs, MPs, etc. So far as monitoring system is concerned, there is no monitoring of funds or the quality of work that they are going to render for the community.

The Government has allocated Rs. 100 crore as the consolidated fund for this. Is this amount sufficient for 16 million handicapped persons which form 6 per cent of the total population? Is there any modality? In case the Government is not able to mobilise the funds from other sources, does the Bill mention any alternative? In case

we are not able to mobilise the money, there should be some alternative with the Government.

Sir, in this area I would suggest one thing. In States like Tamil Nadu, there are many more self-financing physiotherapist colleges and their motto is to give service. They will definitely come forward to help or adopt these children. It will serve the dual purpose. Those students can get the training from this institute and these children will get quality treatment free of cost. The States like Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu which are studded with physiotherapy colleges have the expertise in this field. They are the people who can handle the patients. It is not the question of just giving treatment. A neurosurgeon has to identify the nature of the disease and a physiotherapist has to treat the patients on a daily basis. It is a gradual procedure as it involves the nerve system where you cannot expect recovery overnight. I would request the Minister to look into all these matters.

Sir, as per the Bill, the expenditure towards Secretarial assistance is to the tune of Rs. 15 lakh. You can just imagine the recurring and non-recurring expenditure. But as far as the Bill is concerned, it says that if it is enacted, it will not involve any other recurring or non-recurring expenditure. Sir, I fail of understand these words. I would expect the hon. Minister to explain all these points.

Sir, last but not least, the objectives are given in Chapter 3. The objectives are good but who is going to execute the job. They are especially the bureaucrats. Instead of bureaucrats, I appeal to the hon. Minister that there should be a monitoring body which is not connected with the official machinery. Even if we are not able to deliver the goods through the MPLAD Scheme, I do not know how so many officials in the trust are going to deliver the goods. The implementing system should be revamped. The District Collector will be the Chairman at the District level and the District Health Officer will be the Executive Director. The social welfare organisations can help in this field as also the local physiotherapists. They always come forward to render service free of cost. They can help the nation.

DR. A.D.K. JAYASEELAN (Tiruchendur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the outset, I welcome and compliment the Minister for bringing this important Bill. I consider this Bill as a gift to the millennium. We are on the threshold of the new millennium and I consider it as a gift to the mankind and particularly to the millions of people who are disabled. It is my maiden speech hence it is my duty to thank my renowned and the most dynamic leader, the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Dr. Kalaingar. I also want to thank my revered guru, the hon. Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Murasoli Maran and the people of my Constituency.

[Dr. A.D.K. Jayaseelan]

I really think that this Bill will be considered as the just exercise to the disabled sector. For the last 52 years, many Governments failed to do so. But I congratulate the NDA Government and the Minister for taking up this issue. The objects of the Bill are really magnificent. But they are challenging in a way because we have to take care of more than 2.5 crore mentally retarded persons. I can give an example of the Tamil Nadu which is a pioneering State in providing welfare measures.

I have to admire our dynamic Chief Minister. He is well versed in framing these welfare measures, particularly to help millions of the less privileged and also the disabled persons. I can say that Tamil Nadu wants to give the disabled persons VIP treatment not with guns, but with respect to them, by giving them due dignity and by giving them subsidy and help for education and for getting loans and reservation. I need not elaborate it. I can say that the Government is spending more than Rs. 3 crore every year for more than 20,000 disabled persons directly and millions of disabled persons there indirectly.

Here we can divide the disabled persons into two categories; the socially dependent disabled persons and the socially independent disabled persons. When we say the socially dependent, they do not have the capacity to improve their skills and fit in the mainstream of life. The socially independent disabled persons are those who have the capacity to improve their skill and they can fit in the mainstream of life. I suggest that the Government of India and all other States must adopt persons who are socially dependent on society. For the socially independent disabled persons the Government must provide enough opportunities to improve their skills and in course of time they must have their own employment opportunities or they must be capable of having employment with dignity.

Regarding the finance, many people talked about many factors. The most important thing for the success of any scheme is the dynamic leadership. I am sure that our Minister will give the dynamic leadership. But what is needed is finance. She is having Rs. 100 crore as corpus for this Himalayan task. So far as raising funds is concerned, the Minister has another important job on hand. Raising funds is the job of the Minister now. I think it is implied there. I seek the help of the Central Government also to extend assistance every year.

We have to approach our own people. There are many rich philanthropists. By extending Income-Tax concessions or exemptions we can approach the millionaires and philanthropists to contribute for this cause. Further, we can approach the NRIs, our wealthy Indian brethren who are

living in foreign countries. They want to share their wealth for the Indian people. Actually, they would like to participate in this task if we can provide some ways and means to attract them. We can approach the foreign donor agencies also who are eager to help poor people, the less privileged people and the unfortunate people.

Members of Parliament have been provided with Rs. 2 crore every year under the MPLAD scheme. We can spare at least one or two lakh rupees every year for this purpose. You can easily calculate this, so that you can raise a few crores of rupees on this count. Each MP will contribute, I am sure towards this end. You can fetch money like that.

Likewise, it is the duty of the humanity to help this less privileged, less fortunate people. I think that finance is very important. With the able leadership and guidance of our Minister, I hope the scheme will be really successful. We stand in support of this Bill.

SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA (Kolar) : Respected Chairman, Sir, I have to give some points only. I congratulate the hon. Minister who has concern and commitment for the welfare of the disabled people of this country. The unfortunate thing in this country is that there is no Cabinet Minister to look after the welfare of about 25 per cent of our population who need social justice and empowerment. Earlier, there was one Cabinet Minister and one Minister of State for this Ministry. This Ministry covers 25 crores of people. We have requested the SC and ST Forum MPs and the General-Secretary so many times. Various organisations and SC and ST associations have been writing as to why this Ministry is degraded so as to be headed by a Minister of State. Madam Maneka Gandhi is very competent to be a Cabinet Minister. She is doing very well. On 5th and 6th of this month there was a conference of SC and ST MPs. which the Prime Minister inaugurated.

In her Welcome Address, she made a very good speech. In that speech, she had mentioned that Navodaya type of schools are being run for the Scheduled Caste children. We are really grateful to her.

Next, whichever voluntary organisation is running property to serve this section of people, we have to encourage them to run residential schools. Wherever the thickest Scheduled Caste population is living, new schools should be opened.

As far as the disabled people are concerned, we really appreciate this Bill. In every district, there must be a residential school exclusively for the disabled boys and girls. Also, a disabled people's home should be set up at the district level. In every *tehsil* training schools for artisans should be set up. It will be very useful for these people.

These are the three points that I wanted to raise. I do not want to take much time of this House on this issue. The most important thing is that the amount which has been provided is very less. There is the World Health Organisation. We can get more funds from it. There must be compulsory reservation of jobs. Taking the population of the disabled into account, they should be given priority in this respect. I would request the hon. Minister that the District Collector in every District should be directed by this Ministry to make a survey of these disabled people in order to provide identity cards for them. They should be provided free railways passes and free transport facilities. This should be given priority.

The Government has come forward with this Bill. We really agree to the aims and objectives of this Bill. More information is with me. I would like to give it in writing to the hon. Minister.

Finally, I would like to say that I am really thankful to the hon. Minister for having introduced this Bill.

With these words, I conclude. Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai South Central) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, On behalf of my party Shiv Sena I support this Bill. The hon'ble Minister is doing commendable task and it reminds me of princess Diana. She too had done a lot of work in this field. After her death, the whole England was present to pay tributes to her. Just now, my colleague was speaking. He made a mention of a Tamil poet, whom I would also like to quote :-

[English]

"It is a privilege to be born as a human being and more so without any disability."

[Translation]

There is a school named Dr. Shirodkar's school in my constituency where such children get admission. The Principal of that school, Dr. Subhash Pathak is my friend. It is may very difficult to take care of such children. Sometimes they behave properly and sometimes they bite even the teacher. My friend showed me how he also was bitten by a child. But still he is taking full interest in this task. I would also like to tell the hon'ble Minister that he should also see whether funds given to the institutions are being properly utilised or not.

17 lakh people in the country are suffering from disability. 5% among them are more serious, it is very

difficult to take care of them. It is difficult to take care of them both at home and at institution level. 20% are less serious and 70% are normal cases of mentally retarded. There should be more schools for them. If training or vocational guidance is given to those who fall between 20 to 75% they can be made self-reliant. In foreign countries, the Government takes the responsibility of mentally retarded children. All people are welcoming the Bill presented by the Government in this regard. In foreign countries, many centres have been opened for them, while there are very few centres in our country. Not only that, with the death of the parents, these children become orphans and are left to fend for themselves. On the contrary, in foreign countries such children are properly brought up. Alongwith this, I would also like to say that if you will go through the 1991 figures, you will find that there are 36.26 lakh blind, 80 lakh handicapped, 29.24 lakh deaf and 70.68 lakh dumb people. Our Government wants to make reservation for them but nobody bothers whether they get this benefit or not.

The multinational companies are coming to our country and according to them if laws are stringent in this regard only then they will encourage reservation policy in developing countries. National centre for disabled persons has surveyed 100 companies among which 63 companies are private, 23 are Government and 14 are multinational companies. But the remaining 39 companies have not responded.

Today, 70 lakh handicapped people are registered with our Employment Exchanges, among them only one lakh people have got jobs. Our Government have reserved 3% jobs for them whereas only 0.49 per cent people have got jobs. The total number of jobs is 6, 25, 242 only 2100 handicapped people have got the job.

When I make recommendation to allot telephone booth to such people in my parliamentary constituency, no action is taken in that regard. Even if action is taken, such people have to face a lot of difficulties. Mr. Chairman himself have said that such people face many difficulties and where would these people go. I request the Central Government that it should discuss this matter with all Ministries to ensure that other facilities alongwith telephone booths are also given to such people. If 3 per cent reservation quota is not filled, steps should also be taken to fill up the same. Alongwith this I would also like to say that priority should also be given to such people in allotment of stalls at railway stations, so that these people may become self reliant. I request that these suggestions should be considered on humanitarian ground. I welcome this Bill.

SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE (Malegaon) : Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me the time. This bill reflects sensitivity and inner self of mother – I congratulate hon'ble Minister. There was Naneshwar Maan in our Maharashtra. She had translated Geeta from Sanskrit to Marathi. The other one was Maansane Guruji who is known as Mother of Maharashtra. Her birth centenary is being celebrated. She has written poems from handicapped, downtrodden and the poor. She had advocated the course of giving support to the poor and the handicapped, and to make them awakened and educated.

Sir, now a days fire burns at Somshwar and barn resounds in Rameshwar. There is a big distance between these two places. I had attended a conference in which young handicapped children were present, but the people who were giving introduction at the Conference were speaking English. How could those handicapped children understand English? They understand the language of love and sympathy. When Shri Morarji was the Prime Minister, then also this bill was introduced. Now this bill has been introduced by Shrimati Maneka Gandhi, this is a very good work done by her. Everybody said that facilities should be given to disabled and visually handicapped people. Three per cent jobs have been reserved for them, but State Governments and Central Government have not fulfilled this quota so far. While giving telephone and other facilities they should be given priority. In our city Nasik, there is a school named 'Mook, Badhir Mailele' which is run by Rachna Vidyalaya. This is doing a good job. More and more schools should be opened for dumb, deaf, blind and handicapped people. Everybody has faith in Babasaheb Ambedkar. There was a deaf and dumb person named Kargo who worked under him. A person adopted him and he became great man. Sanskaras (cultural traditions) are very big thing. When subhadra was pregnant, her son heard even in mother's womb how to enter the chakrayuh, but he did not listen how to make and exit out of it, therefore he was killed. It is very essential to think about handicapped persons.

The society and officers are also answerable for this. It is correct as you stated that it is God's wish that they are born in this way but sometimes due to the fault of the Government and the society they become handicaps. In my constituency one day's earning of a person is still 38 paisa. People are dying there due to starvation. Due to malnutrition they become visually and physically handicapped as also deaf and dumb. It happens due to lack of Government facilities also. I request you to make proper arrangements in this regard so that they do not meet such a fate.

*[English]*

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO (Jagatsinghpur) : Sir, the House has heard many illuminating and eloquent

deliberations on this Bill, including the one made by my friend, Shri Anadi Sahu. I do not want to make a big speech here. I want to make some points only to the hon. Minister through you.

The National Trust for welfare of persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy Mental Retardation Multiple disabilities Bill 98. Just not an ordinary law. This is an act of dedication to the humanity. There is no doubt this is for the care, cure and protection of those who deserve it most. There is no doubt this will be a law of commitment, compassion and love for those who need it most. Therefore, it has been supported by one and all. It has been supported unanimously. It gets the unanimous support of this House. There is no doubt that this is the Act of the millennium. May God bless the hon. Minister for bringing such an enactment. But she has to remember one thing that all are not Shrimati Maneka Gandhi. Therefore, necessary amendments are necessary. Necessary improvements are necessary in the institutions, in the arrangements so that in future, the purposes will not be defeated for which it has been enacted. Therefore, I have made certain suggestions and not many. I do not know if the hon. Minister has gone through those suggestions. Those are not amendments but those are suggestions only. I think those suggestions will be accepted here and now. Shri Somnath Chatterjee was asking whether she would make it now or not. It does not matter. But I have already put the amendment here so that the hon. Minister can bring about the necessary improvement to make the Bill perfect for implementation.

So, my first suggestion is about the Chairman or Chairperson of the Board. The arrangement should be in such a way that it should be impartial and perfect. It should be devoid of political and bureaucratic over tones. You know many things have gone wrong during the past because of these two evils-politicisation and bureaucratisation of Public Institutes. You know the fate of the Public Sector Undertakings. We have taken an 'U' turn towards so-called liberalization. Why? It is because we could not get whatever we wanted from the Public Sector Undertakings. We wanted many more good things to come up but that did not come because of the weak institutional arrangements. Therefore, I am suggesting this that it should be devoid of bureaucratic and political controls. In stead of the Central Government appointing the Chairman, I have suggested that the Chairman should be appointed by the President in consultation with the Prime Minister, the Chief Justice of India and the Leaders of the Opposition, both from Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha so that at least not only the knowledgeable person but also the person who has the commitment, who has the love and compassion for those persons with autism, etc., should be appointed. So, such a Board will be constituted

for that purpose. It is not the Central Government that should be all powerful. Today, you are here. Tomorrow, when it will be occupied by some other person, maybe, he or she may be a better person than you. But if he or she will be worse, then, Madam, the purpose of this Act will be defeated. Therefore, I am telling that the Central Government should not be so powerful and they should not appoint the Chief Executive.

So, I think that this Board should appoint the Chief Executive. If such a Board is constituted, then that Board will appoint the Chief Executive so that it can function well.

The third point is about the objectives. The objects of the Trust have been mentioned in page 4 clause 10. I have added two more things to make it comprehensive and exhaustive. First is :

"to extend support to promote and/or to recommend for recognition and reward Persons of outstanding merit in different walks of life from among persons with disability."

This is first thing which I want to add and the second thing is :

"to do any other act which the Board may deem proper for care and welfare of persons with disability."

These are the two new things which I want to add to the objectives of this Trust.

I have also mentioned in page 5 . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude. You have already made three points. How many more points do you want to make ?

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO : Sir, I am looking to you as my Adarsa I am telling you that you are my ideal. . . (Interruptions)

Sir, in page 5 clause 11(1)(c), I do not want to close the door of the Central Government to give further finance to the Trust. Therefore, I have included that receive from the Central Government such sums as may be considered necessary in each financial year for "furtherance of any of the objects of the Trust." So, I do not want that the door of the Central Government should be closed to the Board.

Sir, these are my suggestions. I hope the hon. Minister will look into this.

Sir, last but not least, the guiding principle to me, I think, to everybody, will be, I quote the quotation of a blind saint of Orissa :

"Praninka Arata Dukha Apramita Dekhu-Dekhu Keba Sahu, Mo jibana pachhe narke padithau jagata udhara heu"

This is the guiding principle of this Trust. I think nobody has understood it, because I recited the verse in Oriya. I am just giving an English rendering of this quotation :

"Who will tolerate the suffering and deprivations of the people. They are many and various. Let my life go to hell. But let the world and people around it be safe and the sufferings be over."

That was a blind saint of the nineteenth century – BHIMA who uttered these words and, I think that will be the guiding principle of this Act. I hope this Act will give a good performance. I believe, I hope and I pray to God, let this Act be an Act of the millennium to show path in the future. This Act should not consist of any deficiency, any weakness in so far as performance is concerned. This Act should be enacted in such a manner that in future it will give the best of results.

Sir, with these words, I conclude.

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME (Birbhum) : Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Sir. I must congratulate the Minister for bringing such a legislation, namely, the National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities Bill, 1999.

Many things have been told by different speakers in this House. I would not repeat all those things and will be very brief.

In the Statement of Objects and Reasons, it is very rightly stated that while constituting the National Trust, the main objectives will be pre-emptive, pro-active and protectionist in nature. That is very much welcome. But our experience in the past is not matching with the objectives of this Bill. This Bill, though it is a welfare Bill, just to form a Trust for the most unprivileged segments of our society, should have come much earlier. But I must say that it is better late than never and that is why I congratulate the hon. Minister for bringing this Bill.

For disability of any kind, from medical point of view, there has to be some reason, particularly for the disabilities for which this law is going to be enacted, namely, autism, cerebral palsy, mental retardation and multiple disabilities. Though the medical factors in such cases may be genetic in nature, or may be mechanical injuries, or may be pre-natal or post-natal in nature, but I must say that all these are preventive in nature. If you compare the morbidity pattern of all these diseases in our country with other developed or even developing countries, you will see that

[Dr. Ram Chandra Dome]

the picture is very much grim here. It is completely related to the socio-economic standard of the particular nation. If the economic standard is high, the occurrence of disabilities due to all these diseases are less.

A survey made in our country shows that about 60 to 70 million people are disabled due to various causes. So, it is a very grim picture. We must not try to alleviate their sufferings only by having a welfare attitude. In this sort of things. Particularly in the case of disabled persons, our attitude towards them is only sympathetic or compassionate. It is a welfare programme, but I must say that it should not be a welfare programme, it should be a part of the Plan programme not only of our nation but also of every nation.

The problem is not of the handful of the people in our society. Even there is a sensitive part in that problem. That is why I make this humble submission to the hon. Minister through you. All these things may not come within the purview of a particular Department. It is a comprehensive approach. Prevention of disease is not directly related to the Welfare Department. Unless we take appropriate action in our preventive programmes, particularly prevention of all these diseases and also in genetic counselling of these diseases, it will not help. These are very much necessary but are not available. That is why the prevention part should be taken care of.

Social economic standardisation is a broad parametre. Mental retardation is absolutely dependent on malnutrition. If you do not attend to that part and if you cry here for the mentally retarded persons, we cannot check this. You have to go to the root of the problem. Alleviation of malnutrition depends on alleviation of poverty and illiteracy which is a broader parametre. That should be taken into consideration because it is a responsibility of the Government, not of a Department only. That is why this is a comprehensive approach.

Finally, I must say that our objective is to give them an independent life. In that approach provision for education to the disabled persons of any kind as it suits them should be there upto the district level. Many of the speakers have expressed their concern that these provisions are not made even after 52 years of our Independence. Only crying is not the solution. Nowadays we have schools for the blind and deaf and dumb persons. But there are no schools for the mentally retarded and those suffering from cerebral palsy and multiple disabilities in our country. Opening of schools for them should be a Plan programme. The vocational courses should be there in them so that they can stand on their feet.

Sir, I am concluding in a minute. This is the last but not the least point.

The next point is the occupational part of it. Many speakers have already expressed their concern of not having any provision for employment for them. It is really in a mess. You take the statistics. Till today we have only one lakh disabled persons, in a population of 100 crore throughout the country, who have got the services. In these days, employment has been scuttled not only in the public sector but in the private sector also. Public sector has been dismantled due to the policy of the Government. The brunt of that has fallen on the disabled persons also. The employment opportunities for them are getting reduced. Providing employment to them should be mandatory and that should be monitored from the Central level.

There should be provision for compulsory employment for these disabled persons in the private sector also and suitable legislation should be made for that. . . .(Interruptions)

SHRI ANADI SAHU (Berhampur, Orissa) : Sir, there is the 1995 Act which deals with this.

19.00 hrs.

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME : I was talking about private sector.

Sir, I am supporting this Bill. I do support it and since suggestions have already been made by other Members on different clauses of the Bill, I do not want to utter anything about them. I must say that the Government should have a political will, a social commitment to implement the programme which has been sought in the Statement of Objects and Reasons of the Bill. I hope, the Government will try to do that.

Thank you, Sir.

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajganj, U.P.) : Hon'ble Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak. On behalf of Samajwadi Party, I support the National Trust for welfare of persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple disabilities Bill, 1999. I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister as it is for the first time that attention has been paid towards these neglected people and it is also for the first time that a bill in regard to setting up a trust for such people has been presented in the House. Our previous experiences regarding social welfare are very bitter. There is no dearth of corrupt people in the country. Hon'ble Minister should pay special attention towards it. In my view, an amount of Rs. 100 crore being earmarked for this trust

is very meager. This amount should be increased. Poor people are the most affected by disability. Malnutrition, improper nourishing etc. are some of the many reasons which are responsible for such diseases spreading on a large scale in our society. We should make meaningful efforts to overcome such diseases and malaises affecting the society. I do not want to make a lengthy discussion on it. I just want to urge the hon'ble Minister that the good intention with which this bill has been presented should be reflected in its implementation in future also. Strict provisions will have to be made in this bill so that its provisions are not misused. Whether or not you remain in power. We should not depend upon the Government only rather we should identify those social organisations and social workers who are really interested in serving the disabled. If we try to associate such people with this trust, the purpose for which this bill has been introduced will be fulfilled. With these words, I conclude and congratulate the hon'ble Minister once again.

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (Khajuraho) : Hon'ble Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am not going to make a speech. I would like to conclude only in two sentences. I associate my feelings with the concern expressed by the hon'ble Members right from the beginning till the end. A person like Maneka ji has brought this bill. A person who is moved by the plight of animals cannot remain indifferent to the agony of human beings. It is therefore, natural that you have introduced this bill. I would like to quote a few lines to relieve the tiredness caused due to the lengthy debate :-

Ho gahi hai peer parvat see pighalni chaniay  
Is Himalaya se koi Ganga nikalni chaniay,  
Sirf hangama khara karna mera maksad nahin,  
Meri Koshish hai ke yeh surat badalni chahiny,  
Mere seene mein nahin to tere seene mein sahi,  
Ho Kahi bhi aag lekin aag jalni chahiay.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : I would like to thank everybody who has taken such a sensitive part in the debate. This is, in reality, not my Bill but everyone's Bill who has contributed to it.

Before I begin, I would like to tell you a little bit about myself. When I became a Member of Parliament and Rs. 1 crore was the limit fixed for Members of Parliament - much before I became the Minister - I used to spend Rs. 10 lakh out of that on the disabled every year.

And a significant portion of my income, every month, has always gone to not only families, but also to the

disabled, widows, people who have been ignored or hurt by life. I, therefore, asked for this Ministry, when I was given the Ministry. I feel very fortunate that I have been given this opportunity to be of some help.

Since I have entered the Ministry, I would like to tell you a little bit about how we have changed the Disability Division. We have four national institutes for the visually handicapped, the orthopaedically handicapped, the mentally handicapped, the hearing impaired, and two apex institutes, that is, IPH and NIRTHA. These are expert bodies in the field. Unfortunately, they did very little other than research of rehabilitation if you went to them. Therefore, they did not really achieve very much. I have started a special thrust towards outreach programmes, that is, to each constituency, to each District, so that the benefits and services can be reached to each District, to the doorstep of people with disability. If you would remember, I sent each one of you a letter also saying that if you are willing to take part in this, I would happily do camps for you. In fact, I have just returned from the hon. Deputy-Speaker's constituency after doing a camp.

Aids and appliances have been reached to about two lakh beneficiaries so far, in the last one year. This is more than was done in 50 years before that. Camps are being now organised every week. This is not just for the physically handicapped, that is for legs or appliances for chairs, this is also for the visually handicapped, the hearing impaired. So, whatever you would like, in terms of whatever your constituency needs are, if you could inform me from time to time, I would be happy to help you.

When I entered this Ministry, ALIMCO, which is the apex company in this country for asking limbs used to work at 44 per cent of its capacity, and was about fifteen crore rupees in the red and moving towards BIFR. Today, in one year, it is producing at 93 per cent of its capacity, and it has moved more than fifteen crore rupees into the black, which is a thirty per cent shift. I am happy to say that we have tied it up with American assistance, and we are in the process of modernisation of the limbs to make them cheaper and more applicable. It is one of the success stories of this Ministry. I would like to strengthen and modernise all the institutions and this process is going on. We are developing low-cost new technologies in the country with a lot of financial support from any Ministry.

Regarding the employment arena, this is as much a disappointment to me as it is to you, specially since being the Minister temporarily. I am at the receiving end of so many people who have no confidence and no hope in India, who come to me everyday and need jobs. Unfortunately, the mental and social barriers seem to me to be insurmountable.

[Shrimati Maneka Gandhi]

I do not know whether I should say this or not, but the PWD Act is a very limited Act. It provides only for three per cent of reservation of jobs in Government. Even that, as you rightly pointed out, does not take place. Now, for the last one year, I have been trying to struggle with this Act. I will bring it in the next Session hopefully to make it stronger and to make it compulsory. I also have been going from department to department saying, "ले लो। 100 ले लो, 50 ले लो या 10 ले लो।" so that we can put ten new lives into the main stream of hope in this country. The PWD Act is being reviewed. It is just being readied to come before Parliament.

I have also started something new. One is the Special Exchanges. As you said, we have got a lot of people. We also have started rewarding those officers who have got the maximum number of jobs for the disabled. This year also, we rewarded several officers – one each from Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat. They managed to get more than 50 per cent of them jobs, the people who were disabled and who applied to them for jobs, and, therefore, we have rewarded them.

I have also started a new thing and that is, I am giving money to the NGOs to start private Employment Exchange. I would like to explain this to the hon. Members.

These would not be just Employment Exchanges. Suppose, I am a disabled person, I come to you and I say that I am a disabled person and I need a job. The normal Employment Exchanges just write down your name and say देखेंगे। But what these Employment Exchanges would do is that they would ask them as to what do they want to do? What are they capable of doing and what do they feel they could do? Then, they would refer them to an NGO so that they could be trained. After they are trained for what they would like to do or what they feel they could do, the Employment Exchange, which is an NGO, would write to each company that they have got so and so in their rolls and they are trained to do this – so that you are not doing them any favour – and they are as good as anybody else. Please take them. We are in the process of setting up as many Employment Exchanges as we can to specially target placement of disabled people in the private sector. This is a new initiative.

Sir, the other Act which is under review is the RCI – the Rehabilitation Council of India Act. When I took over this Ministry, the Rehabilitation Council of India was a body that met once a year and was something like a chat shop. People came and went away and lived happily. It was because the meeting was held in the India International Centre खा-पीकर निकल गए। What we have done is –

in spite of references being made about people who want their photographs to be taken, this point was made by the hon. Members – that for the first time we have taken up the training of doctors and paramedics so that they are specialised in the art of treating or has the ability to treat the disabled. We have trained over 25,000 people in the last one year. We have brought in a number of courses and we have started recognising institutions really fast. Institutions used to wait for five to six years for recognition and nobody had the time to inspect the institutions for giving recognition to them. Now, there is an order to the effect that they would have to be inspected and if they are found capable, then within two weeks or maximum a month of applying, they have either to be recognised or rejected. But a decision has to be taken. We have registered hundreds of institutions and have been able to give them support for the training of the disabled.

Sir, the National Trust Bill is a pioneering step in providing social security and support to certain categories which need special support. Smt. Renuka Chowdhary had brought up the fact that a very few people understand these four categories. Many of the hon. Members have said that they should have vocational training and should have educational schools. These are four categories we have chosen where the persons have no ability to go to schools. They cannot have vocational training and that is why, we need special support structure. It is because they would never be able to earn and they would never be able to be educated. It is a different matter that I sit and read out to them or we put a special system like the one we have for Christopher Reeve, who broke his leg and is paraplegic. He can walk. But that kind of a chair from abroad would cost Rs. 1 crore or maybe, Rs. 50 lakh or Rs. 30 lakh. These are for categories of people we have chosen who have very little options in life. So, the vocational and educational business does not apply at all. For them it is merely support services. Most families who have disabled persons of this category are completely crippled. As Shri Somnath Chatterjee said, they cannot go out; they cannot see films; they cannot leave their child alone, especially a girl child; and they cannot have any life of their own. Therefore, this is not meant so much for the child as it is meant to bring relief of everybody around the child who will love the child and love the adult. It is because they themselves do not feel stressed. It is designed to bring relief to the social system around the disabled persons. We have not included any physical disability within the ambit of this Bill because this is the worst sector.

Sir, one suggestion has been proposed about including Alzheimer. Alzheimer is a progressive disease, literally a person is born with it. We have not included Alzheimer. But we have an open mind. It would be a

wonderful thing for me to say that I would never have to include anything else but there would be a time when there would be other diseases and other debilities. Once the Trust starts functioning and we realise our mistakes, our inexperience and learn about what we need, perhaps we could improve as we go along.

I talked about the MPLADS funds. I have written to the hon. Speaker and other Departments asking if the MPLADS funds could be utilised for disability related activities. If that is done, it would be wonderful. Somebody raised objection as to why the National Trust should be run by the Board. It has been said repeatedly that it is over-bureaucratised. I come from NGO background and I am much more scared of bureaucrats than all Members of Parliament, as my own bureaucrats do testify repeatedly. This Board has adequate representation from parents associations, experts and non-governmental groups. There is no bureaucratic emphasis, even through it seems like that, because all the officials are ex-officio. Whether they come or not it does not make any difference. However, you have to have them on the Board under the law because I cannot take a hundred crore rupees and give it to an association much as I would like to. They are representing certain Departments which are relevant to the subject. As regards the details of payment, appointments, etc., they will be covered in the rules which would be notified under the Trust Act. We will try to make them as foolproof as possible.

We are also going to give training to substitute care-givers. There is an apprehension that nobody can love them more than their parents. It is quite true. But the point is, if my parents die today, who will look after me? Will I be put into an orphanage? Will I just be abandoned? Will I be thrown out? To avoid this, we need to train substitute care-givers. They are required not just when the parents die but when the parents are alive too. I need those parents to lead a normal life so that they will love the child more. Therefore, we are starting training courses right now to train substitute care-givers. For instance, when I brought out the Old Age Policy, which again was the first for this country, at the beginning of this year we followed it up by training care-givers for the old who will go to houses and look after old people. You have nurses to look after you when you are sick. But I do not have anybody to look after you, if you are just old and if you need a hot meal once a day. In the same way, we will be training substitute care-givers. We are already developing a training programme. The Rehabilitation Council, as I told you, has been geared up and will have its own training building within another six months hopefully and the training will take place there. I also believe, as all of you have said, that hundred crores should be enlarged. If I can have my way it would have been a

lot more. But I am grateful to the Government and to the Cabinet which proposed this *suo motu*. In fact, I went very tentatively expecting a crore or two crore rupees. But they were gracious enough to give me hundred crore rupees. I am very happy that they have shown that largeness of heart. If this Trust does not work, then hundred crores is gone waste, not more. And if it works, I am sure the rest of India will put a lot of money into it including the private sector, the Members of Parliament who will see it working in their areas, and people who are benefited from it. They will put money into it then. A time may come when we could request the Government to enlarge it.

Other points are, what will happen if you misuse the funds? Well, there will be penal provisions as are there in any other law. Why should the Board run it? It is because you cannot have a Trust which does not have a Board. What kind of person will head it? Well, as long as I am there, it will be the best possible person that I can find for this. I already have somebody in mind but I have to persuade him to leave his current dispensation to take this up. It will have to be somebody who has been connected with disability in his whole life and who has the largeness of heart and compassion not to misuse the position.

Some Members have said that we should enlarge the Board. Some Members have said that we should make it even more leaner and meaner. I think, what we have is an okay mix. We have already had, while preparing this Bill, long consultations with NGOs, parents associations and voluntary organisations, and what we have here is something that everybody had agreed to.

Now, at the district level, the DM, a disabled person and a local NGO have been included. I am not so sure that I agree with the disabled person's business, for the simple reason, as one hon. Member pointed out that he is disabled, is another disability. He may not be able to understand. But on the other hand, a disabled person has an interest in this as well, far more than somebody else. So, he will also be able to bring some modicum of honesty to his job, which is why he is there. I am not so sure that a blind person will be able to do it on Cerebral Palsy but I know that a blind person will feel much more for a person with Autism, and perhaps you and me.

Sir, some Member brought about the issue of soldiers who were disabled in the war. Even though it has nothing to do with this Trust, I would like to tell them that as soon as the Kargil war was seeming to be over and we knew how many disabled people were there, we had offered free rehabilitation services to all the soldiers in an institution of excellence, the Spine Injury Centre which is funded by us. The Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation which

[Shrimati Maneka Gandhi]

is a public sector company, which is fully funded by us, has offered aids and appliances, and we are paying for whatever the Army wants us to pay for in terms of the disabled. This happened long before it was over.

Sir, Shri Somnath Chatterjee also said that 'I hope, you are going to pay the care-givers adequately. Absolutely. If we can take money doing bad thing, why can't we make money doing good things? No care-giver is a rich person that he can afford to do it, while playing bridge or while doing shopping. I want serious and responsible professionals. Therefore, I have to pay them seriously and responsibly. When I became Minister, I found that we could not get care-givers for blind institutions, for other institutions and for NGOs because we were paying them some ridiculous amount. So, the NGOs were always leaving and going towards industry. Now, we have raised everybody's salary so that professional people can come in without suffering themselves or affecting their families. And, these care-givers will be paid the same way so that we keep them as care-givers. Otherwise, the whole Trust is useless, if the people are not motivated to look after it.

Dr. V. Saroja had mentioned that there is no representation of medical professionals. There is representation. Actually, clause 3(5) provides association of such person whose assistance, advice may be necessary for carrying out the objectives in which case the medical people will be.

Shri Vinod Khanna had said about the training of guardians, and some funds for research. Research component does not come under me. It comes under the Ministry of Health. A very good speech was made talking about the preventions before they were born because a lot of disabilities came from malnutrition, from accidents and from bad health, which is quite true. Unfortunately, I do not have the medical part of it. I just have the rehabilitation part. I have to take care of them after the damage has been done.

Shri Vilas Muttemwar has proposed amendments, and he wants to raise it to 27 in place of 22. But you know, the more members we have, the more unwieldy it becomes. Left to me, I would not have 22. I would have three. The point is that I have to have 22. This is a very important and basic issue. I do not want to make it any more because it just becomes too unwieldy.

Then, he further suggested that in clause 4(1), the term of Office of the Chairperson or a Member should

be five years instead of three years, and the age limit should be 60 years instead of 65 years. Now, for one reason, I wanted it three years because if the Chairman turns out to be horrible, then he can be changed. With the term of five years, if he can ask me to go out, he can also ask everybody to go out.

Sir, if he is good, he can always be given extension. But if he is bad, then at least, during living memory he can be removed.

Secondly, I would like it to be 65 years because there are a lot of real good people who retire at 60 years. And, then I would like to use, their goodness, their responsibilities, and their experiences to be availed of in this Trust. Therefore, I would like to leave it as 65 years.

Now, in clause 10, he has proposed two more objectives, namely, (i) 'to conduct survey in all parts of the country to find the disabled and mentally retarded persons and to keep a register of such persons' and (ii) 'to set up Centres in each State where they can register themselves.'

Now, this is already covered under 'People with Disabilities' Act. They already have to have a survey, and they already have to have a register. So, I do not want to duplicate it in this Trust. This Trust is only for care-giving. It is not for registration. It is not for surveys or anything.

The moment we dilute, this mandate is not in the Act. This is a fund. The moment I dilute, there will be 50 other things to do and then the real work will never get done. It will just be surveys. Talk shops, seminars and discussions. I do not want it. I want the actual thing done.

Shri Anadi Sahu has moved an amendment to Clause 3 for suggesting that the number of members representing organisations, associations of parents etc., be reduced to 6 instead of 9. He said that on the Board three members should be nominated from UGC, from the teaching profession. If I reduce the number of members from the parent organisation, this will actually defeat anything because then it will lead to bureaucratisation. The more we have people who are really involved because they are parents of such children, the more we will be able to get honest and perhaps full focus.

As regards nomination by the UGC, the Department of Education is already represented on the Board, So, we do not have to have more teachers.

Shri Trilochan Kanungo has proposed that the Central Government be substituted by President of India in

consultation with the Chief Justice of India and the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha and the Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha. The appointments of Chairperson and other members of the Board by the Central Governments are on the lines as prevalent in practically every other such legislation.

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO : It is all right with you. But in the following years if some better man comes in, it is also all right. But if some worse man replaces, the purposes will be defeated. Therefore, I have suggested an impartial and perfect institution. My amendment is for that.

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI : No, I have not included that in the one that you have substituted. You suggested four other people. I think this is not normal in most legislations. But I can promise you that while I am there, we will have set a high standard even if somebody comes, who no doubt will be better than me. But if he is not interested, he will not be able to do such work. I think with such a standard, people will have to use it as a benchmark.

You also proposed amendment to Clause 8 that the power of appointment of the CEO and other employees should be vested in the Board instead of the Central Government. The problem is the Trust has a corpus of Rs. 100 crore. It is difficult for me to take it outside the financial norms and discipline of the Government because Finance Ministry just will not allow it to be done.

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO : You have trust in the compassion, love, ability and commitment of the Board and the Chairperson. But you say you have no trust on the Board so far as appointment of Chief Executive Officer of the Board is concerned. This is not fair. This is not in tune with such an enactment.

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI : The only problem is, for a Rs. 100 crore Trust, I have to follow the rules laid down by the Finance Ministry.

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO : This is not related to rules, but relates to tradition and wrong traditions.

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI : What I am trying to do is, we will try something in the rules which will make sure that everybody is in agreement with whoever is put up.

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO : It is all right so long as you are there in the office.

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI : I am saying that we will put something in the rules which will make sure that

every member is in agreement or something like that. But it is just that I cannot break what is the law which the Finance Ministry has laid down. They will not allow me to do it. We would not get the Trust and that would be the end of it.

You also said, to extend support to promote his or her recommendations for recognition to reward persons of outstanding merit from different walks of life. As I have told you, we already have a reward scheme, Last year and this year, we have given out a lot of meritorious awards to truly very fine people. There is no need to put up into this Trust Act.

To do any other act which the Board may deem proper for care and welfare of persons with disability. I do not want to leave it openhanded. You can then subvert the whole Trust and anything else might be done like the seminars – you know all of which would be held in Goa – and you can blow up the Rs. 100 crore and that would be the end of it be held in Goa. I do not want to make it openhanded.

Lastly, you have proposed that the Board shall receive from the Central Government such sums for providing financial assistance to registered organisations for carrying out approved programme and this should be substituted by the words "furtherance of any of the objectives of the Trust." This amendment is not acceptable because the purpose of including this provision is to enable the Trust to benefit some other existing scheme being implemented by my Ministry. This would not allow them to take other money. If the Trust starts working. I want them to avail of other schemes as well.

I would, therefore, request the hon. Members who have applied their minds very sensibly to withdraw the proposed amendments and extend their support to the Bill.

I would like to thank all of you for listening to me patiently, for sitting the whole day and for giving many constructive suggestions.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur) : Sir, consideration should be given to the age of 65 prescribed in your amendment for Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Alright.

*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill to provide for the constitution of a body at the national level for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities and for matters connected there with or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is :

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 2 was added to the Bill*

Clause 3

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Vilas Muttemwar is not here. Shri Anadi Sahu, are you moving your amendments ?

SHRI ANADI SAHU (Berhampur, Orissa) : I withdraw my amendments.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Trilochan Kanungo, are you moving your amendments ?

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO : I fully support the Bill, but I want that the amendments should be there on record so that they can serve as future guidance though they might be negated.

I beg to move :

Page 2, line 47, -

for "Central Government"

Substitute "President of India in consultation with (i) the Prime Minister (ii) the Chief Justice of India and (iii) Leaders of Opposition in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha" (12)

Page 3, lines 3 and 4, -

for "Central Government"

substitute "President of India" (13)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I shall put amendments No. 12 and 13 moved by Shri Trilochan Kanungo to clause 3 to the vote of the House.

*The amendments were put and negated.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"The clause 3 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 3 was added to the Bill.*

Clause 4

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Trilochan Kanungo, are you moving your amendment ?

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO : Though I support the Bill wholeheartedly, I am moving my amendment because that will be a guideline for the future.

I beg to move :

Page 3, lines 34 and 35, -

for "Central Government"

substitute "President of India" (14)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I shall put amendments No. 14 moved by Shri Trilochan Kanungo to clause 4 to the vote of the House.

*The amendments were put and negated.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"The clause 4 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 4 was added to the Bill.*

Clause 5

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Trilochan Kanungo, are you moving your amendment ?

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO : Mr. Chairman, Sir, these amendments should be there. I am not withdrawing them.

I beg to move :

Page 3, line 50, -

for "Central Government"

substitute "President of India" (15)

Page 4, line 2, -

for "Central Government"

substitute "President of India" (16)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I shall put amendments No. 15 and 16 moved by Shri Trilochan Kanungo to clause 5 to the vote of the House.

*The amendments were put and negatived.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"The clause 5 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 5 was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 6 and 7 were added to the Bill.*

Clause 8

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Trilochan Kanungo, are you moving your amendment ?

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO : Yes, I am moving them.

I beg to move :

Page 4, line 16, -

for "Central Government"

substitute "Board" (17)

Page 4, line 19, -

omit "with the previous approval of the Central Government" (18)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I shall put amendments No. 17 and 18 moved by Shri Trilochan Kanungo to clause 8 to the vote of the House.

*The amendments were put and negatived.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"The clause 8 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 8 was added to the Bill.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That clause 9 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 9 was added to the Bill.*

Clause 10

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Trilochan Kanungo, are you moving your amendments ?

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO : Yes, I am moving the amendments.

I beg to move :

Page 4,

after line 43 insert, -

"(h) to extend support to promote and/or to recommend for recognition and reward Persons of outstanding merit in different walks of life from among persons with disability." (19)

Page 4,

for line 44,

Substitute (i) to do any other act which the Board may deem proper for care and welfare of persons with disability" (20)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I shall now put amendments Nos. 19 and 20 moved by Shri Trilochan Kanungo to the vote of the House.

*The amendments were put and negatived.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"The clause 10 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 10 was added to the Bill.*

Clause 11

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Trilochan Kanungo, are you moving your amendments ?

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO : Yes, I am moving the amendments.

I beg to move :

Page 5, lines 18 and 19, -

for "providing financial assistance to registered organisations for carrying out any approved programme"

substitute "furtherance of any of the objects of the Trust" (21)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I shall now put amendments No. 21 moved by Shri Trilochan Kanungo to the vote of the House.

*The amendments were put and negatived.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"The clause 11 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 11 was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 12 to 36 were added to the Bill.*

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.*

SHRIMATI MENAKA GANDHI : Sir, I beg to  
move :

"That the Bill be passed".

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed".

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House now stands adjourned  
to meet tomorrow at 11 a.m.

**19.38 hrs.**

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of clock on  
Thursday, the 16th December 1999/Agrahayana 25,  
1921 (Saka)*

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**Corrigenda to Lok Sabha Debates  
(English Version)  
Wednesday, December 15, 1999/Agrahayana 24, 1921 (Saka)**

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Col./line	For	Read
27&28/last	192.02	152.02
31&32/last (Col.3)	19350.00	19830.00
31&32/4 (from below) (Col.3)	95.00	65.00
33&34/12	91.31	9131
33&34/16	57.80	5780
33&34/2 (from below)	151.96	131.96
78/3	(d)	(c)
109/3	(c)	(e)
119/8 (from below)	DELETE : (a)	
235&236/3 (from below) (Col.5)	5374.15	5374.43
286/7 (from below)	35.00	15.00
357/19	(Dolpur)	(Bolpur)