

LOK SABHA DEBATES **(English Version)**

Second Session
(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. II contains Nos. 1 to 10)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, November 30, 1999/Agrahayana, 9, 1921 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Regarding Audit of Prasar Bharati/AIR

+

* 22. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitems Captioned 'CAG refuses to audit Prasar Bharati' appearing in the Hindustan Times dated 23 October, 1999;

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

(c) the details of TV producers/serials against whom CAG had recommended to take action;

(d) whether the CAG has refused to conduct the audit of the AIR/Prasar Bharati; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The Comptroller and Auditor General of India audits accounts of Prasar Bharati every year. In his report for year ending 31st March, 1996, the CAG had audited the case relating to the serial 'Srikrishna' and had pointed out the telecast time for the serial was increased from 30 to 45 minutes whereas the telecast fee and free commercial time were doubled. Since substantially more income accrues to the Producer from free commercial time, it amounted to loss of revenue to Doordarshan. The Doordarshan authorities however took the view that there was no real loss since while increasing the timing of the programme from 30 minutes to 45 minutes, the telecast fee was doubled while the free commercial time was increased from 120 seconds to 240 seconds in the same ratio. The Doordarshan earned a revenue for 15 episodes on this basis at Rs. 10.14 lakhs per episode. However, with effect from 14.1.1996 the alternative system

was applied wherein for the increase of timing from 30 to 45 minutes the telecast fees was increased by one and a half times from Rs. 3 lakhs to Rs. 4.5 lakhs and free commercial time was increased from 120 seconds to 180 seconds. For 15 episodes on this basis the revenue, in fact, declined to Rs. 7.11 lakhs per episode. In the opinion of Doordarshan actually it did not show loss of revenue.

The Prasar Bharati Board had appointed Shri Arun Agarwal, an outside expert, to look into certain cases which included the case of serial 'Srikrishna'. The reports submitted by Shri Agarwal in April, 1999 were considered by the Board in June, 1999 and the Board decided that the Government may request CAG to conduct a quick special audit inter alia relating to 'Srikrishna'. On receiving reference from CEO, Prasar Bharati a request was accordingly made in August, 1999 to CAG to conduct a special audit in these two cases. The CAG advised on September 27, 1999 that his organization had already audited matter relating to 'Srikrishna' and report had been submitted in 1997, therefore, CAG stated that no special audit in this matter is again called for. However in all other cases referred the CAG is conducting an audit.

[Translation]

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Mr. Speaker, the C.A.G. has submitted very serious report about Prasar Bharati and A.I.R., but the Ministry has not taken any action thereon. The C.A.G. has thrown light on two important issues in the report. One, corruption on large scale is involved in the purchase of equipments and sub-standard equipments have been purchased in many places. Second, in the case of T.V. serials, many T.V. serials have been favoured as a result of which a loss of Rs. 117 crore has been caused to the Ministry. Through you, I would like to know about the equipments which are purchased for Doordarshan, particularly for Tribal and hilly areas. They do not get land due to forest Conservation Act, but equipments are purchased in advance. I hail from tribal area. In Bhamragarh district of Maharashtra equipments have already been purchased, but due to Forest Conservation Act, they have not been able to get six thousand square feet land for the past two years.

MR. SPEAKER: What is your question?

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Before asking the question, it is necessary to give introductory remarks. Our Minister had been a lawyer in the Supreme Court and High Court. I would like to know from him, why the quality of news of Doordarshan and A.I.R., the network of which was expanded during the tenure of Shrimati Indira Gandhi, is deteriorating? In its report the C.A.G. has made many comments on Prasar Bharati and A.I.R. These comments are not on one serial, but on many serials. Will the hon'ble Minister give information to the House in this regard?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: If you want, you can take the Minister to your tribal area also.

[Translation]

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: I am grateful to Shri Puglia that he has asked this question. As far as the question of purchase of equipments is concerned, though it is not related to the main question, yet I may tell that C.A.G. or any other agency has not submitted any report regarding the purchase of equipments. As far as the question of serials is concerned, the C.A.G. has submitted its report in regard to many serials. I have already told you about the news item which you have mentioned. In addition to it, there are seven serials, about which the C.A.G. has submitted its report. According to C.A.G. Doordarshan gives its programmes according to the rates mentioned in its rate card. In eight cases, the rate card has been violated. Doordarshan has submitted its action taken report to the C.A.G. in this regard through the Ministry. In that report it has been said that sometimes they have to deviate from rate card keeping in view the market condition, commercial viability and educational value of the programme or serial. They have submitted action taken report in case of one programme only. The hon'ble Member has asked particularly about the report. I would like to tell him that after this Prasar Bharati itself has investigated this matter through an outside expert. The report of this investigation went somewhat ahead of the C.A.G. investigation. Both these reports were again sent to the C.A.G. with the request that special audit may be ordered in this case. In the month of September the C.A.G. said that we had already submitted the report and that there is no need for special audit. Now the case is again before Prasar Bharati Board and let us see what action they take in this regard.

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, after the findings given by C.A.G. in its report, why the Ministry of Prasar Bharati thought it necessary to engage private agency or private consultant to reinvestigate the matter? I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister whether the Central Government or your Ministry trust the C.A.G. report or private report? The hon'ble Minister should share information with the House in this regard.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, once more. I should make it clear that the Prasar Bharati had decided to investigate this matter through a private expert. The report of that private expert was not against the C.A.G. report. It added two more points to the findings of C.A.G. report. Therefore, Prasar Bharati did not try to cover up the C.A.G. report by engaging that private expert. It just added two more points to the findings. Taking into account both the report, the Prasar Bharati had prepared action taken report, which was sent by the Ministry to the C.A.G. Basically it said that the programmes which deviated from the rate card were given special treatment on the basis of commercial judgement. According to that no financial loss has been caused to the Doordarshan, because according to the data, the C.A.G. has recommended that more free commercial time was given to one programme, both sets of figures were given. In my reply, I have given those figures. In earlier process, perhaps Doordarshan was getting more money, later it got less, but that was not a real loss. Therefore, further action is not required. After C.A.G. report it was probed by a private expert,

and its report was sent to the C.A.G. Thereupon the C.A.G. said that they did not want to say anything more in this regard, and that already had submitted their audit report, and, therefore, they did not find a need of special audit. The hon'ble Member has asked, whether the C.A.G. will audit or not? I would like to tell him that they have taken this stand, in case of only one programme. All other requests have been sent to them, C.A.G. is auditing them.

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Minister has not given a reply to my question. My question was why private consultant was appointed? This is serious matter. You appointed a private consultant to cover up the acts of the corrupt and to help them. The hon'ble Minister should throw light on it.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the private consultant was engaged by the Prasar Bharati Board. They did it on the basis of other facts which came to their notice.

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Why it was done and why action was not taken against them..(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Sir, the C&AG is a very credible organisation, I would like to request the hon. Minister to lay both the Reports on the Table of the House so that the House would be aware as to what the C&AG says and what the private investigators say and we can compare them.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Shri Pilot, let me assure that I have absolutely no hesitation in laying them on the Table of the House. But please bear in mind that this pertains to a programme where Doordarshan was conducting programmes as a Department of the Government in the period 1995 and early 1996..(Interruptions). Both the Reports point out in the same direction. I have absolutely no hesitation in placing the same on the Table of the House. The same will be placed before the House.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY: We know that unlike your predecessor Shri Pramod Mahajan, the new Minister of Information and Broadcasting is a flamboyant lawyer who was seen arguing unconscionably.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, he is the Information and Broadcasting Minister. Please understand it.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY: I would like to ask the hon. Minister what is his view in this regard. While we regard the Information and Broadcasting Ministry as a watchdog of our democracy, it has already been transformed into a cesspool of corruption as was expressed in the findings of the C&AG that Rs. 117.42 crore has been lost by the Doordarshan and the AIR by granting undue benefits to sponsors and producers in clear violation of all established norms.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: I have already clarified that the C&AG has made its Reports in relation to eight programmes in the past. The Action Taken Report of the Doordarshan in regard to all those eight programmes has been sent to the C&AG. The view of the Doordarshan and the Prasar Bharati

has been that in a large number of cases, deviations took place and the objections in relation to the deviations were that they took place keeping in view the commercial requirements and the professional requirements of telecasting some programmes even though they may not have been very commercially viable for the Doordarshan to do so. That is why deviations took place. On those basis, the Action Taken Reports have already been sent back.

As regards corruption, whenever those cases have been brought to the notice, action has been taken and even today with regard to certain officers involved, the CBI is already proceeding in the matter.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY: Mr. Minister, how many instances are there where the Doordarshan and your Ministry have not recovered the dues by the grace of you?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, you can send that information to the hon. Minister.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: I will send it. I have the information with me. The detailed list is with me. I can send the information to the hon. Member.

[Translation]

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, as the hon'ble Minister has just now said that the reports of Agarwal Committee and C.A.G. are identical and if it so. I want to know the recommendations made in the Agarwal Committee report and the action taken thereon. Secondly promise has been made to give minimum guarantee to such producers but these promises are never fulfilled and as such may I know how many bad and doubtful debts Prasar Bharati has?

SHR: ARUN JAITLEY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Agarwal Committee report was referred to the C.A.G. C.A.G. refused to carry out special audit of the said report as the report carried many more additional points and C.A.G. told that they have already audited the report. In its reply C.A.G. has stated that the report is before the Prasar Bharati Board and they are to take action on it.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it was further stated in that report as to what was the free commercial time allotted in that programme. The second recommendation of the report was that in response to that the said programme was withdrawn from the Metro Channel and brought to D.D.-I thereby benefitting the producer. Thus the report and suggestions are before the Prasar Bharati Board.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has asked about the bad debts and dues. I would like to say that total dues of Doordarshan on first April this year were rupees 195 crores and 94 lakhs. There after a policy was framed according to which programmes were not to be allotted to the defaulters and payment was to be taken in cash from the producers whose programmes were already being telecast. As on today such dues have come down to rupees 103 crores. Legal action is being taken against the companies to recover outstanding dues.

[English]

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY: Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state what are the normal practices of giving approvals to the serials? Is it done at the national level or at the Metro level? I would like to know whether the Prasar Bharati has its total command in giving certification so far as the serials are concerned or whether the Department interferes. The common allegation is that the interference is from the Minister to the Department so far as the question of giving recognition to the serials is concerned. So, what is the present system which exists? How much autonomy has the Prasar Bharati at this juncture?

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY : Keeping all these complaints in view, in 1997, on the 13th of February, the Doordarshan had come out with departmental guidelines with regard to approval and granting of extension to serials. They were reduced to writing. Then, a decision was taken that instead of one person deciding this, within the Doordarshan there would be a Committee which would take all these decisions.

These have been strengthened further now on the 5th October, 1999 and very stringent conditions under which the authorities have been created by the Prasar Bharati within the organisation which would take all decisions in the matter. As far as the Ministry is concerned, the Ministry has, absolutely, no role in the matter of deciding which serial is to be telecast or otherwise.

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know very concisely from the hon. Minister, through you, the amount of revenue earned by the Doordarshan and the All India Radio through sponsored programmes and advertisements during the years 1997-98 and 1998-99.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Sir, in 1997-98 with regard to the Prasar Bharati, the total revenue earning was Rs. 568.49 crore and in 1998-99, it was Rs. 515.66 crore.

[Translation]

Funds For Child Care and Safe Motherhood

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*23. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH :
SHRI SURESH CHANDEL :

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

(a) the funds allocated to States under child-care and safe motherhood programme during each of the last two years alongwith the funds earmarked for this purpose during the current year, State-wise;

(b) the details of works/programmes included under the said schemes; and

(c) the steps taken for proper implementation of these programmes in various States?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF

HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) The Child Care and Safe Motherhood Programme earlier known as Child Survival and Safe Motherhood Programme is now being implemented as part of the Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Programme. Statement-I showing funds allocated to States under the RCH Programme for 1997-98 and 1998-99 and the current financial year is laid on the table of the Lok Sabha.

(b) Statement-II is laid on the table of the Lok Sabha.

(c) Various measures have been taken for ensuring proper implementation of the programme in States. These

include provision of cash and kind assistance, the latter being for essential drugs and equipments, channelising funds to States through RCH Societies, provision of additional staff, an expanded Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) scheme, revamped Information, Education and Communication (IEC) programme, concurrent monitoring, regular review at national and State levels, independent district level surveys to cross check the utilization and impact of the programme, a comprehensive training scheme for upgrading skills and awareness, greater community and Panchayats Raj Institutions' participation in planning & monitoring, and mechanisms for securing inter sectoral cooperation.

Statement-I

*Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Programme
Allocation of cash assistance during 1997-98, 1998-99 and allocation/releases for 1999-2000*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	Funds allocated			Releases during	
		1997-98		Total	1998-99	1999-2000
		Under CSSM	Under RCH		Under RCH (up to Nov. 99)*	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	222.37	723.55	945.92	1026.28	1519.69
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	98.73	138.66	237.38	261.05	148.23
3.	Assam	185.80	370.26	556.06	262.37	390.80
4.	Bihar	399.23	559.36	958.59	728.49	869.39
5.	Goa	23.17	31.70	54.87	33.24	32.33
6.	Gujarat	174.35	574.13	748.48	813.66	523.29
7.	Haryana	132.23	669.11	801.34	482.30	671.17
8.	Himachal Pradesh	96.34	157.25	253.59	383.25	232.44
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	113.06	193.23	306.29	120.87	240.86
10.	Karnataka	187.78	563.63	751.42	383.11	489.17
11.	Kerala	133.13	356.05	489.18	713.87	461.19
12.	Madhya Pradesh	360.52	924.69	1285.20	1074.99	1351.16
13.	Maharashtra	291.62	647.84	939.47	575.69	1078.87
14.	Manipur	67.26	120.80	188.06	77.23	438.92
15.	Meghalaya	55.71	121.36	177.07	66.89	73.85
16.	Mizoram	39.50	52.26	91.76	467.11	298.14
17.	Nagaland	59.92	84.98	144.90	80.52	126.81
18.	Orissa	233.89	482.66	716.56	560.59	852.39
19.	Punjab	134.44	467.04	601.48	162.45	296.75

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
20.	Rajasthan	255.17	847.93	1103.10	695.96	640.06
21.	Sikkim	36.78	54.60	91.38	91.31	37.54
22.	Tamil Nadu	231.99	895.14	1127.12	329.14	733.90
23.	Tripura	40.23	57.16	97.38	254.09	236.37
24.	Uttar Pradesh	546.58	1100.48	1647.06	1395.69	1610.87
25.	West Bengal	195.37	282.63	478.00	579.65	1066.19
26.	A&N Islands	24.62	0.00	24.62	100.47	29.76
27.	Chandigarh	19.56	20.66	40.22	28.22	28.11
28.	D&N Haveli	17.97	0.00	17.97	32.24	23.99
29.	Daman & Diu	23.66	22.00	45.66	28.81	32.05
30.	Delhi	78.15	51.18	129.33	156.06	103.84
31.	Lakshadweep	17.56	0.00	17.56	32.47	22.57
32.	Pondicherry	33.94	58.32	92.26	38.14	45.06
Total		4530.62	10628.64	15159.26	12036.20	14705.74

• **Figures provisional**

Note : Consequent upon launching of RCH Programme, the ongoing CSSM Programme has been subsumed into the RCH Programme and, as such from 1998-99, no separate budgetary allocations are being made for the CSSM Programme.

CSSM - Child Survival and Safe Motherhood Programme.

RCH - Reproductive and Child Health Programme.

Statement-II

The activities/works being implemented under the Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Programme, vary according to the implementation capacity & RCH situation of the district. The districts have been categorized in 3 categories A(58), B(184) & C(265), on the basis of crude birth rate and female literacy rate. The list of services included under RCH Programme are as given below:

Interventions in all Districts	Interventions in selected States/Districts
1	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Survival interventions i.e. Immunization, Vitamin A (to prevent blindness), Oral Rehydration (to prevent death from dehydration) and prevention of deaths due to Pneumonia (ARI) • Safe Motherhood interventions e.g. Ante-natal check up, immunization for Tetanus, safe delivery, anemia control programme. • Operationalisation of Community Need Assessment Approach. • Institutional development. • Integrated Training package. • Modified Management Information System. • ICE activities and counseling on health, sexuality and gender. • Urban and Tribal areas RCH package. • RTI/STI Clinics at District Hospitals (where not available). • Facility for Safe abortions at PHCs by providing equipment, contractual Doctors etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Screening and treatment of RTI/STI at Sub divisional level. • Emergency Obstetric Care at selected FRUs by providing Drugs. • Essential Obstetric Care by providing Drugs and PHN/Staff Nurse at PHCs. • Additional ANM at sub-centres in the weak districts for ensuring MCH care. • Improved delivery services and emergency care by providing Equipment kits, IUD insertions and ANM kits at sub-centres.

1	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced community participation through Panchayats, Women's Groups and NGOs. • Minor civil works. • Provision for Lab Technicians for laboratory diagnosis of RTI/STI & Emergency Obstetric Care. • Adolescent health and reproductive hygiene. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rentals to contracted PHNs/ANMs, not provided Govt. accommodation. • Facility of Referral transport for pregnant women during emergency to the nearest referral centre through Panchayats in weak districts. • District sub-projects under Local Capacity Enhancement.

RTI/STI	-	Reproductive Tract Infection/Sexually Transmitted Infection.
IEC	-	Information Education and Communication.
ARI	-	Acute Respiratory Infection.
FRU	-	First Referral Unit
PHC	-	Primary Health Centre
IUD	-	Intra Uterine Devices
NGO	-	Non-Governmental Organisation
PHN	-	Public Health Nurse
MCH	-	Maternal and Child Health
ANM	-	Auxiliary Nurse and Midwife

[Translation]

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to bring to the notice of the hon'ble Minister that according to the Annual Report of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for the year 1998-99, as per National Health survey average motherhood mortality rate is one out of 200 to 250 pregnant women which is 40-50 times higher as compared to developed countries. Similarly, infant mortality rate is 24.2 per 1000. The root cause is that in rural areas delivery cases are still done at home and hospital services are not available for the high risk pregnant women. I would like to bring to the notice of the hon'ble Minister that health care facilities are not available at many places even today, particularly in hilly and rural areas where situation is grave. Where such facilities are available, there is staff shortage, particularly of female staff. Through you, I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister whether he will ensure that in rural areas training of midwife should be imparted compulsorily atleast to one local woman in every village and government job should be provided to her so that she could handle such cases and atleast one A.N.M. should be appointed in every Primary Health Centre and labour rooms and Ambulance vans should also be provided there.

[English]

SHRI N. T. SHANMUGAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the management of the hospitals and staff is a State subject. They provide the medicines and staff in the States and only the Sub-Centres are governed by the Central Government. In the rural areas, the State Government has to build hospitals because there are a number of hospitals which have lack of ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am

unable to understand what he is saying. His voice is not reaching us.. (Interruptions)

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had asked something else from the hon'ble Minister but his reply is totally different. The entire fund goes from the Centre.. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon'ble Minister is giving reply. You please sitdown.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: He is new Minister. Please assist him.

[English]

SHRI N. T. SHANMUGAM: The Government is aware of the facts. We will inform about the status for providing more facilities to the rural areas, that is, where there are no hospitals.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Athawaleji, please sitdown.

[English]

Second supplementary.

[Translation]

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my earlier question has not been answered what can I ask further? All the funds are allocated by the Centre and it has been stated in the Annual Report.. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You please ask supplementary question.

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to have reply of the earlier supplementary first.

Funds for the entire kit are allocated by the Centre and hence, its proper utilisation should be ensured.

My second question is that it has been stated in the reply to part 'c' of the question that the programmes under R.C.H. are reviewed at district, State and Central Government levels from time to time. With regard to the funds made available by the Union Government under this programme during the previous two years. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister which are the States in respect of which irregularities have been noticed or which are the States which could not spend the entire funds and whether local Member of Parliament is taken into confidence as far as district level review is concerned? I would also like to know the names of the states in which the programme are not being implemented properly.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: He is asking about review of the programme by the Central Government.

SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM: The Central Government has been reviewing the matter and monitoring everything in so far as the expenditure incurred by the State Governments is concerned and how they have been spending the money given for the RCH Programme.

MR. SPEAKER: He is asking whether any review is going to be conducted by the Central Government.

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: It has already been said in the reply that surveys are being conducted and the teams are going from the Centre. What has been the outcome of those teams? What have they found in the field? ... (Interruptions)

SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM: I will provide the information to the hon. Member.

MR. SPEAKER: You can send the information to the hon. Member.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: We also want the information. ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon'ble Minister is not fully prepared. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Sir, a Senior Minister is sitting there. This is a very good subject. (Interruptions) Somebody should answer it.

[Translation]

SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Himachal Pradesh has, in a short span of time, acquired many remarkable achievements in family welfare sector. According

to the reply given by Hon'ble Minister, the amount allocated for two programmes is not sufficient. My question is that whether Hon'ble Minister will increase this amount?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is regarding Himachal Pradesh.

(Interruptions)

SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM: Sir, Rs. 30 lakh have been given. ... (Interruptions) In 1998-99, Rs. 106 lakh have been given. In 1999 to-date, Rs. 36.40 lakh have been given. It comes to approximately Rs. 234.50 lakh.

The criteria for the States are literacy rate of the women and crude birth. We are giving the amount to the State Governments. We will inform. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Q.24.

(Interruptions)

[Translations]

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon'ble Minister has not replied correctly even a single question ... (Interruptions) He is misleading the House. (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: We have taken up the next question, now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR: Sir, this is a very important question. My request is that a half-an-hour discussion should be allowed... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. I will allow half-an-hour discussion on this.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon'ble Minister is not able to give reply even now, how he will reply during half-an-hour discussion.

Fertilizers Plants in Foreign Countries

*24. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:

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

(a) the expenditure incurred in setting up of fertilizer plants in foreign countries during the last three years;

(b) the success achieved so far in this regard; and

(c) the names of the plants in which the work has been started?

[English]

(SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS

Statement

(a) to (c): The details of the expenditure incurred by the Indian fertilizer companies as well as the multi-state cooperative societies in setting up of fertilizer plants in foreign countries during the last three financial years i.e. 1996-97 to 1998-99 are given below:

Name of the Project	Name of the Country	Indian Partner/ Sponsor	Product	Status	Expenditure incurred during 1996-97 to 1998-99 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6
Expansion of Industries Chimiques du Senegal (ICS)	Senegal	Government of India, IFFCO, SPIC	Phos Acid	Implemen- tation in progress	8600.00
Indo Jordan Chemicals Company Limited	Jordan	SPIC	Phos Acid	Production started in May, 1997	13748.00
INDO MAROC PHOSPHORE SA	Morocco	Chambal Fertilizers & Chemicals Ltd.	Phos Acid	In operation since October, 1999	14130.00*
SPIC Chemicals & Fertilizer Limited	U.A.E	SPIC	Urea	Project under construction	14198.00*
Oman - India Fertilizer Company (OMIFCO)	Oman	KRIBHCO/ RCF	Urea	Restructured project under process of approval	2600.40**
Indo-Iran Qeshm Fertilizer Project	Iran	FFCO/ KRIBHCO	Urea	Project at a very preliminary stage	2.33

* \$1 = Rs. 43.5

** Exclusive of indirect expenses such as man hour cost etc.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Sir, in connection with the implementation of the joint venture project with the Oman India Fertilizers Company the Directors and Executives of

KRIBHCO had visited 12 different countries of the world 93 times and spent Rs. 236 lakh in the years 1993 to 1995. Now, in the answer, it has been shown that a sum of Rs.

2600 lakh has been spent so far and the project is still waiting the approval as it has been restructured. May the hon. Minister inform the House as to what has happened for more than half-a-decade in this project; and what is the present position of this project?

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: The project in Oman is to manufacture urea fertilizers using natural gas as feedstock which is made available to us by the Ministry of Natural Gas, the Government of Oman, in that country.

A company, called Oman India Fertilizer Company — in short known as OMIFCO, has been formed after the visit of the then Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao to the Sultanate of Oman in the year 1992. After that a detailed pre-feasibility report, which is really a prerequisite to determine whether a commercial venture of this nature would be viable or not, was commissioned by the Government of India as well as by the Sultanate of Oman jointly. They submitted a detailed feasibility report only in June 1996. After that, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs gave an approval in the year 1997 in the month of November.

OMIFCO reconsidered this project in February 1998. Subsequently because a project like this needs a financing by international banking and therefore, we approached consortium of bankers as arranging bankers in January 1999. Now, we are awaiting the PIB clearance. The note has already been sent to them in October 1999. This is what has happened.

Sir, to review this further, when I became the Minister of Fertilizers and Chemicals, because I realised that this project has been pending for a fairly long period of time, I paid a visit only in the last week and held intensive discussion with my counterpart in that country. Now, we are awaiting this project to take off, depending upon the final approval by the arranging bankers.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Sir, if the hon. Minister is informed about the details of this project, can we get an assurance that within a stipulated time this project will be finalised and implemented?

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Sir, I can only give a reply to the extent to which it is within my control. As I said, this project has a debt equity of 1:2. In fact, the component of equity is only one-third, and two-third of the amount for this project is arranged by commercial banks as well as by the supplier's credit. Even that one-third of the supplier's credit is to be tied-up. But we really need to tie-up the remaining one-third of the portion as well as we need to take clearance from the Public Investment Board, which is a body which authorises investment of this nature from the Government of India's side. So, depending upon the favourable approval by these agencies, we can go ahead with this project very soon.

I will be too happy to invite the hon. Member for inauguration as and when it takes place.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I

would like to know from Hon'ble Minister that those projects which were undertaken, whether any time limit had been fixed for their completion. Whether any review has been conducted to find out the reasons for delay in completing these projects and if review was conducted the results thereof and now by when these projects will be completed?

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Sir, as I have mentioned in my reply, we have got six such projects, which we had to set up in foreign countries from time to time. Out of those projects, three are regarding manufacturing of phosphatic fertilizer. First acid will be prepared and then phosphatic fertilizer will be prepared in India. Three projects are such which have not been completed and these are regarding manufacturing of urea. Perhaps, you would like to know about them. Just now, I mentioned one project of Oman. The second project is in Iran. It is one such project, which has not yet reached drawing board level. If ultimately we want to bring that project then we have to work very hard. Right now nothing can be said as to when it will be started. At present that project is only an idea. Third project is going on in Dubai. A 'spic' company in private sector is setting up that project and it will complete that plant in one year.

[English]

That project is under implementation.

[Translation]

At the most, this plant will be completed in one year.

[English]

SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, according to the papers laid on the Table, the hon. Minister has already given an assurance to KRIBHCO and RCF for restoring the project at Oman. May I know from the hon. Minister as to why he has not given the revival package for our *Swadeshi* industries like Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation of India, Durgapur unit, Ramagundam and Sindhri. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR SPEAKER: Shri Sunil Khan, this Question relates to the setting up of fertilizer factories in foreign countries. You have to first understand the question also.

SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Sir, my question is also related to the main question. They are investing in foreign sector. Why not in India? ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Sir, I will answer his question. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANIL BASU: Please give your answer in affirmative.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Sir, these are two different things that you are talking about. The urea manufacturing plants that have we set up in our country use naphtha as one of the principal feedstocks to manufacture fertilizers. There is another feedstock, coal which is mainly found in the eastern part of India. The question that is normally asked is, why are we not using that feedstock to exploit fertilizer. I will answer that question. But before that, the most important point that he has raised is, why are we setting up the plants in overseas

and not setting up plants in India or not reviving the plants which are right now not working satisfactorily.

The cost of feedstock, if you use naphtha as a base, is as high as 75 per cent of the total cost of production. If you use natural gas, the cost of production comes to about 50 per cent of the total cost of production. The natural gas that is available in India is four times costlier than what is made available to us now in Oman or in other parts of the world wherever such plants are sought to be set up. So, if you set up a plant there, the cost of the natural gas itself comes down to one-fourth as well as the total cost of production itself will be reduced substantially. So, this is in the interest of the country that we set up the plant at a place where the raw material is cheap. But that does not mean that we are turning a blind eye to the plants that are operating in India. They are two separate issues, not related to each other.

In any case, there is another very important point which I must highlight. Sir, in the interest of India, whenever India has entered the market to buy. ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, I have another 20 Questions.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Sir, I will just tell that whenever India has entered the market to buy urea, the international prices shot up. So, when we set up the plant there, we have assured supply and, therefore, we have control over the international prices also. So, this is in the interest of the country.

Involvement of Health Officials in Irregularities

*25. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the medicines prescribed by the doctors are not supplied by the CGHS dispensaries and patients are forced to take the medicines of other companies in which the medical store owners earn the maximum profit;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether CGHS officials are engaged in activities causing huge financial losses to the Government exchequer;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the steps the Government propose to take to check such irregularities in the CGHS dispensaries and to bring to book the guilty officials and the chemists;

(f) whether there is any proposal to blacklist the chemists that have resorted to cheating the Government exchequer and to authorise Kendriya Bhandar to supply medicines to dispensaries;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM):

(a) No, Sir. The medicines prescribed by the doctors are supplied to the patients by the CGHS dispensary. In case the medicines are not available in the dispensary, then the same are procured from Authorised Local Chemists on individual prescription by brand name, as prescribed by the doctors.

(b) The question does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The question does not arise in view of (c) above.

(e) and (f) According to the terms of the contract with the chemist, if any chemist is found supplying sub-standard medicines or substitute medicines, or any other irregularity is found in the supply of medicines, his contract for supply of medicines to the CGHS dispensaries is cancelled and he is black listed for five years.

There is no proposal under consideration to authorise Kendriya Bhandar to supply medicines to the dispensaries.

(g) and (h) The questions do not arise, in view of the above stated positions.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to bring to the notice of Hon'ble Minister that my question is very clear but its reply is not given in a straight forward manner. I have asked straight and simple question but even then its reply has not been given. Through you, I would like to bring to the notice of Hon'ble Minister that the medicines prescribed by the doctors of CGHS dispensaries are not available in dispensaries itself and the patients have to take medicine from chemists and in this way the medicines which are given are of poor quality due to which death rate has increased and the chemists, medical practitioners and medicines manufacturers and sellers are earning maximum profit. Whether Government is aware of this fact and if so, the action taken by Government in this regard and the steps Government propose to take to ensure that consumers get quality medicines?

SHRI RAJO SINGH: Hon'ble Minister, Sir please give reply quickly.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Rajo Singh, you are almost threatening the Minister.

SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM: The medicine prescribed by the doctor is sometimes available in the CGHS dispensary. If it is not available, it is purchased from the chemists recognized by the CGHS. There is no collusion between the CGHS and the chemists. The Government is monitoring the situation. Also, if anything wrong is being done by a chemist, we will derecognize that chemist from supplying the medicine.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know from Hon'ble Minister that how

many complaints were received during 1997-98 and 1998-99 and on how many complaints action has been taken?

[English]

SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM: In 1998, four complaints were received from the beneficiaries and five companies were derecognized. They are M/s Aditi Medicos, New Delhi; M/s Atul Medicos, New Delhi; M/s Ashoka Medical Store, New Delhi; M/s Unique Chemist, New Delhi; and M/s Arora Medical House, New Delhi.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to ask that in Delhi the death rate which has increased.

MR SPEAKER: No, no. Shri Prabhunath Singhji, this is not correct. You had already asked two supplementary questions.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are not protector of Government instead you are our protector. I would like to ask one question in brief. Please listen to me.

MR SPEAKER: No, no. You please sit down.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir each question takes 20 minutes but I have taken only two months.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Your chance is over. Please take your seat. There are other Members also. Please understand that.

[Translation].

Shri Prabhurath Singh, You have already put two supplementaries.

[English]

Please take your seat.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the fact that in Andhra Pradesh, there is to the tune of Rs. 5 crore to Rs. 10 crore worth of expired drugs lying in the godowns of the CGHS where they have procured ear drops, ear wax solvent drops. If I put Andhra Pradesh in a line and I dewax the ear four times a day, there will still be enough left over. This was procured obviously on some shady grounds. This quantity is lying there. Subject to inquiry, there is a whole chain of people who are involved in this and it has cost a great quantity of money for us to have these quality drugs. It is a fact that the medicines supplied to CGHS which even hon. Members get for their treatment, are not of the standard quality. Has there been a random check done to draw supplies, to draw samples from these and verify whether they are of standard quality or not? (Interruptions) I will tell you if you give me the chance to answer.

SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM: I will get the information from the CGHS in Andhra Pradesh and inform the concerned hon. Member.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Sir, in the answer that has been given by the hon. Minister in (a) part it is mentioned that if any medicine which has been prescribed if that medicine is not available, then from outside slips are given. That has to be bought. That is all right. But I find one interesting thing in Calcutta. A simple medicine like unienzyme is always substituted by some other medicine. One cannot believe that unienzyme is not available in the market.

May I know whether in these cases there is a collusion between the chemists and the manufacturer or some such thing?

SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM: I will get the information from the concerned C.G.H.S. and inform the hon. Member.

High Power TV Transmitters on Indo-Pak Border

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*26. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:
SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up high power TV/AIR transmitters on Indo-Pak border to counter the anti-national propoganda by Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to increase the number of high power transmitters on the borders;

(d) if so, the reasons for delay in setting up the same; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to make these border areas accessible to the Doordarshan AIR ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Both All India Radio and Doordarshan signals have substantial reach well inside the Pakistan territory. The list of existing AIR and Doordarshan transmitters in border areas is given in the Annexure. In addition to these transmitters the following projects are presently under implementation for strengthening AIR/Doordarshan coverage in the areas bordering Pakistan:

(i) Upgradation of 200 KW MW to 300 KW MW Radio Transmitters at Srinagar

(ii) Upgradation of 100 KW to 300 KW MW Radio Transmitter at Jodhpur

(iii) High Power TV Transmitters one each at Kathua, Fazilka, and Barmer for DD1

(iv) High Power TV Transmitter at Jammu for DD2.

(e) It has been the endeavour of the Government to strengthen the transmission networks of AIR and Doordarshan all along the border to enhance the coverage within as well as across the border. This is being achieved by enhancing the power of Transmitters, setting up of new Transmitters and through appropriate programme development. In addition to the projects under implementation, Government have also recently approved special package for J & K region for both AIR and Doordarshan in order to enhance the reach both within and across the border.

ANNEXURE

ALL INDIA RADIO:

Sl. No	State	Place	Details of transmitters
1	Gujarat	Rajkot	300 KW MW Transmitters 1000 KW MW Transmitter (for external service)
		Bhuj	10 KW MW Transmitter
2.	Rajasthan	Suratgarh	300 KW MW Transmitter
		Barmer	20 KW MW Transmitter
		Jaisalmer	10 KW FM Transmitter
3.	Punjab	Jalandhar	300 KW MW Transmitter 200 KW MW Transmitter
4.	J & K	Jammu	300 KW MW Transmitter
		Kathua	6 KW FM Transmitter
		Poonch	6 KW FM Transmitter
		Srinagar	200 KW MW Transmitter

DOORDARSHAN:

Sl. No	State	Place	Details of transmitters
1.	Gujarat	Bhuj	10 KW Transmitter on 300 M Tower
2.	Rajasthan	Barmer	Interim set up - 1 KW
		Jaisalmer	10 KW Transmitter
3.	Punjab	Amritsar	10 KW Transmitter
		Fazlika	Interim set-up-1KW
4.	J&K	Jammu	HPT
		Poonch	10 KW HPT
		Srinagar	1 KW Transmitter for DD2
		Leh	1 KW HPT

SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY: Kindly spell out the time-bound programme of the package which has been announced by the hon. Minister.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: The package which has been announced in relation to Jammu and Kashmir is intended to be completed in a phased manner, the last part of which will be completed by June, 2001.

SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY: Though it is not a Jammu and Kashmir issue, may I ask the hon. Minister to

provide ten kilowatt F.M. transmitter at Cuddapah station of All India Radio?

MR. SPEAKER: It is your constituency issue.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: I will certainly look into the request of the hon. Member.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell the Hon'ble Minister that Pakistan is trying to cre-

ate anti-India atmosphere in that country by issuing false statements for the years altogether, whereas India has always been positive in this regard. There is a need to propagate in Pakistan through T.V., Radio and Newspapers that Jammu and Kashmir is an integrated part of India. Propagation in this context is not being done upto the desired extent. I would like to tell to the hon'ble Minister whatever propagation has been done in this regard is not sufficient. It should also be propagated here through T.V., Radio and Newspapers that Jammu and Kashmir is an integrated part of India and this feeling should also prevail amongst the people in Pakistan. I would like to know from you whether your Government is seriously thinking over it or not? If not, the reasons therefor? If your Government is thinking then what action the Government propose to take in this regard?

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have a strong transmission Network of All India Radio and Doordarshan on the Western border of our country. We have a strong transmission network in Gujarat, Rajasthan, Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir and several steps are being taken to further strengthen it. Several schemes are under implementation. The Government have prepared a special package worth Rupees 430 crores particularly to strengthen the Doordarshan and All India Radio Transmission in Jammu and Kashmir. It will be implemented by 2001. In addition to this the programmes transmitted from this region will not only be viewed in our provinces but will also reach the neighbouring country. As far as programmes are concerned, it has two aspects first one is that our transmission network should be strengthened for which we have formulated several schemes and are under implementation and I can give you its list. As far as programmes are concerned, the Centres of external services division of All India Radio at Jalandhar and Rajkot are transmitting lot of external services programmes in different languages particularly, Urdu service is very strong. In addition to Urdu service programmes are also being transmitted in Punjabi, Baluchi, Sarayaki and Sindhi. The total duration of all these programmes is 18 hours daily. As far as Doordarshan is concerned, international programmes of Doordarshan are transmitted through satellite, efforts are being made to strengthen several transmitters of D.D.I. and D.D metro there so that their programmes could reach to the neighbouring country. As far programmes are concerned, there are several programmes which have been conceptualised keeping in view Kashmir and the neighbouring country and some of them are already on air such as 'Pakistan Reporter', Kashmir dateline, and Dusra Rukh. There are seven or eight such programme which are being transmitted regularly. In addition to this a proposal is under consideration to extend the transmission time of Kashmir channel from two hours daily to 18 hours daily and this is what you wished to point out through your question so that programmes could reach throughout the Kashmir valley and the neighbouring country.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: I want to ask one question.. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You have only one question. Please sitdown.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Whether any scheme has been formulated to stop the propoganda being unleashed by Pakistan in India? ..*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: No, Shri Athawale, please take your seat. You had only one Supplementary.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat, Shri Athawale.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This will not go on record. Please take your seat.

*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Minister has made his point very well. I would like to ask a question by adding one more point to it. It is a fact that Pakistani transmission is more clear than that of our transmission be it in Rajauri, Punch or in the entire valley. The technical reasons in this regard were also raised in the House earlier and efforts were made to explain them but I am not aware of the outcome. It is a good sign that you have included H.P.T.'s in your proposal but L.P.T.'s should be connected with H.P.T.'s I want to know whether the scheme prepared regarding L.P.T.'s is a block level or district level scheme. Specially in Jammu and Kashmir L.P.T.'s should be connected with H.P.T.'s in order in the entire state. This is my suggestion and you should think over it.

As far as regional programmes of Jammu and Kashmir are concerned, they are being aired up to some extent but they are not being aired as per expectations of the people? More regional programmes should be aired in Jammu and Kashmir. A well thought new scheme should be evolved to counter the propoganda being unleashed by Pakistan. A special package should be given to Jammu and Kashmir for better transmission and to ensure the T.V. programmes reach every village. You have a special relation with Kashmir. The Kashmiri people would also like to listen to what Shri Jaitleyji is saying all over the country and that he should also pay some attention towards Kashmir.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: I would like to say two things about what Shri Rajesh Pilotji has said one is that the programmes of Doordarshan and A.I.R. should cover our entire territory and second aspect is whether signals of our programmes can also reach neighbouring country. Both the aspects are important. As far as existing figure are concerned, barring some stray regions the signals of All India Radio are reaching the 98 per cent population of Jammu and Kashmir. Signals the coverage of Doordarshan in J&K is 81.7 per cent which will go up during the next 1½ to 1¾ years on implementation of special package being prepared by the

* Not recorded.

Government. It will be difficult to reach the entire population because there are some areas which are out of reach but as regard to domestic population efforts are on to reach to the entire population.

As far as programmes are concerned, it is true that programmes having regional appeal are not sufficient. At present Kashmiri channel is transmitting programmes for two hours daily. Efforts are being made to accord top priority to that channel. Top most priority is being given to this channel over other parts of the country for telecasting programmes on this channel for 18 hours daily. If good programmes are telecast on this channel throughout the day our people will view our programmes instead of watching other programmes. The transmission network of All India Radio and Doordarshan is being strengthened along the border so that our transmission reach the neighbouring country.

SHRI P. S. GADHAVI: Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Minister has said in his reply that efforts have been made by the Government to strengthen the network of All India Radio and Doordarshan along the entire border to extend the coverage in border areas and on the other side of border. I would like to tell the hon'ble Minister that Pakistan is near to Kutch and effective transmission beyond the border will be possible only when programmes of Kutchi and Sindhi languages are relayed from Kutch. For this purpose recording station is needed at Kutch instead of the transmitter installed there. Will the hon'ble Minister will state as to when we will be able to transmit the programmes of All India Radio and Doordarshan in Pakistan? There is great need of a recording station in Kutch and whether the hon'ble Minister will tell us something about setting up of a recording station at Kutch?

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: As far as Radio transmission is concerned, Radio programmes are already being aired in five languages which are reaching to the people across the border as well as to the local population. I will also consider the suggestion given by the hon'ble Member.

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Hon. Speaker Sir, I also come from a State bordering Bangladesh. About five years back, when a school student was asked: 'Who is the Prime Minister of India?' He replied: 'Begum Khalida'. That is the influence of Bangladesh TV and radio. At that time, the Government of India opened a station in Silchar. The man who is the culprit is sitting behind you. He gave an assurance then that at the moment, we will be giving one hour programme and, as you said, later he would give 24 hour or 18 hour programme. But it has never happened. Day before yesterday, you gave a public statement about strengthening border areas I was very glad. This morning, I wrote a letter.

I would like to know that considering the impact of Bangladesh TV on our area, whether you will take immediate steps to increase the programme time of the Silchar Doordarshan to at least 18 hours. The radio station which is there is quite settled. So, considering it a border State, facilities for programmes like drama and so on should be provided there. I may be a Congress MP. You may forget

about your BJP, but you should not forget that you should do it for the cause of the country. You are still thinking of your practice. You should think of this House. We write letters, but we do not get replies. You may please give me some assurance, people will like it very much.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Let me tell Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev that I do not think that the issue which we are discussing really has any relationship with association or interest of any party. The question really related to the Western borders, but he has raised an equally important issue in relation to the Eastern borders. I will certainly have this matter looked into.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI ALI MOHD. NAIK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask the hon'ble Minister. ..(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Are you from Anantnag?

SHRI ALI MOHD. NAIK: Yes.

[Translation]

I would like to ask the Government whether the signals from Doordarshan Kendra at Srinagar are not reaching in entire valley?

The programmes relayed from Delhi Doordarshan Kendra at Delhi are not reaching to the people in the entire valley. Due to this difficulty the people of the valley are unable to see programmes from Delhi and Srinagar. I would like to know from the Government as to what steps are being taken to overcome this difficulty and by what time this difficulty will be sorted out?

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Sir, in terrain and mountain areas some time transmission of signals is quite difficult. Keeping in view of this problem several expansion schemes are being implemented to expand transmission range of Delhi and Srinagar Doordarshan Kendras in order to ensure that programmes aired from Srinagar and Delhi Kendras could reach to every one in Kashmir valley. Particularly in Jammu and Kashmir transmitters of All India Radio are situated at Jammu, Rajauri, Kathua, Kargil, Srinagar, Kupwara, Naushera and Ladakh etc. regions whereas transmitters of Doordarshan are situated at Naushera, Pitchhwada, Kupwada, Gurej, Ranbir-Singhpura, Punch and Leh etc. regions and these transmission lines are being strengthened or are being replaced so that signals could reach.

[English]

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: Gujarat is a border State having a very lengthy land and sea borders along with Pakistan. I want to know from the hon. Minister, through you, about the steps that are being taken to strengthen the Rajkot Station, the Bhuj Station in particular, and whether there is any proposal to have a powerful transmitter considering the sea border at Jamnagar and other places. According to my information, even the local programmes from Ahmedabad

and Baroda are not enjoyed by the people in Saurashtra and bordering areas, and as a result the Pak TV is watched by our people on this side of the border which is not advisable. So, I would like to know from the Minister as to what steps are being taken in respect of Rajkot, in particular for Bhuj, and Jamnagar.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Well, I have some information with regard to the All India Radio; with regard to the DD, I will collect the information and send it to you. With regard to the Radio, the Bhuj programmes are really for our domestic listeners. There is a replacement of the existing transmitter with one which is twice its capacity. The Rajkot transmitter is the one which relays our external services; its capacity is also being strengthened because we have found certain weaknesses in that so that its transmission range further increases, as far as radio is concerned. With regard to DD in Bhuj and Rajkot, I will collect the exact data and send it across to you.

Production of Urea

*28. SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the cost of production of urea has been costlier;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the fertilizer subsidy is likely to overshoot budget estimate; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of House.

Statement

(a) and (b) The cost of production of urea has increased mainly on account of increase in the prices of inputs like naphtha, fuel oil, LSHS and Natural Gas during the last three years.

(c) and (d) The budget provision of Rs. 8,000 crore in the financial year 1999-2000 is proposed to be suitably enhanced in order to meet the additional requirements of the higher outgo of subsidy on account of the reasons indicated above.

[Translation]

SHRI UTTAM RAO DHIKALE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, our country is an agricultural country and urea is an important fertilizer but its price is going up day by day. I am unable to understand as to why prices of urea are going up. I think the production cost of urea is increasing and perhaps this is the reason for shortage of urea in the country.

[English]

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Mostly, there is no shortage of

urea in the country. In fact, the stocks available in the country are surplus. That is why, we have reduced the imports also. We are also considering probably capping up the production because there is an excess stock available. As a matter of fact, the increase in prices which were announced by the hon. Finance Minister, during his Budget speech, was subsequently withdrawn. Despite high increase in cost of production, which I just answered a little while ago, the prices of urea have not increased in commensurate with the increase in cost of production.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GUDHE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the farmers of the whole country use urea but there is an acute shortage of urea in the country. There is great demand of urea in the country. I would like to ask whether the Government have taken any concrete step to reduce the price of Urea? Whether there is any possibility that price of urea will come down in near future? Whether the Government have taken any step in regard to heavy gap between more demand and less production?

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: I would like to reiterate that production of urea at present is more than its demand. Three nutrients are required to be mixed in our soil but only nitrogenous fertilizers are being used in urea due to subsidy and there is need to restore the imbalance caused due to this. There is no dearth of urea fertilizer in the country. The Government are in a position to meet the demand of urea by the farmers.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Primary/Community Health Centres

*21. SHRI RAMSHAKAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of the primary health centres and the community health centres functioning in various States at present;
- (b) whether the Government have received requests from the States for strengthening auxiliary health system in States;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government have sent any proposal to the World Bank in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the reaction of the World Bank thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) There are 23266 Primary Health Centres and 2962 Community Health Centres functioning in the country. State-wise details are given in enclosed Statement-I.

(b) Requests for strengthening of State Health System have been received.

(c) to (e) The Government have received requests for strengthening of State Health Systems from 12 States. The States are Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Karnataka, Punjab, Orissa, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Assam, Tamil Nadu and Kerala.

The project proposals from the States of Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Karnataka, Punjab, Orissa and Maharashtra were appraised by the government and sent to World Bank for funding. They are at present under implementation. Regarding proposal from State of Madhya Pradesh, the

project is under formulation. Proposals for the State of Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Tamil Nadu and Kerala have also been received and are at present under scrutiny.

The Status of all the proposals is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

Reproductive and Child Health Programme is also being implemented as a part of 9th Five Year Plan with the partial funding to the tune of \$ 1.00 billion by the international agencies. It provides for strengthening of Primary Health Care system through provision of drugs, equipments. Civil works, training and support staff etc. in the States.

Statement-I

Number of PHCs and CHCs Functioning

Sl. No.	State/UT	PHCs	CHCs	Date of Latest Report
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pr.	1690	238	30.09.99
2.	Arunachal Pr.	45	9	30.09.99
3.	Assam	619	105	31.03.95
4.	Bihar	2209	148	31.12.98
5.	Goa	17	5	31.10.99
6.	Gujarat	968	195	31.07.99
7.	Haryana	401	64	31.10.99
8.	Himachal Pr.	312	55	31.10.99
9.	J & K	337	53	31.01.98
10.	Karnataka	1591	254	31.03.98
11.	Kerala	962	80	31.07.99
12.	Madhya Pr.	1690	342	31.03.99
13.	Maharashtra	1752	345	30.09.99
14.	Manipur	69	16	31.08.99
15.	Meghalaya	86	13	31.08.99
16.	Mizoram	43	6	31.08.99
17.	Nagaland	33	5	30.04.99
18.	Orissa	1352	157	30.06.99
19.	Punjab	484	105	30.6.99
20.	Rajasthan	1674	262	31.10.99
21.	Sikkim	24	2	31.08.99
22.	Tamil Nadu	1410	72	30.09.99
23.	Tripura	57	11	31.10.99

1	2	3	4	5
24.	Uttar Pr.	3808	318	31.12.98
25.	West Bengal	1556	89	31.12.98
26.	A&N Islands	17	4	31.03.99
27.	Chandigarh	—	1	31.12.98
28.	D&N Haveli	6	—	31.07.99
29.	Daman & Diu	3	1	30.06.99
30.	Delhi	8	—	up-to-date
31.	Lakshadweep	4	3	31.08.99
32.	Pondicherry	39	4	31.08.99
All India		23266	2962	

Figures are provisional

— : Nil.

Statement-II

State health system projects under implementation

Name of the state	Project period	Project outlay
Andhra Pradesh	w.e.f 1.3.95 for 6-1/2 years	Rs. 608.00 crores
West Bengal	w.e.f. 27.6.96 for 5-1/2 years	Rs. 698.00 crores
Karnataka	w.e.f. 27.6.96 for 5-1/2 years	Rs. 546.00 crores
Punjab	w.e.f. 27.6.96 for 5-1/2 years	Rs. 425.00 crores
Orissa	w.e.f. September 98 for 5 years	Rs. 415.57 crores
Maharashtra	w.e.f 14.2.99 for 5-1/2 years	Rs. 727.00 crores

World Bank assisted State Health Systems Development Projects in Pipeline

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Date of receipt of Proposal	Contents of the Proposal	Cost and Duration	Status	World Bank view	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Tamil Nadu	Revised Proposal received on 15.3.99	Request for World Bank assistance for upgrading 1st Referral Health System in the State	1096 Crores 5 Years	The project Report has already been examined by scrutinising agencies. The State Govt. has been requested to review the Project Report in the light of scrutinising agencies comments and to submit	The proposal is yet to be posed to World Bank	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2.	Uttar Pradesh	Project proposal received on 19th Nov., 99	Request for World Bank assistance for Strengthening its Secondary Health Care facilities	549.92 Crores 5 Years	The Project report has been sent for comment to scrutinising agencies.	The proposal is yet to be posed to World Bank	
3.	Assam	15th Sept., 98	Request for World Bank assistance for strengthening the Secondary Health Care System 5 Years	566.47 Crores	The Project report has already been examined by the Scrutinising agencies. The State Government has been requested vide our letter No. L-20028/16/98-IC dated 17th Nov., 99 to revise the Project report in the light of the expert comments and to send the Project report to this Ministry.	The proposal is yet to be posed to World Bank	
4.	Kerala	24.5.97 However the State was requested to furnish requisite number of copies for obtaining comments from Various expert agencies. The same were received on 5.7.99	World Bank assistance for Strengthening Secondary level Hospitals in Kerala	423.65 Crores	The project report has already been examined by expert agencies. The State Government has been requested to review the Project report in the light of expert comments and to submit revised document.	The proposal is yet to be posed to World Bank	
5.	Rajasthan	The requisite copies of the report were received on 14.6.99	Strengthening of Secondary level Hospitals in Rajasthan	536.32 Crores 5 Years	The Project report has already been examined by expert agencies. The State Government has been requested to review the project report in the light of expert comments and to submit revised document.	The proposal is yet to be posed to World Bank	

Fake Educational Institutions

*27. DR. ASHOK PATEL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware that a large number of fake foreign educational institutions are operating in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of such institutions detected; and
- (c) the action taken/proposed to be taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) The phenomenon of foreign educational institutions operating in India is of recent origin. Inter-alia, the Government had set up a Task Force and a Group of Experts to suggest measures to regulate and systematise operation of foreign educational institutions. Their recommendations have been submitted to Government for consideration. Meanwhile, Malpractices Prevention Cells have been set up in the Government and the UGC to keep a vigilant eye on the activities of foreign educational institutions.

[English]

Expenditure Ratio on Health

*29. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of expenditure ratio on health during the period of every five year plan;

(b) whether there is continuous decline in Government percentage expenditure on health;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to increase the outlay on health to provide for adequate and improved public health service; and

(e) if so, the details of measures being contemplated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) A statement showing pattern of Plan investment on Health and Family Welfare during different Plan periods in public sector-Centre, States and UTs is enclosed.

(b) and (c) The percentage of outlays/expenditure on health and family welfare has remained more or less same over the various previous Plan periods. The percentage of outlay for health and family welfare during the Ninth Five Year Plan shows an increase when compared to that of Eighth Five Year Plan.

(d) and (e) Government has been making every effort to augment the resources for the health and family welfare sectors by mobilising external assistance from various bilateral and multilateral agencies for supporting programmes for control of diseases such as Malaria, T.B., Leprosy, Blindness and AIDS. Secondary health facilities are also being upgraded in selected States with World Bank assistance. Substantial financial support has also been obtained for improving reproductive and child health.

Statement

*Pattern of Investment on Health & Family Welfare for Different Plan Periods
in the Public Sector (Centre, States & UTs)*

(Rs. in crores)

Sl.No.	Period	Total Plan investment (All Heads of Development)	Health		Family Welfare		Total (Health and Family Welfare)	
			Outlay/Expd.	% of 3	Outlay/Expd.	% of 3	Outlay/Expd.	% of 3
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	1st Plan (Actuals) (1951-56)	1960.00	65.20	3.33	0.10	0.01	65.30	3.33
2.	2nd Plan (Actuals) (1956-61)	4672.00	140.80	3.01	5.00	0.11	145.80	3.12
3.	3rd Plan (Actuals) (1961-66)	8576.50	225.90	2.63	24.90	0.29	250.80	2.92

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
4.	Annual Plan (Actuals) (1966-69)	6625.40	140.20	2.12	70.40	1.06	210.60	3.18
5.	4th Plan (Actuals) (1969-74)	15778.80	335.50	2.13	278.00	1.76	613.50	3.89
6.	5th Plan (Actuals) (1974-79)	39426.20	760.80	1.93	491.80	1.25	1252.60	3.18
7.	(1979-80)(Actuals)	12176.50	223.10	1.83	118.50	0.97	341.60	2.81
8.	6th Plan (Outlay) (1980-85)	97500.00	1821.00	1.87	1010.00	1.04	2831.00	2.90
	6th Plan (Actuals) (1980-85)	109291.7	2025.20	1.85	1387.00	1.27	3412.20	3.12
9.	7th Plan (outlay) (1985-90)	180000.00	3392.90	1.88	3256.30	1.81	6649.20	3.69
	7th Plan (Actuals)	218729.60	3688.60	1.69	3120.80	1.43	6809.40	3.11
10.	(1990-91)- Actual	61518.10	960.90	1.56	784.90	1.28	1745.80	2.84
11.	(1991-92)- Actual	65855.80	1042.20	1.58	856.60	1.30	1898.80	2.88
12.	8th Plan Outlay (1992-97)	434100.00	7582.20	1.75	6500.00	1.50	14082.20	3.24
13.	9th Plan Outlay (1997-2002)	859200.00	19374.11	2.25	15120.20	1.76	34494.31	4.01

Source: F.R. Division, Planning Commission

National Sports Policy

*30. SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE :

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA :

Will the Minister of CULTURE, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate any new National Sports Policy to promote and encourage the sports in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to invite suggestions from the people for the formulation of new spc polcy so far? [Transition]

support to sports persons, research and development in the field of sports, incentives to sports persons, better participation of women, tribals and rural youth and creation of greater awareness to promote sports-mindedness in the public at large.

(c) A cross-section of institutions/individuals connected with sports, as also the Indian Olympic Association, the Sports Authority of India, the National Sports Federations and the State Governments have so far been consulted, whose views and suggestions would be borne in mind in finalising the new National Sports Policy.

Eradication of Tuberculosis

*31. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the programmes formulated by the Government for the eradication of tuberculosis;

(b) the percentage of success achieved under the tuberculosis eradication programme;

(c) whether the Government provide full treatment, assistance and medicines to the Tuberculosis patients;

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The Government of India are in the process of formulating a new National Sports Policy which is envisaged to, inter-alia, lay stress upon the broadbasing of sports and to achieving excellence in performance, through the integration of Sports and Physical Education with the educational curriculum, upgradation and development of the sports infrastructure, support to the National Sports Federations and other appropriate bodies, strengthening of scientific and coaching

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

4 (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (e) Government of India launched the National TB Control Programme in 1962 on a 50:50 sharing basis between Centre and States for control of Tuberculosis. The programme is integrated with primary health care and is implemented through a network of 446 District TB Centres, 330 TB clinics and about 47,600 beds. Treatment to patients is provided free of cost.

A revised strategy which was initially pilot-tested in 1993, is currently in operation covering more than 130 million population. It is anticipated that another 100 million population will be covered by this Revised Tuberculosis Control Programme (RNTCP) by early 2000.

In the National TB Control Programme, 4 out of 10 patients (40%) have been successfully treated, whereas in revised strategy (RNTCP) 8 out of 10 patients have been successfully treated.

From 1997, drugs are being provided on 100% central support basis. Drugs for sputum positive cases are being provided by the Central Government directly, while cash assistance is being provided to the State Governments for providing drugs for sputum negative cases.

[English]

Revision of School Curriculum

*32. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI :

SHRI P.C. THOMAS :

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

(a) Whether the national Council of Educational Research and Training has constituted a group to work towards revision of school curriculum and CBSE syllabus;

(b) if so, whether the said group has prepared and submitted any report/document in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Marxism as a major political theory has been derecognised in the new syllabus; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The NCERT has constituted a group to work towards revision of school curriculum. However, revision of the CBSE syllabus is not within the jurisdiction of the curriculum group. The State Boards and CBSE take their own decisions with regard to syllabus revision.

(d) and (e) No, Sir.

Population Growth

*33. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI:

SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:

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

(a) the total estimated population of the country at present;

(b) whether the population of the country has been rising steadily and all the steps taken so far have proved futile;

(c) if so, the details of steps taken to tackle the problem;

(d) the target fixed under population control programmes during the current Five Year Plan and manner in which the same is likely to be achieved;

(e) whether any campaign is being launched at village level; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) As per projections made by Technical Group on Population Projections constituted by the Planning Commission, the estimated population of India as on 1st October, 1999 is 990.4 millions.

(b) The population of the country rose from 381.1 millions in 1951 to 548.2 million in 1971 and 946.3 millions in 1991. Currently, the population of the country increases by 15.5 millions annually.

The birth rate has declined from 40.7 in 1951 to 26.4 in 1998. The total fertility rate has come down from 6.0 in 1951 to 3.3 in 1997.

(c) The following schemes are being implemented with a view to tackling the problem:-

(i) An integrated and comprehensive programme of Reproductive and Child Health, which includes Maternal Health, Child Health and Contraception issues;

(ii) Information, Education and Communication Programme to create awareness about the benefits of small family;

(iii) Provision of family welfare services through sub-centres, primary health centres, community health centres and hospitals;

(iv) Assistance to States/UTs to maintain certain Family Welfare infrastructure;

(v) Assistance to Voluntary Organisations and NGOs.

(d) to (f) A statement is enclosed.

Statement

The target for various population control programmes during the current Five Year Plan (1997-2002) is stated below:

Indicators	Target (in year 2002)
Crude Birth Rate	23/1000
Infant Mortality Rate	50/1000
Total Fertility Rate	2.6
Couple Protection Rate	60%

2. In order to achieve the targets, the Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) programme, which is an integrated approach to the family welfare programme is being implemented in the Ninth Five Year Plan. The RCH provides need based, client centred, demand driven and high quality services to the target population. This is being sought to be achieved by improving facilities for family welfare services under various specific programmes.

3. In addition to the TV & Radio, area specific Information, Education & Communication (IEC) activities have been streamlined. These activities are being organised at district level through Zila Saksharta Smitis (ZSS), Nehru Yuwak Kendra, Mahila Swasthya Sangh in village with a population of more than 1000 (500 in hilly areas) and song and drama division. The services of health infrastructure of 1.36 lakh sub-centres with Auxiliary Nurse Midwife and Anganwadi workers are utilised at village level. Involvement of NGOs and community participation is encouraged.

Prasar Bharati Board

*34. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to impart total autonomy to Prasar Bharati Board and to bring Legislation for the same;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not the reasons therefor;

(d) the profit and loss of Prasar Bharati Board during 1997-98, and 1998-99; and

(e) the details of present accountability of the organisations and the accountability after the requisite changes that are likely to be made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) Prasar Bharati, of which Doordarshan and All India Radio are constituents, is already autonomous within the legal framework of Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act 1990.

(d) Prasar Bharati is a public service broadcasting organization and thus does not maintain a profit and loss

account. However, the information regarding the total expenditure and revenue of Prasar Bharati for the last two years is given below:

	1997-98	1998-99
Expenditure (Rs. in crores)	1333.36	1314.68
Revenue Earning (Rs. in crores)	568.49	515.66

(e) The Prasar Bharati Act, 1990 contained Section 13 which made provision for a Parliamentary Committee to oversee that the corporation discharges its functions in accordance with the provision of the Act. Section 14 provided for a Broadcasting Council which was authorized to consider the complaints. While determining the quantum of annual financial grant to be provided in the budget to the Prasar Bharati, review of its working and its requirement is assessed every year. The annual Report of Prasar Bharati is prescribed to be laid before the Parliament every year. Within the organization there is a Board of Management consisting of eminent and knowledgeable persons which directs and supervises the working of the organization. The Government has recently constituted a High Power Committee for comprehensive review of Prasar Bharati and in the light of this Committee's report further measures can be thought of.

Norms Regarding Censorship on Doordarshan Programmes

*35. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADODA MANDLIK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any norms fixed for imposing of censorship by Doordarshan on current affairs and other T.V. programmes to drop footage, particularly those critical of Government functioning/policies;

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

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure freedom of expression in Doordarshan programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) One of the principles guiding the news policy as laid-down under the 'News Policy for Broadcast Media' provides that in reporting on political controversies the broadcast media should be guided by objectivity and fair play. Due representation of differing viewpoints should be the aim. If a variety of viewpoints cannot be projected in the same bulletin, the balance should be achieved within a reasonable period of time.

Health Facilities to All

*36. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR:

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:

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

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to provide health facilities to all citizens by 2000 A.D.;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide health facilities to all the citizens by 2000 A.D.;

(d) the number of doctors required for this purpose;

(e) the details of on-going centrally sponsored health scheme in States, State-wise;

(f) the targets fixed and achieved under these schemes during 1998-99;

(g) whether the Government propose to open more health centres and encourage Private Health Centres, Hospitals and Nursing Homes at village level;

(h) if so, the measures/concessions likely to be provided to them; and

(i) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM):

(a) to (f) Under the Public Health System a network of rural

health infrastructure comprising 1, 36, 818 Sub-centres, 22,991 Primary Health Centres and 2, 712 Community Health Centres (as on 30-06-1998) has been established throughout the country under the Basic Minimum Services to provide preventive, promotive and curative health care in rural areas. Additionally there are National Health Programmes for control of Malaria, T.B., Leprosy, Blindness, AIDS, Cancer, Iodine Deficiency Disorders, Mental Health and Family Welfare Programmes. The capacity of the State to provide comprehensive 'Health for All' is constrained by the inadequacy of financial resources.

There are no estimates available regarding the requirements of doctors for the purpose. As per Medical Council of India, the doctor - population ratio in respect of allopathic doctors is about 1:1980. Taken together with practitioners from Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy the ratio would be better.

The list of the major Centrally sponsored health schemes in operation throughout the country, targets fixed and achievements during 1998-99 in respect of these schemes is enclosed as statement.

(g) to (i) Ninth Plan targets have been laid down to establish 7686 sub-centres, 1521 primary health centres and 2903 community health centres in rural areas under basic minimum services in some States/UTs.

Schemes are under operation for providing assistance to Voluntary Organisations to provide improved medical services to the rural and high density urban slum population of the country. Voluntary Organisations are also encouraged to set up new hospitals/dispensaries in rural areas where existing medical care facilities are inadequate.

Statement*Targets and Achievements During 1998-99 Under Major National Health and Family Welfare Programmes*

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	1998-99	
		Targets	Achievements
1	2	3	4
1.	National Anti Malaria Programme		
	(i) Population screened for Malaria during 1999 (as per report available till 25.10.1999) (in lakhs)		479.54
	(ii) Annual Blood Examination Rate (ABER)-1998	10% of the population to be screened annually.	9.51
2.	National Leprosy Eradication Programme		
	Case Detection	2.86	7.83
	Case Treatment	2.86	7.79
	Case discharge	6.12	7.73
3.	National T.B. Control Programme		
	Smear Positive cases	4.73	3.22
	Sputum Examination	141.89	38.93

1	2	3	4
4. National Programme for control of Blindness			
Cataract operations performed (in lakhs)		33.02	33.20
5. Family Welfare Programmes			
(i) Immunization coverage* (in lakhs)		Need Assessed	
D.P.T.		251.17	233.05
Polio (3rd Dose)		251.17	236.82
B.C.G.		251.17	243.60
Measles		251.17	219.25
T.T. (Pregnant women)		277.47	230.14
(ii) Family Planning Coverage* (in lakhs)			
Sterilisation		No targets fixed	41.82
I.U.D.		from 1996-97 onwards	60.65
C.C. Users			173.08
O.P. Users			68.69
6. National AIDS Control Programme			
		Targets can not be fixed to control HIV/AIDS as there is no cure at present. However, optimum efforts are being made to spread awareness amongst people for prevention and control of HIV/AIDS.	

* Provisional

Adult Education Scheme

*37. SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any committee has since been constituted to review the implementation of Adult Education Scheme in different States/Union Territories;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the committee is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) The Department of Education had constituted an Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Prof. Arun Ghosh on 16.4.1993 for conducting status-cum-impact Evaluation of Total Literacy campaigns in the country. The Group had submitted its report on 26.9.94.

FDI in Housing Sector

*38. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT And POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have allowed foreign Direct investment in housing and urban infrastructure projects;

(b) if so, the details and the response from the foreign investors thereto:

(c) whether Ministries of Finance and External Affairs have raised objections in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) and (b) Foreign investment is already permitted to non-residents of Indian nationality/origin and overseas corporate bodies predominantly owned by NRIs/PIOs having atleast 60% of beneficial interest in such bodies in the housing and real estate development sector. Foreign direct investment (FDI) is not yet permitted in the housing sector.

(c) and (d) A proposal for liberalisation of the scheme and its extension to all potential investors has been formulated after consulting the concerned Ministries including Ministries of Finance and External Affairs. After considering their comments, a proposal has been submitted to the cabinet for its consideration. Cabinet have constituted a group of Ministers to further consider the proposal.

Shortage of Teachers in KVS

*39. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY :

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA:

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

(a) Whether the Government are aware of the acute shortage of teachers in Kendriya Vidyalayas in the country, especially in Rajasthan, Bihar and North Eastern States;

(b) If so, whether the Government have drawn out the total number of vacant posts, subject-wise and State-wise; and

(c) the time by which these vacant posts are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND

TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) As on 1.8.1999, about 2809 posts of teachers in various categories were lying vacant in Kendriya Vidyalayas all over the country. Details indicating the vacant posts region-wise and subject-wise are given in the enclosed statement.

The exercise for recruitment to the posts of Post Graduate Teachers is nearing completion. For trained Graduate, Primary and Misc. Categories of teachers the process is at an advanced stage. Where there is some delay in appointments, the Principals have been given powers to make temporary alternative arrangements.

Statement

Vacancy position of PGTs as on 1.8.99

Sl. No.	Region	Maths	Phy.	Chem.	Bio.	Hist.	Geo	Eco.	Comm.	Eng.	Hindi	Sans.
1.	Ahmedabad	07	01	03	01	02	—	07	03	15	06	—
2.	Bangalore	02	01	02	01	—	—	—	—	01	04	—
3.	Bhopal	—	05	07	04	01	—	05	02	04	02	—
4.	Mumbai	02	02	04	—	01	01	03	01	01	—	—
5.	Calcutta	05	03	06	03	—	—	12	05	10	04	—
6.	Chandigarh	02	11	09	10	04	—	08	04	07	01	—
7.	Delhi	01	06	06	03	06	03	09	11	04	03	—
8.	Guwahati	05	14	13	15	07	—	07	03	18	09	—
9.	Gwalior	01	—	02	—	01	01	03	05	09	03	—
10.	Hyderabad	—	01	—	—	—	—	06	—	03	01	—
11.	Jabalpur	01	05	05	08	01	—	—	02	12	01	—
12.	Jammu	11	07	10	12	03	—	03	02	11	08	—
13.	Jaipur	03	01	05	09	03	—	06	01	05	01	—
14.	Lucknow	01	02	01	06	01	—	04	02	05	—	—
15.	Patna	08	08	08	12	01	01	03	03	12	07	—
16.	Silchar	10	12	11	10	04	03	04	02	16	09	—
17.	Bhubaneswar	01	—	02	02	—	04	02	01	08	02	—
18.	Chennai	—	—	—	—	01	01	03	01	02	05	—
19.	Dehradun	04	07	03	10	06	02	03	03	08	02	—
	Total	64	86	97	106	42	16	88	51	151	68	—

Vacancies Category Wise (Prt/Misc. Teachers) and Region-Wise as on 1.8.99

Sl. No.	Region	Post/Category							LIBRARIAN
		PRT	PET	WET	DRG. TR.	MUSIC TR.	YOGA TR.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
1.	Ahmedabad	27	14	08	02	06	—	03	
2.	Bangalore	48	23	18	02	05	02	08	
3.	Bhopal	42	14	08	03	(-)01	—	04	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
4.	Bhubaneswar	(-)28	18	11	03	(-)01	—	—
5.	Mumbai	06	10	15	01	(-)01	03	04
6.	Calcutta	19	07	11	02	(-)03	(-)05	02
7.	Chandigarh	27	22	30	01	04	—	04
8.	Dehradun	17	20	11	06	03	(-)03	03
9.	Delhi	34	07	20	09	(-)02	(-)02	02
10.	Guwahati	32	36	23	02	—	—	07
11.	Gwalior	16	06	07	02	—	(-)01	03
12.	Hyderabad	(-)09	15	09	02	01	0	02
13.	Jabalpur	(-)28	11	06	01	—	—	02
14.	Jaipur	07	12	09	—	—	01	03
15.	Jammu	53	19	09	05	04	01	06
16.	Lucknow	18	08	06	02	02	0	02
17.	Chennai	15	14	10	07	05	05	06
18.	Patna	(-) 04	22	06	02	—	—	—
19.	Silchar	87	10	—	—	05	—	16
Total		379	288	217	52	27	01	77

Vacancy Position of TGTs/Headmaster As on 1.8.99

Sl.No	Region	Eng.	Hindi	Sans.	S.St	Maths	Bio.	H/M
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Ahmedabad	25	04	06	09	25	10	08
2.	Bangalore	22	01	05	18	04	05	08
3.	Bhopal	19	—	12	04	08	—	08
4.	Mumbai	33	07	06	14	07	05	10
5.	Calcutta	19	03	04	03	—	06	11
6.	Chandigarh	20	08	18	01	02	04	14
7.	Delhi	05	06	06	02	01	02	03
8.	Guwahati	38	07	05	17	23	14	10
9.	Gwalior	02	01	04	—	06	05	05
10.	Hyderabad	13	02	13	02	04	01	12
11.	Jabalpur	11	—	01	—	06	—	14
12.	Jammu	14	01	—	05	08	07	11
13.	Jaipur	24	04	09	—	21	01	06
14.	Lucknow	04	—	—	03	01	—	08

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
15.	Patna	05	—	—	—	01	02	06
16.	Silchar	12	—	14	19	25	14	11
17.	Bhubaneswar	04	02	01	—	01	02	06
18.	Chennai	22	08	14	07	01	03	16
19.	Dehradun	14	—	05	02	07	02	09
Total		306	54	123	106	151	83	176

Delhi Metro Rail Project

*40. DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of expenditure likely to be incurred on the Delhi Metro Railway Project,
- (b) the progress made so far in this regard;
- (c) the time by which the first phase of the project is likely to be completed; and
- (d) the time by which the whole project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) The total estimated cost of Phase-I of the Delhi MRTS Project approved by the Government is Rs. 4,860.00 crores at April, 1996 prices.

(b) The civil construction on the Shahdara—Tis Hazari Section of one of the corridors, was taken up in October, 1998 and is in progress. Pre-construction activities for the metro corridors and rail corridors have been completed. 6% of the physical and 4.5% of the financial work for the Delhi MRTS Project (Phase-I) have been completed till the October, 1999.

(c) The Delhi MRTS Phase-I Project is scheduled to be completed by March, 2005.

(d) Since only Phase-I of the full Delhi MRTS System has been approved by the Government, no time schedule has been drawn for completion of the full system.

Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation

231. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the employees of the sick PSU Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation (HFC) have requested the Government to revive the ailing unit and review the wages pending since January, 1992;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure wage parity to the employees of this PSU with other PSUs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFC) has been declared a sick Public Sector Enterprise (PSE) by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) in November, 1992. Under the Government guidelines, in respect of sick PSEs registered with the BIFR, pay revision and grant of other benefits will be allowed only if it is decided to revive the Unit. The revival package should include the enhanced liability on this account.

The rehabilitation proposal of HFC was considered by the Government and approved the revamp of the Namrup units of HFC only deferring the decision in respect of other units. Now, a comprehensive rehabilitation proposal for the remaining units of HFC is to be submitted to the competent authority in the Government and final sanction of BIFR.

Alapuzha Project

232. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN: Will the MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have received any proposal from Government of Kerala regarding 'The Clean Alapuzha Project' prepared by the Alapuzha Municipality;
- (b) if so, the details and the present status thereof; and
- (c) the time by which it is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Municipal Council, Alapuzha had submitted a preliminary project proposal on solid Waste Management entitled "Clean Alapuzha" at an estimated cost of Rs. 385.85 lakhs in November '96 for seeking Central assistance to the tune of Rs. 180.00 lakhs. The Municipal Council of Alapuzha was informed by the Central Public Health and Environmental Engineering Organisation (CPHEEO) of this Ministry in April '97 that there is no Central scheme under which financial assistance can be made available for solid waste management.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Acquisition of Land for Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Ltd.

233. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of farmers whose land was acquired by the Government for Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited in Raigarh of Maharashtra indicating the area of land acquired;

(b) the payment of compensation made to the affected farmers;

(c) the policy adopted by the Government for rehabilitation of the affected farmers;

(d) the number of farmers kept aloof of the benefits of rehabilitation alongwith the time by which they would be given the benefits of rehabilitation;

(e) whether job reservation has been made for the affected families of farmers;

(f) if so, the number of families which have been given the job opportunities so far alongwith the time by which remaining families would be given this benefit;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited had acquired land measuring 246.7222 hectares from 385 farmers' families in Raigarh District of Maharashtra for setting up its Thal Fertilizer Project.

(b) An amount of Rs. 83,90,143/- was paid as compensation to affected families.

(c) As a rehabilitation measure the management of the company had decided that one person from each family whose land has been acquired shall be given preference over other candidates applying for jobs by relaxing the qualifications and age requirements.

(d) to (h) Total 615 persons representing 385 affected families have been given employment.

Inclusion of OBC in Rajasthan

234. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government have proposed to include the remaining castes of Rajasthan like Bishnoi, Mev, Kayamkhani, Sirbi, Patel, Kalawi, Ajana, Bhobhiya, Rajput, etc. in the category of other backward classes;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) The time by which it is likely to be included?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) The Government of India notifies the inclusion/modification in the Central List of OBCs on the basis of advices received from National Commission for Backward Classes set up under the NCBC Act, 1993 for this purpose. No advice has been received from NCBC in respect of castes of Rajasthan like Bishnoi, Mev, Kayamkhani, Sirbi, Patel, Kalawi, Ajana, Bhobhiya, and Rajput.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[English]

Rehabilitation of Jhuggi Colonies

235. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of jhuggi colonies in Chandigarh awaiting rehabilitation;

(b) the number of households and the total population of the said colonies; and

(c) the criteria for entitlement and the time by which they are likely to be rehabilitated and clearing the city of slums?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) Chandigarh Administration has informed that as per the recent survey conducted by the "Centre for Research in Rural Areas and Industrial Development" (CRRID) on behalf of the Chandigarh Administration, there are 26 unauthorised jhuggies colonies in Chandigarh which are to be considered for rehabilitation.

(b) In the above mentioned unauthorised colonies, the number of enumerated households is 33,260 and the population is 1,18,386.

(c) As per the existing policy guidelines followed by Chandigarh Administration, the eligible beneficiary for rehabilitation should be a permanent resident of Chandigarh in a labour colony and his name should figure in the voter list as on 8.12.96. No time frame has been set for clearing the City of Slums as the rehabilitation of slum dwellers is a time consuming process. It involves activities such as acquisition of land, development of services, identification of beneficiaries and their resettlement thereafter.

Motel Licences

236. SHRI RAMSAGAR RAWAT:

SHRI C.N. SINGH:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any guidelines for issuing a NOC/Licence for opening of a motel in New Delhi;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of applications pending for issuing NOC/Licence for motels in Delhi;
- (d) the list of motels licence issued/projects cleared so far;
- (e) whether some motels are functioning illegally in the capital:
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the action taken by the Government against such motels?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) Motels are permitted in rural zones/green belt and commercial zones on National Highways and inter-State roads in Delhi.

Motels located in commercial zones will be subject to the norms and building standards applicable to hotels.

Motels located in the rural zone/green belt shall be subject to the following norms and the building standards:

- (i) The minimum plot size shall be one hectare.
- (ii) The minimum width of the drive-way used for entry into and exist from, a plot shall be 9 mts.
- (iii) The minimum setback shall be 15 mts. in the front and 9 mts. from the sides and the rear. This shall be in addition to a free buffer from the road-width if and as specified by law.
- (iv) the FAR shall be 15 subject to a maximum floor space of 1500 sq. mts. each on the first and second hectares, and 5% of the area of the remaining land comprised in the site subject to a maximum of 1500 sq. mts.
- (v) The maximum ground coverage shall be equivalent to FAR.
- (vi) The built-up structure shall not exceed height of 9 mts.
- (vii) Basement equivalent to the ground coverage shall be allowed free from FAR to the extent necessary for airconditioning plant, filtration plant, electric sub-station, parking and other essential services.
- (viii) Parking space shall be provided on a minimum scale of 1.67 ECA per 100 sq. mts. of floor area, including the provision made in this regard in the basement.
- (ix) Retail and service shops shall be limited to a maximum of 5% of the floor area.
- (x) Water and electric supply, sewerage, drainage and other such infrastructure shall be provided on a scale and according to standards satisfactory to the building regulatory authority.
- (xi) All permissions and clearances for use of land

which are usually required in a connection with approval of or sanction for, development shall be obtained from the prescribed authorities.

The building plans in respect of such motels are approved by the local bodies/DDA. In addition the owners of the motels are required to pay 'Use Permission Charges' in the proportion as indicated below:

- (i) First ha. — Rs. 20 lakhs
- (ii) Second ha. — Rs. 10 lakhs
- (iii) Third ha. onward Rs. 5 lakhs

(c) DDA has received two applications which are under process. Similar information from MCD is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(d) to (g) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Unauthorised Encroachments

237. SHRI C.N. SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of unauthorised encroachments detected in Government colonies as on October 31, 1999, area-wise;

(b) the reasons for not complying the instructions of the Government issued on 14.8.98 and 17.11.97 respectively in the regard;

(c) whether the corridors and the open space beyond that in the NDMC markets and the Directorate of Estates markets in New Delhi are under heavy encroachments by the shopkeepers;

(d) if so, the steps taken to remove unauthorised encroachments;

(e) the action taken against the official responsible; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government for compliance the instruction?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Information is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) The instructions of the Government issued on 14/8/96 and 17/11/97 are being followed.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. NDMC and Directorate of Estates have been removing all such encroachments as and when these are noticed. But some encroachments still exists. Allotments of a number of shops have also been cancelled on this account.

(e) and (f) Disciplinary action is initiated if the responsibility of any officials is proved. The Government have been impressing upon all the concerned organisations and agencies to enforce the instructions strictly.

Statement*Area-wise Details of Encroachments in Government Colonies in Delhi as on 31/10/99*

Sl. No.	Area	Type of Encroachment (Nos.)				Total
		Commercial	Religious	Residential	Other	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	DIZ AREA					
	Sector-I	1	3	61	—	65
	Sector-II	1	2	452	—	455
	Sector-III	—	1	206	—	207
	Sector-IV	—	3	—	1	4
2.	Aram Bagh	—	1	—	—	1
3.	Minto Road	123	20	—	—	143
4.	Timar Pur	—	1	88	—	89
5.	Bapa Nagar	—	—	93	—	93
6.	Curzon Road Apptt.	17	1	—	—	18
7.	Bharti Nagar	2	1	—	—	3
8.	Jam Nagar House	1	2	—	—	3
9.	Jaisalmer House	1	—	—	—	1
10.	R.K. PURAM					
	Sector-I	2	—	7	—	9
	Sector-II	—	—	478	—	478
	Sector-III	—	—	365	—	365
	Sector-IV	6	1	67	1	75
	Sector-V	—	23	—	—	23
	Sector-VI(Mkt.)	16	—	—	—	16
	Sector-VII	4	—	27	—	31
	Sector-VIII	5	—	23	—	28
	Sector-XIII	—	—	22	—	22
11.	Netaji Nagar	—	—	8	—	8
12.	Moti Bagh	2	—	83	—	85
13.	Nanak Pura	—	—	85	—	85
14.	Vasant Vihar	—	—	1	—	1
15.	Sarojini Nagar	4	—	99	—	103
16.	Nauroji Nagar	1	3	10	1	15
17.	Dev Nagar	—	1	46	—	47
18.	Lodhi Road	—	—	1	—	1
19.	Allganj	1	—	—	—	1
20.	Kidwai Nagar (East)	4	6	—	—	10
21.	Laxmi Bai Nagar	—	1	6	—	7
22.	P.V. Hostel	19	—	—	—	19
23.	Sewa Nagar	—	—	50	—	50
24.	Near Old Sectt.	—	—	17	—	17

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
25.	Lancer Road/ Mall Road Station	—	—	1	—	1
26.	Kasturba Nagar	—	8	58	1	67
27.	Tyag Raj Nagar	—	9	78	2	89
28.	Andrews Ganj	3	1	89	—	93
29.	Sadiq Nagar	1	1	45	1	48
30.	Srinivas Puri	2	2	450	—	454
31.	Pushp Vihar	266	5	—	—	271
32.	Karkardoma	10	—	590	—	600
Total		492	96	3606	7	4201

[Translation]

[English]

Opening of Medical Colleges

238. SHRI RAJ NARAIN PASSI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- whether the Government propose to open a medical college in Bansgaon, Uttar Pradesh;
- if so, the details thereof; and
- if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) No such proposal has been received.

(c) The intending applicant has to submit a proposal to the Central Government for seeking permission to start a new medical college as per the provisions of IMC (Amendment) Act, 1993 and the regulations framed thereunder.

Foreign Tour by Sports Personnel

239. SHRI GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of CULTURE, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- the details of foreign tour conducted by the sports personnel during the last three years;
- the expenditure involved in each tour;
- the details of members involved in such tours other than the sports players, and the expenditure thereon; and
- whether the Union Government propose to reduce the expenditure in this respect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH): (a) to (c) The details of Indian delegates to major international sports events who visited foreign countries during the last three years is given in enclosed statement.

(d) The delegations composition is kept at the minimum to ensure economy.

Statement

S. No.	Name of International Competition	Name of Members of Indian delegation	Expenditure (Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	16th Commonwealth Games held at Kuala Lumpur from 11.9.1998 to 21.9.1998		6,70,870.000
	Group 'A' from 10.9.1998 to 16.9.1998	(i) Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi, Minister for Human Resource Development.	
		(ii) Shri V.K. Malhotra, Member of Parliament.	

1	2	3
	(iii) Shri Prem Singh Chandumajra, Member of Parliament.	
	(iv) Shri S. Chandra M.Reddy, Minister of Sports and Youth Affairs Services, Government of Andhra Pradesh.	
	(v) Shri J.P. Singh, Joint Secretary, Department of Youth Affairs and Sports.	
	(vi) Shri Sanjeev Dubey, Deputy Secretary, Department of Youth Affairs and Sports.	
	(vii) Shri Ravi Kapur, PS to Minister for Human Resource Development.	
Group 'B' from 15.9.1998 to 22.9.1998	(i) Shri Chetan Chauhan, Member of Parliament.	
	(ii) Shri Sham Sunder Sharma, Minister of Sports, Government of Himachal Pradesh.	
	(iii) Shri Bhaskar Barua, Secretary, Department of Youth Affairs and Sports.	
	(iv) Shri Arun Gupta, Director General Sports Authority of India.	
	(v) Shri A.S.V. Prasad, Executive Director (Teams), Sports Authority of India.	
2. 13th Asian Games held at Bangkok, Thailand from 6.12.1998 to 20.12.1998.		7.23,091.00
Group 'A' from 5.12.1998 to 14.12.1998	(i) Shri Praveen Sharma, Minister of Sports, Government of Himachal Pradesh.	
	(ii) Shri D.K. Mittal, Director General, Sports Authority of India.	
	(iii) Shri S.K. Panda, Director (Sports), Department of Youth Affairs and Sports.	
Groups 'B' from 13.12.1998 to 21.12.1998.	(i) Shri J.P. Singh, Joint Secretary, Department of Youth Affairs and Sports.	
	(ii) Shri O.P. Bhatia, Executive Director (Teams), Sports Authority of India.	
	(iii) Shri R.R., Jowel, Director (Sports), Government of Haryana.	
3. 8th South Asian Federation Games, Kathmandu-Nepal from 25.9.1999 to 4.10.1999.		33,716.00
Groups 'A' from 24.9.1999 to 29.9.1999	(i) Shri D.K. Manavalan, Secretary, Department of youth Affairs and Sports.	(Bill in respect of Boarding and Loading, DA & Internal Transport is to be received from the Embassy of India, Nepal.)
	(ii) Shri D.K. Mittal, Director General, Sports Authority of India.	
Group "B" from 29.9.1999 to 5.10.1999.	(i) Shri J.P. Singh, Joint Secretary, Department of Youth Affairs and Sports.	
	(ii) Shri O.P. Bhatia, Executive Director (Teams), Sports Authority of India.	

Tribal Hostels

240. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of hostels available for Tribals in the country, State-wise; and

(b) the number of such hostels likely to be constructed in the country, during 1999-2000 State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) and (b) The information is being collected from

the States and will be laid on the Table of the House on receipt.

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Welfare Schemes

241. DR. JAYANT RONGPI: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme for welfare of Scheduled Tribes has been undertaken for the Scheduled areas (Sixth Scheduled tribal districts) of Assam during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details of such schemes; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Schemes relating to socio-economic and educational development of Scheduled Tribes have been undertaken in the State of Assam including Sixth Scheduled Areas by this Ministry through various Centrally Sponsored/Central Sector Schemes. These schemes are Grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution, SCA to TSP, Boys' Hostels for STs, Girls' hostels for STs, Establishment of Ashram Schools in TSP Areas, Vocational Training in Tribal Sub-Plan Areas. Financial assistance is given on the basis of the proposals received from the State Government.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Voluntary Organisation in Gujarat

242. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of voluntary organisations in Gujarat receiving grants from the Government;

(b) the details of progress made by these voluntary organisations; and

(c) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to promote the non-Government organisations in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) The number of voluntary organisations in Gujarat receiving grants and the amounts of grant sanctioned during the years 1998-99 and 1999-2000 is indicated below:

S. No.	Name of Scheme	Amount sanctioned		
		No. of NGOs	1998-99	1999-2000 (till date)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Scheme to Promote Voluntary Action for Persons with Disabilities	13	35.62	16.30
2.	Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase of Aids/Appliances	03	71.19	NII
3.	Scheme of Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drug) Abuse	07	44.46	40.91
4.	Scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for the welfare of Scheduled Castes	03	NII	5.56
5.	Integrated Programme for Older Persons	02	2.84	NII
6.	Scheme for Provision of Ambulances for the Animals in Distress	04	4.50	11.01
7.	Integrated Programme for Street Children	10	55.73	33.72

(b) and (c) The assistance for the financial year is released in two instalments and the second instalment is released on receipt of inspection reports and recommendation of appropriate authorities. The recommendations, while assessing the working of the organisations, also report on the utilisation of funds and the progress made. The schemes of the Ministry are generally for the voluntary organisations of the entire country. These schemes are publicised periodically so that more number of NGOs all over the country can be covered under the various schemes of the Ministry.

*[English]***Free and Compulsory Education**

243. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have any proposal to accept right to education as fundamental right;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government have any plan to make primary education compulsory for all children; and
- (e) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (e) The Constitution (Eighty-third Amendment) Bill, 1997 to make right to free and compulsory education for children from 6 to 14 years of age a fundamental right was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on July 28, 1997. The salient features of the Bill are as under:-

- (1) The State shall provide free and compulsory education to all citizens of the age of 6-14 years;
- (2) The state shall not make any law for free and compulsory education in relation to educational institutions not maintained by the State or nor receiving aid out of State funds;
- (3) The competent legislature shall make the law for enforcement of right to free and compulsory education within one year from the commencement of the Constitution (Eighty-third Amendment) Bill, 1997;
- (4) Article 45 of the Constitution shall be omitted; and
- (5) It shall be the fundamental duty to provide opportunities Parliamentary for education to a child between the age of 6 and 14 years of whom such citizen is a parent or guardian.

The Bill was referred to the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on HRD. The committee tabled its report in the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha on 24th November, 1997 in which it proposed some modifications in the Amendment Bill. The recommendations of the Parliamentary Standing Committee and being examined in consultation with the Ministry of Law.

Payment of Arrears to Teachers

244. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government have released funds to the State Governments for payment of arrears on account of revision of pay of college and university teachers since January 1, 1996 indicating the conditions on which the funds were released;

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

- (c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which the funds are likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (c) Central Govt. has released an amount of Rs. 179.88 crore to Governments of Manipur, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal for implementation of the Scheme of revision of pay scales of University and College teachers subject to the following conditions:-

- (i) The Central Government will provide financial assistance to the State Governments which have opted for these revised pay scales to the extent of 80% of the additional expenditure involved in the implementation of the revision.
- (ii) The State Governments will meet the remaining 20% of the expenditure from their own sources.
- (iii) The financial assistance, indicated above, would be provided for the period from 1.1.96 to 31.3.2000.
- (iv) The entire liability on account of revision of pay scales, etc., of University and College teachers would be taken over by the State Governments w.e.f. 1.4.2000.
- (v) The Central assistance would be restricted to revision of pay scales in respect of only those posts which were in existence and filled up on 1.1.1996.

The schemes formulated by the other States are being processed expeditiously in consultation with them.

Use of Cow Urine

245. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the scientifically prepared medicines from cow urine at Deolapur, near Nagpur under approval of Maharashtra Government;
- (b) if so, whether the Government propose to investigate its effectiveness to promote such Ayurvedic preparations; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) Government of Maharashtra has granted Licence for manufacture of medicines from Cow Urine to M/s Govindyan Anushandhan Kendra, Deolapur, Maharashtra.

- (b) and (c) Cow Urine is one of the ingredients of a formula prescribed in "AYURVEDA SANSANGHREH", a book listed in Schedule I of Drug and Cosmetic Act, 1940 for manufacturing an Ayurvedic drug called "MED HAR ARK". As such M/s Govindyan Anusandhan Kendra, Deolapur, Tal. Ramtek, District Nagpur have been granted licence in "Form 25 D" to manufacture this Ayurvedic Drug. There is therefore

no proposal to investigate the effectiveness as this is a classical remedy. Further, the disease conditions where the use of cow's urine are indicated can also be cured by other herbal, herbo-mineral preparations, hence this has not been a research priority.

Production of Chemicals and Fertilizer

246. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country has achieved self-reliance in the production of chemicals and fertilizer till now;

(b) if not, whether the Government are still dependent upon imported urea;

(c) if so, whether the Government have formulated any long term scheme to make the country self-reliant in the matter of production of urea; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) to (d) The country has achieved near self-reliance in basic chemicals, but has to resort to import for some speciality chemicals.

Government of India's policy objective in the fertilizer sector has been the achievement of maximum degree of self-sufficiency in nitrogen production, based on utilisation of our own feedstock, leaving only marginal quantities to be met through imports.

In the fertilizer sector, during 1998-99 the indigenous production of fertilizers accounted for nearly 88% of the estimated consumption of nitrogen and phosphate nutrients taken together. The entire requirement of potash nutrient has to be imported as there are no known commercially exploitable reserves of potash in the country. The gap between the demand and indigenous availability of fertilizers is met by imports.

As per the Industrial Policy Statement issued on 24th July 1991, no industrial licence is now required for setting up a fertilizer plant. The indigenous fertilizer industry is encouraged through a variety of measures, which include the Retention Price-cum-subsidy Scheme applicable to urea and the concessions designed to reduce

the capital costs of fertilizer projects as well as the cost of production/distribution of fertilizers. The scheme of concession on the sale of phosphatic and potassic fertilizers also helps the indigenous industry to optimise its production.

Since 1995-96, there has been a decline in the levels of urea imports and the subsidy outgo in respect of imported urea, while the overall consumption of urea has increased substantially on account of increase in indigenous production. Self-reliance in the production of urea is, however, not a policy objective in view of the constraints in the availability of natural gas, which is the preferred feedstock for nitrogenous fertilizers.

UGC Grant to Universities

247. SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Central Universities in the Country, location-wise;

(b) the terms and conditions laid down for setting up of Central Universities;

(c) the criteria followed by UGC to grant assistance to universities and the details of grant sanctioned to Central, regional and deemed universities during each of the last three years, university-wise;

(d) the amount utilised by these universities, during the said period, university-wise;

(e) whether there is inter-institutional disparities in availing of such grant; and

(f) if so, the details and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) At present, there are 16 Central Universities in the country. The names and locations of these Universities are indicated below:

1. Aligarh Muslim University	Aligarh (UP)
2. Banaras Hindu University	Varanasi (UP)
3. Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University	Lucknow (UP)
4. University of Delhi	Delhi
5. Jamia Millia Islamia	Delhi
6. Indira Gandhi National Open University	Delhi
7. Jawaharlal Nehru University	Delhi
8. University of Hyderabad	Hyderabad (AP)
9. Maulana Azad National Urdu University	Hyderabad (AP)
10. Assam University	Sikhar (Assam)

11. Tezpur University	Tezpur (Assam)
12. Visva Bharati	Santiniketan (WB)
13. Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Vishwavidyalaya	Wardha (Maharashtra)
14. North-Eastern Hill University	Shillong (Meghalaya)
15. Nagaland University	Kohima (Nagaland)
16. Pondicherry University	Pondicherry

(b) There are no specific guidelines laid down for setting up of Central Universities. The existing Central Universities were set up in response to certain historical, cultural or considerations of Centre-State relations. National Policy on education stipulates that, in view of the need to effect an all round improvement in the institutions, it is proposed that, in the near future, the main emphasis will be on the consolidation of, and expansion of facilities in, the existing institutions. In view of this, Central Govt. is not in favour of setting up of more Central Universities. However, the commitments already made by the Govt. in this regard will be fully honoured.

(c) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Voluntary Organisations in Maharashtra

248. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Voluntary Organisations engaged in implementing the Health Programmes in Maharashtra; and

(b) the funds provided by the Union Government to each Organisations during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the House.

Allotment of Commercial Shops

249. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Government colonies in New Delhi in which shops have been allotted by the Government during 1996; 1997 and 1998;

(b) the names of such colonies in which shops have been allotted without electricity connections/without electricity cable laid by the Delhi Vidyut Board;

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) the action taken by the Government against the officials responsible for not providing the basic amenities to allottees before allotment; and

(e) the extent of relief the Government propose to provide to such allottees?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Amendment in Drugs and Cosmetic Rules, 1945

250. SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been received by the Government to amend the Drugs and Cosmetic Rules, 1945;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the manner in which this is likely to be affected pharmaceutical service in hospitals;

(d) whether the Union Government propose to set up a Pharmacopoeia Commission in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) The amendment to the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 is a continuous exercise undertaken by the Govt. of India, Ministry of Health & F.W., on the recommendations of Drugs Technical Advisory Board, a statutory Committee under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940.

(c) The pharmaceutical services in the Hospitals are not controlled under the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945.

(d) and (e) The work of Indian pharmacopoeia is presently being undertaken by the Indian pharmacopoeia Committee which has been set up for this purpose.

Orthopaedically Handicapped

251. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister for SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received a demand for extending the activities of National Institute for the Orthopaedically Handicapped in Andhra Pradesh and other States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by NIOH for the welfare of orthopaedically persons in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) Some NGOs in Andhra Pradesh have been requested to collaborate with the NIOH for organising camps for the locomotor disabled in Andhra Pradesh. It is proposed to organise a camp for persons with locomotor disability during Feb., 2000. Further, camps for persons with disabilities are also organised in any part of the country as and when demands are made from both Government and non-governmental sectors.

(c) The NIOH has provided consultancy services in various parts of the country through 166 NGOs and out of these 17 NGOs have benefited in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

Subletting of Garages

252. SHRI NANDKUMAR SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Garages in Government colonies particularly in Sector 'D' DIZ Area Mandir Marg, are subletted;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to check subletting of Garages?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Complaints of subletting of garages have been received in Sector-VIII, R.K. Puram. However, no such report has been received recently in respect of Sector 'D', DIZ Area, Mandir Marg.

(b) It has been reported that 284 garages attached to residential quarters in Sector-VIII, R.K. Puram have been sublet.

(c) The Residents Welfare Association in the Colony has been addressed to associate with the programme of inspection of these garages by the officials of the Directorate of Estates. In proven cases of subletting/misuse action, including cancellation of allotment, is taken as per allotment Rules.

[Translation]

Opening of Kendriya Vidyalayas

253. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV:

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

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

(a) the criteria laid down for opening of new Kendriya Vidyalayas;

(b) the number of such Vidyalayas functioning in the country at present, State-wise and location-wise;

(c) the number of proposals lying pending for opening of such Vidyalayas for the last three years, location-wise;

(d) whether there is any request pending for opening of such Vidyalayas in Alwar in Rajasthan and Aurangabad in Bihar; and

(e) if so, the time by which the pending proposals are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) Kendriya Vidyalayas are opened at places where there is a concentration of 1000 transferable employees of Central Govt./Public Sector Undertakings etc. The sponsoring authority is to make available land measuring 15 Acres free of cost or at nominal cost, temporary accommodation for the school and residential accommodation for teachers etc.

(b) 869 Kendriya Vidyalayas are functioning in the country at present. A list of Kendriya Vidyalayas State/UT-wise is enclosed as Statement-I.

(c) There are 29 matured proposals at present. The State-wise break-up of which is enclosed as Statement-II.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.

Statement-I

Opening of Kendriya Vidyalayas

Sl. No.	States	No. of KVs
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	44
2.	Assam	45
3.	Bihar	56
4.	Gujarat	41
5.	Haryana	26
6.	Himachal Pradesh	18
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	26
8.	Karnataka	32
9.	Kerala	27
10.	Madhya Pradesh	90
11.	Maharashtra	52
12.	Manipur	05
13.	Meghalaya	07

1	2	3
14.	Nagaland	07
15.	Orissa	30
16.	Pubjab	40
17.	Rajasthan	52
18.	Sikkim	01
19.	Tamil Nadu	29
20.	Tripura	05
21.	U.P.	125
22.	West Bengal	49
23.	A & N Island	03
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	09
25.	Chandigarh	05
26.	Delhi	37
27.	Goa	05
28.	Pondicherry	02
29.	Mizoram	01
30.	Katmoundu/Moscow (Abroad)	02
Total		871

Statement-II*Opening of Kendriya Vidyalayas*

Sl. No.	State	No. of proposals
1	2	3
1.	Assam	02
2.	Andhra Pradesh	01
3.	Bihar	03
4.	Haryana	01
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	01
6.	Kerala	03
7.	Karnataka	02
8.	Maharashtra	01
9.	Orissa	02
10.	Punjab	01

1	2	3
11.	Tripura	02
12.	U.P.	04
13.	Union Territory	04
14.	Rajasthan	02
Total		29

New Fertilizer Plant at Gorakhpur

254. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH:

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI:

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

(a) whether the Government propose to set-up a new fertilizer plant at Gorakhpur by Krishak Bharati Cooperative Ltd., (KRIBHCO) to replace an old fertilizer plant;

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard;

(c) the installed capacity of the proposed plant;

(d) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon;

(e) the time by which this fertilizer plant is likely to be set up; and

(f) the action being taken to set up gas based fertilizer plants which was approved by the Government at Babrala, Shahajahanpur, and Aonla Jagdishpur in Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) to (e) Krishak Bharati Cooperative Ltd., (KRIBHCO)'s proposal to set up new ammonia urea plants at the existing site of Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd's closed unit at Gorakhpur in Uttar Pradesh has been given 'in principle' approval by the Government, subject to investment appraisal by the Public Investment Board (PIB). The project is estimated to cost Rs. 1536 crore and will have an annual urea capacity of 7.68 lakh tonnes. It is expected to be commissioned within 36 months from the date final investment approval is accorded. Investment appraisal of the project has been undertaken by the PIB in its meeting held on 9.7.99.

(f) As per the industrial policy resolution dated 24th July, 1991, no license is normally required for setting up/ expansion of fertilizer plants and Entrepreneurs are free to set up fertilizer projects anywhere in the country subject to environment clearance. The gas based fertilizer plants to be set up at Babrala, Shahajahanpur, Aonla and Jagdishpur approved by the Government are already operating at these locations.

*[English]***Kumaranasan Memorial**

255. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISNAN :

Will the Minister of CULTURE, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any project report from the Government of Kerala seeking financial Assistance for Development of "Kumaranasan Memorial", in Trivandrum;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Since the proposal received did not specify the purpose of financial assistance, the State Government of Kerala was requested to furnish the details, which are awaited.

(c) Decision on the proposal can be taken only after the receipt of the clarification sought from the State Govt. of Kerala.

*[Translation]***Guidelines for Medicare Abroad**

256. SHRI RAJAJIAH MALYALA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of present guidelines for medicare abroad;

(b) the amount spent during the last one decade on VVIP medicare abroad;

(c) whether the ordinary CGHS card holders are likely to be provided with such facilities; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM):

(a) The cases for treatment abroad are dealt with under Rule 11 of the Central Services (Medical Attendance) Rules, 1944 according to which a Govt. servant is eligible for treatment abroad on the recommendation of the Standing Committee set up for the purpose under the said Rules. The Committee consists of Director General of Health Services as Chairman and Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research and Director General, Armed Forces Medical Services, as Members.

(b) The amount spent during the last one decade on VVIP is given below:

Rs. 9,08,18,637.20

UK £ 1,00,071.58

US \$ 51,755.22

(c) The facilities for treatment abroad are provided to CGHS card holders except the Pensioners.

(d) Question does not arise in view of (c) above.

*[English]***Sub-Standard Drug**

257. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that a large number of drug manufacturers in the Country are manufacturing sub-standard drugs/medicines resulting in adverse reaction on human beings;

(b) if so, whether the Drug Control Authorities in the States have taken any action to ensure drugs/medicines of a good quality;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the steps taken by the Union Government to ensure qualitative drugs/medicines in the Country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM):

(a) There are no reports about large number of drug manufacturers in the country being involved in the manufacture of sub-standard drugs/medicines resulting in adverse reaction in human beings.

(b) to (d) To ensure the availability of drugs/medicines of good quality, the Drug Control officers in the States as well as those under the Central Govt. draw drug samples from manufacturers, traders etc. and validate their quality through the Govt. laboratories. In case any drug is found to be not of standard quality, action is initiated against the persons concerned in terms of the relevant provisions of the Drugs and cosmetics Act, 1945. The details of number of samples tested and found sub-standard by the Drug Control Organisation from 1995-96 to 1997-98 including the number of prosecutions launched are given in Statement. Government has also stipulated Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) as a Statutory requirement under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act. Action is also being taken to make pharmacopoeial standards more stringent, to advise States to constitute/reactivate State Drugs Advisory Committees, to undertake surveillance of suspected dealers selling drugs of doubtful quality and for augmenting enforcement staff and drug testing facilities in the States.

Statement

Number of samples tested, found sub-standard; spurious as well as percentages during the period 1995-96; 1996-97 and 1997-98

Year 1995-96					Year 1996-97					Year 1997-98				
No. of samples			Percentage		No. of samples			Percentage		No. of samples			Percentage	
Tested	S-Std.*	Spr**	S-Std.	Spr.	Tested	S-Std.	Spr.	Sub-Std.	Spr.	Tested	S-Std.	Spr.	S-Std.	Spr.
32770	3490	100	10.64	0.30	28887	2573	109	8.90	0.37	25547	2491	132	9.75	0.51

*Sub-Standard

**Spurious

A Statement indicating No. of prosecutions launched; cases decided; convicted with or without fine; fined only and acquittals during the period 1995-96; 1996-97; 1997-98

Year 1995-1996					Year 1996-1997					Year 1997-98				
Number of					Number of					Number of				
P	Cd	C	F	A	P	Cd	C	F	A	P	Cd	C	F	A
683	248	247	181	67	631	293	37	78	129	504	156	82	25	56

P-stands for Prosecutions launched.

Cd-Cases decided

C-Convicted with or without fine

F-Fined only

A-Acquittals

Medical Treatment of VVIP Politicians

258. DR. S. VENUGOPAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent on medical treatment of VVIP politicians during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether such treatments were made available in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the criteria followed granting such treatment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM):

(a) The information for the last three years is given below:

1996-97	Rs. 1,17,34,707.58
1997-98	Rs. 1,15,25,376.08
1998-99	Rs. 3,63,56,553.54
Total	Rs. 5,96,16,637.20

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The question does not arise.

(d) The cases for treatment abroad are dealt with under Rule 11 of the Central Services (Medical Attendance) Rules, 1944, according to which a Government Servant is eligible for treatment abroad on the recommendation of the Standing Committee set up for the purpose under the said Rules. The Committee consists of Director General of Health Services as Chairman and Director General, I.C.M.R. and Director General, Armed Forces Medical Services as Member.

Mochi Community

259. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister for SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) Whether there is any proposal to remove Mochi Community from the list of Scheduled Castes by the Government of Gujarat is under consideration;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) No Sir.

However, a proposal has been received from the Government of Gujarat to consider Mochi Community as

Scheduled Caste only in Dang District and Umergaon Taluka of Valsad District and not in the entire Gujarat State.

(b) and (c) This proposal is under consideration along with other similar proposals/claims received from various States/UTs. No time frame can be specified, as the proposals are received from time to time and processed in accordance with prescribed procedure.

[*Translation*]

Sports Activities

260. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of CULTURE, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have provided certain facilities to sports persons participating in national and international level events during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of schemes to encourage youths and sports activities; and

(d) the names of sports personalities who were conferred national awards during the last three years alongwith the categories of those awards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The sports persons have been provided the following assistance for participating in national and international level events during the last three years;

National Championships

Assistance towards boarding, lodging and transportation and consumable equipments, including certificate and medals.

International Tournaments in India

Assistance towards boarding, lodging and transportation and consumable equipment, including certificate and medals.

For Participation in International Competitions and Training abroad:

(i) Assistance towards international/domestic travel, both ways, by excursion/economy class, visa fees, airport tax, incidentals on account of inter-airport transfer, insurance, boarding, lodging and hiring/transportation of equipment.

(ii) Coaching Camps with the services of Indian and foreign coaches. During the camps full assistance towards boarding, lodging, training kit, medicines and overhead charges etc. is provided.

(c) The details of schemes, implemented by the Department, to encourage various youth and sports activities, are shown in the Statement-I.

(d) The following Awards are being given to the sports personalities:

(i) Arjuna Award

(ii) Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award

(iii) Dronacharya Award (to Coaches).

Besides, Cash Awards are given to sports persons who have secured medals in selected International Events.

The names of sports persons who have been given the Awards during the last three years are shown in Statement-II.

Statement-I

Schemes on Promotion of Games and Sports

1. The Sports Authority of India (SAI)

The Sports Authority of India (SAI) was set up in 1984 as an autonomous body for playing a major role in promotion of sports in the country. It is the major field agency of the Central Government. It has its corporate office at New Delhi and six regional and one sub-regional offices. Regional Centres are located at Bangalore, Gandhi Nagar, Delhi, Chandigarh, Calcutta and Imphal and one Sub-centre at Guwahati. The SAI implements a number of schemes for spotting talent in the country and promoting them by providing required assistance. It also plays a major role in preparing the national teams for participation in the major international sports events and looks after the maintenance and use of the major Stadia built at Delhi During the Asian games 1982.

The functions of SAI may be broadly indicated as follows.

(i) to broad base sports in the country;

(ii) to spot and nurture talented young sports-persons;

(iii) to train coaches in various sports disciplines;

(iv) to train national teams for international competitions;

(v) to manage, maintain and utilize the stadia;

Schemes implemented by the SAI were reviewed by a study conducted by the Tata Consultancy Services. On the basis of the findings the schemes have been consolidated. Main features of the schemes undertaken by SAI are as follows.

National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC)

The scheme, started in 1985, aims at identifying talented school children in the age group of 9-12 years. Children are selected in 10 disciplines through a "Battery of tests" and contests held at different levels. Following selection, these children are admitted in 29 schools adopted by SAI, where their boarding, lodging and tuition fees etc. are met fully by the Government. Coaches, equipment and required infrastructure facilities are provided in these schools. About 750 children are covered in the adopted schools both as school inmates and day-scholars under different disciplines. These trainees have won medals in various national and international level sports competitions.

Special Area Games (SAG)

Started in 1985, this scheme aims at identification of budding sports talent from tribal, rural and coastal areas of the country and from the regions which are genetically or physically gifted and assisting them for achieving excellence in selected disciplines. Archery, Fencing, Athletics, Boxing, Weightlifting, Hockey, Water Sports, Cycling disciplines are covered under this programme. The scheme involves survey and identification of areas and regions, holding special competition to assess potential, selection of promising young boys and girls and intensive training in SAG Centers. Both educational and vocational training facilities are provided in these centers. At present, 361 (286 boys and 75 girls) trainees are getting training in 9 SAG Centers. These trainees have been participating in national and international tournaments and winning medals for the country.

SAI Training Centres

Based on the review of various Sports Promotion Schemes by the Governing Body of SAI, the erstwhile SAI Sports Hostel Scheme and the Sports Project Development Area (SPDA) Scheme have been merged as *SAI Training Centres*. These Centers look after the training and development of children in the age group of 14 to 21 years. There are 40 SAI training Centres with 1713 (1579 boys and 134 girls) trainees at present.

Center of Excellence

Talented sports persons, covered under various schemes of SAI and the State Government are selected for further training and grooming for achieving excellence at the international level under this scheme. To begin with the "Center of Excellence for Hockey" has been set up in Bangalore on 12.9.97. Proposal for setting up similar Center of Excellence in other disciplines will be considered in due course.

Boys Sports Companies in the Army

This scheme was started in 1991-92 and is implemented jointly by the SAI and the Army authorities to train talented boys (up to the age of 14 years) scouted from rural, urban and tribal areas in Sports. 16 boys sports companies, having about 700 children are in existence providing training in disciplines like boxing, archery, hockey, basketball, athletics, football, gymnastics, swimming, volleyball, wrestling, rowing and kayaking. Assistance for creation and development of sports infrastructure as well as recurring expenses of the company is borne by the Government. Besides assistance upto Rs. 3.00 lakh for purchase of essential sports equipment and upto Rs. 1.00 lakh for training kit and an annual maintenance grant of Rs. 50,000/- are also provided.

National Coaching Scheme

National Coaching Scheme was launched to provide systematic coaching to the talented sports persons in national/international competitions. Under the scheme, coaches are deployed in States/UTs for working under the administrative control of the concerned State sports department. Under the

existing policy, coaches are posted at the State level and district level coaching centers, located at the State Capitals and districts for the 8 and 4 disciplines identified respectively. 1623 coaches have been deployed in the country under this scheme. Staff Inspection Unit of the Ministry of Finance has conducted a study and submitted report. Action is being taken on the report.

The SAI also undertakes training of elite athletes and teams for participation in various international competitions like Olympic, Asian and Commonwealth Games in collaboration with the concerned sports federations. Financial assistance for board, lodging, sports equipment, medical care etc. to the talented sports persons attending the National Coaching Camps are provided by Government.

SAI Academic Wing

Netaji Subhas National Institute of Sports (NSNIS), Patiala

The Institute is engaged in providing training and research support for promotion of sports in the country. The Institute has produced over 11,751 trained coaches through its various regular courses so far. It has four sub centers at Patiala, Bangalore, Calcutta and Gandhi Nagar with 311 students. In addition, under the Mass Sports participation Programme, certificate course of 6 week duration were held at these centers and 356 sports instructors have so far been trained. NSNIS also conducts a Diploma Course in Sports medicine in which 6 doctors are undergoing the course at present.

L.N.C.P.E., Trivandrum

The college was set up in 1985 for providing training and scientific support in the field of physical training. This college offers degree course of three years duration in Bachelor of Physical Education (B.PE) and two years post graduate degree course in Master of Physical Education (MPE).

2. National Sports Federations

The National Sports Federation (NSF)s have been organized as autonomous bodies for promotion of specific sports discipline in conformity with the principles and objectives laid down by the concerned International Sports Federations and the principles laid down in the Olympic Charter as well as the Constitution of the Indian Olympic Association. A list of the NSF's recognized by the Government is enclosed at *Annexure-II*. The sports federations are fully responsible and accountable for overall management, direction, control, regulation, promotion, development and sponsorship of the sports discipline, for which they are recognized by the concerned international federation. The sports federations are recognized by the Government as per certain eligibility criteria laid down. Assistance is being provided to the sports federations depending upon the priority and other related factors, keeping in view the long term development plans prepared for promotion of the games.

The scheme for assistance to the National Sports Federations was last amended with effect from 10th July, 1997. Under the guidelines, the sports disciplines have been categorized into three categories, based on standards of the games in our country as compared to those of the international

competitive level 'Priority' category includes sports, where our standards are at or close to international competitive level and where teams or individuals are likely to win medals. 'General' category includes sports, where there is a proven aptitude but not yet close to international competitive level. 'Other' category includes all other sports not included in the above two categories. As per the latest categorization done on 21.4.99, there are 14 disciplines in the priority category, 15 in the general category and rest in the others category. With a view to optimize utilization of available resources, *graded scale of assistance* is being provided to the sports included in the three categories.

The National Sports Federations are being assisted for the following purposes under the existing scheme:

- (i) Holding national coaching camps for seniors, juniors and sub-juniors, for which assistance for travelling, board and lodging, training kits, medical coverage and insurance are being provided.
- (ii) Support for purchase of equipment.
- (iii) Participation in international competition and training abroad to the senior, junior and sub-junior teams/sports persons.
- (iv) Assistance for appointment of foreign coaches and national coach.
- (v) Organization of National Championships for the seniors, juniors and sub-juniors.
- (vi) Organization of international tournaments in India.
- (vii) Cultural exchange programmes.
- (viii) Financial assistance towards pay and allowances of Joint Secretaries and Assistant Secretaries of the Federations.

3. Assistance for Creation of Sports Infrastructure

This scheme, which is in operation for more than 25 years, envisages creation of physical infrastructure both in the Government and non-Government sectors. Under the scheme up to 50% assistance as grant is provided to the State Government(s), Union Territories as well as voluntary organizations bodies, active in the field of sports for creation of sports infrastructure like play fields, indoor/outdoor stadium, swimming pool, cycle velodrome, sports hostel, etc. State Government are also assisted for setting up of State Level Training Complexes and Distt. Level Sports Complex and maximum grant upto Rs. 4.00 crores is admissible for State level Training Complexes. In case of projects in hilly/tribals special category States up to 75% of the estimated expenditure is provided as assistance. The scheme has been revised and the revised scheme is in operation w.e.f. 1.9.98.

This scheme also provides assistance for Creation of Sports Infrastructure in the Secondary/Senior Secondary Schools, located in rural areas for developing play grounds Schools having a play-field of the requisite size, regular physical education teacher etc. are given grant up to a

maximum of Rs. 1.50 lakh as 100% grant for development of play field and purchase of non-consumable sports equipment and consumable. The assistance is limited to one school per year per block and shall not exceed two schools per block for a Five Year Plan. This scheme has since been revised and the revised scheme has become effective from 1.4.98.

4. Laying of Synthetic Track/Artificial Hockey and others Surfaces

As per the prevalent international regulations, international sports events are organized on *synthetic surfaces*. With a view to enable our sports persons to participate in such events during the 9th Plan period, Government of India has decided to concentrate only on Hockey Turfs and Athletic Tracts as the investment in these cases is much greater. Grant up to a maximum ceiling limit of Rs. one crore is provided to State/UT Governments, State Sports Association National Sports Federations, SAI, RSCB. Local bodies etc. This scheme has recently been revised and is in operation w.e.f. 1.9.98.

5. Grants for Promotion of Games Sports in Universities/Colleges

Under this scheme, colleges and universities are assisted for creation of sports infrastructure and organizing tournaments. For creation of Sports infrastructure, the cost sharing between the Government of India and the Universities/colleges are in the ratio of 75:25 in respect of special category States, hilly/tribal areas and 50:50 basis in respect of other States subject to certain ceiling limits. Grants for creation of sports infrastructure to technical/medical/agriculture colleges/universities is given directly by the Department.

The Association of Indian Universities (AIU) is assisted for *organizing inter-university tournaments and coaching/training camps* for university players before their participation in national and international events. A Maulana Abdul Kalam Azad (MAKA) Trophy is awarded to the best university on rolling basis to the overall winner of inter-university tournaments, conducted by the AIU. Cash prizes of Rs. 1,00,000/-, 50,000/-, and 25,000/- are also given to the universities winning the first three positions, for purchase of sports equipment. This scheme has recently been revised and is in operation w.e.f. 26.6.98.

6. Incentive for Promotion of Sports Activities (IPSA)

Promotion of Sports and Games in schools (Prize money)

The scheme, launched in 1986, aims at encouraging school children to take greater interest in games and sports activities.

The scheme has been revised recently with a view to make it more simple and giving greater emphasis to the organization of Inter-School tournaments right from the District to the State and also at the national level through the School Games Federation of India (SGFI). Under the revised scheme, assistance @ Rs. 50,000 per District, Rs. 2 lakhs per State and Rs. 1 lakh to the best State will be provided for promotion of games and sports in schools. The revised scheme is being implemented from 1.4.98.

7. Rural Sports Program

The Rural Sports Program was launched in 1970-71 with a view to broad base games and sports and tap the hidden talents in rural areas. Objective of the scheme is to generate sports consciousness and ensure mass participation in sports in rural areas. The scheme also envisages strengthening the sports culture in the country, providing opportunity to rural sports talent to get noticed, for scouting and nurturing, and encouraging sports in the north eastern region.

This scheme primarily aims at organizing sports tournaments in all the blocks, districts and State/UT capitals. A proposal for revising the scheme for providing assistance @ Rs. 30,000 and 15,000 per sports discipline to the States and UTs respectively for organizing tournaments and @ Rs. 2 lakhs per discipline for the national level tournaments organized by SAI is under consideration. Sports clubs/centers, located in rural/tribal areas are provided grant for purchasing of consumable and non-consumable sports equipment. This component is proposed to be merged with the assistance to the youth clubs for making it more effective. Keeping in view the peculiar nature of problems faced in the north eastern region of the country, assistance for organization of a special *North-East Sports Festival* is provided under this scheme.

Since it is a separate Scheme, it needs a separate heading as "National Sports Festival for Women". The Scheme of National *Sports Festival for Women* was launched in the year 1975 as a part of the celebrations concerned with the International Women's Year. The scheme is meant to arouse sports consciousness amongst women and also to provide them more opportunities for sports activities at the national level. Under the scheme there is a provision of making Central financial assistance to States/UTs for lower level competitions for women. Financial assistance @ Rs. 1000/- per block for block level competitions, @ Rs. 3000/- per distt. for Distt. Level competitions, @ Rs. 10000/- per State for State level competitions and @ Rs. 5,000/- per State for Smaller States/UT is sanctioned.

8. Sports Scholarship Scheme

Under this scheme, launched in 1970-71, scholarships are given to boys and girls showing meritorious performance in sports. There are three types of Scholarship. *National level, State level and college/university level scholarships.* Scholarships @ Rs. 600 per month, with out any ceiling in number, is provided to winners in national level tournaments. Scholarship @ Rs. 450 per month is provided to winners in the State level tournaments, subject to a ceiling of 100 numbers per each State and 40 numbers per each UT. The scheme is being implemented by NSNIS, Patiala. Scholarship @ Rs. 750 per month without any ceiling in number is provided to Sports persons excelling in Universities and Colleges.

A separate scheme for promotion of sports and physical education among women was launched in the year 1982-83. The scheme aims at promotion of sports among the women. Scholarship @ Rs. 1000/- p.m. to champions in the National Women Championship (Senior) in sports @ Rs. 6,000/- per

annum for doing M.Phil/ Ph.D. in Physical Education and @ Rs. 6,000/- per course to Women doing Diploma under the Scheme.

9. Assistance to Promising Sport Persons and Supporting Personnel

The scheme, introduced in 90-91, aims at providing latest techniques, training, coaching and research facility to our *talented outstanding sports persons*, coaches, physical conditioning experts, sports scientists and research experts so that a pool of experts are built up in the country for imparting training and coaching to the sports persons in the country.

Besides, sports specialists are being provided *travel grants* to promote and encourage research and development in the field of sports and physical education. Under this scheme the Department provides passage cost for international travel for attending important academic conferences, etc. The scope of the scheme was expanded to cover other sports specialists including Coaches.

These two continuing schemes were reviewed and keeping in view the subsequent development and changing needs of sports persons for achieving excellence at international level, the above stated new scheme has been formulated. This scheme provides for assistance of up to Rs. 500 lakh to promising sports persons for training and participation abroad, equipment scientific support and training and participation in tournaments in the country. It also provides for assistance to Coaches and other sports specialists for training abroad.

10. Sports Awards

Arjuna Award

The Arjuna Award, instituted in 1961 as the highest national recognition of distinguished sports persons, is given to Sports persons every year based on for outstanding performance during the year for which it is given and the preceding three years. The scope of the award was enlarged to include such sports persons who have made life-time contribution to Sports. The awardee is given a bronze statuette of Arjuna, a scroll of honour and a cash prize of Rs. 1,50,000/- The amount of cash Award was revised upward during 1999-2000.

Dronacharya Award

This award is provided to the *distinguished coaches* for sustained contribution in coaching sports persons or teams, which achieve outstanding results during a year. The award comprises of cash prize, a statue, a scroll, a blazer and a tie/scarf. The cash prize has been enhanced from Rs. 40,000 to Rs. 75,000 during 1993-94 and from the year 1999, it has been raised to Rs. 2.5 lakhs. Three outstanding coaches were honoured by the President of India at Rashtrapati Bhawan on 1st September, 1999 for their achievement during 1998. 17 coaches have been given this award so far. Expenditure on this is met under non-plan provision.

Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award

The scheme was launched in the year 1991-92 for honouring the *outstanding sports persons in a year* for his/her achievements in sports. The award is given in the form of a cash award of Rs. 1 lakh, a scroll of honour and one plaque. The cash prize has been enhanced to Rs. 3 lakhs. For the year 1998-99, Ms. Jyotirmoyee Sikdar was given this Award on 1st September, 1999. 9 sports persons have been given this prestigious award so far.

Special Awards to medal winners in International Sports Events and Their Coaches

"Special Awards to medal winners of International Sports events and their Coaches" was introduced in the year 1986 to encourage and motivate the outstanding sports persons for even higher achievements and to attract the younger generation to take sports as a career. It also aims at compensating the medal winners of International sports events for the expenses incurred on diet, training, preparation, as well as the deprivations suffered by them due to their devotion and service to sports. The amount of awards ranges from Rs. 75,000/- to Rs. 15 lakh for seniors and Rs. 5000/- to Rs. 15,000/- for juniors. 200 sports persons were awarded Rs. 4,05,73,500/- as award money in 1998-99.

11. Pension to Meritorious Sports persons

The scheme for *Pension to Meritorious Sports persons* was launched in the year 1994. Under the scheme, pension is given to sports persons, who win medals in the Olympic, World Cup/World Championships and gold medals in the Asian and Commonwealth Games. While Olympic Games medalists and Gold medalists of World Cup/World Championships are given pension @ Rs. 2500/- per month, all gold medalists of Asian Games are given pension @ Rs. 2000 per month. Pension is given to entitled sports persons after attaining the age of 30 years for the rest of his/her life. The scheme is being operated through Life Insurance Corporation of India. 270 sports persons have been sanctioned pension under the scheme so far.

12. National Welfare Fund for Sports Persons

"National Welfare Fund for Sports persons" was set up in March, 1982 with a view to assist outstanding sports persons of yesteryears, living in *indigent circumstances*, who had won glory for the country in sports. Under the scheme, financial assistance is provided as *pension and in lump sum* to the sports persons as well as their families. Monthly pension up to Rs. 2500/- is given to the outstanding sports persons, whose monthly income is less than Rs. 3000/-. 46 sports persons are receiving pension under this scheme.

13. Grant to N.C.C. Junior Division Troops in Public/ Residential/Central schools

The National Cadet Corps (NCC) aims at imparting training to the youth in schools and colleges so as to make them disciplined citizens of India. The activities are jointly funded by Centre and States/UTs. The expenditure on the maintenance of N.C.C. Junior Division Troops in Central,

Public and Residential Schools is shared between the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Deptt. of Youth Affairs and Sports) and the Ministry of Defence on 60:40 ratio basis.

14. Lakshmbai National Institute of Physical Education (LNIFE)

The Lakshmbai National Institute of Physical Education (LNIFE) was established at Gwalior in 1957 as a national institute with a view to:

- (a) Providing training for quality leadership in Physical Education
- (b) for providing excellent facilities for research in the field and
- (c) developing model National Physical Education Institutes.

The College is a co-education and fully residential Institute and offers full time courses on (i) Bachelor of Physical Education (5 years) (ii) Master of Physical Education (2 years), (iii) Master of Physical Education (Summer Course 3 years), (iv) M.Phil in Physical Education (3 years); and Ph.D. Besides the above mentioned regular courses, facilities are also provided for conducting in-service training programmes for Re-orientation course in Physical Education for the pre-released army persons, and training or Orientation Course in Physical Education.

In order to provide quality training in Physical Education excellent facilities for research and for developing model National Physical Education Institute, it has been decided on the recommendation of UGC to upgrade the College as a 'Deemed to be University' Institution. Accordingly, the LNIFE, Gwalior has been registered as a society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. The Deptt. of Education, in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 3 of the UGC Act 1956 has already granted "Deemed to be University status" to it with effect from 2nd September, 1995.

For the Academic Session 1996-97, there are 325 students in BPE, 81 in MPE and 7 in M.Phil Courses. A total 2704 graduates and 1396 post graduates had passed out this institution till the end of the Sept. 1996. The Institute is a research and documentation centre of national stature catering to professional needs.

15. All India Council of Physical Education (AICPE)

With the acceptance of CABE Committee Report on integration of Physical Education and Sports with school education, it is proposed to constitute the All India Council of Physical Education (AICPE), as a Statutory body. The Council will look after promotion of Physical Education in the Country and advise the Government on matters pertaining to Physical Education, allocation and disbursement of funds to Physical Education institutions/universities, promote innovations, research and development of a link between Physical Education System and other discipline; formulate schemes for women, handicapped, weaker sections; initial and in service training of teachers; grant of autonomy to Physical Education

Institutions; strengthen the existing Organization and setting up of new institutions; lay down guidelines in respect of minimum qualifications for Physical Education teachers in schools and colleges and standards for courses; curricula physical and instructional facilities staff pattern etc.

16. Exchange of Sports and Physical Education Teams/ Experts

International cooperation in the field of Sports and Physical Education have been emphasized for providing the much-needed opportunities to the Indian teams/sports persons of foreign exposures and coaching/training abroad. Services of International Coaches/Sports persons are being available by way of bilateral agreements under the Cultural Exchange Protocols/Sports protocols with the concerned countries. The foreign coaches are paid air-fare, Salary, TA/DA, medical expenses and local transportation, etc. during their contract/employment in India.

The Department of Culture is a nodal agency for entering into the Cultural Exchange Programmes. As and when a Cultural Exchanges Programme is entered with a foreign country necessary action is taken for promotion of Sports. Besides Department of Culture, this Department had also made Protocol/Memorandum of Understanding for promotion of Sports with some countries namely; which Qatar, Mauritius, Cuba and Australia. Action is being taken for holding coaching camp in India by Australian Experts and sending Indian Sports persons to Australia for further training.

17. Evaluation of Sports Schemes

Existing schemes for promotion of sports are periodically evaluated for finding out their effectiveness in achieving the desired objectives. The schemes are modified keeping in view findings of the evaluation studies.

18. National Sports Development Fund

With a view of overcoming the problem of resources for promotion of Sports, the National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) has been set up to mobilize contributions from various sources such as State Governments, Public/Private sector undertakings, International organizations, individuals etc. The contribution to the fund are eligible for 100% exemption from income tax. To begin with the Government has made initial contribution of Rs. 2.00 Crores. Besides, Rs. 5.00 lakh each from Rural Electrification Power Corporation Ltd. and Oriental Bank of Commerce and Rs. 10,000 from National Mineral Development Corporation have been received. The industrial houses, corporate sector, public sector undertakings are beings pursued for contributing generously to the Fund.

Scheme on Promotion of Youth Activities

1. Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan

In 1987-88, the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) was set up as an autonomous organisation under the Department of Youth Affairs and Sports, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India.

NYKS objective includes generation of awareness,

organisation and mobilisation of developmental works for youth empowerment with emphasis on value, vision and voluntary action. Through its various programmes, NYKS also strives towards strengthening Youth Club movement.

The Director General of NYKS is the ex-officio member secretary of the BOG. Two Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) and one Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) are nominated by the Govt. as members. Besides this, four eminent persons from the field of youth, sports and culture are also nominated as members.

Programmes and Activities of NYKS

NYKS has designed three categories of programmes and activities under the heads: Regular programmes, schemes of the Department of Youth Affairs and Sports and Programmes in Co-ordination with various Departments and Agencies.

(a) Regular Programmes:

During the on-going 9th Plan Period, NYKS organised 6924 Vocational Training Programmes with the estimated number of 1,10,813 beneficiaries, 4145 Youth Leadership Training Programme with number of beneficiaries are 448271 youth, 2134 Work Camps with number of beneficiaries are 174660 youth. Besides, NYKS also organised 999 Youth Club Development Programme, 1887 Sports Promotion Programmes, 26068 Celebration of Week and Day's Programmes with estimated number of 855503, 253760 and 3804354 beneficiaries respectively. For the financial year 1999-2000 NYKS through its district level offices have planned to organise 18,500 number of programmes.

(b) Schemes of Deptt. of Youth Affairs & Sports

During the last three years, NYKS successfully implemented schemes of Deptt. of Youth Affairs and Sports. Consequently, 451 Youth Development Centers were established, 2749 number of new established Youth Clubs were given financial assistance, 758 Youth Clubs were bestowed awards in recognition of their commendable work. Besides that, NYKS also deployed 13340 National Service Volunteers who contributed enormously in the successful implementation of NYKS programmes and activities.

Co-ordination with various Departments and Agencies

Since the available funds with NYKS for regular programmes are not sufficient enough to meet the needs, desires and welfare activities for rural youth, therefore, NYKS started making successful attempts to coordinate with various Ministries and Agencies at International, National and State and District levels.

Through this endeavour, successful linkages have been established with virtually all Ministries and International Agencies and also with some of the leading NGOs. Through these linkages, NYKS is implementing various projects for the benefit of rural youth. This effort of coordination fetched NYKS resources to the tune of Rs. 53.90 crores during the period 1993-94 to 1997-98.

2. National Service Scheme

National Service Scheme popularly known as NSS was launched in Gandhiji's Birth Centenary Year 1969 in 37 universities involving 40,000 students with primary focus on the development of personality of students. At present there are 10 lakhs volunteer on the roll spread over 175 Universities and 19 councils. From its inception more than 1.52 crore students from the Universities, Colleges and Institutions of higher learning have benefited from the NSS activities as NSS volunteers. Due to its overwhelming popularity and demand, the scheme was later extended to the students of +2 level in selected institutions.

The National Service Scheme has two types of programmes, viz. "regular activities" and "special camping programmes" undertaken by its volunteers. Under "*Regular Activities*", students are expected to work as volunteers for a continuous period of two years, rendering community service for minimum of 120 hours per annum. The activities include improvement of campuses, tree plantation, constructive work in adopted villages and slums, work in welfare institution blood donation, adult and non formal education, health nutrition family welfare, AIDS awareness campaigns, etc. Under "*Special Camping Programme*" a camp of 10 days' duration is conducted every year in the adopted areas on a specific theme like "*Youth Against Famine*", "*Youth Against Dirt and Disease*", "*Youth for Afforestation and Tree Plantation*", "*Youth for Rural Reconstruction*", "*Youth for Social Harmony*", etc. The theme for 1996-97 and 1997-98 was "*Youth for Sustainable Development*" and "*Wasteland Development and Watershed Management*". The theme for the current year, is "*Youth for Healthy Society*".

3. National Service Volunteer Scheme

The National Service Volunteer Scheme, launched in 1977-78 aims at providing opportunities to students to involve themselves, on a voluntary basis, in nation building activities for a specific period, on a whole time basis. Any person who has completed his/her first degree course and is below 25 years of age may get himself/herself enrolled as a National Service Volunteer (NSV) for one/two years. The requirement of age and educational qualification is relaxable in case of SC/ST and Women Volunteers. Each volunteers enrolled is paid a stipend of Rs. 500/- per month and a fixed travelling allowance @ Rs. 200/- per month. They are also given a contingency grant of Rs. 100/- per year. A proposal to enhance the stipend from Rs. 700/- to Rs. 1200/- per volunteer is under consideration.

In 1998-99, 9400 volunteers were deployed with the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, National Service Scheme Bharat Scouts and Guides. In 1999-2000, 5800 volunteers have been allotted to these organisations. In addition 100 volunteers have been allotted for non-governmental organisations. The State Government/Union Territories are also availing the services of these volunteers. The budget provision during 1999-2000 is Rs. 600 lakhs.

4. National Reconstruction Corps Scheme

The Department of Youth Affairs and Sports have launched a new scheme called the National Reconstruction Corps Scheme which aims at providing an opportunity to Youth to participate in the process of Nation Building on a voluntary basis.

The Prime Minister of India had launched the Scheme in Lucknow and it was also launched simultaneously all over India on 30th June 1999. The NRC Scheme has been launched on a Pilot basis for 2 years as a Central Sector Scheme in 80 Selected backward districts of the country. The Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan an autonomous organization of the Department of Youth Affairs and Sports, has been made the implementing agency of the scheme.

Scheme envisages involving NRC Volunteers on various developmental projects in collaboration with various Ministries/Departments. During the current year, i.e. 1999-2000, 8000 NRC Volunteers will be deployed in 80 selected districts.

5. Promotion of National Integration

This scheme provides the framework for greater exchange and understanding among the youth of the region of the country and for greater involvement of voluntary agencies in the task of national integration and communal harmony. The Department provided financial assistance for various youth programmes i.e. National Integration Camps, Inter State Youth Exchange programmes for Rural and Urban Youths. This year 79 national integration camps and 9 inter state youth exchange programmes were successfully organised.

6. Scouting and Guiding

This is an internationally-know movement providing opportunities to boys and girls to develop their character and inculcating in them a spirit of patriotism, sympathy for others and social service. Scouting and Guiding also promotes balanced physical and mental development to make them good citizens of the country.

The Bharat Scouts and Guides is the organisation which mainly promotes these activities in India and the department extends financial assistance both towards administrative expenditure and activities viz. Training camps, skills, rallies events, gatherings and Jamborees. It is the largest youth organisation having 23 lakh enrolment and third largest in the world with about 85000 units spread all over the country. These units conduct their sustained activities in the areas of adult literacy, tree plantation, community service, leprosy awareness campaigns, Crafts centers and promotion of hygiene and Sanitation. Bharat Scouts and Guides is also associated with various programmes run by WHO and UNICEF in 15 different fields. The All India Boys Scouts Association is the other organisation active in this field.

7. Promotion of Adventure

This scheme aims at fostering in youth the spirit of risk-taking, endurance, cooperative team work and encouraging quick, ready and effective reflexes in challenging situations.

Financial Assistance is provided to institutions, groups, individuals and voluntary organisations for undertaking adventure activities. Meanwhile the concept of adventure has undergone a considerable change. The scale assistance indicated in the existing scheme is too inadequate to serve the actual purpose of the scheme. The revision of this scheme has been undertaken by the youth division recently.

8. Youth Hostels

Youth Hostels are build to promote Youth travel to enable them to experience the rich cultural heritage of our country. The construction of Youth Hostels has been conceived as a joint venture of the Central and State Govt. While the Central Govt. bears the cost of the construction, the State Govt. provides developed land free of cost with water, electricity, approach roads and staff quarters. Youth Hostels, after completion are handed over to the State Govt. for management. Till date 59 Youth Hostels have been constructed (Annexure I) and 15 are under construction.

9. Exhibition for Youth

The scheme of Exhibition for Youth aims at:

- (i) Projecting and recognising the activities and contribution made by youth in various field of national development.
- (ii) Promoting a spirit of secularism and national integration, unity in diversity and pride in being Indian among the Youth of different parts of the country, and
- (iii) Enabling youth to know more about the ways of life and cultural mores of other parts of the country, knowledge of Indian culture, the freedom movement and different scheme of Government in the field of art, culture education, agriculture, industry and technology.

Exhibition on folk dance, folk songs, painting, art and crafts, books and on various development and youth related scheme are covered. Financial assistance is given to voluntary organisations. NYK Sangathan, NSS Regional Centres, educational institutions (including universities), State Governments/UTs and Department of Youth Affairs and Sports itself.

10. Special Scheme for the Youth of Backward Tribes

In order to promote youth activities among the youth of backward tribes based on their needs and potential, this special scheme was started during 1990-91. Under the scheme, assistance is given to voluntary organisation, NSS Regional Centres, educational institutions (including Universities), Nehru Yuva Kendras, Bharat Scout and Guides and State Governments/Union Territory Administration for conducting/organising Youth leadership training programmes, vocational training for self-employment, programmes for promotion of national integration, inter-state youth exchange programmes, exhibitions for tribal youths and for programmes in various other on-going youth welfare schemes.

11. Assistance to Voluntary Organisation in the Field of Youth

The scheme provides a framework for voluntary, organisations to involve youth in development activities, especially in the rural areas. Under the scheme, assistance is extended to registered bodies, public trusts and non-profit making companies. The main focus of this scheme has been on vocational training programme to promote self-employment for youth. Significant achievements have been observed in the field of agro-based industries, tailoring, embroidery, carpentry, etc. Considerable amount of assistance is also given for conducting youth leadership training programmes to promote the cadres of young dynamic persons who would act as catalysts of social change in the rural areas.

12. Training of Youth

The scheme aims of improving the productive potential of youth through training courses based on local needs and talents for promoting self-employment and better employment. It is being implemented through the voluntary organisations. Nehru Yuva Kendras, NSS Regional Centres, educational institutions and State Government/UT Administrations. The training covers a wide range of disciplines like agriculture, animal husbandry, dairy, poultry, etc. establishment of cooperative societies, setting up of agro services centres, health education, nutrition, management at local levels etc; development of scientific method like smokeless chullahas, bio-gas plants and other non-conventional energy sources and other training programmes aimed at uplifting the functional capabilities of rural youth and preparing them for self employment.

13. Assistance to Youth Club

(a) Awards to Outstanding Youth Club

With a view to recognising the contribution of youth clubs and motivating them for more active participation in the nation-building endeavour, this scheme was introduced during 1992-93. It is being implemented through the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan. The scheme operates on a three-tier basis i.e. District, State and National.

(b) Assistance to Youth Clubs

With a view to giving a new thrust to youth movement in the country, the scheme of "Assistance to Youth Clubs" was started by the Department in 1986-87. The scheme was revised during 1993-94 due to price escalation. It is being implemented through NYK Sangathan and State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. It aims at assisting newly set up Youth Clubs at the grassroots level to enable them to start their activities and get established. Such of the Youth Clubs as have been registered during the last two years were earlier given for a one-time grant of Rs. 5000/- each. The grant is given for purchase of cotton mats, tables, chairs, library books, sports and cultural equipment according to local requirements and for payment of rent, stationery, newspapers and for organising functions, competitions,

etc. the grant in aid to Youth Club under the scheme has since been revised to Rs. 10,000/- to each Youth Club in normal areas and Rs. 15,000 per youth club in tribal areas.

14. Youth Development Centres

In order to give a fillip to participation of rural youth in developmental activities, a new scheme for setting up of Youth Development Centers for each group of 10 villages was introduced during 1994-95. The centers are responsible for

creating facilities for information, sports, training and other youth information for rural youth. The land for the centre is to be donated by the village Panchayat. A one time financial assistance to the extent of not more than Rs. 30,000/- is given to each centre to cater to the requirements of basic furniture, equipment, radio and TV/VCP. Each centre is to be managed by a committee drawn from the youth of the constituent Youth Clubs. Operational and maintenance expenses are to be raised by the Committee. The scheme is being implemented through the NYK Sangathan.

Statement-II

Arjun Awardees for the Year 1996 and 1997

1996		1997	
S.No.	Name of the Awardees	S.No.	Name of the Awardees
1.	Shri Ajit Bhaduria	1.	Smt. Reeth Abraham
2.	Ms. Padmini Thomas	2.	Shri Ashok Harishankar Shandilya
3.	Shri Raj Kumar Sangwan	3.	Shri Ajaysingh Daulatsinhji Jadeja
4.	Shri Anthony Maria Irudayam	4.	Shri Sourav Ganguly
5.	Shri Javagal Srinath	5.	Shri Brahamanand S.K. Shankwalkar
6.	Shri Amit Krishal Luthra	6.	Shri Harmet Kabira
7.	Shri A.B. Subbaiah	7.	Shri Harmik Singh
8.	Shri Ashish Kumar Ballai	8.	Shri Rajinder Singh
9.	Km. Poonam Chopra	9.	Shri Surinder Singh Sodhi
10.	Shri Shriram Bhavsar	10.	Shri Randhir Singh
11.	Ms. Neeta Moreshwar Dadwe	11.	Shri Satendra Kumar
12.	Shri Surender Singh Waldia	12.	Ms. Shilpi Singh
13.	Shri Morad A. Khan	13.	Ms. Misha Grewal
14.	Master V.Kutraleeshwaran	14.	Shri Chetan P. Baboor
15.	Shri Gaurav Nandu Natckar	15.	Shri Asif Ismail
16.	Late. Lt. Cdr. Kelly Subbanand Rao (Posthumously)	16.	Smt. N. Laxmi
17.	Shri Sandeep Singh Dhillon	17.	Shri Paramjit Sharma
18.	Shri Kalle Gowda	18.	Shri Jagdish Singh
		19.	Shri Sanjay Kumar
		20.	Shri M. Mahadev
		21.	Shri Naresh Kumar Sharma

Arjun Awardees for the Year 1998

S.No.	Name of the Awardees
1.	Ms. Neelam J. Singh
2.	Ms. Rachita Mistry
3.	Capt. Siri Cand Ram, VSM
4.	Mr. S.D. Eshan
5.	Sh. Paramjit Singh
6.	Mr. T.V. Pauly
7.	Mr. N.G. Dingko Singh
8.	Mr. Rahul Dravid
9.	Mr. Nayan Ramlal Mongia
10.	Mr. Baichung Butia
11.	Ms. Pritam Rani
12.	Smt. S.Omana Kumari
13.	Late. Sardar Surjit Singh
14.	Mr. Baljit Singh Dhillon
15.	Mr. Mohd Riaz
16.	Sh. Baldev Singh
17.	Sh. Maharaj Krishan Kaushik
18.	Sh. Narender Singh
19.	Sh. Ashan Kumar
20.	Sh. Biswajit Palit
21.	Ms. Shoba Narayan
22.	Ms. Anju Dua
23.	Ms. Ranjini Ramanujam
24.	Ms. Roopa Unnikrishnan
25.	Sh. Manovjit Singh
26.	Mr. Bhanu Sachdeva
27.	Mr. Subramanian Raman
28.	Sh. Satisha Rai
29.	Sh. Kaka Pawar
30.	Sh. Rohtas Singh Dahiya

Rajiv Gandhi: Khel Ratna Award given for the Years 1996, 1997 and 1998

S.No.	Year	Name of the Awardee
1.	1996	Shri Leander Adriaes Paes
2.	1997	Shri Sachin Ramesh Tendulkar
3.	1998	Smt. Jyotirmoyee Sikder

Dronacharya Award given for the Years 1996, 1997 and 1998

S.No.	Year	Name of the Awardee
1.	1996	Shri Wilson Jones
2.	1996	Shri Pal Singh Sandhu
3.	1997	Shri Joginder Singh Saini
4.	1998	Shri Bahadur Singh
5.	1998	Shri Hargobind S.Sandhu
6.	1998	Shri G.S.Sandhu

Cash Awards given in the Year 1996

S.No.	Name of the Sports Person
1	2
1.	Ms. Kunjarani Devi
2.	Ms. Karnam Malleshwari
3.	Ms. Sunita Laha
4.	Ms. V. Pandeswari
5.	Shri W.Gojen Singh
6.	Ms. S. Vahaja
7.	Ms. Sunita Rani
8.	Ms. Saraswati Dey
9.	Ms. Paramjeet Kaur
10.	Shri Sughan Yadav
11.	Shri Gurdev
12.	Shri Shallinder Singh
13.	Shri Ajay Raj Singh
14.	Shri Om Prakash Devi
15.	Ms. Devi Bose
16.	Ms. Indu Mati
17.	Shri G.S. Hari Raju
18.	Shri Baiju Marandi
19.	Shri Satish Singh
20.	Shri Sanjay Kumar
21.	Ms. Sunita Dahiya
22.	Ms. Soma Biswas
23.	Ms. Shehani Oran

1	2
24.	Ms. Amandeep Kaur
25.	Ms. Paramjit Kaur
26.	Ms. Jaicy Thomas
27.	Ms. Parmila G.G.
28.	Ms. Rupinder Kaur
29.	Ms. Poonam Belliapa
30.	Shri P.H. Abdullah
31.	Shri R. Srinivas Rao
32.	Shri Anup Singh
33.	Shri Clifford J. Joshna
34.	Shri Srikumar
35.	Shri Mukesh Singh
36.	Shri Ramandeep Singh
37.	Shri Shahib Singh
38.	Ms. Aparna Papat
39.	Ms. Mrunahni Kunte
40.	Ms. Vijayalakshmi Subharaman
41.	Shri Surya Shekhar Ganguly
42.	Ms. Safira Shahnaz
43.	Mrs. Saritha M. Reddy
44.	Shri K. Sasikiran
45.	Shri P. Harikrishan
46.	Shri Pravin Mahadeo Thipsay
47.	Shri R. Mithra Kanth
48.	Shri Arjun Singh
49.	Shri Shivin Kavutra
50.	Shri Ganrav Diwan
51.	Shri Sandeep Syal
52.	Ms. Meeta Sharma
53.	Ms. Sunita Thakur
54.	Shri Narendar Singh
55.	Shri Vinod Gill
56.	Shri Mirza Nazib Aga
57.	Shri Yashpal Solanki
58.	Shri Virpal Singh

1	2
59.	Ms. Kamla Rawat
60.	Ms. Bhavana Bharti
61.	Ms. Rashim Rani
61.	Shri Mukesh Khatri

Cash Awards given in the years 1997 and 1998

S.No.	Name
1	2
1.	M.K. Kaushik
2.	Harmeet Kahlon
3.	Manavjit Singh
4.	Geet Sethi
5.	Gurcharan Singh
6.	Syed Fazaluddin
7.	Jaspal Rana
8.	N.G. Dingko Singh
9.	A.K. Pandian
10.	Jata Shankar
11.	M. Arun
12.	J.E. Kavitha
13.	Jaseel P. Ismail
14.	Arthie Ramaswamy
15.	Vincent Lobo
16.	George Thomas
17.	Markose Bristow
18.	Nikhil Kanetkar
19.	P.V.V. Lakshmi
20.	P. Gopi Chand
21.	Archana Deodhar
22.	Manjusha Kanwar
23.	Shilpi Singh
24.	Jyotirmoyee Sikdhar
25.	G.S. Nair
26.	Rachita Mistry
27.	Rajesh Pattu

1	2	1	2
28.	Arup Basak	63.	Sita Gusain
29.	Pankaj Sharma	64.	Amandeep Kaur
30.	Chetan Baboor	65.	Kamla Dalal
31.	Binu Kurian	66.	Neha Singh
32.	Dalvir Singh Rathore	67.	Sunita Dalal
33.	B. Bhuvaneswari	68.	W. Surjalata Devi
34.	Amolak Jit Singh	69.	Marystella Tirkey
35.	Palwinder Singh	70.	Joyti Sunita Kullu
36.	K. Sasikran	71.	Manjinder Kaur
37.	Ashim Shyam Gupta	72.	Lizo David
38.	N. Mukesh Kumar	73.	Jincy Philip
39.	N. Nidhi Khullar	74.	K.M. Binamol
40.	Chapala Deepti	75.	P. Ramachandran
41.	Lancy Sequeria	76.	Bahadur Singh
42.	Pravin Mahadeo Thipsay	77.	Rampal Singh
43.	Tejas Ravindra Bakree	78.	Harjit Singh
44.	Devendra Joshi	79.	Ramvir Singh
45.	L. Balla	80.	Vinita Tripathi
46.	Anil Kumar	81.	Kiran Pal
47.	Dilip Tirkey	82.	Arvind Savur
48.	Sameer Dad	83.	Tarlochan Singh
49.	R. Singh Dhillon	84.	Pappi Singh
50.	Johnson Xavier	85.	Sanjeev Kumar
51.	Bharti Singh	86.	Rupinder Pal Singh
52.	D.Wilson	87.	Shamsher Singh
53.	R. Khan	88.	Kasam Khan
54.	N. Kunjarani Devi	89.	Sandeep Kaur
55.	K.T. Chanu	90.	B.C. Ramesh
56.	Shakti Singh	91.	Kulwant Singh
57.	Bittu	92.	Biswajit Palit
58.	Bajeet Saini	93.	Swayanshu Satyapragyan
59.	Lakshmi Shree C.	94.	Neelam J. Singh
60.	I. Heelanmary	95.	Arjun Dutta
61.	Ramandeep Singh	96.	Yadwinder Singh
62.	Pritam	97.	Gurmeet Kaur

1	2	1	2
98.	Arun D'souza	126.	A. B. Subbalaah
99.	N. Mohammed Riaz	127.	Ashish Ballal
100.	Nitin Kirtane	128.	Jitender Kumar
101.	S. Thirumal valvan	129.	Amandeep Kaur
102.	L. Prabhakar	130.	B. Murganatham
103.	Satish Rai	131.	Gulab Chand
104.	Rajendra Sharma	132.	K. C. Rosakutty
105.	K. Neelam Chowdhary	133.	Mandeep Kaur
106.	Pandit Ashok J.	134.	C. Honnappa
107.	Balachandran Bhaskar	135.	Samaresh Jun
108.	Birbal Singh	136.	Bhanwar Lal Dhaka
109.	Parahlad Srinath	137.	Virender Kumar
110.	Anil Aldrin	138.	Ved Prakash
111.	Sandeep Somesh	139.	Satendra Kumar
112.	Sahu Varkey	140.	Ram Mehar Singh
113.	Dhanraj Pillay	141.	Jagjit Singh
114.	Sutapa Das	142.	Madhumita Bisoi
115.	K. Malleswari	143.	Mukesh Kumar
116.	Sumita Laha	144.	Krambir Singh
117.	Dinesh Rawat	145.	Anuj Kumar
118.	Paramjit Singh	146.	Sanjay
119.	Vivek Singh	147.	Sarwar Singh
120.	S. Geetha	148.	Jagdish
121.	Ashok H. Shandilya	149.	Ved Kumar
122.	N. Laxmi	150.	Lalrom Sanga
123.	Mansher Singh	151.	Satya Dev Prasad
124.	Sunita Rani	152.	P.S. Sandhu
125.	Bahadur Prasad	153.	P.T. Usha

[English]

Primary Health Centres/System

261. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

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

(a) the number of Primary Health Centres set up during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government have neglected to

set up these Centres or to provide infrastructural facilities;

(c) the amount allocated for setting up of these centres so far and propose to be allocated during the current year, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government have also been neglecting the primary health care system in the country;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM):

(a) A statement showing the number of Primary Health Centre, set-up during last three years, State-wise, is enclosed.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The Primary Health Centres are established and maintained by respective State Governments from State Budgets/Minimum Needs Programme and Basic Minimum Services Programme through additional Central Assistance. The State Governments are free to choose their Areas of priority among the seven Basic Minimum Services including Primary Health Care.

(d) to (f) No, Sir. The Central Government is assisting the State Governments in strengthening the Primary Health Care System through State Health System Project, Reproductive and Child Health Programme and several other externally aided programmes.

Statement

Establishment of Primary Health Centres during the last 3 years

Sl.No.	States	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13	—	—
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	5	—	—
3.	Assam	—	—	—
4.	Bihar	—	—	—
5.	Goa	—	—	—
6.	Gujarat	1	3	—
7.	Haryana	—	2	1
8.	Himachal Pradesh	12	16	52
9.	J & K	—	—	2
10.	Karnataka	20	37	—

1	2	3	4	5
11.	Kerala	27	—	4
12.	Madhya Pradesh	194	—	—
13.	Maharashtra	—	—	4
14.	Manipur	2	—	—
15.	Meghalaya	1	2	4
16.	Mizoram	—	—	—
17.	Nagaland	—	—	—
18.	Orissa	1	—	250
19.	Punjab	—	—	—
20.	Rajasthan	89	20	30
21.	Sikkim	—	—	—
22.	Tamil Nadu	—	—	—
23.	Tripura	—	2	3
24.	Uttar Pradesh	—	—	47*
25.	West Bengal	—	—	—
26.	A & N Islands	—	—	—
27.	Chandigarh	—	—	—
28.	D&N Haveli	—	—	—
29.	Daman & Diu	—	—	—
30.	Delhi	—	—	—
31.	Lakshadweep	—	—	—
32.	Pondichery	—	17*	—
All India		365	99*	397

*Year of establishment/achievement is not known.

[Translation]

Foreign Visit by Officers

262. DR. M.P. JAISWAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount incurred on foreign visits so far by the officers in KRIBHCO under the Indo-Oman project;

(b) whether these visits include visits to the European countries also;

(c) if so, whether these visits are considered justified; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) As provisionally estimated, an amount of Rs. 5.63 crore has been incurred by KRIBHCO upto October, 1999 on the foreign visits of its officers in connection with Indo-Oman Fertilizer Project.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) These visits were undertaken because Project's Legal Counsel, Financial Advisor, Marketing Consultant and the Arranging Banks are located in Europe and as the project is being supported by the Export Credit Agencies of European Countries. Meetings were also occasionally required to be held in Europe on account of logistic convenience of Omani partners.

[English]

Prevention of Infectious Diseases

263. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

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

(a) whether any special drive is being launched by the Government for prevention of infectious diseases and treatment of patients suffering therefrom;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any research work is being undertaken for eradication of infectious diseases and for providing medicines of good quality to patients; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) Health is a State subject. However, the Central Govt. takes concerted measures to combat communicable, non-communicable and other major diseases. For this purpose, several National Health Programmes are directly run by the Department of Health which can have a bearing on the reduction of mortality and morbidity and also have a salutary effect on efforts to improve the quality of life of the common man. The Central Government has also launched a National Surveillance Programme for communicable diseases in selected districts on a pilot basis for strengthening health surveillance, institution of early warning signal mechanisms of enhance prompt response capability and to bring about improvement in the out-break notification system.

(c) and (d) Small Pox has been eradicated from India. No case of Guinea Worm has been reported in the country since 1996. Research is being undertaken by Indian Council for Medical Research for eradication of Leprosy and Polio. Research activity in the field of Tuberculosis is also been undertaken by the Tuberculosis Research Centre, Chennai. In respect of Malaria, Operational research activities are co-ordinated by the Directorate of National Anti Malaria Programme with the India Council for Medical Research.

Rural Family Welfare Centres

264. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:

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

(a) the number of Rural Family Welfare Centras Functioning in the country as on date, location-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up some more centres in backward and rural areas of the States;

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

(d) the funds allocated by the Government to each State for the maintenance of these centres during each of the last three years;

(e) whether this amount is adequate for this purpose; and

(f) if not, the steps taken by the Government to enhance the amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) Total number of rural Family Welfare Centres functioning in the country are 5435. State-wise position is given in the statement.

(b) In backward and rural areas of the States the Family Planning Services are being provided through integrated facilities at PHCs. No new Rural Family Welfare Centres has been sanctioned since April, 1980.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Funds allocated to each State during last three years is in enclosed statement.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Statement*State-wise Breakup of Budget Estimates During 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 for Rural Family Welfare Centres*

Budget Estimates (Rs. in lakh).

S.No.	States	No. of Centres	Year 1997-98	Year 1998-99	Year 1999-2000
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	420	1540.00	2039.00	2700.00
2.	Assam	146	543.00	782.00	1022.00
3.	Bihar	587	2153.00	2849.00	3770.00
4.	Goa	13	48.00	63.00	80.00
5.	Gujarat	251	921.00	1219.00	1610.00
6.	Haryana	93	341.00	452.00	590.00
7.	Himachal Pradesh	77	283.00	374.00	490.00
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	82	301.00	398.00	520.00
9.	Karnataka	269	987.00	1306.00	1730.00
10.	Kerala	163	598.00	791.00	1040.00
11.	Madhya Pradesh	460	1687.00	2233.00	2950.00
12.	Maharashtra	428	1570.00	2077.00	2750.00
13.	Manipur	31	126.00	166.00	217.00
14.	Meghalaya	23	93.00	123.00	161.00
15.	Mizoram	14	57.00	75.00	98.00
16.	Nagaland	7	28.00	38.00	49.00
17.	Orissa	314	1150.00	1524.00	2010.00
18.	Punjab	129	475.00	626.00	830.00
19.	Rajasthan	232	551.00	1126.00	1480.00
20.	Sikkim	15	61.00	80.00	105.00
21.	Tamil Nadu	383	1405.00	1859.00	2463.00
22.	Tripura	35	142.00	186.00	245.00
23.	Uttar Pradesh	907	3327.00	4403.00	5820.00
24.	West Bengal	335	1229.00	1625.50	2150.00
25.	Chandigarh	1	11.00	13.50	20.00
26.	Delhi	8	29.00	29.00	45.00
27.	Pondicherry	12	44.00	43.00	55.00
Total		5435	20000.00	26500.00	35000.00

BCG Vaccine for Infants

265. DR. (SHRIMATI) C. SUGUNA KUMARI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether BCG vaccine for infants is still continuing in India though it is discontinued internationally;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the measures being taken to minimise children with Hepatitis B?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) World Health Organization recommends that all countries with high incidence of tuberculosis infection should immunize with a single dose of BCG at or soon after birth. The immunization Programme in India provides for vaccination of infants with a single dose of BCG. A number of other countries follow the schedule recommended by World Health Organization.

(c) Training and equipment to ensure Injection Safety and proper Sterilization have been provided at all facilities. Screening of blood for Hepatitis B is done before transfusion. It has, however, not been possible to take up Hepatitis B immunization for children due to constraints of resources.

Chief Minister Conference on Disabilities

266. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the Government have received any proposal to hold a conference of Minister and Chief Ministers for ensuring speedy and effective Implementation of the persons with disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protections of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995;
- (b) If so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) The Committee on Petitions, Rajya Sabha in its final report on the conditions of the disabled persons in the country has recommended that in order to ensure speedy implementation of the P.W.D. Act the Prime Minister should hold a conference of the Chief Ministers and the Ministers concerned of Welfare of the respective States at the earliest so that there is no further delay in bringing the benefits contemplated thereunder within the reach of the persons with disabilities. The report has also mentioned that the Committee had emphasised in its Interim Report that the Prime Minister should take up the matter at his level for expeditious implementation of the P.W.D. Act with the Chief Ministers of the respective States.

(c) There was no mention in the Interim Report of the Committee on Petition, Rajya Sabha regarding holding of the conference of Chief Ministers by the Hon'ble Prime Minister

for effective implementation of the Act. In the Interim Report, it was suggested that given the current status of the implementation of the Act, it would be a good gesture if the Prime Minister of the country takes up the matter at a personal level for expeditious implementation of the Act with the Chief Ministers of the respective States. The Prime Minister had, accordingly, taken up the matter with all Chief Ministers of respective States, vide his letter dated 09.09.1999, requesting therein for speedy implementation of the Act. As regards holding of the Conference of Chief Ministers of respective States as recommended in the final report of the Committee, necessary action is being initiated for holding the conference in consultation with the Prime Minister's Office.

[Translation]

Executive Committees in Schools

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

- (a) Whether any provision has been made to constitute an Executive Committee in the local schools Management Committees during the current session;
- (b) if so, whether these Committees have been authorised for recommending special admission in various classes in Kendriya Vidyalayas; and
- (c) if so, the details and the justification thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir. In order to improve upon the local supervision of Kendriya Vidyalayas, it has been decided to set up Executive Committees of the Vidyalaya Management Committees at the Vidyalaya level in all Kendriya Vidyalayas.

- (b) No, Sir.
- (c) Does not arise.

Non-Formal Education

268. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have started some non-formal education programmes;
- (b) if so, the details of the achievements made during Eighth Five Year Plan under this programme in Bihar and other States, State-wise; and
- (c) the targets fixed for Ninth Five Year Plan and allocations made for the purpose, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Statements indicating physical and financial achievements is attached as Statement I and II.

(c) No separate allocation is made under the scheme for individual States. An allocation of Rs. 1865.42 crores has been made for the scheme during IX Five Year Plan. Physical targets during the Plan period (year-wise) are as under:

Year	No. of Centres	1	2
1	2	1999-2000	2,60,000
1997-98	2,90,477	2000-2001	2,85,000
1998-99	2,99,962	2001-2002	3,10,000

Statement-I

*Non-formal Education Programme
Number of Centres During 1992-93 to 1996-97
(i.e. during VIIIth Five Year Plan) State-wise*

Sl No.	Name of State/U.T.	Year				
		1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	27,440	39,275	40,455	41,630	41,245
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	100	100
3.	Assam	14,063	13,833	14,113	14,213	14,263
4.	Bihar	51,805	51,900	52,040	52,550	53,530
5.	Gujarat	3,850	1,845	1,480	1,480	1,480
6.	J&K	3,930	3,930	2,170	2,771	2,771
7.	M.P.	34,760	35,235	35,510	35,985	35,960
8.	Manipur	2,650	2,600	1,400	2,585	4,012
9.	Mizoram	200	200	200	200	200
10.	Orissa	19,533	20,013	23,103	32,178	33,104
11.	Rajasthan	11,590	14,870	18,980	19,197	19,246
12.	Tamil Nadu	1,000	1,090	1,690	3,160	3,260
13.	U.P.	62,995	63,995	64,025	65,231	65,181
14.	Chandigarh	100	100	100	105	105
15.	D&N Haveli	—	—	—	100	100
16.	Haryana	760	500	725	750	640
17.	H.P.	350	450	450	450	350
18.	Karnataka	350	1,375	1,660	1,710	827
19.	Maharashtra	1,400	2,225	1,825	1,000	2,165
20.	West Bengal	960	860	810	910	1,010
21.	Kerala	150	—	—	—	—
22.	Delhi	275	225	225	250	250
Total		2,38,161	2,54,521	2,60,961	2,77,455	2,79,799

Statement-II

*Non-Formal Education Programme
Grants Released During 1992-93 to 1996-97
(i.e. during VIIIth Five Year Plan) State-wise*

Sl. No.	Name of State/U.T.	Year				
		1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	775.88	2,101.30	2,738.24	690.07	546.25
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	7.84	0.00
3.	Assam	365.00	506.25	919.65	753.03	1,012.15
4.	Bihar	626.47	1,447.81	927.12	2,007.59	2,790.74
5.	Gujarat	98.78	113.86	133.05	59.24	83.84
6.	J&K	54.46	57.04	67.77	99.86	21.99
7.	M.P.	657.02	1,830.19	1,826.10	2,453.67	2,819.28
8.	Manipur	47.38	94.10	74.07	138.29	295.09
9.	Mizoram	2.96	8.58	10.48	6.55	8.70
10.	Orissa	573.10	811.67	1,109.60	1,256.23	1,912.84
11.	Rajasthan	457.85	529.36	1,269.41	703.64	1,423.47
12.	Tamil Nadu	34.35	61.37	120.98	108.99	212.49
13.	U.P.	1,631.90	2,798.81	3,573.87	3,895.81	4,303.46
14.	Chandigarh	1.29	4.79	6.12	3.52	5.65
15.	D&N Haveli	0.00	0.67	9.53	3.17	4.55
16.	Haryana	34.45	41.74	63.81	36.89	48.01
17.	H.P.	12.72	23.52	25.54	6.70	12.00
18.	Karnataka	16.97	78.35	37.84	5.62	33.76
19.	Maharashtra	71.82	101.91	98.01	57.38	153.84
20.	West Bengal	40.94	73.12	91.05	13.39	103.36
21.	Kerala	3.49	—	—	—	—
22.	Delhi	29.52	11.85	23.46	12.32	23.38
Total		5,536.39	10,696.29	13,125.70	12,319.80	15,814.85

Training of New Skills

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

(a) whether training of new skills are being imparted

to women under employment-cum-income generating-cum production units(NORAD); and

(b) If so, the number of beneficiaries under this programme in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years, year-wise till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The number of women benefited under the programme during last three years, year-wise till date in Uttar Pradesh is an under:

S.No.	Year	Number of Beneficiaries
1.	1996-97	5,770
2.	1997-98	4,015
3.	1998-99	2,290
4.	1999-2000 (Till date)	750

Grants to Voluntary Organisations/NGOs for Physical Handicaps

270. SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government provide grants to voluntary organization/NGOs for the welfare of handicaps;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount released against each scheme during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the budget allocation for this purpose in the current year;

(d) whether the organizations have submitted completion certificates before releasing the additional funds;

(e) the monitoring mechanism set up to see the proper utilisation of funds;

(f) whether the application for funds are speedily examined;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the steps proposed to be taken to enhance financial assistance to NGOs to meet the requirement?

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

(b) Lists indicating the amount released to voluntary organizations/NGOs in various States under the schemes for the welfare of handicaps for the last three years are enclosed as statements I to V.

(c) The budget allocation under the schemes of assistance to voluntary organizations/NGOs during the current year is as follows:

Scheme of Assistance to promote	Rs. 62.29
Voluntary action for person with Disabilities	crores
Scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/fitting of Aids and Appliances	Rs. 30.00
	crores

(d) to (h) The applications for continuance of Assistance are considered for approval on the basis of the certificate of utilisation of funds out of assistance of earlier years duly endorsed by the auditors, Inspection Reports and State Govt. Recommendations, Audited Accounts and Annual Reports on the working of the organizations. The assistance is released in two instalments the first being on receipt of requisite documents and the 2nd instalment on the basis of inspection report and recommendations of State Govt. or appropriate authorities. Besides increasing allocation of funds for the schemes of assistance to Voluntary organizations the Ministry also publicize the schemes in order to encourage more voluntary organizations to participate in the endeavours for the welfare of handicap. The applications complete in all respects are examined speedily and disposed of.

Statement

Grant in Aid under the scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for Disabled Persons

Name of the State	Rs. in lacs		
	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	408.99	467.24	261.61
Arunanchal Pradesh	2.86	3.78	3.71
Assam	4.87	3.18	15.37
Bihar	80.04	6.22	65.81
Chandigarh	1.22	1.01	1.03

1	2	3	4
Delhi	137.26	144.37	183.7
Goa	5.25	6.96	9.47
Gujarat	23.89	30.71	36.89
Haryana	15.61	16.28	29.92
Himachal Pradesh	0	2.98	37.46
Jammu & Kashmir	2.71	3.05	1.78
Karnataka	231.86	204.94	261.23
Kerala	136.29	123.54	527.08
Madhya Pradesh	0.76	0.97	9.59
Maharashtra	45.46	38.15	167.47
Manipur	9.41	11.54	23.98
Meghalaya	5.36	3.7	13.15
Mizoram	4.14	1.1	6.57
Orissa	2.23	40.68	79.38
Pandicherry	0	2.6	0.64
Punjab	17.15	20.01	4.27
Rajasthan	31.63	28.41	54.24
Tamil Nadu	82.18	95.97	151.91
Tripura	1.93	2.67	1.83
Uttar Pradesh	83.89	97.49	340.5
West Bengal	183.36	150.21	229.75

Statement-II*Assistance to Organisations for setting up special schools**(Rs. in lacs)*

Name of the State	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	19	25.3	24.19
Arunachal Pradesh	2.86		
Assam		0.36	
Bihar	4.29	21.53	
Chandigarh			
Delhi		1.88	100.94
Goa			
Gujarat			

1	2	3	4
Haryana	6.13	7.34	6.75
Himachal Pradesh			
Jammu & Kashmir			
Karnataka	2.81	1.47	0.7
Kerala	4.94	10.4	3.89
Madhya Pradesh		5.55	0.93
Maharashtra			1.57
Manipur	1.2	3.67	5.56
Meghalaya		0.62	1.47
Mizoram			
Orissa	13.67	20.67	8.23
Pondicherry			
Punjab		0.58	3.47
Rajasthan	1.93	0.89	1.25
Tamil Nadu	20.21	16.43	1.75
Tripura			
Uttar Pradesh		15.93	
West Bengal			1.65

Statement-III

Grant in Aid under the scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for Rehabilitation of Leprosy Cured Persons

(Rs. in lacs)

Name of the State	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
1	2	3	4
Andaman & Nicobar	0.00	0.00	0.00
Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00
Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00
Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.00
Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00
Diu & Daman	0.00	0.00	0.00
Delhi	0.00	0.81	2.35
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00
Gujarat	0.00	0.00	0.00
Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4
Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00
Haryana	0.00	0.00	0.00
Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	0.00	0.00
Kerala	0.00	0.00	0.00
Karnataka	2.25	0.00	0.00
Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00
Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00
Maharashtra	13.05	12.10	23.16
Manipur	0.00	0.00	0.00
Madhya Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mizoram	0.00	0.00	0.00
Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00
Orissa	0.00	0.00	6.12
Punjab	0.00	2.00	0.00
Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00
Rajasthan	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tamil Nadu	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	56.00	72.64	161.37
West Bengal	0.00	4.82	1.40

Statement-IV

Grant in Aid under the scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for persons with Cerebral Palsy and Mental Retardation

Rs in lacs

Name of the State	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
1	2	3	4
Andaman & Nicorbar	0.00	0.00	0.00
Andhra Pradesh	4.01	0.00	0.00
Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00
Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.00
Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00
Diu & Daman	0.00	0.00	0.00
Delhi	2.50	0.00	301.40

1	2	3	4
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00
Gujarat	0.00	0.00	0.00
Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00
Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00
Haryana	0.00	0.00	0.00
Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	0.00	0.00
Kerala	0.00	25.00	302.47
Karnataka	0.00	0.00	0.00
Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00
Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00
Maharashtra	0.00	3.12	0.00
Manipur	0.00	0.00	0.00
Madhya Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mizoram	0.00	0.00	0.00
Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00
Orissa	0.00	0.00	0.00
Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00
Rajasthan	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tamil Nadu	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00
West Bengal	2.54	6.11	1.06

Statement-V*Scheme of Assistance to Disabled persons for purchase/fitting of Aids and Appliances*

Name of the State	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	39.61	40.38	201.83
Arunachal Pradesh	0.5	5.5	
Assam			1.32
Bihar	24.61	43.29	58.22
Chandigarh	0.04		22.19
Delhi	23.66	51.97	377.51

1	2	3	4
Goa	0.17	0.69	0.35
Gujarat	15.46	27	76.59
Haryana	85.3	122.56	138.52
Himachal Pradesh	12	6	10
Jammu & Kashmir	72		12
Karnataka	1.74	15	34.33
Kerala	12.5	39.25	65.44
Madhya Pradesh	44.12	54.8	142.15
Maharashtra	15.36	18.79	56.26
Manipur	3		34.28
Mizoram		9.47	
Orissa	6	10	272.05
Pandicherry			
Punjab	91	29.53	146.69
Rajasthan	57.75	140	286.27
Tamil Nadu	15.25	34.21	46.52
Tripura	6	8.91	2.9
Uttar Pradesh	121.81	170.74	353.45
West Bengal	43.8	62.55	79.75
D & N Haveli		3.21	

*[English]***Setting up of University**

271. SHRI BHIM DAHAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Medical Council of India have evaluated the proposal for setting up of Sikkim-Manipal University of Health, Medical and Technological Sciences at Gangtok; and

(b) if not, the time by which it is likely to be evaluated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) The proposal of Sikkim-Manipal University of Health Sciences, Medical and Technological Sciences for setting up a medical college at Sikkim was evaluated by Medical Council of India by way of inspections conducted in October, 1999.

In view of the various deficiencies observed in the availability of infrastructure facilities, as laid down under the provisions of Indian Medical Council Act and the regulations framed thereunder, the M.C.I. have not recommended issue of Letter of Intent for setting up the proposed medical college at Sikkim.

*[Translation]***Equipments and Facilities in Mental Hospitals**

272. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts made by the Government to provide the latest technology in the mental hospitals in Kanke, Ranchi; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) There are two mental hospitals at Kanke, Ranchi. (i) The Central Institute of Psychiatry under the Central Government has requisite modern technology for providing medical facilities to the patients. (ii) Ranchi Institute of Neuro-Psychiatry and Allied Sciences is an autonomous Institute under the State Government of Bihar. The Diagnostic Centre of the Institute has been upgraded by adding modern equipments.

*[English]***Mental Health Problems**

273. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether 10th October was again observed as the World Mental Health Day this year;

(b) if so, the latest number of those suffering from mental health problems alongwith the number of those who are capable of being rehabilitated with proper support of the society and medical aid;

(c) whether any schemes have been laid down for the welfare of persons suffering from such disease; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is estimated that 1% of the population is suffering in one or the other from serious or major mental disorders such as psychotic disorders and about 5% suffer from various neurotic and depression disorders. It is estimated that less than a quarter of those suffering from various mental disorders are adequately treated or rehabilitated.

(c) and (d) Under the National Mental Health programme a pilot project named District Mental Health Programme had been started in 1996-97. Presently, this programme is being implemented in 20 districts covering 18 States in the Country. Under this programme each State sets up a District Mental Health Team to provide services to the mentally ill patients and their families.

National Commission for Minorities

274. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of a high power committee set up by the National Commission for Minorities has submitted its report to the Government;

(b) if so, the details of the main recommendations made therein;

(c) whether Government have examined all its recommendations;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to implement all those recommendations;

(e) whether the National Commission for Minorities has also recommended to amend conversion laws in Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and Arunachal Pradesh; and

(f) if so, the details of those recommendations accepted by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI

MANEKA GANDHI): (a) The Govt. is aware of a High Committee set up by the National Commission for Minorities. However, the Ministry has not received the report of the High Power Committee.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) The study on 'Right of Minorities to Religious Freedom' prepared by Dr. James Massey has suggested some clarifications to be incorporated into the Freedom of Religion Acts of three States which are being examined.

Mega City Projects

275. SHRI DINSHA PATEL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal of Government of Gujarat for inclusion of Ahmedabad city in the Mega City Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present status of the proposal; and

(c) the criteria fixed by the Government of selection of cities for the mega City Project?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A proposal was received from the Chief Minister of Gujarat for inclusion of Ahmedabad city under the Mega City Scheme. Since the population of Ahmedabad was 3.3 million according to the 1991 Census, this city does not qualify for inclusion under the Mega City Scheme.

(c) Cities with population of over 4 million as per 1991 census are eligible for inclusion under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Infrastructure Development of Mega Cities.

Literacy Growth

276. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU:

SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY:

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:

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

(a) the annual rate of literacy growth both among male and female during the last three years in the country, State-wise; and

(b) the steps taken to achieve the target of cent-percent literacy in the country within a decade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) The State-wise annual rate of literacy growth in the country for the last three years is not available. However the national Sample Survey Organisation has recently released the figures of its 53rd round of survey indicating the literacy rate in the country at the end of 1997.

State/UT-wise and gender-wise break up of the National Sample Survey Organisation findings is enclosed as statement.

(b) With a view to achieving total literacy in the country in a time bound manner, the National Literacy Mission was set up in 1988 and it is mandated to make 100 million people literate in the age group of 15—35 years through Volunteer-

based Total Literacy Campaigns taken up on the basis of Projects prepared by the districts. The Total Literacy Campaigns are implemented by Zilla Saksharata Samitis which include representatives from Voluntary Agencies. Where the total Literacy Campaigns have not been taken up as yet. Voluntary Agencies are supported for taking up literacy work in small pockets.

Statement

Results of the 53rd Round of the Survey of National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) at the end of 1997

India/States	Literacy Rate (1997)		
	Persons	Male	Female
1	2	3	4
India	62	73	50
States			
1. Andhra Pradesh	54	64	43
2. Arunachal Pradesh	60	69	48
3. Assam	75	82	66
4. Bihar	49	62	34
5. Delhi	85	91	76
6. Goa	86	93	79
7. Gujarat	68	80	57
8. Haryana	65	76	52
9. Himachal Pradesh	77	87	70
10. Jammu & Kashmir	59	71	48
11. Karnataka	58	67	50
12. Kerala	93	96	90
13. Madhya Pradesh	56	70	41
14. Maharashtra	74	84	63
15. Manipur	76	86	66
16. Meghalaya	77	79	74
17. Mizoram	95	96	95
18. Nagaland	84	91	77
19. Orissa	51	64	38
20. Punjab	67	72	62
21. Rajasthan	55	73	35
22. Sikkim	79	86	72
23. Tamil Nadu	70	80	60
24. Tripura	73	79	67

1	2	3	4
25. Uttar Pradesh	56	69	41
26. West Bengal	72	81	63
Union Territories			
1. A & N Islands	97	100	94
2. Chandigarh	83	90	74
3. D. & N. Haveli	49	66	30
4. Daman & Diu	86	95	73
5. Lakshadweep	96	98	93
6. Pondicherry	90	94	86

[Translation]

Population of Blind People

277. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(b) whether India is one of the most affected country in the world having large population of blind people;

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

(c) the number of blind people at present, State-wise;

(d) the assistance provided to tackle the problem of blindness during each of the last three years and till date, State-wise; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to check the rising incidence of blindness?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There are an estimated 1.2 crore blind persons in India. Cataract is the predominant cause of blindness. Other causes include refractive errors and corneal blindness.

(c) The Statement is attached herewith as Statement-I.

(d) The funds are released to the State Governments and District Blindness control Societies to undertake blindness control/activities. Funds released during last three years are shown in Statement II and III.

(e) The problem of control of Blindness is a top priority area for the Government, and a National Blindness Control Programme is under implementation to reduce the incidence of blindness in the country. Development of eye care infrastructure, training of manpower, assistance to NGOs, organising eye camps, promoting eye donation and school eye screening, are important activities being undertaken as part of the programme. The programme is supported by Danish Government and the World Bank.

Statement-I

Prevalence of Blindness and Estimated Blind Persons in India

State	Population* ('00000)	Districts	Prevalence** of Blindness /10,000 Pop.	Estimated*** Blind Persons ('00000)
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	665.08	23	150	10.88
Arunachal Pradesh	8.65	11	123	0.14
Assam	224.14	23	134	3.00
Bihar	863.74	50	128	10.66
Delhi	94.21	7	63	0.62

1	2	3	4	5
Goa	11.70	2	203	0.25
Gujarat	413.10	19	144	5.83
Haryana	164.64	16	113	1.83
Himachal Pradesh	51.71	12	87	0.45
Jammu & Kashmir	77.19	14	280	2.11
Karnataka	449.77	20	129	5.59
Kerala	290.99	14	131	3.67
Madhya Pradesh	661.81	45	201	13.22
Maharashtra	789.37	30	164	12.52
Manipur	18.37	8	65	0.11
Meghalaya	17.75	6	22	0.03
Mizoram	6.90	4	NA	NA
Nagaland	12.10	7	38	0.04
Orssia	316.60	30	172	5.38
Punjab	202.82	15	73	1.40
Rajasthan	440.06	31	224	9.38
Sikkim	4.06	4	45	0.03
Tamil Nadu	558.59	29	165	9.22
Tripura	27.57	4	118	0.34
Uttar Pradesh	1391.12	83	158	20.98
West Bangal	680.78	17	96	6.54
Andaman & Nicobar Isl.	2.81	2	67	0.02
Chandigarh	6.42	1	189	0.11
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1.38	1	NA	NA
Daman & Diu	1.02	2	NA	NA
Lakshadweep	0.52	1	89	0.01
Pondicherry	8.08	1	NA	NA
All States	8385.84	532	149	124.36

* As per Census 1991

** Source WHO GOI National Survey (1986-89)

*** Survey results projected for 1991 population

Statement-II*Status of GIA to States under National Programme for Control of Blindness*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

State	GIA during 1996-97	GIA during 1997-98	GIA during 1998-99
1	2	3	4
World Bank Project States			
Andhra Pradesh	38.44	204.34	88.50
Madhya Pradesh	405.07	138.40	568.67
Maharashtra	117.80	99.27	87.00
Orissa	67.18	312.20	331.08
Rajasthan	78.62	46.60	35.50
Tamil Nadu	106.54	444.47	551.00
Uttar Pradesh	725.97	138.28	207.25
Sub-Total	1,539.62	1,383.56	1,869.00
Other States			
Arunachal Pradesh	3.82	4.04	4.50
Assam	1.82	4.54	49.65
Bihar	0.00	7.44	19.50
Delhi	0.00	1.25	11.20
Goa	7.24	5.25	63.00
Gujarat	0.00	4.01	39.99
Haryana	3.71	2.97	37.50
Himachal Pradesh	0.00	2.97	34.03
Jammu & Kashmir	40.97	20.66	52.50
Karnataka	76.58	11.78	62.01
Kerala	8.10	6.84	16.07
Manipur	0.00	1.77	16.76
Meghalaya	5.27	4.56	11.60
Mizoram	11.30	1.54	16.60
Nagaland	0.00	3.85	56.95
Punjab	3.83	4.15	5.10
Sikkim	11.46	7.92	26.30
Tripura	9.71	7.77	37.74
West Bengal	0.00	3.25	6.20

1	2	3	4
A&N Islands	1.30	4.00	3.80
Chandigarh	5.74	4.00	3.60
D&N Haveli	2.00	4.00	3.70
Daman & Diu	1.50	4.00	3.70
Lakshadweep	1.50	7.04	17.70
Pondicherry	1.50	4.00	2.30
Sub-Total	197.35	133.60	602.00
Grand Total	1,736.97	1,517.16	2,471.00

Statement-III*Status of GIA to DBCS under National Programme for Control of Blindness*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

State	GIA during 1996-97	GIA during 1997-98	GIA during 1998-99
1	2	3	4
World Bank Project States			
Andhra Pradesh	135.00	257.00	364.00
Madhya Pradesh	301.00	455.00	408.00
Maharashtra	123.00	313.00	362.00
Orissa	111.00	204.00	220.00
Rajasthan	117.00	243.00	289.00
Tamil Nadu	108.00	219.00	316.00
Uttar Pradesh	285.00	564.00	599.50
Sub-Total	1,180.00	2,255.00	2,558.50
Other States			
Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	5.00	4.00
Assam	6.00	85.50	57.50
Bihar	54.00	167.50	184.50
Delhi	0.00	11.50	13.50
Goa	0.00	3.50	15,000.00
Gujarat	27.00	125.50	114.15
Haryana	3.00	54.50	63.50
Himachal Pradesh	6.00	29.50	49.50

1	2	3	4
Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	19.00	39.50
Karnataka	81.00	159.00	196.00
Kerala	9.00	54.50	75.50
Manipur	6.00	8.50	9.15
Meghalaya	3.00	17.50	15.15
Mizoram	9.00	5.00	9.15
Nagaland	0.00	2.50	7.15
Punjab	18.00	52.50	51.50
Sikkim	0.00	0.00	12.00
Tripura	6.00	12.50	13.15
West Bengal	12.00	54.00	135.50
A&N Islands	0.00	3.00	4.00
Chandigarh	3.00	3.00	7.00
D&N Havell	0.00	3.00	3.00
Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	4.00
Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	3.00
Sub-Total	243.00	876.50	16,071.40
Grand Total	1,423.00	3,131.50	18,629.90

[English]

Immunisation Programme for Children and Women

278. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of immunisation programme launched for children and women in the country; and

(b) the steps taken to expand the programme to include hepatitis 'B' tetanus etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM):

(a) Under the Universal Immunisation Programme launched in the country in 1985-86, children are vaccinated for six vaccine preventable diseases i.e. childhood tuberculosis, diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, polio and measles. Tetanus immunisation is also given to women during pregnancy.

India is committed to achieve zero polio incidence by end of the year 2000. For this, the Pulse Polio Immunisation campaign was launched in 1995-96. In this campaign all children upto the age of 5 years are given polio drops on a

single day. Upto 1998-99, two rounds of Pulse Polio campaign were conducted every year during December and January. The efforts have now been intensified and during 1999-2000, four rounds of PPI are to be held throughout the country followed by two additional rounds in eight high risk States of Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh. Two out of the four nationwide rounds have been completed on 24.10.99 and 21.11.99.

(b) It has not been possible to include Hepatitis B in the Programme at present due to constraints of resources. Immunization against Tetanus is part of Universal Immunization Programme.

Strengthening of Secondary Health System

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

(a) whether the Government have received any request from the States regarding strengthening the secondary health system in the States;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) State Health Systems Development Project with World Bank assistance aiming at improving/upgrading the secondary level Health system is under implementation in the following States as per details below:

Name of the State	Project Period	Project Outlay (Rs in corres)
Andhra Pradesh	w.e.f.1.3.95 for 6-1/2 yrs.	608.00
West Bengal	w.e.f.27.6.96 for 5-1/2 yrs.	698.00
Karnataka	w.e.f. 27.6.96 for 5-1/2 yrs.	546.00
Punjab	w.e.f. 27.6.96 for 5-1/2 yrs.	425.00
Orissa	w.e.f. Sept, 98 for 5 years	415.57
Maharashtra	w.e.f.14.2.99 for 5-1/2 yrs.	727.00

Apart from this, project proposals have been received from the States of Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Tamil Nadu, and Kerala. The Project proposals of Rajasthan, Assam, Tamil Nadu and Kerala have already been appraised by the Technical experts and the comments have already been forwarded to the concerned State Governments to review the Project Reports in the light of these comments and to submit the Reports. In respect of Uttar Pradesh, the project proposal has been circulated to the scrutinising agencies for appraisal and their comments. However, such projects are developed through detailed discussions with the World Bank and Past experience has shown that they take anywhere from 12 to 24 months to ractify, depending on the time taken on the design and formulation of the project by the State.

Navodaya Vidyalayas

280. COL. (RETD.) DR. DHANI RAM SHANDIL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) The number of Navodaya Vidyalayas functioning in Himachal Pradesh at present alongwith the students enrolled with them;

(b) whether the strength of teachers in these Vidyalayas is less than the required strength;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to fill up all vacant posts in these Vidyalayas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) A total number of 10 JNVs are functioning in the State of Himachal Pradesh at present with a total no. of 3455 students.

(b) to (d) The strength of teachers in the JNVs is determined by the strength of students and streams allotted to a particular JNV at Senior Secondary stage. It is endeavoured to fill all the sanctioned posts of teachers. However, some posts of teachers under the promotional quota and posts belonging to reserve categories remains vacant due to non-availability of suitable candidates. As against a total sanctioned strength of 206 posts of teachers in 10 JNVs in Himachal Pradesh 187 posts are filled up. The process to fill up the vacant posts is underway. In the meanwhile the vacancies are being filled up on contract/part time basis so that studies of students may not hamper.

Persons Died due to Diseases

281. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons died due to Cholera, diarrhoea and other diseases due to cyclone occurred recently in Orissa;

(b) the preventive measures taken/being taken to check spreading of such diseases;

(c) whether the victims of cyclone are facing acute hardships for medicines;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the State Government as well as the Union Government have failed to provide adequate medicines to the cyclone victims; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM):

(a) The unprecedented super cyclone on 29.10.99 associated with heavy rains caused extensive damages to life and property in Orissa. As reported by the State Government after the cyclone 76 persons died due to diarrhoeal disorders, 4 persons due to snake bites and 4 persons due to fever and other minor ailments. There were no deaths due to Cholera.

(b) A team of 21 doctors was rushed from Delhi to Orissa to assist the State health authorities in medical relief activities. Services of ICMP units at Bhubaneswar and NICED, Calcutta have been placed at the disposal of Dept. of Health and they are being utilised for public health activities. A team of 4 Entomologists and Epidemiologists from NAMP and NICD reached Bhubaneswar on 3.11.99 and assessed the situation. They advised State health authorities on public Health measures required to be taken to prevent/contain outbreak of any epidemic. A high level team of 4 Sr. Public Health Experts also visited the affected districts from 8th to 13th November, 99 to review and assist the State health authorities in public health activities.

The State Govt. deployed additional 749 doctors, 469 paramedics, 103 mobile teams in the cyclone affected areas. Sufficient quantity of bleaching powder, halogen and chlorine tablets have been distributed to all the villages and families for disinfection of drinking water sources. First and second round of disinfection of wells have been completed. Third and fourth round is in progress with 80% coverage. Adequate Quantity of ORS packets has been made available at all sub-centres, panchayats, AWW centres and village level volunteers for easy access and use. Adequate quantity of Anti-diarrhoeal medicines, anti snake venom serum, anti-malarial drugs and medicines have been supplied at all PHC levels and sub-centre level. I.V. fluids and sets have also been made available at all health institutions. Extensive Information, Education and Communication activities have been conducted in all the affected villages on preventive aspects of diarrhoeal diseases and minor ailments.

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India rushed medical relief items weighing about 600 Metric Tonnes including I.V. fluids, ORS, Anti-biotics, Halogen Tablets, Anti-diarrhoeal, paediatric drugs, Anti snake venom serum etc. 2 lakh litres of Phenyl and 350 M.T. of bleaching powder were also supplied. The approximate value of these items is Rs. 2.76 crores. The first consignment reached Bhubaneswar on 4th November 99. These items were transported by air, road and train. Measles vaccine for vaccination in the relief camps along with auto destruct

syringes have been supplied. All the medicines as per the request of the State Govt. has been supplied.

For anti malarial activities sufficient quantity of DDT, Malathion and drugs for curative purpose have been supplied.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Question does not arise.

[Translation]

Black Marketing of Medicines

282. SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that costly medicine are being sold in market at high prices;

(b) if so, whether the Government have conducted an inquiry in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by the Government to check such practice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) to (d) Prices of scheduled bulk drugs and formulations based thereon are fixed by N.P.A in accordance with the provisions of Drugs (Prices Control Order, 95. Cases of overcharging are also dealt with under this Order.

[English]

Genetic Enhancement Centres

283. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up genetic enhancement centres in State Agricultural Universities for developing and extension of genetic technologies for the benefit of farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures adopted by the Government for the development of genome based technologies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA'): (a) and (b) A number of research and development programmes at various agricultural universities have been supported for genetically enhancing the quality of the planting material. Centres for Plant Molecular Biology were established at Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore and at other universities and National laboratories namely Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; Delhi

University, South Campus, New Delhi; Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai; Osmania University, Hyderabad; National Botanical Research Institute, Lucknow and Bose Institute, Calcutta. These are continuing their research in developing plants with genetically enhanced qualities. In addition, technologies for improved biofertilisers and biopesticide formulations have already been given to farmers alongwith training and demonstration. This effort is being further expanded by introducing market assisted breeding programme.

(c) Genome-based technologies have been developed for breeding, introgression of transgenes, evaluation experimental plot trials to validate the improved traits and their extension to farmers. A National Centre for Plant Genome Research has been established at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi with emphasis on mapping and cloning of identified, economically important genes for disease, insect resistance and value addition. These programmes aim to provide genetically superior, high quality planting material/seeds using the genetic engineering tools to farmers to increase productivity with reduced fertilizers and pesticides and also enhance the nutritional quality.

Coaching to OBC Students

284. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government have launched any scheme of pre-examination coaching for students belonging to OBC in Maharashtra so as to enable them to compete on equal terms with other candidates in the examination for recruitment in Government jobs;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) If not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) The Government of India, recognising the need to improve the educational and socio-economic conditions of Other Backward Classes (OBCs) launched the Scheme of Pre-Examination Coaching for Other Backward Classes. The objective of the Scheme is to coach/train candidates belonging to Other Backward Classes to enable them to compete on equal terms in various competitive/entrance examination covering:

- (i) Recruitment to various services under Central and State Government, Public and Private Sector Undertakings Banks, GIC, LIC etc. and Defence Forces, State and Central Police Forces and Para-Military Forces.
- (ii) Admission to technical, vocational, engineering, medical agricultural Management courses etc.
- (c) Does not arise.

Scholarships

285. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of CULTURE, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of young artists which are getting scholarships in the age group of 18-35 years in the field of Music, Art, Dance, Painting, sculpture, Drama and Folk during the last three years;

(b) the details of assistance being provided to them;

(c) whether any proposal to increase the assistance to the artists in future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH): (a) Under the Scheme of Scholarships to the Young Artists, number of scholarships awarded in the fields of Music, Dance, Drama, Painting, Sculpture etc. during 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 were 200, 250 and 374 respectively.

(b) to (d) Scholarship amount at the rate of Rs. 2000 per month is provided to the selected awardees. The scholarship is tenable for a period of two years. The scheme was reviewed recently and the number of scholarship and the scholarship amount were revised upwards. There is no proposal to review the scheme further.

Financial Assistance to Uttar Pradesh

286. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR SINGH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes recommended/forwarded by the Government of U.P. for assistance from HUDCO during each of the last two years; and

(b) the details of schemes approved and assistance provided?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) HUDCO has received schemes as per the following details, from various agencies of Government of Uttar Pradesh:

Rs. in crore	
Year	No. of Schemes
1997-98	62
1998-99	31
1999-2000 (till 31.10.99)	10
Total	103

(b) Of these 103 schemes, HUDCO has sanctioned 88 schemes with loan assistance of Rs. 554.56 crore, as per details given in statement enclosed.

Statement*Details of the Schemes Sanctioned in the State of Uttar Pradesh*

Yeas	Housing		Urban Infrastructure		Total	
	No. of Schemes	Loan Amount	No. of Schemes	Loan Amount	No. of Schemes	Loan Amount
1997-98	43	137.01	11	107.50	54	244.51
1998-99	19	183.59	6	62.98	25	246.57
1999-2000	6	40.98	3	22.60	9	63.58
Upto 31.10.99						
Total	68	361.58	20	193.08	88	554.66

Female Infanticides

287. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware about incidents of female infanticide in Dharamapuri district of Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present status of DANIDA sponsored scheme in Dharmapuri; and

(d) the steps taken to eradicate female infanticide under this scheme in Dharmapuri and Madurai in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM):

(a) The Government is aware of the occurrence of probable female infanticide deaths in Dharamapuri District of Tamil Nadu.

(b) The details are given in the Statement attached.

(c) A Health and Family Welfare Project assisted by DANIDA (Danish International Development Agency) is being implemented in the districts of Dharamapuri, Tiruvarur, Nagapattinam and Thanjavur of Tamil Nadu from August, 97 for a period of 5 years at a cost of Rs. 51.50 crores. The project which is in the third year of implementation has incurred an expenditure of about 35% of the cost.

(d) The steps taken to eradicate female infanticide under the project are as under:

- Organisation of a State level workshop on female infanticide to sensitize all State and district level officials. Strategies have been worked out to curb female infanticide.
- Probable deaths due to female infanticide identified through a complete survey of occurrence of infant deaths in the two districts.

- Undertaking of highly innovative campaign to mobilize and motivate community and health functionaries on health and gender equality. Massive IEC activities using travelling street theater troupes were undertaken to highlight the issue of female infanticide resulting in reduction in the incidence of female infanticide.

- Separate campaigns by Department of Social Welfare and District collectors to eradicate female infanticide.

- Regular surveillance by field functionaries by increasing their mobility through loans for mopeds and giving them communication skill training.

- Emphasis on community participation in the construction of sub-centres in the centre of the villages facilitating the stay of village Health Nurses and conducting normal deliveries.

- Formation of village level committees and organisation of meetings at regular intervals to discuss female infanticide and arriving at solutions.

- Conducting of medical audits to investigate actual cause of maternal and infant deaths.

- Strengthening of monitoring system for collection and reviewing of data on institutional deliveries in Primary Health Centres and First Referral Units using Optical Mark Reader (OMR) format.

- Creation of a post of Commissioner for Maternal, Child Health and Welfare for better coordination with other Departments.

Statement*Number of Probable Female Infanticide Cases-1998
Dharmapuri District*

Sl.No.	Name of the Block	No. of cases
1.	Pennagaram	279
2.	Nallampalli	168
3.	Morappur	86
4.	Palacode	138
5.	Karimangalam	106
6.	Dharmapuri	109
7.	Harur	47
8.	Pappireddipatty	52
9.	Uthangarai	47
10.	Bargur	49
11.	Shoolagiri	23
12.	Thalli	3
13.	Hosur	0
14.	Krishnagiri	4
15.	Kaveripattinam	70
16.	Kelamangalam	7
17.	Mathur	48
18.	Veppanapalli	4
District Total		1240

Bad Effects of Tobacco Products

288. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHATRE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of bad effects of tobacco products on health; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to discourage its use?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government have taken a number of steps to discourage the use of tobacco and its products.

The Cigarettes (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, was passed in 1975. As per this, Act, manufacturers or persons trading in cigarettes, are required to prominently display a statutory warning "CIGARETTE SMOKING IS INJURIOUS TO HEALTH" on all cartons/packets

of cigarettes that are put on sale. A similar warning is also required to be displayed in all advertisements.

Administrative instructions have been issued prohibiting smoking in certain places such as hospitals, dispensaries, educational institutions, conference rooms, domestic air flights, A/C Sleeper coaches in trains, sub-urban trains, A/C buses etc.

Direct advertisements of tobacco or tobacco related products are prohibited on Doordarshan and All India Radio. Under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules 1955, a warning that "Chewing of Tobacco is injurious to health" has been made mandatory on every package of chewing tobacco.

[Translation]

Use of Technical Terminology

289. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to the official language policy of the Government is essential for all departments/offices/undertakings/autonomous bodies/institutions/councils of Government to use the same technical terminology in their publications/books as finalised by the Commission for Scientific and Technical terminology of the Ministry;

(b) if so, the details of guidelines issued for its compliance;

(c) whether uniform technical terminology is being used in the text books/teaching material and question papers; and

(d) if not, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (c) The Department of Official Language has directed all the Ministries and Departments of the Government to use the technical terminology evolved by the commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology vide their Office Memorandum (O.M.) Nos. 11014/3/76-R&AU-OL Unit dated 27.4.78 and 11034/8/87-R&A dated 21.6.88. Copies of the O.M.s are enclosed as Statements I & II.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement-I

*Copy of Department of Official Language
O.M.No. 11014/3/76 R & AU-O.L. dated 27-4-78*

Subject: Uniformity in the administrative and legal terminology used by Ministries and Departments.

The Department of Official Language often received information that the terminology evolved by the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of law is not being properly used by various Ministries, Departments, Offices and Undertakings

of the Government of India, in their letters, advertisements and other official work. The arbitrary use of administrative and legal terms not only gives rise to anarchy in the field of language but also makes it difficult for the reader to understand the true connotation of technical terms.

According to para 3 of the Presidential Order dated 27th April, 1960 (notification No, 2/8/60-OL) the work relating to evolution of technical and administrative terminology was entrusted to the Ministry of Education, and according to Para 13 of the said order, the work relating to evolution of legal terminology was entrusted to the Ministry of Law. Both the Ministries by setting up the Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology and the Official Language (Legislative) Commission, respectively, have by now almost completed this work. Both these agencies have done this work as per the Presidential Order, and therefore, the terminology approved by them should be used in official work. Wherever a difference is noticed in the terminology, the terminology approved by the, "Shabadawali Samarvaya Samiti" constituted under the Central Translation Bureau (Department of Official language) should be used.

It has been the well considered policy of the Government that the language used for official work should be simple, natural and easily intelligible but where administrative or legal terms are used in their technical sense, it is desirable that the terms finalised by the above agencies only are used. It should also be borne in mind that if several approved Hindi equivalents are available of an English word only that equivalent out of them should be used which is simpler and more prevalent. However, if the technical terms sound difficult and is not much in use, it would be better for time being to mention its English equivalent also in brackets.

All Ministries/Departments of the Government of India are requested to requisition up-to date legal glossaries from the Ministry of Law and administrative and technical glossaries from the Ministry of Education and to use the terms approved therein. They are also requested to issue suitable instructions to their attached and subordinate offices as well as undertakings and corporations controlled by them for similar action. For the sake of convenience, name of those offices are being given below wherefrom books on administrative or legal terminology and glossaries can be obtained:

1. Central Hindi Directorate and the Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology, (Ministry of Education), West Block-7, R.K. Puram, New Delhi.
2. Official Language Wing, Legislature Department, (Ministry of Law) Bhagwan Das Road, New Delhi.
3. Central Translation Bureau (Department of Official Language) Nagaland Guest House, Moti Bagh, New Delhi.

Statement-II

244.O.M.No. 11034/8/87-R & A dt. 21.6.88

Subject: Use of technical terms prepared by Central Hindi Directorate/Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology and Rajbhasha Wing of the Legislative Department (Law Ministry) in official work.

In continuation of the Department of Official Language (Ministry of Home Affairs) O.M.No. 11/13017/12/75 O.L. (C) dated 5-5-1976 and subsequent O.M. of even number dated 23-9-87 it has been noted that work of preparing departmental terminology is being done in various Ministries/Departments. Actually there is no need to coin new Hindi equivalents for the words relating to science and technology already finalised and printed by the Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology. But there is no objection to any Department selecting terms out of the various glossaries connected with their work and printing the same by their departmental purposes. Hindi equivalents of technical terms which have not been included for the Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology in any of their glossaries may be evolved. With a view to coordinate different terminologies, directions have been issued that prior approval of the Commission should be obtained, before issue of such terminologies. While doing so, only those terms should be sent for approval of the Commission which has not been evolved by them earlier, instead of the whole compilation. If there is any practical difficulty in sending only the new terms separately, then such terms should be marked so that the suitability of only marked terms is considered by the Commission. This will result in early approval of the departmental terminology by the Commission and the process will save time of the concerned officers.

Unauthorised Encroachment

290. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some squares such as Dalhousie, Nicholson, Wilson, Hastings in Gole Market are lying vacant and many of which have been occupied by the anti-social elements;
- (b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to vacate the same;
- (c) the time by which the Government is likely to take possessions of the said land; and
- (d) the proposed utility of this land after its vacation?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) There are 70 no. of quarters in Dalhousie, Nicholson, Wilson, Hastings squares in Gole Market, which are old and have been slated for demolition. Out of these, 10 quarters are presently occupied and the remaining are vacant. No quarter is under the occupation of anti-social elements.

(c) and (d) The above said land is already under the possession of the Government and it is proposed to utilise it

for construction of Samaj Sadan, CPWD Service Centre, Shopping Centres and Parking Fair Ground and Sarai.

[English]

Projects sent by IGICH to ICMR

291. SHRI R.L. JALAPPA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the projects sent by Indira Gandhi Institute of Child Health, Bangalore to Indian Council of Medical Research for Grant-in-aid; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM):

(a) and (b) The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) had received three proposals from the Director of Indira Gandhi Institute of Child Health, Bangalore for grant-in-aid:

- (i) An etiological and clinical study of Acute Respiratory Infection (ARI) among children;
- (ii) An epidemiological study of bacterial, parasitic and viral pathogens associated with acute diarrhoea in infants and young children; and
- (iii) A study on the risk of children exposed to contact with Tuberculosis patients diagnosed at major T.B. institutions in Bangalore city.

While the first two proposals were reviewed by Project review committee of ICMR and not found suitable for funding, the 3rd proposal has been taken up for consideration in ICMR.

Miserable Condition of Destitutes

292. SHRI RAMCHANDER BAINDA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware about the miserable conditions of destitute women and young orphaned children who have become helpless due to devastating cyclone in October, 1999 in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to provide assistance to these people?

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

(b) Details are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) According to the information made available by the Ministry of Agriculture, the following assistance have been provided so far to the victims of cyclone in Orissa.

(i) Supply of food grains- 78750 Metric Ton

(ii) Medicines and Medical Stores, as per the require-

ments of the State Government, are being supplied by the Union Government. 145 Doctors and 392 paramedical manpower and 38 mobile units have been deployed in addition to medical manpower already available.

(iii) All necessary efforts are being made to bring improvements in infrastructure and other services like Railways, roads, Petroleum Products, Power, Drinking water, Crop Production, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Housing etc.

(iv) Task Force: A High Powered Task Force has been constituted on 10.11.1999 for rehabilitation and reconstruction in the cyclone affected areas under the Chairmanship of Minister of Defence which is meeting frequently. In addition, an Inter-Ministerial Coordination group is meeting on a regular basis to review and monitor the situation.

(v) The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has also decided to provide assistance for setting up 7 (seven) complexes 1 (one) each in the Districts of Jagatsinghpur Kendrapara, Jaipur, Cuttack, Ganjam, Bhadrak and Khurda to provide shelter, care and protection to children orphaned as a result of the cyclone and elderly persons rendered homeless and destituted. A grant of Rs. 25 lakhs will be given to each of the complexes and an adhoc grant of Rs. 25 lakhs is being released to Action Aid India, New Delhi who will be the implementing agency.

Statement

Miserable Condition of Destitutes

Affected Districts

Severe cyclone of 17-18 October (4)

(1) Ganjam (2) Puri (3) Khurda (4) Gajapathi

Super cyclone of 29th October (12)

(1) Balasore (2) Bhadrak (3) Jajpur (4) Kendrapara (5) Jagatsinghpur (6) Khurda (7) Puri (8) Cuttack (9) Nayagarh (10) Keonjhar (11) Mayurbhanj (12) Dhenkanal (partially)

Cyclone of

Extent of damage	17/18-10-99	29-10-99
	1	2
Population	37.47 lakh	125.21 lakh
Villages	5181	13849
Blocks/ULBs	44/23	97/26
Crop Area	1.58 lakh ha.	17.11 lakh ha.
Houses	3.31 lakh	17.33 lakh

1	2	3
<i>Loss of human life:</i>		
(1) Ganjam	197	—
(2) Gajapathi	2	—
(3) Puri	2	301
(4) Khurda	4	91
(5) Keonjhar		31
(6) Kendrapara		469
(7) Cuttack		456
(8) Bhadark		98
(9) Nayagarh		3
(10) Dhenkanal		51
(11) Jagatsinghpur		8119
(12) Mayurbhanj		10
(13) Balasore		49
(14) Jajpur		188
Total	205	9866
Persons Injured	406	2507
Missing	3	40
Livestock Perished	10,578	4.06 lakh

Vacant Posts of Pharmacists

293. SHRI ANNASAHAB M.K. PATIL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts of pharmacists lying vacant in Central Government Hospitals for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes, hospital-wise; and

(b) the action being taken to fill up these vacant posts.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF

HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM):
(a) and (b) No post of pharmacist for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes is lying vacant in Central Government Hospitals.

Supply of Fertiliser

294. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request from Government of Andhra Pradesh for the supply of fertilisers during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof.

(c) the total demand of fertiliser and allocation made during the last two years till date, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Union Government to fulfil the demand of Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS):
(a), (b) and (d) Urea is the only fertiliser which is under price, distribution and movement control of Government of India and for which allocation is made under the Essential Commodities Act (ECA). There has been no shortage of urea in the country in any of the States, including Andhra Pradesh during the last two years. The phosphatic and potassic fertilisers are decontrolled and their availability is governed by the market forces of demand and supply operating with the parameters of the Concession Scheme. No allocations are made of these fertilisers by the Government of India.

However, requests were received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh during Kharif 98 season for helping in arranging adequate supply of various decontrolled fertilisers and particularly, Muriate of Potash (MOP). The State Government apprehended scarcity of MOP to arise due to low level of imports consequent to non fixation/delay in fixation of concession under the Concession Scheme. Necessary support was extended to State Government by helping in securing additional supplies from Indian Potash Limited (IPL) of MOP and Sulphate of Potash (SOP).

(c) A Statement indicating the State-wise assessed requirement and allocation of urea during the last two years is attached herewith.

Statement

State-wise requirement and allocation of urea during the last two years

('000 MTS)

Sl.No.	State	Kharif 1998		Rabi 1998-99		Kharif 1999		Rabi 1999-2000	
		Requirement	Allocation	Requirement	Allocation	Requirement	Allocation	Requirement	Allocation
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	960.00	1150.64	1050.00	1206.54	1000.00	1198.27	1101.50	1210.55
2.	Karnataka	590.00	682.45	380.00	426.55	600.00	678.86	396.00	418.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
3.	Kerala	72.00	95.82	65.00	72.68	70.00	78.50	60.00	66.00
4.	Tamil Nadu	375.00	436.38	525.00	594.86	360.00	434.61	510.00	545.60
5.	Gujarat	600.00	651.33	700.00	704.43	600.00	699.92	690.00	671.00
6.	Madhya Pradesh	700.00	795.46	780.00	794.36	675.00	695.91	700.00	597.30
7.	Maharashtra	1125.00	1211.28	650.00	730.75	1100.00	1301.03	730.00	719.40
8.	Rajasthan	485.00	599.68	800.00	794.48	450.00	542.20	650.00	715.00
9.	Goa	4.50	4.86	2.00	2.00	4.20	5.00	2.20	2.42
10.	Haryana	600.00	646.92	760.00	889.33	580.00	628.85	800.00	804.11
11.	Punjab	1000.00	1016.59	1050.00	1139.32	1055.00	1074.59	1125.00	1062.02
12.	Uttar Pradesh	2225.00	2693.76	2730.00	3116.80	2400.00	2721.53	2700.00	2945.89
13.	Himachal Pradesh	30.00	29.77	22.00	19.11	30.00	33.34	22.00	15.85
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	75.00	80.82	45.00	57.77	60.00	49.40	44.96	49.39
15.	Delhi	13.50	16.53	30.00	35.21	13.00	17.30	20.00	21.91
16.	Bihar	700.00	869.25	630.00	831.98	725.00	859.26	650.00	714.73
17.	Orissa	325.00	430.41	145.00	198.62	300.00	375.18	120.00	116.78
18.	West Bengal	460.00	566.47	600.00	657.32	450.00	532.94	675.00	680.28
19.	Assam	50.00	54.68	50.00	63.58	60.00	120.75	65.00	69.38
20.	Tripura	12.00	11.87	13.00	11.11	10.00	8.06	13.00	7.25
21.	Manipur	23.00	26.38	7.50	10.51	24.00	27.16	7.50	8.25
22.	Meghalaya	3.00	3.31	3.00	3.42	3.00	3.56	2.75	2.98
23.	Nagaland	0.50	0.62	0.55	1.10	0.50	1.60	0.50	0.51
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.35	0.46	0.50	0.99	0.50	1.42	0.35	0.37
25.	Mizoram	0.40	0.73	0.50	1.28	0.50	1.45	0.50	0.55
26.	Sikkim	0.50	0.54	0.55	0.93	0.65	1.18	0.55	0.61
	Others	49.94	55.79	54.47	59.25	47.92	14.93	12.06	12.67
	All India	10479.69	12132.80	11074.07	12424.28	10619.27	12106.80	11098.87	11458.80

Tele-Counselling Service By CBSE

295. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Board of Secondary Education has launched tele-counselling service viz. 'CBSE helpline';

(b) if so, the success achieved during the last one year;

(c) the number of students who used this service during the said period;

(d) whether it is proposed to make counselling services mandatory in all its existing affiliated schools; and

(e) if so, the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has informed that the telecounselling service called 'Helpline' launched by the Board on experimental basis for a fortnight in June, 1998 generated a very encouraging and

positive public response. Accordingly, the service was continued in the months of March and June, 1999. A large number of parents and students has been benefited from the advice rendered by the counsellors engaged in this service.

(d) and (e) The CBSE has already started the exercise to make counselling services mandatory in all the schools affiliated to the Board.

Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd.

296. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request from Government of Andhra Pradesh for payment of huge dues towards electricity charges payable to the Andhra Pradesh Electricity Board by IDPL;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Outstanding dues as on 1.11.99 to APTCL/APGPCL for power supply to IDPL are as under:

(i) Andhra Pradesh Transmission Corpn. Ltd.	— Rs. 33.46 crores
(ii) Andhra Pradesh Gas Power Corpn. Ltd.	— Rs. 6.29 crores
Total	— Rs. 39.75 crores

(c) These dues will be dealt with in accordance with the decision regarding the revival of IDPL.

Establishment of National Institute of Orthopaedic

297. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to establish National Institute of Orthopaedic;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds allocated for the purpose; and

(d) the time by which the said institute is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Conversion of Property

298. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons in New Delhi and Chandigarh respectively who applied for the conversion of their lease hold property rights to free hold;

(b) the total number of lease hold residential units under different categories in the two cities respectively;

(c) the reasons for the conversion schemes not taking off successfully; and

(d) the steps, taken/being taken by the Government to make the schemes attractive, lacunae free and people friendly?

THE MINISTER URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAG MOHAN):

(a) (i) Delhi/New Delhi

DDA	—	62,284 (upto 31.10.99)
L&DO	—	16,388 (upto 15.11.99)
MCD	—	9

(ii) Chandigarh — 2065

(b) No. of leases
Delhi/New Delhi

DDA	—	4,58,016
L&DO	—	54,000 (approx.)
MCD	—	1,178

Chandigarh — 46,951

(c) Since the scheme is optional and no targets were fixed, it may be difficult to assess whether the response is satisfactory or not.

(d) In order to make the scheme attractive, the Government in June 1999 have reduced the rates of conversion charges for properties in Delhi and simplified the procedure for conversion from leasehold to freehold. Due publicity has been given to the public through Press.

Chandigarh Administration has stated that Conversion of Residential Leasehold Land Tenure into Freehold Tenure Rules, 1996 and the Building regulations are under review to change some of the provisions in tune with the changing times. After suitable decisions over the recommendations by the Committee constituted for the said purpose, some additional allottees may be able to avail the benefit of conversion of their leasehold property to freehold.

Illegal Parking

299. SHRI RAMSAGAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Rackets Abound in Nehru

Place" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated October 13, 1999;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Addition in Bungalows

300. SHRI C.N. SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether additional rooms have been constructed in bungalows situated in New Delhi area;

(b) if so, whether the Government servants living in Government colonies are being questioned for putting additional room to meet their needs, of additional space within the precincts;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to treat VIPs and others equally in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) If any construction is made in Government colonies unauthorisedly by any person, he is served with a notice to remove the construction within a stipulated period.

(d) No distinction is made in this regard.

Revival of IDPL Unit, Hyderabad

301. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request from Andhra Government to revive the IDPL, Hyderabad;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the employees are not getting their dues and retirement benefits in time;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) and (b) Request has been received from Chief Minister, Andhra Pradesh for sympathetic consideration of the finalisation of a revival plan of IDPL.

(c) and (d) Payment of salary to employees and payment

of gratuity, leave encashment and TA on retirement to superannuated employees is getting delayed due to financial constraints of IDPL.

(e) Government is providing non-plan assistance to IDPL for payment of salaries.

[Translation]

Doctors Mentality to work in Private Hospitals

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

(a) whether the doctors and specialists working in various Government hospitals particularly those working in hospitals of Delhi and other parts of the country are anxious to work in private hospitals;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government to retain their services; and

(c) the percentage of such senior doctors and surgeons who have joined the private hospitals during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (c) As per available information only a negligible percentage of Central Health Service Officers have resigned from service during the last three years. These doctors have resigned on personal grounds and have not indicated about their joining private hospitals. A number of measures have been taken to increase the satisfaction level of doctors by giving them opportunities to travel, widen their knowledge and present research papers at national and international fora, besides improving their working conditions to the extent resources permit.

[English]

Expansion of CGHS Facilities in Kerala

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

(a) whether there has been a demand for the expansion of CGHS facilities in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details of representations pending with the Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Requests for opening of more Allopathic dispensaries, a laboratory, Ayurvedic and Homeopathic dispensaries (one each) were received. However, keeping in view the resource constraints and pending implementation of the SIU Report, it is not possible to open any new dispensary at present.

Telecast of Programmes by Cable Operators

304. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to issue guidelines/directives to all Cable operators to telecast all Doordarshan programmes including DD-7 programme throughout the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) No such order/directive can be issued by the Government as the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 presently mandates carriage of only two Doordarshan channels.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Training and Employment Programme for Women

305. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received a proposal from the Government of Bihar for launching a training and employment programme for women;

(b) if so, the main features of the said programme; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereon and the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) No proposal has been received from the Government of Bihar. However, as and when we receive proposals under Training and Employment Schemes of the Department from NGOs, and if they are duly recommended by the State Government, we have been approving them if they fulfill the conditions.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[English]

Broadcasting of Malayalam Programmes

306. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to start Malayalam programmes for Gulf Malayalees broadcasting from Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received representations to start this broadcasting from Kerala; and

(d) if so, the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) Prasar Bharati (All India Radio) has already introduced a Gulf service in Malayalam with effect from 1.11.1999. This service originates from All India Radio, Thiruvananthapuram from 11.00 P.M. to 12.00 midnight and has a news and news commentary inputs from 11.15 P.M. to 11.30 P.M. which originates from Delhi.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Except for the news and news commentary which originates from Delhi, the entire Gulf Service is broadcast from Thiruvananthapuram. As Delhi has the required infrastructure, both in terms of National and International news back-up in addition to a well equipped Malayalam News Unit, it is presently not possible to shift the news bulletin originating from Delhi.

Scientific Research Institutes

307. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADIBA MANDLIK: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of scientific research institutes functioning in the country at present, locations-wise;

(b) the annual budget earmarked for each research institute during the last three years;

(c) whether any of these institutes has failed to utilise the budget allocations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA'): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Damage to Sun Temple

308. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of CULTURE, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the apprehension expressed by the archaeological experts about the damage caused to the Sun Temple at Konark by the recent cyclone;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to assess the extent of damage and protect the Sun Temple; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to restore the plantations around the temple?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, but no damage has been caused to structural parts of Sun Temple, Konark.

(c) Estimates are being prepared to restore the dam-

aged green belt within the compound wall of the Sun Temple, Konark by the Archaeological Survey of India. In addition, the State Government has been approached to restore the thick green belt around the monument.

Use of Oxytocin

309. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of side effects of the use of Oxytocin on animals and on humans due to residues in milk, and enlarged vegetables/fruits;

(b) whether the Oxytocin powder is being manufactured in India or being imported;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to stop illegal use and restrict the manufacture of Oxytocin?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) According to the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Indian Veterinary Research Institute, there are no published (scientific) reports on the adverse effects of milk or beef containing high amount of Oxytocin. When Oxytocin is injected, the hormone gets rapidly metabolised in the liver and kidney to undetectable levels. The half life of the oxytocin varies from 8 to 12 minutes. Therefore, continued presence of oxytocin in milk or beef is unlikely.

(b) and (c) Oxytocin Powder is being manufactured as well as imported in India. Oxytocin as bulk powder and bulk liquid, is manufactured by M/s Hemmo Pharma, Mumbai. Oxytocin as bulk powder is imported by M/s German Remedies, M/s Novartis Ltd., and M/s Kertan Pharma, Mumbai.

(d) The drug Oxytocin Injection has been brought under the purview of Schedule 'H' (prescription drugs) under Drugs & Cosmetics Rules 1945, so that no person/patient/milkman can purchase the drug without having requisite pre-

scription from Registered Medical Practitioners & Registered Veterinarian. All the State Drug Controllers and Zonal Officers of C.D.S.C.O. and Food (Health) Authorities of the States/ U.T.s have been alerted to check the reported abuse of oxytocin injection by the milkmen for letting out more milk from the cow.

Employment Opportunities

310. SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to generate more employment opportunities in the Ninth Five Year Plan;

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

(c) the target fixed for the purpose during the Ninth Plan period; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) and (b) This Ministry has been implementing Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) w.e.f. 1.12.1997 with the objective of providing self-employment and wage employment opportunities to urban poor living below poverty line. It is proposed to continue the Scheme during the 9th Five Year Plan.

The State-wise details of Central funds released and physical progress achieved under Urban Self Employment Programme (USEP) and Development of Women and Children in Urban Areas (DWCUA) and Urban Wage Employment Programme (UWEP) components of SJSRY is in enclosed statement.

(c) Under SJSRY, fixing of targets has been left to the States as per their priorities.

(d) Government of India has been pursuing with the States to implement the programme vigorously.

Statement

Sl. No.	States/UTs	USEP* & DWCUA*		UWEP #	
		Central funds released (Rs. in lakhs)	Persons Assisted	Central funds released (Rs. in lakhs)	Mandays of work generated (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	999.32	13111	690.81	5.76
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	58.95	NR	14.19	1.04
3.	Assam	573.66	NR	433.32	NR
4.	Bihar	576.45	590	378.98	4.65

1	2	3	4	5	6
5.	Goa	21.08	NR	11.75	NR
6.	Gujarat	577.49	4402	435.32	0.90
7.	Haryana	105.57	1193	53.32	0.44
8.	Himachal Pradesh	65.26	263	20.50	3.99
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	76.15	1711	10.63	0.15
10.	Karnataka	810.92	802	577.94	6.40
11.	Kerala	274.40	17029	172.44	1.79
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1103.75	39234	761.96	14.58
13.	Maharashtra	1501.04	10502	1083.73	6.79
14.	Manipur	132.38	NR	100.36	NR
15.	Meghalaya	88.27	NR	63.49	0.25
16.	Mizoram	88.27	978	61.17	0.92
17.	Nagaland	68.45	NR	29.52	0.27
18.	Orissa	264.16	3707	183.52	6.79
19.	Punjab	102.72	1645	42.01	2.15
20.	Rajasthan	453.59	8449	262.20	3.60
21.	Sikkim	21.76	NR	5.50	0.44
22.	Tamil Nadu	1078.16	606	799.50	40.03
23.	Tripura	110.32	38	80.05	1.50
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1451.89	44936	964.36	27.65
25.	West Bengal	598.99	573	429.41	11.60
26.	A&N Islands	43.22	NR	108.88	0.53
27.	Chandigarh	82.18	0	—	—
28.	D&N Haveli	4.12	16	20.78	0.62
29.	Daman & Diu	34.98	20	50.44	0.04
30.	Delhi	145.70	11	—	—
31.	Pondicherry	22.80	199	47.80	0.15
Total		11536.00	150065	7893.90	143.03

- USEP = Urban Self Employment Programme
- DWCUA = Development of Women and Children in Urban Areas
- # UWEP = Urban Wage Employment Programme
- NR = Not reported.

Eradication of Malaria

311. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the allocation made for eradication of malaria during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the name of apex organisation responsible for research and control of malaria in the country;

(c) whether this organisation has alerted the Government about the outbreak of malaria all over the country; and

(d) if so, the initiatives proposed to be taken to tackle the mosquito driven diseases in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM):
(a) Information regarding allocation of funds State-wise under

the National Anti Malaria Programme (NAMP) is in enclosed statement.

(b) The Directorate of National Anti Malaria Programme is the apex Central Organisation for co-ordinating Malaria Control activities in the country through the States NAMPs Units. Activities on operational research are co-ordinated by the Directorate of NAMP with Research Institutes like Malaria Research Centre. Vector Control Research Centre under the Indian Council of Medical Research, National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD) etc.

(c) and (d) The Directorate of NAMP alerts the Governments every year before the transmission season of the disease for gearing up control measures. Further, on the basis of epidemiological scenario of Malaria as well as meteorological status, mainly rainfall, the concerned States are warned from time to time for epidemic preparedness and rapid response. Specific guide lines for case detection and vector control measures are provided to the States.

Statement

States/UTs wise Distribution of Central Assistance Provided During the Year (1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99) Under National Anti Malaria Programme

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name of the States/UTs	1996-97	1997-98	1998-9
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	634.63	617	482.93
Arunachal Pradesh	126.9	297.5	186.61
Assam	1660.83	2618	2170.42
Bihar	206.76	348.98	403.05
Goa	3.46	5.18	7.72
Gujarat	471.75	726.77	611.11
Haryana	327.77	291.08	260.39
Himachal Pradesh	118.33	90.84	51.47
Jammu & Kashmir	120.62	78.62	72.57
Karnataka	653.62	568.62	264.47
Kerala	53.65	63.6	102.73
Madhya Pradesh	769.35	1072.77	454.49
Maharashtra	2405.71	1028.44	260.26
Manipur	303.28	273.91	377.34
Meghalaya	222.93	196.96	231.55
Mizoram	106.07	132	172.53

1	2	3	4
Nagaland	122.45	212.62	183.34
Orissa	248.15	233.43	385.14
Punjab	282.79	183.26	290.67
Rajasthan	2025.35	1799.74	1994.15
Sikkim	39.34	1.77	8.47
Tamil Nadu	150.39	204.88	240.72
Tripura	300.67	414.05	356.97
Uttar Pradesh	941.71	505.73	1121.92
West Bengal	772.7	125.71	330.9
Union Territories			
A & N Islands	94.04	93.83	155.68
Chandigarh	46.33	48.53	44.3
Dadra & Nagar Havell	12.73	24.75	24.9
Daman & Diu	8.8	12.37	10.08
Delhi	117.88	66.04	37.21
Lakshadweep	2.1	3.48	5.24
Pondicherry	16.12	12.48	6.15
Total	13567.21	12353.94	11305.5

Prostitution

312. SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- whether the prostitution has been increasing in the country;
- If so, the measures taken/being taken by the Government to check the same;
- whether the Government propose to bring any law to check prostitution; and
- If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) There are no reliable statistics available about the number of prostitutes in the country. However, the Government of India set up a Committee on Prostitution, Child Prostitutes and Children of Prostitutes in 1997. The Committee finalised its report in 1998 and drew up a Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Women and Children. Some of the Action Points are: Prevention of Trafficking Awareness Generation

and Social Mobilisation, Health Care Services, Education and Child Care, Housing, Shelter and Civic Amenities, Economic Empowerment, Legal Reforms and Rehabilitation. The Plan of Action has been sent to the various Ministries/Departments and the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for implementation.

Besides, the Government is also attempting to bring about an overall improvement in the status of women and children, especially girl children, through better education, health care and empowerment of women and also through schemes for employment and income generation like Support to Training and Employment Programme (STEP), Setting up of Employment-cum-Income Generating Units for Women, Socio-Economic Programmes (SEP), Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK), Swaran Jayanti Rojgar Yojana (SJRY) etc.

- No, Sir. Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 is already in existence.
- Does not arise.

Forecasting of Orissa Cyclone

313. SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that proper warning about the cyclone in Orissa was not issued well in time;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Metrological Department has failed in forecasting the national disaster; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken/to be taken in revamping the Department?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA'): (a) to (d) No, Sir. The question does not arise.

[Translation]

Incentives for Scientists

314. SHRI RAMSHAKAL: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have formulated any policy to provide incentives to the young scientists;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government propose to formulate any scheme to attract the scientists settled abroad for their return to India;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the number of scientists who are expressing their desire to come back to India after the Nuclear Test; and
- (f) the details of the assurance given by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA'): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Science and Technology is implementing a number of programmes to provide incentives to young scientists in various science and technology areas, as per the attached statement.

(c) and (d) The schemes are open to all scientists including those having gone abroad and may like to come back and work in India.

(e) and (f) The Government is not aware of scientists who are expressing their desire to come back to India after the Nuclear Test. However, USA repatriated a few scientists after the Nuclear Test. To look after the interests of the repatriated scientists and to make use of their expertise within the country, the Government has set up a cell in DST called Cell for repatriated Scientists (CRS).

Statement

- (i) **R&D Projects for Young Scientists:** Under the scheme brilliant young scientist with necessary

background upto the age of 35 years are encouraged to submit research proposals. The projects are evaluated through the peer review mechanism and are placed before the Management Advisory Committee for Young scientists for recommendations. The young scientist can even draw salary from the project funds.

- (ii) **BOYSCAST Fellowships:** This scheme is aimed at providing better opportunities to young scientists to keep them abreast with the latest developments in S&T at international level and to give them first hand experience of participating in the R&D programmes at International laboratories/institutions. Funds include travel, fellowship and contingency and travel within host country to visit institutions or attend conferences.
- (iii) **Swarnajyanti Fellowships:** Swarnajyanti Fellowships were launched on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of our independence. The objective is to recognize the contributions made by the young scientists and to provide incentives so that they achieve standards of excellence in basic research in frontier areas of science. Outstanding young scientists in the age group of 30-40 years with proven track record are eligible for these fellowships.
- (iv) **Fellowships Through S&T Councils/Departments:** This programme was initiated in order to involve State S&T councils in R&D activities and strengthen the same at State level. About 20 fellowships are awarded through the States S&T Councils/Departments every year.
- (v) **Contact Programme:** The scheme is aimed at attracting and motivating brilliant young scientists to take up R&D as a career by bringing them in contact with the eminent scientists and institutions. The programme also involves training in modern techniques in various disciplines of S&T.
- (vi) **SERC schools:** SERC schools are organised for young scientists in various areas to impart high quality knowledge.
- (vii) **SCRC fellowship:** There are several Fellowships for the scientists to visit leading research institutes in India and abroad for first hand research training in promising areas of science and engineering.
- (viii) **Travel support:** Scientists are given financial assistance to participate in international conferences and training programmes abroad.

[English]

New Drug Policy

315. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Committee was set up to formulate a new drug policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said Committee has submitted its report to the Government;

(d) if so, the salient features of the recommendations made therein; and

(e) if not, the time by which the report is likely to be submitted by the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) to (e) No, Sir. In March, 1999, Government had constituted a Committee namely, Drug Price Control Review Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals. This Committee was set up to review the current Drug Price Control mechanism and not the Drug Policy per se.

Primary Health Centres

316. DR. JAYANT RONGPI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the Primary Health Centres and Dispensaries in the country are manned by qualified doctors;

(b) if so, the number of centres where there is no doctors, State-wise;

(c) the number of unemployed doctors, State-wise; and

(d) the steps being taken to ensure that the PHCs are manned by qualified doctors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) All dispensaries are manned by qualified doctors. However, there is a shortage of doctors in some of the Primary Health Centres.

(b) A statement showing shortage of doctors in Primary Health Centres, State-wise is enclosed.

(c) and (d) Health is a State subject. Appointment/Posting of doctors in Primary Health Centres, is the responsibility of respective State Governments. The Ministry regularly reviews the position and advises the State Government on steps to fill up the vacancies.

Statement

State-wise, Numbers of Primary Health Centres functioning without doctors.

Sl No.	State/UT	Total Number of PHCs functioning	Number of PHCs functionir					Date of Latest QPR
			4+ Doctors	3 Doctors	2 Doctors	One Doctor	No Doctor	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pr.	1335	48	15	391	826	55	31.03.97
2.	Arunachal Pr.	47	—	—	2	34	—	31.12.94
3.	Assam	619	26	16	146	17	—	31.12.91
4.	Bihar	2209	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	31.03.85
5.	Goa	18	10	—	—	7	—	30.06.98
6.	Gujarat	960	—	—	—	960	54	30.06.98
7.	Haryana	400	20	26	220	94	35	31.12.97
8.	Himachal Pr.	322	1	24	82	86	39	31.03.95
9.	J&K	337	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	31.03.85
10.	Karnataka	1601	9	75	279	1025	213	31.03.98
11.	Kerala	960	40	58	72	688	98	30.06.98
12.	Madhya Pr.	1814	—	469	—	874	471	31.12.97
13.	Maharashtra	1699	—	—	1363	332	—	31.03.98
14.	Manipur	69	—	3	20	42	4	30.06.98

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
15.	Meghalaya	85	—	—	5	76	—	30-06-98
16.	Mizoram	38	—	—	5	42	9	30.06.98
17.	Nagaland	33	—	—	1	29	—	31.03.95
18.	Orissa	1352	—	—	186	1166	—	31.03.98
19.	Punjab	484	—	—	130	354	—	31.12.97
20.	Rajasthan	1646	92	59	217	1118	160	30.06.98
21.	Sikkim	24	—	2	13	9	—	30.06.98
22.	Tamil Nadu	1436	28	15	1227	156	—	30.06.93
23.	Tripura	58	11	10	15	16	—	30.06.94
24.	Uttar Pr.	3808	51	133	256	289	289	31.12.92
25.	West Bengal	1556	—	—	—	—	104	31.03.95
26.	A&N Islands	17	—	—	8	9	—	31.03.98
27.	Chandigarh	—	—	—	—	—	—	30.09.96
28.	D&N Haveli	6	—	—	—	6	—	30.06.98
29.	Daman & Diu	3	—	2	—	1	—	30.06.98
30.	Delhi	8	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	30.09.87
31.	Lakshadweep	4	—	—	2	2	—	31.03.98
32.	Pondicherry	43	—	6	18	6	—	30.09.95
All India		22991	336	913	4658	8264	1531	—

(Figures are provisional)

NA Not Available.

— Nil.

Note In many States, the total of the break up of number of PHCs with 4+, 3,2,1 or no doctor do not tally with the total number of PHCs in that State.

[Translation]

Medical Equipments in Hospitals

317. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the medical equipments are lying defunct in the hospitals of Delhi for months together;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to make those medical equipments functional; and

(d) the action taken against the erring officers for such irregularities during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) The details of the medical equipments which are not functioning in Central Government Hospitals namely Safdarjung Hospital, Dr. RML Hospital and Lady Handinge Medical Colleges and Associated Hospitals are given in enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) Action to make the equipments functional is being taken by the respective hospitals. This is also being monitored by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

Statement

Information regarding Equipments/Instruments lying unused in Central Government Hospitals

Sl. No.	Name of the equipment
DR. RAM MANOHAR LOHIA HOSPITAL:	
1.	Color Doppler Echo Machine
2.	Mingograph - 7
3.	Medrad pressure Dye Injector
4.	Nova Blood Gas Analyser
5.	32 Channel Digital EEG Machine and 4 Channel EMG Machine
SAFDARJUNG HOSPITAL:	
1.	Defibrillator-cum-Monitor Lohemier
2.	1000 MA machine (Radiology)
3.	Argon Laser (Eye)
4.	Sysmex K-1000 (Medicine)
5.	Vacuum Steam Sterilizer (CCSD)
6.	TMT Machine (Cardiology)
LHMC & ASSOCIATED HOSPITALS:	
1.	Bara Sentinal 14
2.	Variothorm
3.	Tympanic Displacement Analyser
4.	Video Stroboscoper
5.	PQ-CT Scanner.

Employment Programmes for Widows

318. DR. ASHOK PATEL:

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH:

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

- whether the Government have a proposal to introduce any scheme for the welfare of widows;
- if so, the details thereof;
- whether the Government propose to organise self employment programmes for them; and
- if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) to (d) While the Government has no proposal to introduce any scheme; it is already implementing various

self employment programmes for women such as Setting up of Employment-cum-Income Generating Units for Women (NORAD), Support to Training and Employment Programme (STEP), Socio-Economic Programme (SEP), Condensed Courses of Educational and Vocational Training for Women (CCE&VT) under which preference is given to such marginalised women in the matter of providing assistance. The Rashtriya Mahila Kosh is also implementing programmes, with special focus on marginalised women, under which financial assistance is provided for implementing self employment programmes through Non-Governmental Organisations.

*[English]***Production of Urea**

319. SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- the target fixed for the production of Urea and other fertilizers by the fertilizer producing Public Sector Undertakings during the last three years;
- the actual production made therein;
- whether there has been any decrease in the production;
- If so, the details thereof and the factors responsible therefor; and
- the steps being taken to increase the production of fertilizers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) and (b) Consolidated information on the production of urea and other fertilizer by the fertilizer producing Public Sector Undertakings with reference to the target is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) Though there is a mixed trend of growth in terms of fertilizer products, there was a consistent increase in fertilizer production in public sector in terms of nutrients, as per information given below:

Year-wise Production of Nutrients in Public Sector
(in lakh tonnes)

Year	Nitrogen	Phosphate
1996-97	27.34	6.23
1997-98	33.41	7.28
1998-99	33.53	7.70

(e) The fertilizer industry has adopted the following strategy to increase the fertilizer production:

- Expansion/retrofitting/revamping of existing fertilizer plants;
- Overcoming the constraints in the availability of

natural gas by setting up naphtha-based fertilizer plants and installing dual fuel/feedstock facilities in the existing plants and projects under implementation; and

- (iii) Setting up joint venture projects in countries having abundant and cheap raw material resources.

The following incentives are available for increasing the production of urea in the country:

- (i) Normally, no industrial licence is required for setting up a fertilizer plant.
(ii) Nominal basic customs duty on import of capital

goods for setting up of new plants/modernisation of existing units.

- (iii) Deemed export benefits to indigenous suppliers of capital goods to fertilizer projects provided such supplies are made under the procedure of international competitive bidding.
(iv) Nominal duty on import of fertilizer raw materials and intermediates.
(v) Reasonable return on investment to the entrepreneurs under the Retention Price-cum-Subsidy Scheme, at present applicable to urea.

Statement

Product-wise target and production of Fertilizers by the Fertilizer from 1996-97 to 1998-99 by Central Public Sector Undertakings

('000' MT)

Product	1996-97		1997-98		1998-99	
	Target	Production	Target	Production	Target	Production
Urea	5547.9	4729.9	5888.6	6006.7	6250.0	5861.5
A/S	304.8	325.1	340.0	289.7	282.4	299.0
CAN	418.5	277.5	406.5	270.6	361.4	314.2
DAP	573.0	421.2	736.0	786.6	660.0	757.3
SSP	318.0	278.3	370.0	317.5	308.0	157.7
Complexes	1490.0	1293.1	1451.0	1050.6	1410.0	1374.1
Total	9240.7	7983.6	9842.1	9363.4	9921.8	9501.8

Legend:

- A/S Ammonium Sulphate
CAN : Calcium Ammonium Nitrate
DAP : Di-Ammonium Phosphate
SSP Single Superphosphate

Minority Commission

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

(a) the terms of office of the present office bearers and the members of the Minorities Commission;

(b) whether the Government propose to abolish the Minorities Commission;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the steps taken by the Government to continue the Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) As per NCM Act, 1992, the Chairperson and every member shall hold office for a term of three years from the date he assumes office. The term of the present members of NCM is given in enclosed statement.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The reconstitution of the National Commission for Minorities is under consideration of the Government.

Statement***The Term of the present Member of National Commission for Minorities***

Sl. No.	Name	Designation	Date of Joining	Date of expiry of term
1.	Prof. (Dr.) Tahir Mahmood	Chairperson	26.11.1996	25.11.1999
2.	Prof. Bawa Singh	Vice-Chairperson	27.11.1996	26.11.1999
3.	Shri Zafar Ali Naqvi	Member	27.11.1996	26.11.1999
4.	Dr. Kamla Sankrityayan	Member	02.12.1996	01.12.1999
5.	Rev. Dr. James Massey	Member	03.12.1996	02.12.1999
6.	Shri Marazban J. A. Patrawala	Member	29.11.1996	28.11.1999
7.	Shri Neminath K.	Member	12.12.1996	11.12.1999

Institute for Handicapped

321. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHANAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the State Governments for Establishing an Institute for Research, Development and Training in Aids and Appliances for physically handicapped persons;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (c) Proposal for setting up of Institute for Research, Development and Training for Rehabilitation for Persons with disabilities have been received both from Government and non-Government sectors. Action has been initiated to set up Regional Composite Centres and Rehabilitation Centres for Spinal Injured and other orthopaedic disabilities in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Punjab, Kerala and North-Eastern region.

Expansion/Upgradations of AIR and Doordarshan Network

322. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister (INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal for expansion/upgradation of AIR and Doordarshan network during the Ninth Plan period;

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

(c) whether existing Doordarshan Centre in Karnataka is proposed to be upgraded;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to promote Regional Languages in Doordarshan Network?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The State wise details of the projects presently under implementation are given in Statement enclosed.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Four Low Power TV Transmitters (LPTs) one each at Hassan, Mangalore, Mysore and Raichur in Karnataka are envisaged to be replaced by four High Power TV Transmitters (HPTs) respectively as part of the 9th Plan schemes.

(e) It has been the constant endeavour of the Prasar Bharati to promote regional Languages. Exclusive Channels for all major Regional languages are already in operation.

Statement***State-wise details indicating All India Radio and Doordarshan projects under Implementation as part of Ninth Plan***

State/U.T.	Doordarshan		AIR Transmitters
	ST. Projects	TR. Projects	
1	2	3	4
Assam	—	4	1
Andhra Pradesh	1	24	4

1	2	3	4
Arunachal Pradesh	—	5	2
Bihar	1	9	1
Goa	—	1	—
Gujarat	—	3	5
Haryana	1	6	1
Himachal Pradesh	—	11	—
Jammu & Kashmir	—	10	16
Kerala	2	9	3
Karnataka	—	18	4
Madhya Pradesh	3	21	7
Maghalaya	—	2	2
Maharashtra	—	27	5
Manipur	—	1	3
Mizoram	—	2	3
Nagaland	—	2	2
Orissa	1	23	2
Punjab	1	1	—
Rajasthan	1	23	3
Sikkim	1	1	1
Tamil Nadu	2	14	4
Tripura	—	4	4
Uttar Pradesh	1	33	4
West Bengal	—	10	2
Chandigarh	1	—	1
Delhi	1	—	—
Pondicherry	—	1	—
Andaman & Nicobar	—	—	1
	17	265	81

Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd.

323. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the problems facing by Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government have received re-

presentations regarding disinvestment, problems affecting Caprolactum, Urea, Ammonium and the functioning of plants;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for the development and modernisation of F.A.C.T; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Fertilisers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd. (FACT) which had been reporting profits since 1983-84 incurred a loss of Rs. 48.26 crore during the year 1998-99. The main reasons for losses during 1998-99 are attributed to the high cost of Ammonia from the Ammonia Replacement Plant commissioned in March 1998, the high interest burden on Government loan, depressed market condition for indigenous Caprolactam, unremunerative prices of complex/mixed fertilizers, sharp rise in prices of petroleum products such as naphtha, fuel oil, etc.

(c) and (d) Representations have been received raising, inter alia, issues regarding grant of financial reliefs involving waiver of interest, reduction in rate of interest on Government loans and other measures for offsetting cost of production in the Ammonia Replacement Plant; customs duty on Caprolactam; and disinvestment.

(e) and (f) FACT has been implementing renewal/replacements/upgradation schemes as per requirement, subject to availability of resources.

District Primary Education Programme

324. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:

SHRI DINSHA PATEL:

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

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from the Government of Gujarat for expansion of District Primary Education Programme to six more districts of the State;

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

(c) the steps proposed by the Government to make adequate funds available for promotion of the Programme in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGR GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal has been approved in principle.

(c) Funds are being provided for approved projects as required.

Shortage of Blood

325. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:

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

(a) whether there is an overall shortage of blood in the Government hospitals in the country particularly in Delhi, Maharashtra and Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which it is short as per World Health Organisation norms; and

(d) the action being taken by the Government to meet the shortage of blood in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) There is no overall shortage of blood in the country. However, there could be seasonal and occasional shortage of blood in different parts of the country. There are different norms to assess blood requirements for transfusion. WHO norm refers to 7 units of blood per hospital bed per annum. If WHO norms are applied, we would require 42.00 lakh units of blood per annum, where as it is estimated that about 30.00 lakh units of blood is collected per annum in the country. However, considering that a vast majority of the beds in the country are unlikely to use 7 units of blood per annum, the shortage of blood is not severe.

(d) For generating enough blood through Voluntary Blood Donation Programme, the Government of India have taken a number of steps such as media campaign through TV, AIR and newspaper; developing IEC material for one-to-one communication; observation of National Voluntary Blood Donation Day on 1st October every year; encouraging rational use of blood among clinicians and the launching of special campaigns to educate masses to support voluntary blood donations.

[Translation]

Chemicals and Fertilizers Plants

326. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of chemicals/fertilizers plants in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to set-up fertilizer plant in Panderpur in Maharashtra;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) State-wise details of Fertilizer Plants are given in the enclosed statement.

The number of heavy, medium and small units in the chemical sector in the country producing vast range of chemicals is very large. With the introduction of New Industrial Policy in July 1991, chemical industries can be set up in the

country without an Industrial Licence, excepting a few industrial units in respect of non-hazardous/delicensed chemical industries, after filing Industrial Entrepreneurs Memorandum. The State-wise details about these units are not maintained. The time, labour and cost that may be incurred in collection of these details may not be commensurate with the results likely to be achieved.

(b) to (d) As per the industrial policy resolution dated 24th July 1991, no licence is normally required for setting up new fertilizer projects. However, Public Sector Undertakings/ Cooperatives under the administrative control of the Department of Fertilizers have to obtain approval of the Government before undertaking such capital expenditure beyond their delegated powers. No proposal for setting up a fertilizer plant in Panderpur in Maharashtra has been submitted by PSUs/Cooperatives for Government approval.

Statement

State-wise total number of Major Fertilizer plants

State	No. of Fertilizer plants
Assam	3
Manipur	—
Andhra Pradesh	6
Tamil Nadu	5
Kerala	3
Goa	1
Maharashtra	5
Karnataka	1
Madhya Pradesh	3
Rajasthan	3
Gujarat	8
Punjab	4
Delhi	—
Uttar Pradesh	9
Haryana	1
Bihar	4
Orissa	4
West Bengal	4
Total (All India)	64

[English]

Housing Facility in the Country

327. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:

Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have failed to provide adequate housing facility in the country;

(b) if so, the extent of which the Government have achieved its targets for each of the last two years;

(c) the reasons for not achieving the target; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) to (c) Government intervention for providing houses, particularly for the poor is largely through Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO). The two million housing programme launched in 1998-99 is a step at ensuring construction of additional houses (13 lakh units in rural areas and 7 lakh units in urban areas) particularly for the economically weaker section (EWS) and low income groups (LIG) categories, so as to meet the shortfall in housing stock. Under this scheme, HUDCO has sanctioned funds for 6.35 lakh units in rural areas and 4.30 lakh units in urban areas.

Under the two million housing programme, the targets and achievements are given below:

Urban (1998-99) (in lakhs)

	Target	Achievement
HUDCO	4.00	4.30
Cooperatives	1.00	0.74
HFI's	1.50	1.36
Other sources	0.50	0.17
Total	7.00	6.57

Rural (1998-99) (in lakhs)

	Target	Achievement
HUDCO	6.00	6.35
Indira Awas Yojana	9.87	8.36

1990-2000 (in lakhs)

	Target	Achievement
Urban	7.00	Scheme in progress
Rural	13.00	Scheme in progress
Indira Awas yojana	12.72	2.71 (upto Oct. '99)

Through these programmes housing targets are expected to be substantially met.

(d) Housing requirements in the country are expected to be substantially satisfied through construction of additional housing units under the 2 million housing programme and Indira Awas Yojana. Keeping in view the various constraints in the sector. Government has taken the following steps:

- (i) Providing finance at interest rates below market rates for EWS and LIG housing through HUDCO.
- (ii) Propagating cost effective technology through the Building Centre movement and through Building Materials and Technology Promotion Council.
- (iii) Through legislative intervention and fiscal concessions which will facilitate housing activity in the country.

[Translation]

Population as National Problem

328. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the scheme of the Government to check the increasing population of the country;
- (b) the reasons for not achieving the expected success so far to control this problem;
- (c) whether the Government have decided to formulate its own population policy;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to follow the other countries in this regard; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM):

(a) Under the National Family Welfare Programme, the following schemes are being implemented with a view to arrest the population growth in the country:

- (i) An integrated comprehensive programme of reproductive and Child Health that include Maternal Health, Child Health and Family Welfare;
- (ii) Information, Education and communication Programmes to create awareness about the benefits of small family;

(iii) Provision of contraception through sub-centres primary health centres, community health centres and hospitals;

(iv) Assistance to States/UTs to maintain certain Family Welfare infrastructure;

(v) Assistance to Voluntary Organisations and NGOs for implementing family welfare programmes.

(b) For the country as a whole the achievements under the Family Welfare programmes have been quite substantial. Some States like Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Goa have already achieved goals set for 2000 AD and States like Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Gujarat, Maharashtra are close to achieving the goals. However, some States are lagging behind primarily on account of slow achievement of socio-economic indicators.

(c) and (d) A draft National Population Policy (NPP) is under consideration of the Cabinet.

(e) and (f) Government is aware of significant success achieved in many countries in stabilising their populations. These aspects are under consideration, but will necessarily have to be adopted to cover multi religions population.

Unauthorised Encroachment

329. DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of slum dwellers encroaching on Government land in Delhi;
- (b) the plan of the Government to rehabilitate them;
- (c) the time by which all the slum dwellers in Delhi are likely to be rehabilitated; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to check/stop the construction of new jhuggis on the Government land in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA):

(a) Slum and JJ Deptt. (MCD) has reported that there are roughly about 30 lakh jhuggi dwellers in Delhi.

(b) As per the present Policy approved by Delhi Government/Government of India which is under implementation since 1990-91 Slum and JJ Deptt. is rehabilitating only those squatter families whose encroached land pockets are required by the concerned land owning agency for implementation of projects of public importance and where the land owning agency agrees to bear their due share towards the cost of resettlement which is at present Rs. 29,000/- per eligible squatter family. The eligibility criteria is the possession of Ration Card with the cut of date of 31.1.1990.

(c) Due to the magnitude of the problem and since the mushrooming of JJ clusters is a continuous process, a fixed time frame for rehabilitation of all the slum dwellers in Delhi cannot be set.

(d) Instructions are issued regularly to the land owning agencies to check/stop the construction of new juggies on their lands.

Construction of Stadia

330. SHRI RAJO SINGH:

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA:

Will the Minister of CULTURE, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Central assistance provided to the Government of Bihar for creating infrastructural facilities and the assistance to be provided to the State during the current year;

(b) the details of assistance provided to each State for the construction of stadia during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the number of stadia completed/under construction in the country, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government are considering to construct modern sports complexes/stadia in rural areas/tribal areas; and

(e) whether the Sports Authority of India (SAI) are considering to open a Sports School in Dharmapuri district, Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH): (a) The Central assistance provided for the creation of sports facilities under the Scheme of "Grants

for Creation of Sports Infrastructure" to the Government of Bihar during 1992-93 to 1998-99 is as under:

Project	Amount Sanctioned
(i) Veer Kanwar Singh Stadium at Arrah, Bhojpur	Rs. 4.36 lakh
(ii) Pavilion's development in the Polo Ground Stadium at Laheria Sarai, Darbhanga.	Rs.5.00 lakh
(iii) State Level Sports Complex at Patna	Rs. 186.25 lakh

State-Wise funds are not earmarked under the scheme. the sanction of grants for Sports Infrastructure during 1999-2000 could be considered, depending upon the receipt of viable proposals from the Government of Bihar.

(b) State-wise details of Central Assistance provided for the construction of Stadia during the last three years have been indicated in Statement-I.

(c) State-wise details of Stadia sanctioned since 1992-93 to 1998-99 and the number of Stadia completed and under construction have been indicated in Statement-II.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The Sports Authority of India does not open Sports Schools and is not contemplating a sports school in Dharmapuri District, Tamil Nadu.

Statement-I

S.No.	State/UT	Amount released in Rs. during		
		1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	—	45,00,000	—
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	15,00,000
3.	Assam	8,00,000	97,50,000	2,00,000
4.	Bihar	—	—	23,79,000
5.	Goa	—	—	—
6.	Gujarat	—	5,50,000	10,62,000
7.	Haryana	97,83,400	—	7,50,600
8.	Himachal Pradesh	87,98,800	48,22,000	29,26,600
9.	J & K	—	42,90,000	—

1	2	3	4	5
10.	Karnataka	36,27,500	70,01,650	21,02,500
11.	Kerala	27,74,232	—	66,000
12.	Madhya Pradesh	—	21,60,000	—
13.	Maharashtra	18,00,000	1,00,000	26,00,000
14.	Mizoram	86,19,000	—	21,54,900
15.	Manipur	43,50,000	—	—
16.	Meghalaya	—	—	—
17.	Nagaland	—	30,00,000	70,00,000
18.	Orissa	90,00,000	—	—
19.	Punjab	2,50,000	—	—
20.	Rajasthan	13,30,000	55,000	4,50,000
21.	Sikkim	7,20,000	8,10,000	—
22.	Tamil Nadu	25,00,000	22,25,000	—
23.	Tripura	14,50,000	66,30,000	—
24.	Uttar Pradesh	8,00,000	—	15,00,000
25.	West Bengal	35,00,000	—	—
26.	Delhi	2,50,000	—	8,11,000
	U.Ts			
27.	Chandigarh	—	17,50,000	—
28.	A & N Islands	—	—	—
29.	Daman & Diu	—	2,82,000	—
30.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—	—	—
31.	Lakshadweep	—	—	—
32.	Pondicherry	—	—	—

Statement-II

S. No.	State/UT	No. of Stadia for which Central Assistance was sanctioned between 1992-93 to 1998-99 and which are under progress	No. of Stadia Sanctioned from 1992-93 to 1998-99 and completed till 1998-99
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3	—
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	—
3.	Assam	6	—

1	2	3
4. Bihar	3	—
5. Goa	—	—
6. Gujarat	—	—
7. Haryana	2	2
8. Himachal Pradesh	3	2
9. J & K	1	1
10. Karnataka	26	2
11. Kerala	7	1
12. Madhya Pradesh	8	—
13. Maharashtra	10	1
14. Mizoram	—	9
15. Manipur	—	1
16. Meghalaya	—	—
17. Nagaland	1	1
18. Orissa	—	1
19. Punjab	—	1
20. Rajasthan	1	2
21. Sikkim	2	—
22. Tamil Nadu	1	1
23. Tripura	—	2
24. Uttar Pradesh	3	—
25. West Bengal	4	—
26. Delhi	—	2
U.Ts		
27. A & N Islands	—	—
28. Chandigarh	—	1
29. Daman & Diu	—	1
30. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—	—
31. Lakshadweep	—	—
32. Pondicherry	—	—

*[English]***Supply of Potable Water**

331. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether schemes relating to supply of potable water to U.P. are pending for consideration of the Union Government;
- (b) if so, the details and the present status thereof; and
- (c) the time by which the scheme are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) This Ministry has one Centrally sponsored scheme, namely Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) for towns of less than 20,000 population as per 1991 census, under which 129 schemes of Uttar Pradesh received so far have been approved and no scheme is pending for consideration at present.

Besides the above schemas, pre-design cost estimates for Augmentation of Water Supply for Agra under Taj Trapezium Zone at an estimated cost of Rs. 203.05 crores was submitted by the Govt. of U.P. The scheme was approved in principle from technical angle by the Central Public Health and Environmental Engineering Organisation (CPHEEO) of this Ministry at an estimated cost of Rs. 192.18 crores in February, 98. Detailed project reports for 20 different components of the aforesaid scheme and a project for Augmentation of Water Supply to Mathura and Vrindavan towns (Phase I and II) were submitted to the CPHEEO between March and September, 99 for technical clearance. Out of these, one of the components, namely Augmentation of Water Supply System of Agra (11 Nos. Developed Zones) was approved from technical angle by the CPHEEO in March, 99 at an estimated cost of Rs. 592.05 lakhs. Clarifications have been sought for the remaining schemes from the concerned project agencies.

(c) No definite time limit can be indicated regarding the technical clearance of the schemes mentioned above at this stage as it would depend on the time taken by the concerned project agencies in furnishing the requisite clarifications.

National Literacy Mission

332. SHRI BHIM DAHAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether financial assistance is being provided to the State Governments under the National Literacy Mission;
- (b) if so, the total assistance provided to the North-Eastern states including Sikkim and other States during 1998-99 and 1999-2000, State-wise; and
- (c) the number of persons made literate in these States during the said period, year-wise and State wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Statement-I mentioning the financial assistance provided by National Literacy Mission to these States during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 (upto 31.10-99) is enclosed.

(c) Statement-II mentioning the number of persons made literate in these States since the launching of National Literacy mission is enclosed.

Statement-I*National Literacy Mission*

(Rupees in Lakhs)

S. No.	Name of the State	Funds Released During 1998-99	Funds Released During 1999-2000 (UP to 31.10.1999)
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—
2.	Assam	195.61	240.42
3.	Manipur	25.55	7.00
4.	Meghalaya	16.00	12.50
5.	Mizoram	49.52	—
6.	Nagaland	27.89	—
7.	Sikkim	—	—
8.	Tripura	61.32	5.00
		375.89	264.92

Statement-II*National Literacy Mission*

(Figures in Lakhs)

S.No.	Name of the State	Persons made literate
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.80
2.	Assam	14.23
3.	Manipur	0.90
4.	Meghalaya	1.13
5.	Mizoram	0.64
6.	Nagaland	0.63
7.	Sikkim	0.27
8.	Tripura	4.40

Free Health Services

333. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the Consumer Protection Law or to enact a new law to provide free health services to the poor and weaker sections of the people; and

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (c) The Minister of consumer Affairs and Public Distribution has indicated that provision of free health services can not come under the purview of the consumer protection Act 1986 and there is no proposal either to amend this Act to provide for the same or enact a new legislation for such purpose.

However, in Central Government Hospitals free health services are generally provided to the public.

Ammonia Plants

334. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of indigenous ammonia plants are on the verge of closure because of a sharp hike in feedstock prices over the last five months;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of plants closed so far; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government for revival of closed units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) to (d) While a sharp hike in feed stock prices is a matter of fact, there are no reports of large number of units being on the verge of closure.

FM/TV Transmitters, Junagarh, Gujarat

335. SHRI DINSHA PATEL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of extremely poor reception of Doordarshan/AIR in Dwarka and Bhuj areas of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have received any proposal from Gujarat for installation of a high power T.V. transmitter at Junagarh; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) Whereas AIR transmitters are reported to be running normally, the DDn High Power Transmitter at Dwarka is presently running on reduced power due to rusting of tower and transmitter components owing to highly humid and sultry weather conditions. The transmission from HPT, Bhuj has improved substantially after commissioning of the 300 M tower.

(c) Yes, Sir. A request has been received from the Government of Gujarat.

(d) The scheme could not be taken up due to paucity of funds in the 9th Plan.

[Translation]

Strengthening of Auxiliary Health System

336. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request from the State Governments for strengthening the auxiliary health system;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) Yes, Sir. Proposals for strengthening State Health Systems have been received.

(b) and (c) The Government have received requests for strengthening of State Health System from 12 States. The States are Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Karnataka, Punjab, Orissa, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Assam, Tamil Nadu and Kerala.

The project proposals from the States of Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Karnataka, Punjab, Orissa and Maharashtra were appraised by the Government and sent to World Bank for funding. They are at present under implementation. Regarding proposal from States of Madhya Pradesh the project is under formulation. Proposals for the State of Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Tamil Nadu and Kerala have also been received and are at present under scrutiny.

The status of the proposals is given in enclosed Statement-I and II.

Reproductive and Child Health Programme is also being implemented as part of 9th Five Year Plan with the partial funding to the tune of \$ 1.00 billion by the international agencies. It provides for strengthening of Primary Health Care system through provision of drugs, equipments, civil works, training and support etc. in the States.

Statement-I*State Health System Projects under Implementation*

Name of the State	Project Period	Project Outlay
Andhra Pradesh	w.e.f. 1.3.95 for 6-1/2 yrs.	Rs. 608.00 crores
West Bengal	w.e.f. 27.6.96 for 5-1/2 yrs.	Rs.698.00 crore
Karnataka	w.e.f. 27.6.96 for 5-1/2 yrs.	Rs.546.00 crores
Punjab	w.e.f. 27.6.96 for 5-1/2 yrs.	Rs. 425.00 crores
Orissa	w.e.f. Sept. 98 for 5 yrs.	Rs. 415.57 crores
Maharashtra	w.e.f. 14.2.99. 5-1/2 yrs. Rs.	727.00 crores

Statement-II*Statement on World Bank assisted State Health systems development projects in pipeline*

Sl. No	Name of the State	Date of receipt of Proposal	Contents of the Proposal	cost and Duration	Status	World Bank View	Re- marks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Tamil Nadu	Revised Proposal received on 15.3.99	Request for World Bank assistance for upgrading 1st Referral Health System in the State	1086 Crores 5 Years	The Project Report has already been examined by scrutinising agencies. The State Govt. has been requested to review the Project Report in the light of scrutinising agencies comments and to submit revised document.	The proposal is yet to be posed to World Bank	
2.	Uttar Pradesh	Project proposal received on 19th Nov. 99	Request for World Bank assistance for strengthening its Secondary Health Care facilities	549.92 Crores 5 Years	The Project report has been Sent for comment to scrutinising agencies.	The proposal is yet to be posed to World Bank	
3.	Assam	15th Sept., 1998	Request for World Bank assistance for strengthening the Secondary Health Care System	586.47 Crores 5 Years	The Project report has already been examined by the Scrutinising agencies. The State Government has Been requested vide our letter No. L-2002B/16/98-IC dated 17th Nov., 99 to revise the Project report in the light of the expert comments and to sent the Project report to this Ministry.	The proposal is yet to be posed to World Bank	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
4.	Kerala	24.5.97 However the State was requested to furnish requisite number of copies for obtaining comments from Various expert agencies. The same were received on 5.7.99	World Bank assistance for Strengthening Secondary level Hospitals in Kerala	423.65 Crore	The Project report has already been examined by expert agencies. The State Government has been requested to review the Project report of in the light of expert comments and to submit revised document.	The proposal is yet to be posed to World Bank	
5.	Rajasthan	The requisite copies of the report were received on 14.6.99	Strengthening of Secondary level Hospitals in Rajasthan	536.32 Crores 5 Years	The Project report has already been examined by expert agencies. The State Government has been requested to review the Project report in the light of expert comments and to submit revised document.	The proposal is yet to be posed to World Bank	

*[English]***Residential Schools for Tribal and OBC Students**

337. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of residential schools for Tribal students and O.B.C. students opened in Maharashtra during the last two years; and
- (b) the number of students benefited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) There is no provision for residential schemes for O.B.C. students in the "Schemes of Assistance to Voluntary Organisations working for the Other Backward Classes (O.B.Cs.) and Pre-Examination Coaching for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) in the State of Maharashtra.

There are four residential schemes for Tribal Students opened during the last two years in the State of Maharashtra.

- (i) Boys Hostels for STs.
 - (ii) Girls Hostels for STs.
 - (iii) Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub Plan Area.
 - (iv) Educational Complex in Low Literacy Pockets for Development of Women Literacy in Tribal Areas.
- (b) (i) Information in respect of Boys Hostels for STs, Girls Hostels for STs and Ashram Schools has been called for from the State Government.

- (ii) Total 240 students under the scheme of educational complex are getting the benefits.

Special Reservation Quota

338. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to provide special reservation quota to the educated youths from Rural areas enabling them to seek more employment opportunities in Urban Areas:
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to provide reservation quota to the educated youths from the Backward Districts of the country particularly Dharmapuri District of Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) This Ministry is implementing Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for all the urban poor, throughout the country living below poverty line and educated upto IXth standard in setting up self-employment ventures and also in getting wage employment through creation of public assets.

There is no proposal for providing special reservation quota to the educated youth from rural areas, under Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY).

- (b) and (c) Does not arise.

Voluntary Help to Disabled

339. SHRI RAJAIHA MALYALA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to promote Survey, Research, Education Rehabilitation and legal counselling for the disabled through the voluntary organisations;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) The funds provided to such Voluntary Organisations for this purpose during 1999-2000; and

(d) The normal time being taken by the Government to process and application for such assistance?

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

(b) Under the various Schemes for the Disabled, the NGOs are eligible to apply for grant-in-aid for all the activities covered under the Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995 including the activities mentioned above. The Voluntary Organisations have also been applying for grant in aid for many of the activities mentioned above.

(c) There is a provision of funds amounting to Rs. 92.30 crores for the Voluntary Organisations connected with the disabilities sector including the activities mentioned above during 1999-2000.

(d) The Voluntary organisations are required to apply for funds in two instalments. First instalment is released on the submission of documents while the second instalment is released on the basis of inspection report from the appropriate authorities along with the documents prescribed under the Schemes.

Similarly, for new cases, the Voluntary Organisations are required to apply through the appropriate authorities who inspect the organisation and recommend the grant in aid. It is the endeavour of the Ministry to release the funds as early as possible after the applications are received, complete in all respects.

World Heritage Sites

340. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of CLUTURE, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details World heritage sites proposed to be taken up for development in Karnataka under special schemes; and

(b) the amount proposed to be released for each such site during 1999-2000?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH): (a) There are two World Heritage sites in the State of Karnataka, namely, (i) Group of monuments at

Hampi, and (ii) Group of monuments at Pattadakal in Bagalkot Distt.

(b) Rs. 24,70,000 for the Group of monuments at Hampi and Rs. 12,93,000 for Group of monuments at Pattadakal has been released during 1999-2000 for the conservation of monuments, environmental development and chemical preservation.

[Translation]

Non-Functioning of Machines in Hospitals

341. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the machines in various departments of Dr. R.M.L. Hospital, J.P. Hospital and Safdarjung Hospital, Delhi are lying out of order for a long time;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for not taking any action for repair of such machines;

(d) the amount spent on the maintenance of machines in various hospitals during each of the last three years;

(e) whether the Government propose to check the misuse of public fund in the name of maintenance;

(f) if so, the manner in which the Government propose to put to check on it; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (c) The details of the equipments which are out of order in Dr. R.M.L. Hospital and Safdarjung Hospital is given in the statement. The action for the repair of such equipments has been initiated. The information in respect of equipments which are non functioning in respect of J.P. Hospital under NCT of Delhi is being collected.

(d) The details of expenditure incurred by Dr. R.M.L. Hospital and Safdarjung Hospital during the last 3 years on account of maintenance of equipments are as under:

Year	(Rs. in lakhs)	
	Dr. RMLH	S.J.Hospital
1996-97	21.50	111.35
1997-98	26.00	42.98
1998-99	32.00	134.58

Information in respect of L.N.J.P. Hospital is being collected.

(e) to (g) No instance of misuse of public funds in the name of maintenance has come to the notice of the Government.

Statement

Information Regarding equipments/instruments lying unused in Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital and Safdarjung Hospital

Sr No.	Name of the equipment
DR. RAM MANOHAR LOHIA HOSPITAL:	
1.	Color Doppler Echo Machine
2.	Mingograph-7
3.	Medrad Pressure Dye Injector
4.	Nova Blood Gas Analyser
5.	32 Channel Digital EEG Machine and 4 Channel EMG Machine
SAFDARJUNG HOSPITAL:	
1.	Defibrillator-cum-Monitor Lohemier
2.	1000 MA machine
3.	Argon Laser
4.	Sysmex K-1000
5.	Vacuum Steam Sterilizer
6.	TMT Machine

[English]

Special Package for Women

342. SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have launched a special package of programme called Indira Mahila Yojana, Rural Women's Development and Empowerment Project for improving the socio-economic status of women;

(b) if so, the allocation made during the last three years State-wise and project-wise; and

(c) the achievement made in this regards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) Government is implementing Indira Mahila Yojana on a pilot basis in 238 Blocks since 1995. It is aims at the holistic empowerment of women. As it is a pilot project and only a one time grant was provided, there has been no provision during the last three years. However, a provision of Rs. 10.00 crores is provided in BE 1999-2000. Under Indira Mahila Yojana more than 40,000 women's groups have been formed throughout the country.

Rural Women's Development and Empowerment Project was started in 1998-99 for development and Empowerment of rural women in the States of Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. The project

is being implemented through the Women Development Corporations of the concerned States.

Under the project funds are provided to the Implementing Agencies, viz. The Women Development Corporations of the project States, as per their requirements and as such there are no regular/yearly allocations. Funds released to these corporations in 1998 were as under:

Project State to which the Corporation belongs	Funds released (Rs.)
Bihar	97,05,000
Gujarat	1,17,53,000
Haryana	1,01,44,000
Karnataka	1,17,53,000
Madhya Pradesh	1,11,68,000
Uttar Pradesh	2,03,60,000
Total	7,48,83,000

Funds are in the process of being released to these corporations for 1999-2000.

For implementation of the project, the Women Development Corporations in the project States have engaged the required staff and most of them have already contracted with suitable NGOs for organisation and nurturing of the self-help groups of the targeted women in the selected project areas. In additions, these corporations have contracted/are contracting with suitable training institutions for taking up the immediately needed training tasks, including workshops.

Deteriorating Sanitation Problem

343. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sanitation conditions in Chandigarh have deteriorated during the last three years and defecation in the open has acquired alarming proportions; and

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

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) The Chandigarh Administration has reported that sanitation conditions in Chandigarh have not deteriorated during the last three years. However, defecation in open space has been noticed to some extent due to large scale unauthorised settlement of migrant labour on Government land.

(b) The Municipal Corporation of Chandigarh being aware of the problem has constructed 24 Sulabh Shauchalayas and also provided 42 mobile vans during the last three years. These Sulabh Shauchalayas and mobile vans have been located in the vicinity of the labour colonies to contain the menace of open defecation. Prior to these,

there were only 5 Sulabh Shauchalyas and 5 mobile vans. 17 additional sets of Sulabh Shauchalyas are under construction and are likely to be commissioned by March, 2000.

Mega City Development Plan

344. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Mega City projects going on in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) the total assistance provided by Union Government during each of the last three years; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to complete the on-going scheme in time?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) 92 projects are going on in Hyderabad under the Mega City Scheme.

(b) The Central Share released by the Government of India to Hyderabad City during the last three years is as follows:

1996-97	Rs. 11.71 crore
1997-98	Rs. 12.22 crore
1998-99	Rs. 13.90 crore

(c) The share of the Central Government (first instalment for 1999-2000) has been released. Equivalent share has to contribute by the State Government and the Institutional Finance has to be raised by the Nodal Agency viz. Andhra Pradesh Urban Finance and Infrastructure Development Corporation (APUFIDC).

The State Government is advised to have the necessary finance arranged at their end and get the on-going schemes completed expeditiously during meeting of the Sanctioning Committee in which a representative of the Central Government is present.

[Translation]

Free Education for Girls

345. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government have received any comprehensive plan from Government of Himachal Pradesh seeking financial assistance for providing free education to girl students of the State;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken/proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (c) In the context of a scheme which is under consideration in the Union Government, the Government of Himachal Pradesh had sent certain information

related to free education for girls in the State.

[English]

Survey Regarding Prevalence of Filariasis

346. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Institute for Communicable Diseases has conducted any survey on the prevalence of filariasis in Eluru, Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the findings thereof;
- (c) whether these findings have been passed on to the State Health Authorities; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The sample survey for assessing prevalence of Filariasis was carried out in Eluru town of Andhra Pradesh in December, 1997. The survey revealed Microfilaria rate of 4.4% and disease rate of 1.6% in the population studied.

(c) and (d) The report and recommendations pertaining to the survey have been sent to the State Government with the suggestion that action may be taken for providing treatment facilities to promote early detection appropriate medical care and for taking measures for vector control.

[Translation]

Youth Policy

347. SHRI RAMSHAKAL: Will the Minister of CULTURE, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have formulated any Youth Policy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the schemes being introduced by the Government for the development of young players?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) and (b) A National Youth Policy was placed before Parliament in 1988, providing for access for the youth to education which, in addition to developing overall personality, offers appropriate professional and vocational training with a view to enabling them to avail of employment opportunities.

The Policy also endeavours to develop the qualities of self-reliance, fair play and discipline among youth and to promote awareness of the Constitution and of the country's historical and cultural heritage.

(c) The existing schemes take due care of the needs of young players.

[English]

Prasar Bharati

348. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

SHRI C. SREENIVASAN:

DR. V. ŞAROJA:

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to bring comprehensive changes in the Prasar Bharati and Cable TV laws;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the details of changes the Government propose to bring in the existing laws; and

(c) if not the steps taken to bring improvement in the Prasar Bharati Act and Cable TV laws?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) No such proposal is presently under consideration except as indicated in (c) below.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) In order to improve the functioning of Prasar Bharati in terms of quality of its services, credibility and professionalism a Committee has been constituted to study the working of Prasar Bharati, and make appropriate recommendations in regard to its organisational structure, legal framework, system and other relevant areas. In so far as improvements in cable TV laws are concerned, a notification has been issued directing the cable operators to transmit at least two Doordarshan channels in prime band without interference to terrestrial signals of Doordarshan. Further, process has been initiated for soliciting the views of cable/satellite channel operators as well as cable operator associations on improving the efficacy and effectiveness of cable laws as well as on the proposed broadcasting law.

[Translation]

Sanitary Conditions in Delhi Hospitals

349. SHRI ABDUAL RASHID SHAHEEN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is shortage of medicines and the sanitary conditions are unsatisfactory in the Delhi hospitals; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to bring improvement in Delhi hospitals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The sanitary conditions in Delhi hospitals are satisfactory. However, constant monitoring is being done by the respective hospitals' authorities to improve the sanitary condition further.

[English]

ADB Reviews Rajasthan Urban Development Project

350. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the progress in the implementation of the Rajasthan Urban Infrastructure Development Project funded by the Asian Development Bank;

(b) if so, the details of the project being developed there under;

(c) the details of the urban infrastructure development projects being funded by the Asian Development Bank in the country, State-wise; and

(d) the present position of each project, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) The Asian Development Bank Board approved a loan of US \$ 250 million on 3rd December, 1998 for the Rajasthan Urban Infrastructure Development Project. The objective of the project is to optimize economic and socio-economic development in urban Rajasthan by facilitating policy reforms intended to strengthen urban management and supporting priority investments in urban infrastructure. As the loan is still not effective, the question of review does not arise.

(c) and (d) The details of the Urban Infrastructure Development Projects being funded by Asian Development Bank and their present status is as under:

1. Karnataka Urban Infrastructure Development Project

A loan amounting to US \$ 105 million was approved by ADB for the above mentioned project in December, 1995. Out of this, US \$ 20 million was for Housing Development Finance Corporation (HDFC) and US \$ 85 million for Government of Karnataka. The share of HDFC amounting to US \$ 20 million has been fully utilized. Out of US \$ 85 million of Government of Karnataka, US \$ 16.262 million has been utilized upto September, 1999.

2. Loan to HUDCO for Housing Finance

ADB extended a loan of US \$ 100 million to HUDCO in 1996-97 to implement India Housing Finance Project. Alongwith HUDCO, similar financial assistance is being provided to National Housing Bank and Housing Development Finance Corporation. Out of the sanctioned loan of US \$ 100 million HUDCO has received US \$ 50 million during 1998-99 and the loan is intended for financing schemes of State Housing Boards and Local Bodies. Workshed-cum-Housing

Schemes, Slum Improvement Schemes and Cooperative Housing Schemes.

Unauthorised Structure in Government Colonies

351. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI: Will the MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the works of the Central Public Works Department has been carried out through the contractors;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Contractors are unauthorisedly encroaching the Government land for their labour/stores etc. thus converting the Government colonies in Jhuggli Jhopri Bastees; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to remove such Jhuggies/Stores from the Government land?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Given the quantum of workforce required to execute a large number of works in different localities, it would not be cost effective to employ workers on a regular basis.

(c) and (d) Contractors make jhuggles on the Government land for their labourers and stores in terms of the contract which remain there till completion of the works. After completion of the work, the contractors are required to remove the jhuggles. Since it was noticed that some of the contractors did not remove the jhuggles, instructions have been issued to ensure that the last bill of the contractor is not paid till the jhuggles put up during the construction work, are removed.

Wherever the old jhuggles, after completion of construction work, are existing, orders have been issued to remove them.

Petro-Chemical Complexes

352. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up environment friendly high tech petro-chemical complexes in some States including Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any such complex is proposed to be set up in Marathwada Region especially in backward district of Parbhani;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS):

(a) to (e) The need to set up integrated, port based chemical industrial estates, in collaboration with State Governments, has been identified. No decision regarding the development of such estates or their location has been taken.

Manual Scavenging

353. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADIBA MANDLIK: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have launched any project to abolish the practice of Manual Scavenging by 2000 AD;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of persons benefited under this project so far;

(d) whether the Government have achieved the desired success in this regard; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) The Government has launched the National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers and their dependents to abolish the practice of Manual Scavenging by 9th Five Year Plan.

(c) 127364 scavengers have been trained and 290308 scavengers have been rehabilitated so far.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Non-Governmental Organisations

354. SHRI S.D.N.R WADIYAR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) The number of non-Governmental Organisations (NGO's) working in Karnataka at present, location-wise;

(b) The details of fund provided by the Government as well as by the private agencies to such organisations during the last three years;

(c) Whether any review has been made by the Government on the working of these organisations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) A list is attached as Statement-I.

(b) Details of funds provided by this Ministry are attached as Statement-II. Information regarding funds provided by the private agencies is not maintained in this Ministry.

(c) and (d) The Ministry is releasing grant in-aid to the organisations on the basis of Inspection Report/Recommendation of the appropriate authorities every year. The Organisations are also required to submit various documents like Utilisation Certificate, Audit Report etc. for getting grant-in-aid from the Ministry.

Statement-I

Name of the Location/District	No. of NGOs
Bangalore	47
Belgaum	4
Chitra Durga	6
Devangere	5
Dharwar	6
Kolar	10
Bijapur	3
Haveri	1
Bidar	8
Gulbarga	4
Harihar	2
Hassan	3
Raichur	2
Mysore	6
Bellary	1
Sirsi	1
Hubli	1
Mangalore	3
Mandya	1
Shimoga	1

Statement-II

		Rs. in lacs		
S. No.	Name of the Scheme	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
1	2	3	4	5
1	Promote Voluntary Actions for Persons with Disabilities	216.40	204.42	261.23

1	2	3	4	5
2	Assistance to Disabled Persons for purchase of AIDS/Appliances	1.74	15.00	34.33
3.	Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) abuse	23.74	31.30	41.21
4.	Integrated Programme for Older Persons	22.70	15.94	17.07
5.	Integrated Programme for Street Children	11.78	7.19	6.21
6.	Grant in Aid to Voluntary Organisation working for the Welfare of Scheduled Castes	134.81	167.80	209.92
7.	Assistance to Voluntary Organisation working for the Backward Classes			3.40
8.	Shelter for Animals		24.27	
9.	Ambulance Service for Animal Distress		7.69	12.50
10.	Birth Control to Immunization of Street Dog		3.36	

EEC Fund to Medium and Small Town

355. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the European Economic Community has funded markets, agricultural centres and other activities in various medium and small towns;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such a market, has been set up at Muvattupuzha in Kerala;

(d) if so, the details of funds sanctioned by the Union Government and the European Economic Community for the project;

(e) whether the Integrated Development of Small and Medium towns has sanctioned any loan for that project; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The EEC has funded a project for the development of agricultural markets in Kerala. Under the project, 6 agricultural wholesale markets in the following localities are being constructed:

Urban wholesale Market

1. Anayara, Thiruvananthapuram.
2. Maradu, Ernakulam.
3. Vengeri, Calicut.

Rural Wholesale Market

4. Nedumangad, Thiruvananthapuram
5. Muvattupuzha, Ernakulam
6. Sulthan Bathery, Wayanand

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The total cost of the above project is Rs. 71.50 crores of which Rs. 32.38 crores is the EEC share which has already been transferred to Government of India. The State share is Rs. 39.12 crores.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Question does not arise

Regularisation of Unauthorised Colonies

356. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to regularise unauthorised colonies, shops/commercial centres in National Capital Territory of Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is inadequate water supply and sewerage system in Delhi;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to improve the basic amenities for Delhi residents before regularising the unauthorised colonies; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA):

(a) and (b) Hon'ble High Court of Delhi in its Order dated 13.10.1993 in Civil Writ Petition No. 4771/93 has restrained the Government from regularising any unauthorised colony in Delhi till further orders. The matter is still sub-judice.

(c) to (e) Delhi Jal Board has reported that as against the present demand of 750 MGD, about 600 MGD water is being supplied. As regards sewerage, about 480 MGD sewage is generated whereas the treatment capacity of Delhi Jal

Board is of 334 MGD. 15 new Sewage Treatment Plants are under various stages of completion in different parts of the city which, on completion, will raise the sewage treatment capacity to 497.4 MGD. It is also proposed to construct a 5 MGD Sewage Treatment Plant at Mehrauli which will further raise the sewage treatment capacity to 502.4 MGD by the end of 9th Plan.

[Translation]

Aquisition of Land by DDA

357. DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of land acquired by the Delhi Development Authority so far;

(b) the area of land utilized so far;

(c) the area of DDA land encroach unauthorisedly;

(d) the action taken by the Government against the officials responsible for the encroachment; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to retrieve the land from encroachment?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) The DDA has reported that about 61900 acres of Nazul-II land has been handed over to DDA by Delhi Government after acquisition.

(b) 60450 acres.

(c) About 1450 acres.

(d) and (e) The DDA has set up six zones each headed by an officer of the level of Jt. Director/Dy. Director for the protection of land from encroachment. Each Zonal officer is to manage the land under its charge assisted by the supporting staff. Regular demolitions are carried out with the help of the police by the zonal officers to check the encroachment/unauthorised constructions. A control room with demolition squad on week-end/holidays has been also set up in Vikas Sadan. If any official is found responsible for laxity in reporting the encroachment/unauthorised construction, action is taken against him.

Technical Education

358. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any comprehensive plan to improve the standard and expansion of technical education in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the proposals have been received from Bihar and other State Governments for reconstitution and strengthening of the Technical Education Board; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (c) The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) was given statutory status under the AICTE Act 1987 for making improvement in the quality of Technical Education. The AICTE ensures continuous improvement in the development of technical education in a planned and coordinated manner through various Boards of Studies and the National Board of Accreditation. The AICTE has since notified Regulations aimed at qualitative as well as quantitative improvement of technical education at all levels in the country. The Technical Education Boards are the constituent units of the respective State Governments.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Students Hostels

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

(a) whether there is any scheme to construct students hostels for boys in each district of U.P. and other States especially in backward areas;

(b) if so, the number of such hostels constructed so far, State-wise and area-wise;

(c) the financial assistance provided to each State in this regard till date; and

(d) the number of such hostels proposed to be constructed in future under the said scheme, area-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Regional Pharmacy Institutes

360. SHRI BHIM DAHAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Regional Pharmacy Institutes which are functioning in the North-Eastern States including Sikkim;

(b) the number of students admitted from the States out of quota within the North-Eastern States, State-wise;

(c) Whether the pro-rata contribution from each of the States is pending for few years in the diploma course;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) As per information received from the Ministry of Home Affairs, at present the Regional Institute of Pharmacy Agartala

(Tripura) is providing diploma and degree courses in Pharmacy for North-Eastern States.

(b) The intake capacity of the students in Diploma Level is 60 and Degree Level is 30.

State-wise admission during 1998-99 session were as follows:

Diploma : Tripura —24

Manipur —15

Candidates from Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh did not report and Mizoram surrendered the seat with prior intimation.

Degree: Tripura —7

Manipur —3

Arunachal Pradesh —3

Meghalaya —2

Assam —2

(c) to (e) Pro-rata contribution pending in diploma courses for the year 1998-99 are as follows:

Arunachal Pradesh Rs. 52,500.00

Mizoram Rs. 35,000.00

Manipur Rs. 13,47,000.00

Nagaland Rs. 1,75,000.00

The matter is being pursued vigorously by North Eastern Council for immediate payment for the year 1998-99.

Integrated Child Development Service Projects

361. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ICDS (Integrated Child Development Services) projects are being operated in the country at present, State-wise;

(b) whether these projects have achieved the desired results;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) 4200 ICDS Projects. State-wise list is attached as Statement.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Studies have revealed that areas which are covered by ICDS have better social indicators like nutritional and health status and school enrolment levels than those of Non-ICDS areas.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement*Integrated Child Development Service Projects*

Sl. No.	Name of the States/UTs	No. of operational ICDS Projects
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	209
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	45
3.	Assam	107
4.	Bihar	323
5.	Goa	11
6.	Gujarat	203
7.	Haryana	114
8.	Himachal Pradesh	72
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	113
10.	Karnataka	185
11.	Kerala	120
12.	Madhya Pradesh	355
13.	Maharashtra	271
14.	Manipur	32
15.	Meghalaya	30
16.	Mizoram	21
17.	Nagaland	41
18.	Orissa	279
19.	Punjab	110
20.	Rajasthan	191
21.	Sikkim	5
22.	Tamil Nadu	432
23.	Tripura	31
24.	Uttar Pradesh	560
25.	West Bengal	294
26.	A&N Islands	5
27.	Chandigarh	3
28.	Delhi	29

1	2	3
29.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1
30.	Daman & DIU	2
31.	Lakshadweep	1
32.	Pondicherry	5
Total		4200

Expenditure on Education in Public Sector

362. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether an expert committee on expenditure on education has recommended that atleast six percent of the gross domestic product be spent on education in the public sector;

(b) if so, the details of other recommendations made by the committee; and

(c) the time by which these recommendations are likely to be implemented by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (c) The Department constituted a group of Experts in June 1997 to examine the financial requirements of States/UTs for achieving the goal of Universalisation of Elementary Education, to suggest measures for mobilizing additional resources and to determine suitable sharing arrangements between the Centre and States. The Group Chaired by Prof. Tapas Majumdar have submitted its report. The major findings and recommendations of the Group include:

(i) Requirement of an additional estimated amount of Rs. 1,36,822 crore over a period of ten years to achieve the goal of UEE.

(ii) Enhancement of Government allocations for Education to 6% of GDP assuming an annual growth rate of 5% in real terms over this period.

(iii) Provision of additional resources for achieving UEE through augmentation of tax revenues, increase in non-tax revenues, and restructuring of Government expenditure in favour of education.

These recommendations are being examined in consultation with the State Governments.

HPT of Doordarshan/F.M. Radio Station at Kasaragod, Kerala

363. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal for installation of High Power Transmission Centre

for Doodarshan and F.M. Radio station at Kasaragod in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) Request for setting up of a High Power TV transmitter and a FM Radio station at Kasaragod has been received. However, there is no scheme at present to set up the same.

Insurance Scheme for School Children

364. SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce Group Insurance Scheme for school children for both public and Government schools; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Delay in Import of Laboratory Bred Transgenic Mice

365. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a crucial research by the National Institute of Immunology in understanding and predicting immense responses to disease microbes, aimed at inventing an effective AIDS vaccine, had been held up for over nine months due to the delay in import of laboratory bred transgenic mice; and

(b) if so, the extent of delay suffered and the reasons for the delay in granting permission for import and actual imports of the mice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA'): (a) and (b) The national Institute of Immunology has been conducting basic and applied research for the development of suitable diagnostics, vaccines and biological reagents for infectious and non-infectious diseases. For this purpose, the Institute imports pathogen free and genetically defined laboratory bred experimental animals. As part of procedure, the permission is to be obtained from the Committee for the Purpose of Control and Supervision of Experiments on Animals (CPCSEA) under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. After procedural formalities, the Institute has received permission from CPCSEA for the import of genetically defined, laboratory bred experimental mice.

Foundation of Dr. Ambedkar Memorial

366. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have allocated Rs. 10 crores to the Dr. Ambedkar Foundation for acquiring 26-Alipur Road, Delhi for foundation of Dr. Ambedkar Memorial;

(b) If so, the actual amount released by Dr. Ambedkar foundation to the Government of Delhi; and

(c) The present status for acquiring 26-Alipur Road, Delhi?

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

(b) Dr. Ambedkar Foundation has released an amount of Rs. 7.12 crores of the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi.

(c) The matter is still under consideration of the Government of India, in consultation with the Government of NCT of Delhi.

LPT in Rural Areas

367. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any plan to start more Low Power Transmission centres in the rural and hilly areas of the country particularly at Sitteri hills in Harur Taluk, Dharamapuri District, Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so the details thereof, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) While 265 TV transmitters of varying powers are presently under implementation in various parts of the country including the rural and hilly areas, there is no approved scheme, at present, for setting up of TV transmitter at Sitteri hills in Harur Taluk of Dharamapuri district, Tamil Nadu.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Sick Fertilizer Plant

368. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to revive the fertilizer plants located in Sindri and Barauni in Bihar;

(b) if so, the action taken for their revival and modernisation; and

(c) the time by which these are likely to be revived?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) to (c) Revised comprehensive rehabilitation proposals based on unit-wise techno-economic viability in respect of Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (FCI) including its Sindri unit and Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFC) including its Barauni unit are to be submitted to the competent authority in the Government. Since these companies stand referred to the BIFR, further action would have to be taken after the Government's decision and final sanction of BIFR in accordance with the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985.

[English]

Kendriya Vidyalaya in Moscow

369. SHRI RAJIAH MALYALA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the present staff strength and students enrolment in Kendriya Vidyalaya in Moscow;
- (b) whether the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan provide financial assistance to the Vidyalaya; and
- (c) if so, the details of assistance provided during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) The present staff strength of Kendriya Vidyalaya Moscow is 33 including 8 on part time and the total number of students enrolled in the Vidyalaya is 213.

(b) and (c) Kendriya Vidyalaya Moscow is a self financed Vidyalaya and generally Sangathan does not provide financial assistance. However, during 1997-98 financial assistance of Rs. 5 lakh was provided by the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan to KV, Moscow for infrastructure.

Grant for Paediatric Care to IGICH

370. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have released annual grant to Indira Gandhi Institute of Child Health, Bangalore for paediatric care during 1998-99;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the steps taken to release grant for 1998-99 and 1999-2000 to the said institution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (c) Government of Karnataka have released Rs. 125 lakhs as Grant in Aid to the Indira Gandhi Institute of Child Health, Bangalore during 1998-99. A budgetary provision of Rs. 80 lakhs is available under the State plan during 1999-2000. No request for release of Grant-in aid has been received from this Institution by Government of India.

[Translation]

Introduction of Yoga in Schools

371. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the measures being taken by the Government to teach yoga in the schools or other media to teach Yoga in the country;
- (b) whether the Government propose to give approval for imparting training of yoga in the educational institutes in various States;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) The National Curriculum Framework and Guidelines for Syllabi developed by the NCERT provide for the inclusion of Yoga in school curriculum at various stages of school education.

(b) and (c) The Government has been implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for 'Promotion of Yoga in Schools' since 1989-90. This Scheme has been currently revised with an objective of providing assistance for training teachers in Yoga. Yoga institutes of All India Character are to be given assistance for maintenance, research and for teacher training programmes.

- (d) Does not arise.

Dev Nagar Government Colony

372. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have stopped the allotment of Government quarters in Dev Nagar, Karol Bagh;
- (b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether all the quarters have been vacated;
- (d) if not, the time by which these are likely to be vacated;
- (e) whether there is lack of basic amenities to the rest of the residents of the colony;
- (f) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (g) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAG MOHAN): (a) and (b) There is a scheme for redevelopment of the Dev Nagar, Karol Bagh area and the utilisation of vacant pockets of land for construction of General Pool accommodation. There were 453 Type-C quarters (also known as 'E' type quarters). These quarters have been got vacated by giving alternate accommodation. Vacant quarters and land are under the watch and ward/maintenance of the CPWD.

(c) and (d) All, except 7 quarters which are with Municipal Corporation of Delhi and the CGHS dispensary, have since been got vacated. Efforts are being made to get these quarters vacated.

(e) to (g) Since there are no residents in this area under redevelopment scheme, as explained above there is no need for providing more amenities in the area.

[English]

Patients Suffering from Leprosy

373. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of patients suffering from leprosy in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether any efforts have been made to tackle the socio-economic aspects of leprosy;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) The number of patients suffering from leprosy in different States as on March, 1999 is given in the statement attached herewith.

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. The "Scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for the Rehabilitation of Leprosy Cured Persons" being implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, inter-alia focusses on the socio-economic aspects of leprosy by providing financial assistance to NGOs both in rural and urban slum areas. This scheme includes:

(i) Implementation of Programmes on early intervention in terms of medical, educational and counselling support.

(ii) Implementing outreach community bases pro-programmes where the field staff provides rehabilitative services and consultative inputs at the doorstep.

(iii) Implementing programmes for comprehensive rehabilitation covering vocational training, placement services and provision for Home for the Leprosy cured.

In addition, IEC activities and intensive public awareness campaigns are also being undertaken under the National Leprosy Elimination Programme, particularly during the Modified Leprosy Elimination Campaigns organised in all States and UTs.

Statement	
<i>Cases on Record as on March, 1999</i>	
S.No. State/UT	Cases on record at the end of month
1. Andhra Pradesh	35052
2. Arunachal Pradesh	440
3. Assam	5227
4. Bihar	162848
5. Goa	533
6. Gujarat	7473
7. Haryana	1021
8. Himachal Pradesh	625
9. Jammu and Kashmir	1403
10. Karnataka	12639
11. Kerala	4208
12. Madhya Pradesh	34385
13. Maharashtra	30977
14. Manipur	522
15. Meghalaya	492
16. Mizoram	106
17. Nagaland	61
18. Orissa	34452
19. Punjab	1752
20. Rajasthan	9863
21. Sikkim	110
22. Tamil Nadu	32713
23. Tripura	579
24. Uttar Pradesh	75992
25. West Bengal	52012
26. A & N islands	89
27. Chandigarh	582
28. D & N Haveli	258
29. Daman & Diu	46
30. Delhi	2352
31. Lakshadweep	12
32. Pondicherry	284
Total	509108

*[Translation]***Certification of Films**

374. SHRI RAMSHAKAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of films cleared by the Central Board for Film certification during each of the last three years;

(b) whether some of these films do not fulfill the prescribed criteria;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to enforce the prescribed criteria?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) The number of Indian and foreign films (feature films, short films and other films) certified by the Central Board of Film Certification during 1996, 1997 and 1998 is as under:

	1996	1997	1998
Theatrical films (35 mm etc. format)	1974	2064	2177
Video films	1263	1295	1029
Total	3237	3359	3206

(a) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) All films for public exhibition in India are certified by the Central Board of Film Certification in accordance with the provisions of the Cinematograph Act, 1952 and the guidelines issued thereunder. Review of the process of certification is an ongoing process. Some of the measures taken in this regard are:

(i) Scrutiny of songs and trailers of films to be telecast on Doordarshan;

(ii) Provision of 50% of the members of Examining and Revising Committees to be women to bring greater gender awareness into the process;

(iii) Issue of specific clarifications by the Board about interpretation of the frequently violated guidelines to ensure proper application of the guidelines; and

(iv) Showing of names of members of the Examining/ Revising Committee and Film Certification Appellate Tribunal, on whose recommendations the film is cleared for public exhibition, on the certificates granted to the film, with a view to introduce greater accountability.

*[English]***National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority**

375. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY:

SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

SHRI RAMESHETH THAKUR:

SHRI RAMCHANDER BAINDA:

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

(a) whether the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority has increased prices of some important medicines, life saving drugs during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the percentage of increase in each case;

(c) whether the frequent increase in prices of important life saving drugs has affected adversely on poor people;

(d) if so, the reasons for the frequent increase in the prices of drugs/medicines; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to control the frequent increase in their prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) to (e) During the last two years, the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has fixed/ revised the prices of 897 scheduled formulation packs, under DPCO, 95. Of the said 897 formulation packs, prices were raised for 378 packs, reduced for 372 packs, no change effected for 31 packs, and prices fixed for the first time for 116 packs. The percentage increase in respect of the 378 packs is as under:

Percentage Increase	No. of packs
0 to 25%	327
25 to 50%	46
Above 50%	5
Total	378

The price increases are allowed as per the provisions of DPCO, 95

The prices of medicines are regulated through the mechanism provided in the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995.

Use of Internet Technology

376. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the United Nations Development Programme has joined hands with mega information technology professionals for launching a global onslaught on poverty by using the Internet Technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of schemes being prepared by the United Nations Development Programme to fight against the poverty in India; and

(d) the extent to which the UNDP has provided help and assistance during 1999-2000?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As ascertained from United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) office their efforts in India include initiatives helping 4000 poor artisan families in States of India by revitalising the traditional leather sector in South India. UNDP is helping demonstrate a unique community-led and owned model of using local human and natural resources for poverty eradication and women's advancement.

Another UNDP supported programme is the South Asian Poverty Alleviation Programme (SAPAP) which has led to the empowerment of the poor and disadvantaged sections, especially, women in three districts of Andhra Pradesh through social mobilisation, skill development and capital formation.

UNDP's Asia Pacific Development information Programme (APDIP) and Cisco Systems, have already collaborated in the setting up of two Local Networking Academies in Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh and Ferozpur, Punjab.

(c) and (d) Details of the programmes and the assistance provided thereto under the Government of India/UNDP CCF-1 (Common Country Framework) as intimated by UNDP is not specific for the year 1999-2000 but pertains to the period 1997-2001 comprising the following:

Programmes	Total Allocation (Million)
1	2
1. Technology Management	
Programme Support	\$ 8.725
2. Community Based Primary Education	\$ 8.700
3. Community Based Pro-Poor initiatives	\$ 11.107
4. Environment Programme Support	\$ 8.004
5. Programme Support for Food Security	\$ 10.166

1	2
6. Leather	\$ 9.450
7. Rural Energy Programme Support	\$ 3.200
8. Fibres and Handicrafts	\$ 6.940
9. Small Scale Industries	\$ 3.376
10. Sand Dune Projects	\$ 3.224
11. Capacity Building in Public Administration	\$ 9.250
12. Economic Reforms Programme Support	\$ 1.840
13. Health Programme Support	\$ 4.500

In addition to the above CCF-1 programmes, there are also ongoing projects for the last cycle budget of \$39.085 m. As of November, 1999, the committed level is \$56.978 m. A sum of \$31.504 m. is likely to be committed by early next year.

Non-Functioning of Machines in Safdarjung Hospital

377. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV:
SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI:

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

(a) whether a large number of Machines are out of order in Safdarjung Hospital;

(b) if so, the details of those machines and the reasons for non-functioning of those machines;

(c) since when those machines are out of use; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to get those machines repaired and to improve the working conditions in Safdarjung Hospital?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) No. of machines temporarily out of order is as under:

Name of Deptt.	No. of machine
Anaesthesia	One
Radiology	One
Eye	One
Medicine	One
CSSD	One
Cardiology	One

(b) to (d) Procurement of spare parts is under process. A Statement is enclosed.

Statement*List of Non-Functional Equipments for November - 1999*

Sl. No.	Name of Equipment	Non-functional since
1.	Defibrillator-cum-Monitor Lohemier	1/99
2.	1000 MA X-Ray Machine	11/96
3.	Argon laser	5/94
4.	Systemex K-1000	9/97
5.	Vacuum Steam Sterilizer	8/96
6.	TMT Machine	1996

Assistance for Training and Employment for Women

378. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government provide assistance for the training and employment programmes for women;

(b) if so, the allocation made under this programme during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise; and

(c) the number of women benefited under this programme during the said period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) The Department of Women and Child Development in the Ministry of Human Resource Development provides assistance through two Schemes. Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women (STEP) and Women's Economic Programme (NORAD). Under these Schemes, no State-wise allocation of funds is made.

(c) A statement is enclosed.

Statement

State-wise number of women benefited under these programmes during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise

Name of the State	Year-wise Number of Beneficiaries			
	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	28420	7575	2420
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	50	—
3.	Assam	—	—	1920
4.	Bihar	1240	270	8905

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Chandigarh Administration	—	—	60
6.	Delhi	1560	1560	19970*
7.	Goa	60	—	—
8.	Gujarat	530	580	2300
9.	Haryana	855	13990	590
10.	Himachal Pradesh	—	1045	2500
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	630	530	1975
12.	Kerala	2030	850	1000
13.	Karnataka	47910	10400	290
14.	Maharashtra	230	10775	10865
15.	Madhya Pradesh	1660	1020	190
16.	Manipur	1920	1360	1525
17.	Meghalaya	115	—	—
18.	Orissa	410	330	4280
19.	Punjab	2870	1720	1480
20.	Rajasthan	580	290	400
21.	Tamil Nadu	2175	440	560
22.	Tripura	—	2500	4200
23.	Uttar Pradesh	11120	24015	27340
24.	West Bengal	130	11695	450

* This includes beneficiaries of National level Organisations to whom money is sanctioned at New Delhi.

[Translation]

Regional Languages

379. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to promote Regional Languages and Sanskrit;

(b) if so, the steps taken in that direction during Eighth Five Year Plan and funds provided for the purpose to each State particularly to Central Institute of Regional Language, Mysore; and

(c) the Scheme prepared in that regard for Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government of India has been implementing several schemes for the promotion of Regional Languages and Sanskrit. The Government promotes Sanskrit through various organisations like Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, Kendriya Sanskrit Vidyapeeth, Adarsh Maha-vidyalaya/Shodh Sansthans, Maharshi Sandipani Ved Vidya Pratishthan etc. All the schemes are continued in the current Five Year Plan also. For the effective promotion of Regional Languages and Sanskrit, several institutions including Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore and its Regional Languages Centres have also been established. The schemes, inter-alia include financial assistance to individuals, voluntary organisations and States for publication, purchase of books, research, training and other programmes. The financial outlay for the development of languages as a whole including Sanskrit for the Eighth Five Year Plan was Rs. 68.45 crore. The same for the IX Five Year Plan is Rs. 258.95 crore.

[English]

I.C.H.R. Project

380. SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to review all the projects started by Indian Council of Historical research; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

No. of application received for verification of marks		No. of Answer books involved in verification.		No. of answer books where discrepancies detected	
Class X	Class XII	Class X	Class XII	Class X	Class XII
24411	29302	36749	47977	1025	1097

After checking of answer scripts and verification of marks, the results were communicated to the applicants.

Medical Facilities to Government Employees

382. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Central Government employees are working in Hyderabad;

(b) if so, whether these employees have to go a very long distance for medical facilities;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the number of referral hospitals for these employees in Hyderabad;

(e) whether the Government have inspected/surveyed some hospitals near the Central Government residential colonies to include them in referral hospitals;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) and (b) The Government has appointed a Review Committee under the chairmanship of Shri A.K. Ray to review the progress and work of the Indian Council of Historical Research since its inception in relation to its objectives. The review is to be both quantitative and qualitative.

Revaluation of Marks in CBSE Examination

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

(a) whether complaints have been received regarding valuation, revaluation and tabulation of marks in CBSE examinations of tenth and twelfth classes; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken to redress the grievances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) and (b) As per information furnished by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), the details regarding applications received for verification of marks after the declaration of results of 1999 examinations conducted by the Board and action taken by the Board in this regard are given below:

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the time by which such more hospitals are likely to be included in the list of referral hospitals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The question does not arise in view of (b) above.

(d) There are 24 referral hospitals, including 7 super specialties, 12 Nursing Homes and 5 diagnostic centres, in Hyderabad. These hospitals are within the convenient distance of the Central Government employees and other beneficiaries.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) and (g) The questions do not arise in view of (c) above.

*[Translation]***Housing Scheme for Bihar**

383. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bihar Government has submitted any Housing Schemes to the Union Government for clearance and financial assistance;

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

(c) the present position of these schemes, scheme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) to (c) There is no Central Sector Scheme for providing direct loan/subsidy assistance for urban housing and Govt. of Bihar has not submitted any scheme to the Union Government for financing urban housing. However, Housing and Urban Development Corporation Ltd. (HUDCO) till 31.10.1999 has sanctioned 210 housing projects spread over 30 cities/towns in the State of Bihar. HUDCO has committed a loan of Rs. 248.15 crore for these projects with a project cost of Rs. 387.58 crore.

During the current year, as on 31.10.99, HUDCO has sanctioned 4 housing projects worth Rs. 3.16 crore with HUDCO loan of Rs. 1.86 crore out of Rs. 64.26 crore allocated for 1999-2000 for financing housing schemes in Bihar. 2 housing schemes seeking HUDCO loan assistance of Rs. 72.24 lakh have been posed to HUDCO and are under consideration.

*[English]***Waqf Board**

384. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi High Court has given any direction to the Union Government to issue any notification within the constitution of the Waqf Board;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) The reaction of the Union Government in this regard; and

(d) If not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The High Court of Delhi in their Order dated 12.07.96 directed that the Central Government shall issue notification empowering under Clause (1) of Article 239 of the Constitution the Lt. Governor of Union Territory of the National Capital Territory of Delhi to exercise the powers and discharge the functions of the State Government under the Wakf Act of 1995.

(c) The relevant notification was issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs on 19.08.1996 bearing No. 572(E) on 19.8.1996.

(d) Does not arise.

Autonomy to Doordarshan/AIR

385. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to impart autonomy to Doordarshan and All India Radio;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to impart impartiality to these organisations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) Doordarshan and All India Radio function under Prasar Bharati within the legal parameters of the Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990 with effect from 23rd November, 1997.

(c) Does not arise.

Closure of Fertilizer Units

386. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Fertilizer units closed down and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether there is any proposal to revive those closed and sick fertilizer units; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) and (b) Production at the following plants of Fertilizer Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) under the administrative control of this Department had to be discontinued for reasons of safety/feedstock limitation or unviability:

1. Ammonia Urea units at Gorakhpur, Ramagundam and Talcher of Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd (FCI).
2. Ammonia-urea units at Durgapur, Barauni and Namrup-I & II of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFC).
3. Dehradun (Mussoorie Phos.), Amjhore and Saladipura (SSP) Units of Pyrites, Phosphates and Chemicals Ltd. (PPCL).
4. Urea-I units of Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd. (RCF) at Trombay

(c) The revival of Gorakhpur plant of FCI has not been found techno-economically feasible. Process is on to enable KRIBHCO to set up a new Fertilizer plant at the existing site.

Comprehensive rehabilitation proposals for Ramagundam and Tacher units (FCI) Durgapur and Barauni units (HFC) on the basis of unitwise techno-economic viability are to be submitted to the competent authority in the Government and thereafter for final sanction of Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction.

The Government has approved the revival of Namrup units of HFC at an estimated fresh investment of Rs. 350 crore. Arrangements have also been made for augmenting the supply of natural gas to these units. The Ammonium Sulphate plant of Namrup-I is to be scrapped as it has been found to be unviable and unsafe to operate.

Inter-ministerial consultations are on for restructuring of Dehradun, Amjhore and Saladipura units of PPCL.

The restart of RCF's Trombay-I urea plant requiring major repairs has not been found techno-economically viable and the company has decided not to operate this plant.

Increase in Patients Suffering From AIDS

387. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

SHRI H.G. RAMULU:

SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:

DR. BALIRAM:

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

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "3.5 million Indian Carry AIDS Virus" appearing in the Times of India dated November 10, 1999;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the reasons for increase in AIDS cases in the country;

(d) the number of patients suffering from AIDS identified during the last three years, State/Union Territory-wise;

(e) the number of dispensaries and hospitals opened during the said period in Delhi alongwith the number of dispensaries and hospitals likely to be opened by 2001;

(f) whether any medicines have been invented for the treatment of AIDS patients;

(g) if so, the details thereof;

(h) if not, the reasons therefor;

(i) the amount spent so far during 1999-2000 in various States under the National AIDS Control Programme, State-wise; and

(j) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to eradicate AIDS in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM):
(a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

On the basis of sentinel surveillance data collected during August-October, 1999, HIV infection estimates have been made which comes to 3.5 million.

(c) HIV infection is a chronic infection with the long incubation period varying between 5-10 years. During this period, the infected person may not manifest any clinical manifestations but he/she may spread infection to the community. Besides, there is no drug, which can eliminate HIV infection from the individual once infected with HIV. Thus, there is an increase in cumulative number of HIV/AIDS infections despite control measures.

(d) The number of AIDS cases identified during the last 3 years is appended below:

1997	1984
1998	1548
1999	(till Oct., 1991) 2802

(e) 15 dispensaries have been opened during the calendar period 1996-98 by Delhi Govt. 20 dispensaries are proposed to be opened by March, 2000 and 20 by March 2001.

(f) to (h) Yes, Sir. Medicines like anti-retroviral and drugs for opportunistic infection are available for the treatment of AIDS cases. They only prolong and improve the quality of life of HIV/AIDS cases without any cure.

(i) A statement is attached herewith.

(j) In order to prevent and control the spread of HIV/AIDS in India, a comprehensive Programme is currently under implementation throughout the country as a centrally sponsored scheme. The main strategy consists of:

- Strengthening programme management capabilities at Central and State level.
- Creation of awareness amongst high risk behaviour groups and general public about HIV/AIDS.
- Control of Sexually transmitted diseases.
- Promoting blood safety and rational use of blood through proper licensing of blood banks and encouraging voluntary blood donations.
- Strengthening capacity for surveillance and diagnosis; and

— Extending training in clinical Management of HIV/AIDS cases.

Statement

Statement showing amount spent during 1999-2000

National AIDS Control Programme
Release of Funds during 1999-2000

S. No.	Name of State	Rs. (in lakhs) Total
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	950.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	159.00
3.	Assam	172.00
4.	Bihar	55.00
5.	Goa	48.00
6.	Gujarat	446.00
7.	Haryana	70.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	88.00
9.	J&K	25.00
10.	Karnataka	382.00
11.	Kerala	30.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	352.31
13.	Maharashtra	400.00
14.	Manipur	182.71
15.	Meghalaya	70.14
16.	Mizoram	68.00
17.	Nagaland	210.00
18.	Orissa	50.00
19.	Punjab	237.39
20.	Rajasthan	50.00
21.	Sikkim	25.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	670.00
23.	Tripura	25.00

1	2	3
24.	Uttar Pradesh	451.00
25.	West Bengal	175.00
26.	NCT Delhi	233.00
27.	Pondichery	25.00
28.	A & N Islands	50.00
29.	Chandigarh	90.00
30.	D & N Haveli	25.00
31.	Daman & Diu	45.00
32.	Lakshadweep	25.00
33.	MDACS, Mumbai	570.00
34.	Ahmedabad	75.00
35.	Chennai MC	25.00
Total		6554.55

Employment Generation Schemes

388. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to provide/generate employment to the Urban unemployed youth of the country during each of the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of persons benefited by these schemes during the said period, State-wise/Scheme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) and (b) This Ministry has not formulated any specific scheme for providing employment to the youth. However, this Ministry has been implementing Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) w.e.f. 1.12.1997 for providing self employment and wage employment opportunities to urban poor living below poverty line.

(c) The State-wise details of Central funds released and physical progress achieved under SJSRY during 1997-98 and 1998-99 is given in enclosed Statement.

Statement
Swarna Jayanty Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY)

S. No	State/UTs	Central funds released under USEP & UWEP*		Beneficiaries assisted to set up micro enterprises		Mandays of work generated
		1997-98 (Rupees in lakhs)	1998-99	1997-98	1998-99	1997-98 + 1998-99 (in lakhs)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	742.06	948.07	NR	1460	5.76
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	29.03	44.11	NR	NR	1.04
3.	Assam	444.94	562.04	NR	NR	NIL
4.	Bihar	414.43	541.00	NR	102	4.65
5.	Goa	13.36	19.47	NR	NR	NR
6.	Gujarat	465.03	547.78	NR	2599	0.90
7.	Haryana	65.72	93.17	NR	167	0.44
8.	Himachal Pradesh	32.62	53.14	NR	NR	3.99
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	38.07	48.71	NR	82	0.15
10.	Karnataka	619.35	769.51	NR	NR	6.40
11.	Kerala	186.45	260.39	NR	NR	1.79
12.	Madhya Pradesh	818.12	1047.59	10366	9328	14.58
13.	Maharashtra	1183.69	1401.08	NR	1850	6.79
14.	Manipur	102.83	129.91	NR	NR	NR
15.	Meghalaya	68.17	83.59	NR	NR	0.25
16.	Mizoram	64.56	84.88	NR	978	0.92
17.	Nagaland	37.54	60.43	NR	NR	0.27
18.	Orissa	196.98	250.70	NR	253	6.79
19.	Punjab	51.33	93.40	NR	93	2.15
20.	Rajasthan	285.36	430.43	NR	4946	3.60
21.	Sikkim	10.88	16.38	NR	NR	0.44
22.	Tamil Nadu	854.48	1023.18	NR	2468	40.03
23.	Tripura	83.63	106.74	NR	NR	1.50
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1038.36	1377.91	NR	18072	27.65
25.	West Bengal	460.01	568.39	NR	167	11.60
26.	A & N Islands	59.85	92.25	NR	NR	0.53
27.	Chandigarh	41.00	41.18	NR	5	—
28.	D & N Haveli	7.00	17.90	16	3	0.62
29.	Daman & Diu	42.75	42.67	NR	20	0.04
30.	Delhi	24.41	121.29	NR	NR	—
31.	Pondicherry	20.89	49.71	NR	50	0.15
Total		8502.90	10927.00	10382	42643	143.03

* USEP = Urban Self Employment Programme
UWEP = Urban Wage Employment Programme
NR = Not reported

Use of Basement Space

389. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that enormous built up basement space allotted to members of DDA-Group Housing Societies, including the Delhi Group Housing Society, around Patpar Ganj Depot, Delhi, has been lying unused and locked up for

many years;

(b) if so, the reasons for not handing over possession to respective members; and

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

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAG MOHAN) : (a) to (c) DDA has reported that as per Policy/

Building Bye-Laws, the basement is meant for common parking and Services and the same is not allotted to any individual member. It is the responsibility of the Management Committee of each Society to ensure that the basement is used only for bonafide purposes.

National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

390. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the findings/decisions of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are not being implemented by some of the Public Sector Undertakings/Banks and Financial Institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government to ensure implementation of the findings/decisions of the Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) From the records since 1996, it is found that no case has been reported where the findings/decisions of the National Commission for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have been rejected. The National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes had communicated its findings/decisions in 30 cases since 1996 in respect of Public Sector Undertakings/Banks and Financial Institutions. Out of these 30 cases, decisions in 10 cases have been implemented, 3 findings were partially complied with while in the case of 17 findings either the concerned institutions have filed cases in the Court of Law or referred back the same to the Commission for reconsideration of its decision.

AIDS Awareness/Education Programmes by Media

391. SHRI P.D. ELANGOVAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government have any plan to rejuvenate the Field Publicity Activities, Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity Programmes and Mass-Media Camps particularly in rural areas; and

(b) If so, the steps taken or being taken by the Directorate of Field Publicity and DAVP to promote AIDS Awareness campaigns and Education Programmes like total literacy campaigns etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following steps have been taken to promote AIDS awareness campaigns and literacy campaigns:

- (i) DAVP has been producing a 10 minute sponsored radio programme in Hindi and in 11 regional languages on AIDS awareness entitled 'Jyoti aur Jine Do'. The programme is being broadcast from 30 Commercial Broadcasting Stations throughout the country.
- (ii) Three books and two folders called 'IEC Packages' on AIDS Awareness have been printed and are being distributed to NGOs and Project Directors.
- (iii) On literacy, DAVP released a full page advertisement supplement on the occasion of 'International Literacy Day'. Besides, two more advertisements were released on all India basis entitled 'Reading, Writing, Understanding—Our Window to the World'.
- (iv) The Directorate of Field Publicity has been using innovative communication techniques to target different groups on AIDS awareness. During the year 98-99, 3344 film shows and photo exhibitions have been organised. There were 2100 special programmes and 4000 group discussions during which experts tried to remove misconceptions and wrong notions about AIDS and how it spreads.

Doordarshan Channels

392. SHRI RAJAIHA MALYALA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Doordarshan channels which are available on national network at present;

(b) the duration of each telecast and the coverage of each of the said channels; and

(c) the number of Doordarshan channels that are in operation for the benefit of people living in other country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) Doordarshan operates two terrestrial networks viz DD-I and DD-II. The terrestrial reach of DD-I is 74.8% of the Geographical area and 87.9% of the population in India. The DD-II service is presently available in approximately sixty cities and adjoining areas. Doordarshan also operates eleven regional language channels, one Sports channel and one News channel which can be received through dish antenna/cable network throughout the country. There is one exclusive satellite channel targeted for viewers outside India.

The duration of Telecast of each of these channels is given in enclosed Statement.

Statement*Doordarshan Channels
duration of telecast and estimated reach*

Channel	Duration of Telecast (Hours per Week)
1	2
DD-1 National	168
DD-2 Metro Entertainment	168
DD-Sports	86
DD-News	168
DD-India International	126
DD-4 Malayalam (RLSC)	78
DD-5 Tamil (RLSC)	93
DD-6 Oriya (RLSC)	53
DD-7 Bengali (RLSC)	72
DD-8 Telugu (RLSC)	75
DD-9 Kannada (RLSC)	72
DD-10 Marathi (RLSC)	61
DD-11 Gujarati (RLSC)	74
DD-12 Kashmiri (RLSC)	54
DD-13 Assamese and languages of North East (RLSC)	56
DD-18 Punjabi (RLSC)	41

RLSC - Regional Language Satellite Channel.

Setting up of Kannada Channel

393. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has requested the Union Government to set up a full-fledged Kannada channel on the National Doordarshan network;

(b) whether the Government of Karnataka has agreed to contribute some share of the expenditure in this regard; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Review of Health Workers Scheme

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

(a) whether a special committee which was constituted to review and appraise the functioning of the public health worker scheme has submitted its report to the Government;

(b) if so, the date on which the committee submitted its report and the salient features thereof;

(c) whether any action has been taken by the Government thereon;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which the recommendations of the committee are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Committee submitted its report in November, 1998. The important findings of the committee are:

(i) The scheme is not being implemented in Arunachal Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Jammu and Kashmir, Goa and Daman and Diu. Andhra Pradesh had closed down the scheme.

(ii) Assam, Haryana and Gujarat have dispensed with the services of male health guides.

(iii) Only States of Maharashtra, Tripura and West Bengal are in favour of continuing the scheme. They all want central assistance and increase in honorarium to Rs. 500 p.m. Associations of VHGs demand continuation of the scheme and increase in honorarium.

(v) The scheme is in disuse. The State Governments do not even have lists of VHGs on their rolls and therefore, the composition of VHGs in terms of age or qualification is not ascertainable. Some VHGs are reported to be even prescribing treatment.

(vi) The Committee recommended that while there is need to have link workers between community and the health set-up, the arrangement has to be local specific and should answer local needs. The scheme has fallen in such disuse that it cannot be realistically revived or be made useful.

(c) to (e) The matter is under consideration of Government, and decision will be taken soon.

*[English]***Universities in Country**

395. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Universities in the country, State-wise and the number of students enrolled with them;

(b) whether there is any proposal to increase the number of universities; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) A statement indicating State-wise number of Universities in the country is attached herewith. An estimated 70.78 lakh students were enrolled in institutions of higher education in 1997-98.

(b) and (c) The general approach of the Government is to strengthen and consolidate the Central Universities already established, rather than spreading the resources available for this purpose too thin by establishing more Central Universities. However, the commitments already made in this regard will be honoured.

Statement

Sl. No.	State/University
1	2
(A)	Universities
Andhra Pradesh	
1.	Osmania
2.	Andhra
3.	Sri Venkateswara
4.	Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural
5.	Jawaharlal Nehru Technological
6.	Hyderabad
7.	Kakatiya
8.	Nagarjuna
9.	Sri Krishnadevaraya
10.	Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Open
11.	Sri Padmavati Mahila
12.	Potti Sriramulu Telgu
13.	Andhra Pradesh University of Health Sciences
14.	Sri Venkateswara Instt. of Medical Sciences

1	2
15.	Dravidian University
16.	Maulana Azad National Urdu
Arunachal Pradesh	
17.	Arunachal
Assam	
18.	Guahati
19.	Dibrugarh
20.	Assam Agricultural
21.	Assam
22.	Tezpur
Bihar	
23.	Patna
24.	Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar
25.	T.M. Bhagalpur
26.	Ranchi
27.	K.S. Darbhanga Sanskrit
28.	Magadh
29.	Rajendra Agricultural
30.	Lalit Narayan Mithlia
31.	Birsa Agricultural
32.	Sidhu Kanhu
33.	Bhupendra Narayan Nandal
34.	Vinoba Bhave
35.	Veer Kumar Singh
36.	Jai Prakash
37.	Nalanda Open
Goa	
38.	Goa
Gujarat	
39.	Maharaja Sayajirao Univ. of Baroda
40.	Gujarat
41.	Sardar Patel
42.	Saurashtra
43.	South Gajarat
44.	Gujarat Ayurveda

1	2	1	2
45.	Gujarat Agricultural	74.	Kerala Agricultural
46.	Bhavnagar	75.	Mahatma Gandhi
47.	North Gujarat	76.	Shree Sankarachary University of Sanskrit
48.	Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Open	77.	Kannur University
Haryana		Madhya Pradesh	
49.	Kurukshetra	78.	Dr. Hari Singh Gaur
50.	Choudary Charan Singh Haryana Agrcultural	79.	Indira Kala Sangeet
51.	Maharishi Dayanand	80.	Rani Durgadevi
52.	Guru Jhambeswar	81.	Vikram
Himachal Pradesh		82.	Devi Ahilya
53.	Himachal Pradesh	83.	Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi
54.	Himachal Pradesh Agricultural	84.	Jiwaji
55.	Dr. Y.S. Parmar University of Horticulture & Forestry	85.	Ravi Shankar
Jammu & Kashmir		86.	Awadesh Pratap Singh
56.	Kashmir	87.	Barkatulla
57.	Jammu	88.	Guru Ghasidas
58.	She-re-Kashmir Univ. of Agricultural Sc. & Technology	89.	Indira Gandhi Krishi
Karnataka		90.	Chitrakoot Gram-oday
59.	Mysore	91.	Makhanlal Chaturvedi Rastriya Patrakarita
60.	Karnataka	92.	M.P. Bhoj Open
61.	Bangalore	Maharashtra	
62.	University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore	93.	Mumbai
63.	Gulbarga	94.	Nagpur
64.	Mangalore	95.	Poona
65.	University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharward	96.	Smt. Nathibai Damodar Thackersey
66.	Kuvempu	97.	Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Marathwada
67.	Kannada	98.	Shivaji
68.	National Law School of India	99.	Mahatma
69.	Karnataka State Open University	100.	Punjabrao Krishi
70.	Rajiv Gandhi Univ. of Health Science	101.	Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth
Kerala		102.	Marathwada Agricultural
71.	Kerala	103.	Amaravati
72.	Calicut	104.	Yashwant Rao Chavan Maharashtra Open
73.	Cochin University of Science & Technology	105.	North Maharashtra
		106.	Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Technological

1	2	1	2
107.	Swami Ramanand Teerth Marathwada	134.	Bharathidasan
108.	Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya	135.	Mother Teresa Women's
Manipur		136.	Alagappa
109.	Manipur	137.	Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical
Meghalaya		138.	Tamil Nadu Veterinary & Animal Sciences
110.	North Eastern Hill	139.	Manonmanian Sundarnar
Nagaland		140.	Periyar University
111.	Nagaland	Tripura	
Orissa		141.	Tripura
112.	Utkal	Uttar Pradesh	
113.	Orissa University of Agriculture & Technology	142.	Allahabad
114.	Berhampur	143.	Banaras Hindu
115.	Sambalpur	144.	Aligarh Muslim
116.	Shri Jagannath Sanskrit	145.	Lucknow
Punjab		146.	Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University
117.	Punjab	147.	Roorkee
118.	Punjab Agricultural	148.	Gorakhpur
119.	Punjabi	149.	Sampurnanand Sanskrit
120.	Guru Nanak Dev	150.	G.B. Pant University of Agriculture & Technology
Rajasthan		151.	Choudhary Charan Singh
121.	Rajasthan	152.	Sri Sahuji Maharaj
122.	Jai Narain Vyas	153.	Hemvati Nandan Bahuguna
123.	Mohan Lal Sukhadia	154.	Kumaon
124.	Kota Open	155.	Chandra Shekar Azad Univ. of Agriculture & Tech.
125.	Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati	156.	Kashi Vidyapeeth
126.	Rajasthan Agricultural	157.	Narendra Deo University of Agriculture & Technology
Tamil Nadu		158.	Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Awadh
127.	Madras	159.	Bundelkhand
128.	Annamalai	160.	Rohilkhand
129.	Madurai Kamaraj	161.	Purvanchal
130.	Tamil Nadu Agricultural	162.	Baba Saheb Ambedkar University, Lucknow
131.	Anna	West Bengal	
132.	Tamil	163.	Calcutta
133.	Bharathiar	164.	Vishwa Bharati
		165.	Jadavpur

1	2
166.	Burdwan
167.	Kalyani
168.	North Bengal
169.	Rabindra Bharati
170.	Bidhan Chandra Krishi
171.	Vidya Sagar
172.	West Bengal Univ. of Animal and Fishery Sciences
173.	Netaji Subhash Open

NCT of Delhi

174. Delhi
175. Jawaharlal Nehru
176. Indira Gandhi National Open
177. Jamia Millia Islamia

Pondicherry (U.T.)

178. Pondicherry

Job Security to Disabled

396. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has dismal record among the Community of Nations in providing job security to the disabled;
(b) if so, the reasons therefor;
(c) whether the Disabilities Act has not been implemented fully;
(d) the total number of disabled persons at present in the country; and
(e) the steps taken by the Union Government to provide suitable jobs to the disabled throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.
(c) No, Sir. The Act is being implemented.

(d) As per the survey conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation in 1991, about 16.15 million persons in the country are suffering from visual, hearing, speech and Locomotor disabilities. Another Sample Survey conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation in 1991 for persons with delayed mental development between 1-14 Years of age group estimates that about 3% of the total population has delayed mental development.

(e) Under Section 33 of the persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 every appropriate Government shall appoint in every establishment such percentage of vacancies not less than three per cent for persons or class of persons with disabilities of which one per cent each shall be reserved for persons suffering from:

- (i) Blindness or low vision;
(ii) Hearing impairment;
(iii) Locomotor disability or cerebral palsy.

In the posts identified for each disability.

At present there are 51 Special Employment Exchanges and 39 Special Cells for disabled persons throughout the country for getting them registered for gainful employment.

Technical Education

397. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the name of the States where the World Bank aided technical education programme are being implemented;
(b) whether any such programme is being implemented in Karnataka particularly in Mysore; and
(c) if so, the details alongwith the coverage thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) A project for strengthening Technician Education in the country with World Bank assistance was launched by Government of India in two phases. The first phase of the project started in December, 1990 and ended on 30.9.98. The second phase started in January, 1992 and ended on 31.10.99.

Phase-I of the project covered the States of Bihar, Goa, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. In Phase-II of the project Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, NCT of Delhi and UT of Pondicherry, were covered.

(b) and (c) Yes, Karnataka was included in Phase-I of the project. A total of 39 Polytechnics were developed, of which three are located in Mysore.

A new Polytechnic for Physically Handicapped was set up under the project in Mysore, with intake of 120 Students, from different states in the country, in various programmes.

The quality of educational services have improved under the project in J.S.S. Polytechnic (Govt. aided Polytechnic) for Women and in CPC Government Polytechnic, Mysore.

*[Translation]***Relay Centres, Bihar**

398. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in Bihar covered under the programmes relayed by local relay centres and National Network;

(b) whether the Government propose to formulate any schemes for expanding their range;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Doordarshan transmitters cover about 94.2% of the rural population of Bihar. However, no survey has been conducted to ascertain the village-wise coverage of TV service in Bihar.

(b) and (c) For further expansion of TV coverage in Bihar, the following projects are presently under implementation:

1. The LPT at Jamshedpur and Patna are being replaced with HPT.
2. Two HPTs are being set up at Ranchi and Muza-farpur for DD-II.
3. New LPTs are being set up at Barharwa, Chatra, Rosera and Ramnagar for DD-I.

(d) Does not arise.

*[English]***WHO Programme on Essential Drugs**

399. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Health Organisation of India has held a Programme on Essential Drugs in New Delhi;

(b) if so, whether this meeting discussed on-going programmes in the different States during the current year and balance for the next year;

(c) if so, the main decisions arrived at; and

(d) the project likely to be undertaken during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Allocation of Special Central assistance for Tribal Development

400. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the assistance provided by the Government for tribal development to States during the last three years;

(b) whether the assistance given to Southern States has been declining as compared to other States:

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to remove the discrepancy?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM) : (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(b) No, Sir. Grants out of Special Central Assistance to TSP are allocated to the States on the basis of approved norms but actual releases are made on the basis of receipt of utilisation certificates of previous years' releases from the States/UTs.

Statement

Release of Funds under Special Central Assistance for Tribal Sub-Plan during 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	State/UTs	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Praedesh	2287.52	2581.54	2728.47
2.	Assam	1524.71	1460.00	2069.56
3.	Bihar	3364.00	0.0	0.00
4.	Gujarat	2642.95	2632.77	3689.70
5.	Himachal Pradesh	622.44	521.89	689.44
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	681.54	521.80	739.22
7.	Karnataka	569.50	500.00	686.64
8.	Kerala	153.71	196.12	408.17
9.	Madhya Pradesh	7695.71	9207.83	9476.17
10.	Maharashtra	3160.78	3400.89	3532.21
11.	Manipur	653.22	950.00	779.52
12.	Orissa	4411.44	5576.27	5911.86
13.	Rajasthan	2467.32	2341.13	3475.72
14.	Sikkim	138.41	60.00	60.00
15.	Tamil Nadu	238.81	243.71	295.91
16.	Tripura	594.48	885.00	977.77
17.	Utter Pradesh	90.39	112.91	57.54
18.	West Bengal	1558.07	1600.39	2222.10
19.	A&N Island	95.18	118.00	133.90
20.	Daman & Diu	49.82	50.75	66.10
Total		33000.00	32961.00	38000.00

Note : The above release include Additional Special Central Assistance given to State Governments against their proposals.

Centralised Accidents and Trauma System

401. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA:

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

(a) whether any Centralised Accidents and Trauma system has been in operation in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of ambulances and other vans operating thereunder:

(c) the average time a mobile ambulance takes to reach at accident site;

(d) whether there is any proposal to augment the system;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM):
(a) There is a Centralised Accident and Trauma Services (CATS) under the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi.

(b) CATS have 21 ambulances which are deployed at 21 different location points. The ambulances are equipped with wireless equipment and other sophisticated first-aid equipments.

(c) 10 to 15 minutes.

(d) to (f) CATS has plans of purchasing new Ambulance Vans to augment the system, subject to availability of resources.

[Translation]

Conversion of LPT into HPT in Maharashtra

402. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Low Power/High Power TV transmitters operating in Maharashtra at present, location-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to convert LPTs into HPTs in the State;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any request regarding conversion of Low Power Transmitters into High Power Transmitters has been received from the State;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) 87 transmitters of varying powers are presently functioning in Maharashtra are given in enclosed Statement.

(b) and (c) Four Low Power TV transmitters at Chandrapur, Jalgaon, Ratnagiri and Nagpur (DD2) are being replaced with High Power Transmitters.

(d) No such request has been received from State Government in the recent past.

(e) and (f) Does not arise.

Statement*Present DD transmitters in Maharashtra*

(a) HPTs (6 Nos.)

Ambajogai

Aurangabad

Mumbai

Mumbai (DD2)

Nagpur

Pune

(b) LPTs (71 NOs.)

Achalpur Chandrapur Karanja

Acot Chandur Khamgaon

Aheri Chikhli Khopoli

Ahmednagar Chiplun Kinwat

Akluj Deorukh Kolhapur

Akola Dhule Mahad

Amalner Diglur Malegaon

Amravati Garhchiroli Mangaon

Arvi Gondia Manmad

Ambajogai Hinganghat Mehekar
(DD2) Hingoli Mhasle

Barshi Ichalkaranji Morshi

Bhandara Jalgaon Nagpur (DD2)

Bhusawal Jalna Nanded

Bid Kankauli Nandurbar

Brahampuri Karad Nasik

Buldana

Private Channels

Navapur	Sangamner	Tumsar
Osmanabad	Sangli	Umerga
Pandharpur	Satana	Umerkhed
Parbhani	Shatara	Wani
Pusad	Shahad	Wardha
Rajapur	Shirpur	Washim
Ratnagiri	Sholapur	Yavatmal
Rishod	Sironcha	

404. SHRI RAJAJIAH MALYALA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of private channels available in the country through cable network;

(b) the details of places from which these channels are being operated;

(c) whether some new private channels are expected to be started; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (d) Details of the Indian satellite channels/ companies which have been permitted to uplink from the country is attached herewith as statement. In addition, a number of foreign satellite channels are also available in the country which are operating from outside the country and are not obliged to take permission from Indian authorities. As such, information regarding their place of operation, future activities etc. are not maintained by the Government.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the company/channel	Place of operation
1.	TV International	Delhi
2.	Uday TV Private Ltd.	Chennai
3.	Gemini TV	Chennai
4.	Sumangali Publication Private Ltd.	Chennai
5.	Eenadu TV	Hyderabad
6.	Asianet Communications Ltd.	Chennai
7.	Vijay TV	Chennai
8.	Jain TV	Delhi

New Courses in IGNOU

405. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indira Gandhi National Open University has proposed to start new courses; and

(b) if so, the details of the new courses proposed to be started in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(c) VLPTs (9 Nos.)

Badlapur	Khed
Bhokar	Koregaon
Chikaldhara	Malkapur
Junnar	Malwan
Karjat	

(d) Transposer (1 No.)

Aurangabad

[English]

Lambadi Community

403. SHRI P.D. ELANGOVAN: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Lambadi community listed as Scheduled Tribe in Karnataka is proposed to be considered as Scheduled Tribe in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this community has been considered as backward community in Tamil Nadu;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken to include this community in Scheduled Tribe?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) and (b) Lambadi community has not been specified as Scheduled Tribe in relation to the State of Karnataka rather it has been included in the list of Scheduled Castes. The proposal to include Lambadi community in the list of Scheduled Tribes of Tamil Nadu is under examination.

(c) and (d) Lambadi community has been declared as Other Backward Class in Tamil Nadu, as it answers the criteria of a Backward Class community.

(e) The matter is being examined as per modalities approved by the Government of India on 15.06.1999.

(b) The new programmes proposed to be launched from the next academic year are Master's in Tourism and Certificate programme in Empowering Self Help Groups. Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) is a National University and all its programmes are offered across the nation.

The new programmes proposed to be launched will also be offered in Karnataka through IGNOU's Regional Centre at Bangalore.

Reservation of Beds for Senior Citizens

406. SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE:

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA:

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

(a) whether the senior citizens are made to raise financial resources for payment to hospitals or their hospitalization;

(b) if so, whether a memorandum from any senior citizens' organisation has been received highlighting these difficulties;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether a suggestion has also been made that a few beds be reserved for senior citizens in hospitals; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) OPD and general ward services in all Government hospitals in Delhi are provided free of cost to all categories of citizens including senior citizens. However, in Central Government hospitals in Delhi, nominal charges for some specialised investigations are charged from the patients.

(b) to (e) Two representations, one from Senior Citizens Council, Punjab and second from Ramaprastha Senior Citizen's Association, Ghaziabad have been received through Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. In these representations, it has not been mentioned that Senior Citizens have to raise financial resources for payment to hospitals for their hospitalisation. However, they have suggested that the Government and private hospitals should reserve some beds for senior citizens and also suitably reduce the charges for treatment. The representations have been sent to all States/ Union Territories for taking appropriate action in the matter. Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is providing grants-in-aid under the 'An Integrated Programme for the Aged' for running Mobile Medicare Units for the health care of the aged persons and that Ministry have also formulated a National Policy on Older Persons and this policy has been sent to all State Governments/Union Territories for chalking out Action Plan and initiating various programmes.

[Translation]

Failure of Public Health System

407. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the increasing incidence of Diarrhoea and Malaria is the result of the failure of public health system;

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

(c) whether compensation is likely to be given to the victims of such diseases; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) The incidence of Malaria is showing a declining trend since 1997. Acute diarrhoeal diseases do occur due to contaminated water, food, poor environmental sanitation and personal hygiene.

(b) For control of Malaria an organised public health programme was launched in 1953. Since December, 1994, the seven North Eastern States have been brought under 100% Central assistance for Malaria control to take care of highly endemic areas of Malaria an enhanced Malaria Control Project with World Bank support has been launched w.e.f. Sept. 1997. For Communicable diseases, the Central Government has launched the National Surveillance Programme for Communicable Diseases on Pilot basis in selected districts for detection of early warning signals of outbreaks of communicable diseases including diarrhoeal disease.

The Union Government also alerts State Governments every year before the transmission season of these diseases for gearing up control measures.

(c) and (d) Since Health is a State subject, payment of any relief/compensation to the victims, falls under the jurisdiction of the concerned State Government/UT Administration.

[English]

Vaccine for Tuberculosis

408. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the ICMR has found that the only available vaccine against tuberculosis (TB) neither protects the adults nor it immunizes children;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether TB is the biggest killer among adults in the country;

(d) if so, the estimated number of deaths in the country every year; and

(e) the remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken

by the Government for the development of alternative medicine for the treatment of TB and for immunization programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM):

(a) and (b) The Vaccine does not offer overall Protection in adults but offers a low level of overall Protection (about 27%) against Pulmonary tuberculosis in children. Further, BCG Vaccine offers Protection against miliary and meningeal forms of Tuberculosis in children (about 80%).

(c) to (e) In India, Tuberculosis, kills more adults than any other infectious disease and is the leading cause of avoidable deaths among adults. World Health Organisation's (WHO) estimates for 1999 are 4,47,000 deaths. Currently available medicines cure virtually all patients who take them as prescribed for the full duration. Studies to invent a better Vaccine against tuberculosis are underway in many laboratories all over the world including India. In order to address the mortality and morbidity from tuberculosis, the Government is implementing a Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme (RNTCP) in a phases manner.

[Translation]

Opening of AIIMS Branch

409. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) propose to open its branch in the Trans-Yamuna area of Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the facilities to be made available in this branch; and

(c) the time by which the branch is likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, the Institute has recently taken over the Mid-Town Rotary Eye/Dental Clinic-cum-Hospital situated at Trilok Puri/Kalyan Puri from the Delhi Mid-Town Rotary Trust, a registered society. The Institute has started dental and eye clinics on alternate days. The Institute in due course plans to have its outreach programme from the Department of Community Medicine and Institute Rotary Cancer Hospital for its cancer detection programme.

[English]

Universalisation of Elementary Education

410. DR. ASHOK PATEL:

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH:

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:

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

(a) whether the Union Government have prepared a

national programme for universalisation of elementary education with the constitutional and legal basis in the wake of a unanimous feelings among experts and academicians needs amendment to the country's constitution;

(b) if so, whether any concrete legislation in this regard is being worked out; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPEMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (c) The Constitution (Eighty-third Amendment) Bill, 1997 to make right to free and compulsory education for children from 6 to 14 years of age a fundamental right was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on July 28, 1997. The salient features of the Bill are as under:

- (1) The State shall provide free and compulsory education to all citizens of the age of 6-14 years:
- (2) The State shall not make any law for free and compulsory education in relation to educational institutions not maintained by the State or nor receiving aid out of State funds.
- (3) The competent legislature shall make the law for enforcement of right to free and compulsory education within one year from the commencement of the Constitution (Eighty-third Amendment) Bill, 1997;
- (4) Article 45 of the Constitution shall be omitted; and
- (5) It shall be the fundamental duty to provide opportunities for education to a child between the age of 6 and 14 years of whom such citizen is a parent or guardian.

The Bill was referred to the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on HRD. The Committee tabled its report in the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha on 24th November, 1997 in which it proposed some modifications in the Amendment Bill. The recommendations of the Parliamentary Standing Committee are being examined in consultation with the Ministry of Law.

12.00 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAG MOHAN): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 58 of the Delhi Development Act, 1957:

(i) The Chief Legal Advisor, Deputy Chief Legal Advisor, Junior Law Officer and legal Assistant. Recruitment Regulations published in

Notification No. G.S.R. 36(E) in Gazette of India dated the 15th January, 1999.

- (ii) The Delhi Development Authority, Deputy Director Recruitment Regulations, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 147 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 1998.
 - (iii) The Recruitment Regulations for the post of Senior Law Officer in Delhi Development Authority published in Notification No. G.S.R. 716(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd December, 1998.
 - (iv) The Recruitment Rules for the posts of Director, Deputy Director, Assistant Director, Private Secretary and Assistant Settlement Officer in Delhi Development Authority published in Notification No. F.7 (45)/95/L&B/LA/6524 in Gazette of India dated the 27th June, 1997.
 - (v) The Delhi Urban Heritage Foundation Regulations, 1999 published in Notification No. S.O. 791(E) in Gazette of India dated the 28th September, 1999.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) to (iv) of item (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-167/99]

- (3) A copy of the Annual Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing allotments made out-of-turn under 5% discretionary quota in accordance with the guidelines for the year ending the 31st December, 1998.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-168/99]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Capital Region Planning Board, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.
 - (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Capital Region Planning Board, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (5) Two Statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-169/99]

- (6) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the National Buildings Construction Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment for the year 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-170/99]

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98 alongwith Audited Accounts.
 - (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-171/99]

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited and the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Department of Fertilizers for the year 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-172/99]

- (2) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Limited and the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Department of Fertilizers for the year 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-173/99]

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

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation, 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-174/99]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): 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:
- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Hindustan Latex Limited, Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 1998-99.
 - (ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Latex Limited, Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 1998-99 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-175/99]
- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the New Delhi Tuberculosis Centre, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98 alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the New Delhi Tuberculosis Centre, New Delhi for the year 1997-98.
- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-176/99]
- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Council of Homoeopathy, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98 alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Council of Homoeopathy, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.
- (5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-177/99]
- (6) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Hindustan Latex Limited and the Department of Family Welfare, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for the year 1999-2000.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-178/99]
- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Motilal Nehru Regional Engineering College, Allahabad, for the year 1997-98.
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) above.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-179/99]
- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Karnataka Regional Engineering College, Surathkal, 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 Karnataka Regional Engineering College, Surathkal, for the year 1998-99.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-180/99]
- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Sardar Vallabhbhai Regional College of Engineering and Tech-nology, Surat, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Sardar Vallabhbhai Regional College of Engineering and Technology, Surat, for the year 1997-98.
- (5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-181/99]
- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Engineering College, Srinagar, for the year 1996-97. alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Regional Engineering College, Srinagar, for the year 1996-97.
- (7) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (6) above
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-182/99]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAISINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL) I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Motilal Nehru Regional Engineering College, Allahabad, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the review (Hindi and English ver-
- (8) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the District Primary Education Programme, Mumbai, (Maharashtra Prathmik Shikshan Parishad, Mumbai) for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the District Primary Education Programme,

Mumbai (Maharashtra Prathmik Shikshan Parishad, Mumbai), for the year 1997-98.

- (9) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (8) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-183/99]

- (10) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Orissa Primary Education Programme Authority, Bhubaneswar, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Orissa Primary Education Programme, Authority, Bhubaneswar, for the year 1997-98.

- (11) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (10) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-184/99]

- (12) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, Tirupati, for the year 1997-98 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, Tripupati, for the year 1997-98.

- (13) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (12) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-185/99]

- (14) (i) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (ii) Statement regarding review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.

- (15) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (14) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-186-99]

- (16) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Engineering College, Hamirpur, for the year 1997-98, alongwith audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of

the Regional Engineering College, Hamirpur, for the year 1997-98.

- (17) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (16) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-187/99]

- (18) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Engineering College, Tiruchirappalli, 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 Regional Engineering College, Tiruchirappalli, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-188/99]

12.02 hrs.

ASSENT TO BILLS

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: I beg to lay on the Table the following two Bills Passed by the Houses of Parliament during the First Session of Thirteenth Lok Sabha and assented to since a report was last made to the House on 25 October, 1999:

- (1) The Income-tax (Amendment) Bill, 1999
- (2) The Contingency Fund of India (Amendment) Bill, 1999

I also lay on the Table a copy, duly authenticated by the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha, of the Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 1999 passed by the Houses of Parliament during the First Session of Thirteenth Lok Sabha and assented to by the President.

12.02½ hrs.

ELECTIONS TO COMMITTEES

(i) Committee on Estimates

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Members of this House do proceed to elect, in the manner required by sub-rule (1) of Rule 311 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, thirty Members from among themselves to serve as Members of the Committee on Estimates for the term ending on the 30th April, 2000."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Members of this House do proceed to elect, in the manner required by sub-rule(1) of Rule 311 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, thirty Members from among themselves to serve as Members of the Committee on Estimates for the term ending on the 30th April, 2000."

The motion was adopted.

(ii) Committee on Public Accounts

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Members of this House do proceed to elect, in the manner required by sub-rule (1) of rule 309 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, fifteen Members from among themselves to serve as Members of the Committee, on Public Accounts for the term ending on the 30th April, 2000."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Members of this House do proceed to elect, in the manner required by sub-rule (1) of rule 309 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, fifteen Members from among themselves to serve as Members of the Committee, on Public Accounts for the term ending on the 30th April, 2000."

The motion was adopted.

Committee on Public Accounts

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): Sir, I beg to move:

"That House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate seven Members from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on Public Accounts of the House for the term ending on the 30th April, 2000 and do communicate to this House the names of the Members so nominated by Rajya Sabha."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate seven Members from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on Public Accounts of the House for the term ending on the 30th April, 2000 and do communicate to this House the names of the Members so nominated by Rajya Sabha."

The motion was adopted.

(iii) Committee on Public Undertakings

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Members of this House do proceed to elect, in the manner required by sub-rule(1) of Rule 312B of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, fifteen Members from among themselves to serve as Members of the Committee on Public Undertakings for the term ending on the 30th April, 2000."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Members of this House do proceed to elect, in the manner required by sub-rule(1) of Rule 312B of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, fifteen Members from among themselves to serve as Members of the Committee on Public Undertakings for the term ending on the 30th April, 2000."

The motion was adopted.

Committee on Public Undertakings

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate seven Members from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on Public Undertakings of the House for the term ending on the 30th April, 2000 and do communicate to this House the names of the Members so nominated by Rajya Sabha."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate seven Members from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on Public Undertakings of the House for the term ending on the 30th April, 2000 and do communicate to this House the names of the Members so nominated by Rajya Sabha."

The motion was adopted.

(iv) Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the members of this House do proceed to elect, in the manner required by sub-rule (1) of Rule 331 B of the Rules of Procedure and conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, twenty members from among themselves to serve as members of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes

and Scheduled Tribes for the term ending on the 30th April, 2000."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the members of this House do proceed to elect, in the manner required by sub-rule (1) of Rule 331 B of the Rules of Procedure and conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, twenty members from among themselves to serve as members of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the term ending on the 30th April, 2000."

The motion was adopted.

Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate ten members from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes of the House for the term ending on the 30th April, 2000 and do communicate to this House the names of the members so nominated by Rajya Sabha."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate ten members from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes of the House for the term ending on the 30th April, 2000 and do communicate to this House the names of the members so nominated by Rajya Sabha."

The motion was adopted.

(v) Tea Board

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): Sir, on behalf of Shri Murasoli Maran, I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of Section 4(3)(f) of the Tea Act, 1953 read with rules 4(1)(b) and 5(1) of the Tea Rules, 1954, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Tea Board, subject to other provisions of the said Act and the Rules made thereunder."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of Section 4(3)(f) of the Tea Act, 1953 read with rules 4(1)(b) and 5(1) of the Tea Rules, 1954, the members of this House do

proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Tea Board, subject to other provisions of the said Act and the Rules made thereunder."

The motion was adopted.

(vi) Rubber Board

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): Sir, on behalf of Shri Murasoli Maran, I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of sub-section (3)(e) of Section 4 of the Rubber Act, 1947 read with rule 4 of the Rubber Rules 1955, the members of this House do proceed to elect in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Rubber Board, for the remaining term of the Board *i.e.*, up to 21st April, 2000, subject to the other provisions of the said Act and the Rules made thereunder."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of sub-section (3)(e) of Section 4 of the Rubber Act, 1947 read with rule 4 of the Rubber Rules 1955, the members of this House do proceed to elect in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Rubber Board, for the remaining term of the Board *i.e.*, up to 21st April, 2000, subject to the other provisions of the said Act and the Rules made thereunder."

The motion was adopted.

(vii) Spices Board

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): Sir, on behalf of Shri Murasoli Maran, I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of Section 3(3) (b) of the Spices Board Act, 1986, read with rules 4(1) (b) and 5(2) of the Spices Board Rules, 1987, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Spices Board, subject to other provisions of the said Act and the Rules made thereunder."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of Section 3(3) (b) of the Spices Board Act, 1986, read with rules 4(1) (b) and 5(2) of the Spices Board Rules, 1987, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Spices Board, subject to other provisions of the said Act and the Rules made thereunder."

The motion was adopted.

**(viii) Agricultural and Processed Food Products
Export Development Authority**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): On
behalf of Shri Murasoli maran, I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of Sub-section (4) (d) of Section 4 of the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority Act, 1985, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority, subject to other provisions of the said Act."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of Sub-section (4) (d) of Section 4 of the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority Act, 1985, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority, subject to other provisions of the said Act."

The motion was adopted.

**(ix) Central Supervisory Board for Pre-Natal
Diagnostic Techniques**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM):
Sir, I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of Section 7(2) (f) of the Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1994, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two female members from among themselves, to serve as members of the Central Supervisory Board, subject to other provisions of the said Act."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of Section 7(2) (f) of the Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1994, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two female members from among themselves, to serve as members of the Central Supervisory Board, subject to other provisions of the said Act."

The motion was adopted.

**(x) Governing Council of North Eastern
Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of
Health and Medical Sciences**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM):

Sir, I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of Rule 3(b) read with Rule 4(b) of the rules of the North Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences, Shillong, the Members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, one Member from among themselves to serve as a Member of the Governing Council of North Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences, Shillong, subject to the other provisions of the said Rules."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of Rule 3(b) read with Rule 4(b) of the rules of the North Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences, Shillong, the Members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, one Member from among themselves to serve as a Member of the Governing Council of North Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences, Shillong, subject to the other provisions of the said Rules."

The motion was adopted.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the House will take up Zero Hour.
Shri J.S. Brar to raise his issue.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (DAUSA): Sir, the sugarcane growers in U.P. are not being paid their dues. The Government must take care of the sugarcane growers ...*(Interruptions)* ... The sugarcane growers in U.P. are really being tortured. They are not being paid, and the U.P. Government has not announced the support price of sugarcane. The farmers are on the street... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, Shri J.S. Brar.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Sir, the sugarcane growers of Uttar Pradesh are on the street... *(Interruptions)*. The Government must come out with a statement on this serious issue ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have called the name the Shri J.S. Brar.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SAIDUZZAMA (MUZAFFARNAGAR): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given notice in regard to an important matter related to farmers. Sir. I should be given an opportunity.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow you also. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, today there are 26 Members who have given notices for raising their issues during Zero Hour. I want to accommodate all of them. So, please cooperate with the Chair.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Shri J.S. Brar.

SHRI J.S. BRAR (FARIDKOT): Sir, how can I raise my issue? They are all shouting...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Kantilal Bhuria, please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are not allowing even your Member to speak. I have called the name of Shri J.S. Brar.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SAIDUZZAMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir. I have given notice on sugar problem of farmers...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: First, you please sit down.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon Members, please take your seats. This is not a good practice.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri A.C. Jos, you also please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, what is this? When the Speaker is standing, please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

SHRI A.C. JOS (TRICHUR): Sir, the issue is very important...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please take your seats. Please allow Shri J.S. Brar to speak. I have called his name.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I want to accommodate all the 26 Members who have given notices to raise their issue during 'Zero Hour'. Please cooperate with the Chair.

(Interruptions)

SHRI A.C. JOS: There are many other important issues also.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, urgent and important issues are also there. I will call the names to raise them. There will not be any problem. But please cooperate with the Chair.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Sir, this notice practice should be stopped. Everybody has given notice ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Shri, J.S. Brar.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. GIRIJA VYAS (UDAIPUR): Mr. Speaker, Sir. I would like to know from the Government why the women reservation bill has not been presented?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except what Shri J.S. Brar says.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI J.S. BRAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to present a sensitive issue in front of the House.... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Sir, the whole House is here. During Shri Sangmaji's tenure, when he was the Speaker, the Business Advisory Committee decided that for raising issues under the 'Zero Hour' you have to give notice in writing. But I think, the whole spirit of the 'Zero Hour' is killed by giving a notice. I think, this practice should be stopped. Through notice, you can raise many issues under many motions.

SHRI J.S. BRAR: Then, we will never get an opportunity to speak during Zero Hour.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (DAUSA): During Zero Hour, matters should be raised by Members when they feel like, and notices should not be binding on them. If you want to keep this 'Zero Hour' practice with notice, then it becomes a motion. This is not correct. Then, you go through motions. 'Zero Hour' is not to be regularised through motions. ... (Interruptions)

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: No, Sir... (Interruptions)

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR (BARRACKPORE): This should continue as it is. By giving prior notice, every Member gets a chance to speak ...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): There are many

important issues to be raised. But nobody should be allowed to speak without giving notice. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI J.S. BRAR: You have given me an opportunity to speak. Therefore, please let me speak. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Yesterday also hon. Members have discussed something in the Leaders meeting. The Leaders are also suggesting some more modifications now during Zero Hour on how to regulate the Zero Hour. Today we will take a unanimous decision on how to regulate the Zero Hour. We have already received the notices today. Now Shri J.S. Brar will speak.

SHRI J.S. BRAR: You have given an opportunity to hon. Members sitting on the back benches to speak. When the Hon. Speaker is on his legs, we must observe the decorum to sit down. I am grateful to you for giving me this opportunity to speak.

[Translation]

Sir, the entire country is overwhelmed with joy because of glorious victory in Kargil, but the situation in our neighbouring country is of great concern. Once again the country has come under military rule. Through you, I would like to tell the House and the Government that the sentiments of the entire country are attached to it. In past, the half a dozen attacks on this country were carried out by the military dictators and tension is still prevailing on the border.

12.17 hrs.

(MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair)

Ever since General Pravez Mushraff has taken over the charge of military rule in Pakistan, it appears that nuclear war can erupt at any time in this country. After the Commonwealth meet in Durban, Shri Vajpayee said we treat Shri Nawaz Sharif as the Prime Minister of the Pakistan, but after giving that statement the democracy has been assaulted there. The Prime Minister himself had travelled by bus to Pakistan. I would like to say that the environment of friendship and love which was created, has been completely destroyed by the military dictatorship. And if the Prime Minister of the country and Government say that they treat Shri Nawaz Sharif as the Prime Minister of the country, then on December 4, their witnesses are going to be completed and Nawaz Sharif could be hanged if you accept Shri Nawaz Sharif as the Prime Minister of that country, then I would like to request the House and particularly the ruling party and Prime Minister that they should send a special delegation to solve this issue diplomatically.

The trial on corruption and other cases should be held, we have no objection to it, it is not justified to hang an elected Prime Minister. The Prime Minister had said we treat him as the Prime Minister of that country, even then the Prime Minister or the Government has not taken any step. An immediate step should be taken in this regard. Shri Jaswant Singh holds

his meetings only in United States of America. At least a delegation of all parties should go there and Prime Minister should intervene in it. This is a very important matter...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SAIDUZZAMA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the problem of farmers is very serious....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Your name is not in the list.

SHRI SAIDUZZAMA: Sir, I have given notice in the morning. The problem of price of sugarcane is very grave one. Whether my name is in the list or not.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Your name is not here.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record now. I have allowed only Shri T. Govindan.

*(Interruptions)**

SHRI T. GOVINDAN (KASARGOD): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Union Government towards reports regarding Central Government's decision to curtail the targeted public distribution system and the huge protest it evoked in Kerala.

There is a history behind the establishment of the public distribution system and monthly allotment of food grains from the Central pool to Kerala. For the last fifty years, the agriculture sector of Kerala has been shifting from paddy to cash crops. Kerala's cash crops are helping the Central Government to earn valuable foreign exchange. ...*(Interruptions)* I think, the average foreign exchange earned by Kerala is higher than that of any of the States. This is the background in which the Central Government agreed to supply food grains, sugar and kerosene through the PDS. This has given a human developmental face to Kerala. Still people are turning from paddy to cash crops.

Now-a-days, the important cash crops of rubber and coconut are facing a serious crisis. There are 36 lakh people involved in the coconut sector and nearly ten lakh in the rubber sector. In the circumstances, when a major section of agriculturists are facing difficulties, the move of the Central Government to curtail the public distribution system is highly objectionable. ...*(Interruptions)* Unfortunately, the people of Kerala have suffered in the past due to hindrance in the movement of food grains from paddy producing States like Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. It will result in drawing out the low and middle income people to market exploitation. So, I request the Government to strengthen the public distribution system in Kerala. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have called Shri N.N. Krishnadas.

(Interruptions)

* Not recorded.

SHRI A.C. JOS: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, will you please allow me for one minute?

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS (PALGHAT): He has called my name.

SHRI A.C. JOS: Sir, I have given a notice.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: But your name is not in the list.

(Interruptions)

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: This is a very serious matter. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You are only associating yourself with him. You are not to speak more. You have to say, 'I associate myself with the item mentioned by Shri Govindan.'

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: Sir, this is a separate matter.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We have evolved a system.

(Interruptions)

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: The coconut crop in Kerala has become the victim of a pest known as mite. It is causing extensive damage to the crop.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Your notice is not there on this subject.

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: Sir, I have given a notice for the same subject.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Your notice is on the public distribution system in Kerala.

(Interruptions)

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: I know, which notice I have given. I have given a notice on the same subject.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have the list here.

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: I can see that.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That is why I am telling you that you have only to associate yourself.

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: But I have given a separate notice. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Krishnadas, I am sorry, your name is not here in the list. How can I allow you?

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: Sir, I have given the notice today at 8.30 a.m. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SURESH KURUP (KOTTAYAM): Since you have called his name, he should be allowed.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Are you associating yourself with that?

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: You may please allow him for two minutes. He will finish within two minutes. This is a very important matter. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: Sir, you have allowed me. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI A.C. JOS: I had given a notice yesterday but the hon. Speaker did not call me. I have given a notice today also. ... *(Interruptions)* This is a fact. My constituency is the most badly affected area of Kerala. The coconut crop has been affected by the mandari disease. ... *(Interruptions)* You have to give some consideration to me. I have given a notice. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: This is a very serious matter. ... *(Interruptions)* The coconut crop in Kerala has become the victim of a pest known as mite, causing extensive damage to the crop.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Krishnadas, nothing will go on record now. You please hear me. I am only finding a solution to your problem.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You please hear me and then your problem will be over. You have given a notice for some other item. You will be called when that item comes up. Your name is there on some other item.

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: Sir, I have given my notice at 8.30 a.m. How can it be that my name is not there in the list?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You have already taken too much time.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Will you please sit down?

(Interruptions)

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: Sir, I am one of the most obedient Members of this House. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I am on my legs.

(Interruptions)

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: Sir, I am one of the most obedient Members in this House. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Will you please hear me? Hon. Speaker has already mentioned that there were 26 names in the list and all the names would be called. But your name is listed against some other item.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Let me complete.

(Interruptions)

* Not recorded.

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: You have called my name.
...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Let me complete, Shri Krishnadas. We are going to sit down and complete it.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Are you standing again? Please sit down. According to the time at which they were received, the names have been mentioned. The whole list is here. So, please remain quiet; I will call the names one by one. Others may quietly wait for their turns.

(Interruptions)

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: You have already called my name and I have also started my submission already. ...
(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You are a senior Member. When I am on my legs, you will have to hear me completely. Your name is there at serial no. 8; twenty six names are there in total and you will get your chance. Now, Shri V.M. sudheeran. Each Member will take two minutes each and we will complete the list.

(Interruptions)

SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN (ALLEPPEY): Sir, coconut cultivation in Kerala is in a very serious crisis due to mite attack. The mite disease seems to be spreading at an alarming rate. It is estimated that about five crore palms of ten lakh farmers are already affected by this pest called mite which causes severe yield reduction. This may lead to extermination of coconut species and ruin the agricultural economy of the State.

Though remedial measures have been taken by the State Government to combat the mite's problem, they are not effective due to paucity of funds. Since coconut cultivation is the backbone of the agricultural economy, it is high time that we take all efforts which are humanly possible to eliminate the mite pest. Considering the menace of mite as a national calamity, the Central Government should come forward to help the State of Kerala by sanctioning a Central Government's share of Rs. 100 crore for the remedial operations. Since it is a very sensitive issue, I request the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to comment on this.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: On this issue, Shri Krishnadas has also given a notice. Now, Shri Krishnadas.

SHRI A.C. JOS: I have also given a notice yesterday. ...
(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will go according to the list and time at which it is given. Why do you not hear me? If you have also given, you will get your chance after him. It should be according to the serial number. What is this? Shri Jos, you are a former Speaker of Kerala. How am I to control this House?

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: Sir, the coconut crop in Kerala has become a victim of a pest known as mite. It is causing extensive damage to that crop. More than five crore of coconut palms of more than ten lakh farmers have already been affected. The Government of Kerala is striving hard to control this mite problem in our State. (Interruptions) What is it that they are doing? ... (Interruptions) Sir, the Government of Kerala has submitted a memorandum to the Union Government for getting proper assistance. Coconut cultivation is the backbone of agricultural economy of Kerala. The mite menace has threatened the very foundation of the State's agriculture. So, it may be considered as a national calamity and the Central Government may sanction at least Rs. 100 crore for this mission to protect the coconut crop, through the Coconut Development Board.

SHRI A.C. JOS: All the hon. Members from Kerala are unanimous in this matter. It is a very serious matter and I associate myself with the sentiments expressed by Shri Govindan, by Shri Krishnadas and also by Shri Sudheeran. My only request is this. There is a Coconut Development Board in Kerala. ... (interruptions) Sir, there is a Coconut Development Board. ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What are you doing. I am conducting the Zero Hour and you are interrupting in between. You people belong to treasury benches you may please sit down. I am calling the names according to the seniority and I am giving them time to speak. What are you doing? You are a senior member. If you behave in this manner, you will not get a chance.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA (PADRAUNA): We are not getting an opportunity to speak. ... (Interruptions) We too have given a notice to speak. ... (Interruptions)

YOGI ADITYA NATH (GORAKHPUR): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, we too have given the notice (Interruptions). Only they are getting an opportunity to speak ... (Interruptions) we are not being allowed. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please resume your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Why are you standing again? I have called Shri Jos

(Interruptions)

SHRI A.C. JOS : Sir, it is a real menace to the State of Kerala. The agricultural economy of the State of Kerala is under peril. The Coconut Development Board has submitted a proposal to the Government of India—this is what I understand—for sanctioning an amount of Rs. 195 crore. Unless the Central Government gives that money, that menace cannot be controlled. So, I request the Parliamentary Affairs Minister to support the agricultural economy of Kerala State which is under peril.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Kishan Singh Sangwan.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (MUVATTUPUZHA): Sir, I have also given my name. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Kishan Singh Sangwan.

(Interruptions)

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN (SONEPAT): Yes, Sir. I am speaking. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Kishan Singh Sangwan.

(Interruptions)

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN: Yes, Sir. I am on my legs. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the farmers in entire country are ruined ...*(Interruptions)*. No one in Haryana, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra is purchasing the paddy crop. ...*(Interruptions)*. The Government agencies are silent over it. ...*(Interruptions)*. The condition of the farmers is getting worse day by day. The farmers are selling their paddy below the support price ...*(Interruptions)*. Exporters had supplied inferior quality of rice, due to which rice had been rejected. ...*(Interruptions)*. The farmers of the entire country are ruined ...*(Interruptions)*. There is no one to purchase the paddy from the farmers ...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If you have given the notice, then your name will be in the list. You may please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN: My name is in the list. ...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You will be called according to your number in the Members' list

(Interruptions)

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN: You have called my name, therefore I am speaking ...*(Interruptions)*. You ask them to sit down ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Will you please sit down?

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Yes, you are helping me, I know.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (CHHAPRA): But, they are not helping you, Sir. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Let me tell you that there are 26 names in the list.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN: My speech has not been recorded ...*(Interruptions)*. They were making noise all the time ...*(Interruptions)*. This matter is related to the farmers of the entire country ...*(Interruptions)*. The farmers of the entire country are ruined ...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I am on my legs, even then you are standing.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The item on which Mr. Govindan has given the notice, there are names of 3-4 other Members also who want to speak on the same subject. Name of Mr. Thomas is before your name. I have called you by mistake. Now you can speak after him.

(Interruptions)

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN: You have called my name; therefore I am standing ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Kishan Singh Sangwan's name is after his name.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Sir, you are also aware of it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I know that.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Sir, I would like to supplement what is said earlier. This is not a problem in Kerala alone. ... *(Interruptions)* Sir, at the outset, I would like to say that this is not a problem of Kerala alone. This is a national problem. It is soon going to affect Lakshadweep; not only Lakshadweep but also other places where there is coconut cultivation. It is a menace which is spreading. Whole coconut cultivation is going to be devastated or completely destroyed.

* Not recorded.

This is a disease which has to be fought by all of us together — the farmers, scientists and the State Governments concerned. It cannot be done only by the State Governments. In this matter the role of the Government of India is very important. The Government of India should immediately send a team of scientists to find a remedy to this problem. Till today no solution has been found. Of course, the Government of Kerala has done something in this regard. I am not saying that the State Government has not done anything. But the State Government of Kerala has to do more and the Central Government should extend all support. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: All the hon. Members from the State of Kerala are associating themselves with this issue.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: We would like to have a discussion on this matter. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri P.C. Thomas, please resume your seat.

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): Sir, I would like to assure the House that I would convey the feelings expressed by the hon. Members of Kerala and other States to the hon. Minister of Agriculture. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri E. Ahamed, what else do you want?

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : We would like to have a statement from the hon. Minister of Agriculture. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri P.C. Thomas, you are a very senior Member. You should understand that even during 'Zero Hour' the hon. Minister has reacted to your demands.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Kodikunnil Suresh, please do not interrupt.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN (SONEPAT): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards a big problem concerning farmers. Today, there is no one to buy paddy especially in North-India. No Government or Private agency is buying paddy. Though the market price of rice continues to be the same as earlier, paddy is being sold even on priceless than the support price fixed by the Government. Samples of inferior quality of rice were sent to other countries by the exporters and the same were rejected and foreign companies did not buy rice. Farmers are ruined today. Last year the Basmati

rice which was selling at Rs. 2200 per quintal is being sold today at Rs. 800 per quintal. The minimum support price of P.R. quality rice is Rs. 520 but it is being sold at Rs. 300. Yet there is no buyer. Farmers condition has deteriorated. Due to increase in the prices of fertilizers and diesel, the cost of other agricultural inputs is also increasing. However, there is no one to listen the grievances of farmers. No agency in the market is buying paddy. Paddy is still lying in the market ...*(Interruptions)* Government should pay attention to it and pay compensation to the farmers. Sowing of wheat crop is in progress but still no price has been fixed for it ...*(Interruptions)* Government should pay attention towards it. May I know what action is being taken by the Government in this regard? ...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: If paddy is not grown here, it will not reach even Lakshadweep*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I cannot compel the Government to give a reply. If the hon. Minister wants to react, he can.

(Interruptions)

DR. V. SAROJA (RASIPURAM): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it is very disheartening to note that the Government of India is planning to shift the Sidha Research Institute from Palayamkottai, Tamil Nadu to Bangalore. The Sidha Wing is a good old institution providing cure to chronic diseases like tuberculosis and even AIDS.

The research is now going on at Dr. MGR Medical University and at Palayamkottai Sidha Research wing regarding cancer. At this juncture, the move made by the Government of India to shift that Institute to Bangalore, is highly condemnable. Recently the Government of India has taken steps to establish a research wing in Sidha for AIDS control programme at Tambaram. At Palayamkottai herbal plants are being cultivated. All the infrastructural facilities are created at Palayamkottai. A lot of money has been spent. I request the hon. Minister to react to this and retain this Institute in Palayamkottai itself. This is the feeling of not only my Party, AIDMK, but also the people of Tamil Nadu.

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (CALCUTTA NORTH WEST): Sir, a few Central public sector units of West Bengal are facing threats of disinvestment. Under the command of NJMC, National Jute Manufacture Corporation, there are a few jute mills. But, this NJMC itself is facing a threat of closure. A few units of NJMC have already been closed. The most unfortunate part is that the Jute Corporation's management is looking after NJMC. We demand that a full time Chairman and a Managing Director are urgently required for NJMC and resources also should be made available to it. In total, there are about 24,000 employees employed in various units. About 12,000 to 15,000 employees of these units have already become unemployed. So, on one side that is the fate of disinvestment of public sector units and on the other side there are threats of closure of NJMC mills. The people of our

State are really facing the agony. The Central Government should take immediate steps to see that this problem is settled without any delay.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (ULUBERIA): I join Shri Bandyopadhyay on this issue. The NJMC mills employing about 24,000 employees are facing serious crisis. Non-supply of raw jute is the main reason for that. The Chairman of JCI is the M.D. of one mill. The same officer who takes the responsibility of both, some ten years back created the same problem. So, it is a chronic problem. Now the salaries of the NJMC employees have been stopped. In future they are not going to get any salary. It is a serious situation. I would request the Minister of Textile to make a statement in this regard and see to it that the jute is supplied to the mills, salaries are paid to the workers and the mills are run in a proper manner by the Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYA NATH (GORAKHPUR): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have also given in the notice.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: If you have given the notice your name will certainly be in the list. If it is in the list, you will certainly get a chance. You will certainly get the chance to speak if you keep silent. If you create disturbance you will not get the chance.

[English]

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (CHIRAYINKIL): Sir, I take this opportunity to draw the attention of the Central Government to a matter concerning a huge loss being incurred by the Gas Authority of India. The Government has decided to sell 135 million shares at a very ridiculously low price of Rs. 70 per share in foreign market. The net result will be, there will be a huge loss to the Government. This has been done under the policy of disinvestment. The Central Government has also taken a decision to sell the shares of the State Bank of India which will also result in a huge loss because it is quite certain that in the foreign market the shares of the Gas Authority are higher than Rs. 70 per share.

Now the net result is that we are selling out the shares at a low price.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ): Sir, we demand a CBI inquiry in this matter. It is a very serious allegation. The Government is doing this in a clandestine manner for the last two months.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Sir, this is a very serious matter. I would like to know who has decided this whether it is a Minister or somebody else in the Department. I fear and apprehend that there is a clandestine dealing. There must be a transparent inquiry into the matter. I demand that the matter should be inquired into by a competent authority. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now Shri Uttamrao will speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan, you have already stated your case.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: I am also referring to the former Minister of Finance, Shri P. Chidambaram. He had also fixed ridiculously low price... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, it is a very serious matter.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi, whatever is stated here concerns to one serious matter or the other.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Sir, I strongly object to the sentence used by the hon. Member, the Chief Whip of the Congress Party. Sir, you are aware with the Parliamentary practice that during 'Zero Hour' important issues are raised. No Minister is in a position to reply them instantly. The Government takes note of all the matters discussed in the Parliament. Saying that somebody is keeping quiet and attributing motives to this, is not fair.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: I did not say, 'somebody'. I said that the Government is keeping quiet. I repeat it again.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: You said that the Minister is keeping quiet... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: All the hon. Members must know that during 'Zero Hour', matters relating to urgent public importance are raised and the Government takes note of it. It is not the time to make an elaborate statement and expect a reply from the Government.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Radhakrishnan, nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE (NASIK): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards onion production in Maharashtra. Some Members of Parliament belonging to Maharashtra have given you a written notice. I am grateful to you for having given me an opportunity to speak.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please state in brief what you would like to tell the Union Government.

SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE: Sir, there is likely to be a bumper crop of onion in the country and there will be no buyer for that. In the absence of buyers the prices of onion are falling day by day.

* Not recorded.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please state about the action which the Central Government should take.

SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE: Sir, farmers are facing the problem of storage of onion. Onion start rotting within few days. Farmers cannot bring it in market because in the absence of remunerative market price farmers do not even get the cost of production and transportation charges. Farmers have taken loans from the banks but in such a situation they will not be able to pay the interest, leave aside the repayment of loan.

I would like to submit that the Nasik district of Maharashtra from which I have been elected, is famous for the production of onions. Poona, Satara and Ahmadnagar districts of Maharashtra are also large producer of onion. I demand that the Government should lift the ban on the export of onion and it should be taken out from the category of essential goods so that farmers could get at least the support price of onion.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (MUMBAI SOUTH CENTRAL): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir farmers should at least be given support price.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I cannot compel the Government.

[Translation]

Government has listened to your demand.

YOGI ADITYA NATH: I would like to draw the attention of the House towards a very important matter. 'Dainik Jagaran' of 6th November carried a news item which said that the police had seized 3100 kgs. of R.D.X. in Gorakhpur on Indo-Nepal border but in connivance with the local administration 2200 kgs. of R.D.X. was removed from there. It is a very sensitive matter. Gorakhpur is situated on Indo-Nepal border and there is a spurt in the anti-national activities of I.S.I. agency of Pakistan. In order to check these activities and to take timely action against the officers involved, before an explosive situation develops it is essential that CBI should carry out searches on the godowns there which are full of R.D.X. in the guise of crackers manufacturing material. Through you, I demand from the Government to take action against the officers involved in the removal of 2200 kgs. of R.D.X.

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA (KHERRI): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, through this House, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the unemployment removal programme run by the Government in Uttar Pradesh.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It is a State Government's subject, it cannot be raised here.

[English]

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: The grant goes from the Central Government.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It is State subject; you cannot raise it here.

[English]

SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHURY (TRIPURA WEST): I want to draw the attention of the Central Government, but the Prime Minister and the Home Minister are not here. I do not know who will follow all these problems. There are serious security problems with increased insurgency and attacks against common people in Tripura due to inadequacy in deployment of central paramilitary forces and absence of army for countering insurgency operation and to help the State Government. From 16th November to 24th November, only in eight days, it has been reported that the extremists killed 18 common people, men and women, eight armed police and three armed forest guards. This is the situation. With increased insurgency attacks, it is developing into ethnic tension among the tribals and non-tribals.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What do you want the Central Government to do?

SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHURY: The Central Government is to rush the armed security forces and the army to control and to suppress this insurgency.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Yes, it is taken note of.

SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHURY: The State Government is doing its best. They have mobilised the total security forces that they have. In Tripura, for 90 kms. of border area only one battalion has been deployed. But in Kashmir for 15 kms. one battalion is deployed.

SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU (NARSAPUR): Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, I am raising an important issue relating to the farmers in Andhra Pradesh, especially in East Godavari and West Godavari districts. The Food Corporation of India have procured Rice MTU 1001 last year for 14 per cent admixture. Now, unfortunately they have reduced it to 10 per cent admixture. That is unfortunate. The Andhra Pradesh Government has already recognised this as fine quality. This quality would be number-one quality when admixture is 14 per cent. In Punjab the FCI is procuring paddy inclusive of milling expenses and it is almost that of Andhra Pradesh admixture of 14 per cent. Sometime ago they procured it for 20 per cent also. But in A.P., they have reduced it. Therefore, the farmers are already agitated over this issue. I am requesting the Union Minister that in the interest of the farmers the rice variety should be recognised as fine quality and the admixture should be fixed at 14 per cent.

[Translation]

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI (SITAMARHI): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, floods cause devastation every year in North Bihar. This year also, flood has affected 23 districts. Floods can be checked by constructing high dams on Bagmati, Adwara group of rivers, Kamla-Balan and Kosi rivers. A

Technical Water Commission can also be set up with the cooperation of India and Nepal in this regard. Earlier Government of India had taken up this matter seriously but the work has been stopped since 1995. Floods can be checked by taking up the matter with Nepal and by dredging these rivers and by constructing high dams in the plains of Nepal. I would like to request Government that the matter should be seriously taken up by the Ministry of water resources. In order to get over the problem of floods in Sitamarhi, Sheohar, Darbhanga, Saharsa and Madhubani districts, Government of India should hold talks with Nepal. High dams should be constructed to save north Bihar from the havoc of floods and to save farmers and labourers of the area. I want that Government should take this matter seriously.(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: As you were sitting peacefully, you got the chance to speak, otherwise you would not have got the chance to speak.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA (PADRAUNA): Sir, though it is calm on the surface but there is much turmoil inside....(Interruptions) Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, there is no one to take care of the interests of sugarcane growers. Crores of sugarcane growers are facing starvation. They are selling their crop to crushers at the rate of Rs. 35-40 per quintal. Today, the sugar mills in Northern India are in a bad condition. Sugar Corporation has 35 mills under its control. Out of these 35, 5 mills situated in Barabanki, Bareilly, Maholi, Nawabganj and Nathganj have already been closed down. Sugar mills at Meerut, Hardoi, Munderwa, Chittauni, Ghughali, Padrauna, Kathkuian and Gauri Bazar have also been closed. Bhatni, Baitapur, Deoria, Ramkola, Khaitan and Laxmiganj sugar mills are going to be closed down. To whom should the canegrowers tell their plight? The dues of the sugarcane growers amount to billions of rupees. People are going to jail. I also went to jail. I would like to ask whether I should go to jail or should I appeal to you or to God. Hon'ble Prime Minister had promised to save the sugarcane grower if the party came to power.

13.00 hrs.

Our party is in power both at the Centre and in the State. To whom should we go with our request? Billions of rupees of farmers are due on sugar mills but these mills are closing down. Sugarcane growers are ruined. They are on the path of agitation. Through you and through this House, I would like to ask as to what is the fault of farmers. When will justice be done to them? In this very House, the Home Minister had stated that he would inform the House after getting full information from the Minister of agriculture but the same was not done. I have given notice under Rule 193. I would like to request you and my opponents to cooperate in this matter. I would like to submit that hon'ble Minister should at least give assurance that justice will be done to the farmers. I want that the hon'ble Minister should make a statement in this regard.

DR. M.P. JAISWAL (BETTIAH): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I agree with what Shri Mishra has said. The matter regarding sugarcane growers concern Bihar also....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Mishra, I cannot compel the Government. The Government may react if it wants. You make your submission.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, I want to know as to who, from the treasury benches, is taking note of all the issues being raised here...(Interruptions) who is taking note of them, on behalf of the Government, to convey the matters to the appropriate Ministries? It is our right to know.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Dasmunsi, during 'Zero Hour', nobody takes note of it.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Does it mean that we are speaking in the air? We are not speaking in the air...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Dasmunsi, please hear me. During 'Zero Hour', when a matter is raised or taken up, if the Government wants to react immediately, they will react. Otherwise, they will convey it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Just now, Shri Pramod Mahajan, on behalf of the Government, had said that in 'Zero Hour', the Ministers do not react but the Government takes note of everything and conveys to the concerned Ministers. That is why, in line with Shri Pramod Mahajan, I am asking as to who is taking note of the issues being raised here. It is our right to know it ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

We are supporting you, is you do not want to listen. then keep on speaking.

SHRI J.S. BRAR (FARIDKOT): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the matter of sugarcane concerns Punjab. Even if there is cotton in Punjab

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We have come up to Sl. No. 17 and there are more Members to speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: When I am on my legs, you will have to sit down. When any matter is raised during the 'Zero Hour', if the Government want to react immediately, they react. Otherwise, they silently take note of it. It is not that they do not take note of it. They do take note of it.

Now, in this matter, I cannot compel the Government.

[Translation]

You are a senior Member. I can not compel the Government. However, if they want to react, they may do so. Otherwise, I will go to the next item.

[English]

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA (SHIMOGA): Sir, I want a

clarification. It is all right to raise points in the 'Zero Hour' touching one issue. As per the rules, we are not compelling the Government to give an instant reply because they will not be well armed with all the replies required and answer any question that is raised here.

But to say that the Government does not take note of these things means, I think, it goes unanswered. You should have clarified the position. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have already clarified the position. They do take note of it.

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): Sir, the Government has taken serious note of the problems of the sugar cane growers in Uttar Pradesh and various other parts of the country ...*(Interruptions)* I am not enumerating all the States. But it will be conveyed to the hon. Agriculture Minister for the required action.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am not satisfied with the statement made by the Hon'ble Minister. I have a request. When one feels powerless, he reposes his faith in God.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Have faith in God.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA: Listen to the woes of sugarcane growers.

"Abhaaga hamare desava ke ganna kisan.

Gaazi miyan murga maange,

Kaali mai mangeli chirki aur kaan

Neta log vote maange, government tax maange,

Amla vakli rahe, chhod de immaan.

Sab Koi Hamni se maange, hamni ka kaise maangeli

hamni abhagavan ke daata siyaraam."

This is my submission.

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (NAGPUR): Hon'ble Deputy-Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards a very serious and important issue. We have won the Kargil war. All of us are proud of it and the ruling party should feel more proud as it has come to power because of this victory. However it is a matter of regret that Government is not paying any attention towards the widows and the dependents of martyrs of Kargil. They are facing problems due to lack of proper co-ordination. Proper Accounts are not being maintained regarding voluntary contributions made by people for the Kargil war and no receipts are being issued either. Financial assistance announced for the widows of the martyrs has not reached them. I would like to draw the attention of the House towards such a case which has been highlighted by the Press as well. Payment has been stopped against a cheque of one

lakh rupees given to the widow of Jawan Ajmer Singh of 7th Sikh Light infantry who laid down his life in Kargil. Similarly a widow, Shrimati Paramjeet Kaur from Dhalkoot village of Ludhiana was given a cheque in a special function held under the auspices of Rashtriya Swabhimaan in Intraprastha Stadium at New Delhi on 11th July, however no payment was made against that cheque also when it was produced for encashment. Wing Commander, M.S. Randhawa, Deputy-Director in Soldier Welfare Board said that Paramjeet Kaur wrote several letters to the army organisation, however, unfortunately not a single reply was received.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ): This matter should be replied to by the Defence Minister by tomorrow itself on the floor of the House. An allegation has been levelled. The complaint has to be replied to by the Defence Minister by tomorrow itself. It is a serious allegation ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Vilas Muttemwar, please complete it now.

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA (SHIMOGA): Sir, you said just now that you cannot compel the Government.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shir Bangarappa, he is stating his case.

[Translation]

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, such an attitude towards the people who laid down their lives for the nation, is undesirable. I have brought to your notice only two such cases whereas several such complaints are being received from various States. The war is over. People laid down their lives. New Government has taken over. The dependents of the martyrs deserve for better treatment. The monitoring work is not being handled properly. Through you, I would like to request hon'ble Prime Minister to ensure proper monitoring and also to set up a committee to look into such cases.

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH (MOTIHARI): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the process of inducting criminal element in politics in Bihar has assumed dangerous proportion.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: This is a State subject. I did not permit Shri Prakash Ji also to speak on this issue. I won't allow you to raise this issue.

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to express my views on the deteriorating law and order situation in Bihar. More than hundred political murders have taken place in Bihar. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Any matter relating to State subject cannot go on record. I will not allow you. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Law and order is a State subject. I will not allow you. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I did not allow Shri Ravi Prakash Verma because he also wanted to raise a matter relating to law and order situation in Uttar Pradesh. Now, this is a matter relating to law and order situation in Bihar. I am not allowing you. Please take your seat. Shri Dilip Gandhi.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except what Shri Dilip Gandhi says.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please cooperate with the Chair.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Do not interrupt like this. Please resume your seat.

(Interruptions)

(Translation)

SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI (AHMEDNAGAR): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Maharashtra Express was involved in an accident in District Ahmednagar on 27th at Gate-No.29 and 11 labourers employed in sugarcane fields were killed on the spot. I am not aware if the Department of Railways is responsible for this mishap or not. However the construction of an overbridge is in progress there and that is why, a by-pass has been constructed at a distance of around four-five kilometers, however the road has so many potholes that nobody wants to use that road. That is why the people tend to cross the rail lines. The jeep involved in that accident also used the same route. The accident took place and 11 persons were killed on the spot. I am not aware if the driver of the jeep is responsible for the mishap or not. However, I would like to submit that those 11 labourers belonged to very poor families. Hence, through you, I request the Government to provide maximum compensation to their families.

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA (MUMBAI NORTH EAST): Hon'ble Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the Ind Prakash scheme, a mutual fund scheme launched by Indian Bank on November 30, 1992. Around one lakh five thousand small investors from across the country and especially from the States of Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil

Nadu etc. had invested money in this Scheme. In 1992, the Indian Bank which is a Public Sector Bank had promised to pay thirty rupees per unit on November 30, 1999 for the mutual fund units priced at ten rupees each. However the Indian Bank has declared that it will pay only 17 rupees per unit to the investors due to which the small investors are facing a loss of around 70 crore rupees. We had taken up the matter with and the SEBI and the Reserve Bank. SEBI has given directives to the Indian Bank to make a payment of 30 rupees per unit. Through you, I would like to bring to the notice of the Government that today is the last day of the scheme. If the Government fails to pay any attention in this regard or give any directives, one lakh five thousand small investors will face a loss of 70 crore rupees and the credibility of the Nationalised bank of the Government will also suffer a setback. Such a directive was given by the Government earlier with regard to the mutual fund scheme of State Bank of India and Canara Bank. Through you, I request Hon'ble Minister of Finance to clarify the position.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House, through you, to a very important matter. I hope, the Government will take a note of it. On 23rd November from late afternoon onwards, almost all the Televisions, including Doordarshan, in particular, did say that the Head of the Commission on Kargil, Shri Subramaniam, had submitted the report on Kargil to the Government.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Dasmunsi, your subject is reservation of SCs, STs and OBCs in view of the latest Supreme Court judgment on reservation quota.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, I gave the notice today on the Kargil issue. I do not know what development is there. ... *(Interruptions)* Yesterday, I spoke on Rajivji. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Your notice for this subject was received at 1005 hours.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: If you do not allow me, I will not speak.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Your subject is listed here. It is about Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Let me talk to him.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: This was on a different date. I will just clarify it. I gave the notice on the reservation issue, dating 30th, two days before. But I gave the notice on Rajivji's issue yesterday.

The Speaker told me, "Your issue about reservation should be taken up today." I said, "No, I did not give a notice about it." So, I took it up yesterday and I thought that my notice has lapsed.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I am not aware of your notice. I am only aware of the notice already given by you at 1005 hours.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You have given your notice after 10 o'clock. If you want, you can speak on this subject.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: No, Sir. I cannot talk on this matter today. I thought that since the Speaker did not allow it yesterday, I thought that it had lapsed.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I am sorry. The notice has not come by 10 o'clock.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (RPOF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA): In fact, senior members should give a chance to junior members of speak during zero hour.

[English]

Let others speak.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: I only learnt from you. ...*(Interruptions)*.

Sir, this matter is also very important.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will come to you after completion of the list.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: I will take only two minutes.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: No; it will be only after completion of the list.

Whatever has been mentioned by Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi about the Table Office will not form part of the debate.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (JAIPUR): Hon'ble Deputy-Speaker Sir, currently Rajasthan is reeling under famine. The Government of India has given money to the Rajasthan Government but it has not given even a single paisa to the farmers in the 26 districts of the State.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Bhargavaji, your subject is regarding the enhancement of Electricity charges.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, the farmers are affected by enhancement in Electricity charges. I am speaking on the same subject.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You are speaking on famine.

SH. GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, my submission is that.*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Bhargavaji, you please, sit down. Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Your subject is about 'enhancement in electricity charges'

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I disallowed Shri Dasmunsi who spoke before you.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will not allow.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You have given notice about enhancement in electricity charges. That also is a State subject.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record. Now, Shri Lakshman Seth.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shir Bhargava, please do not interrupt.

(Interruptions)

SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH (TAMLUK): Sir, I want to raise an important issue. ...*(Interruptions)* In this year STC imported pulse from Myanmar at the rate of M 450 dollars per tonne.

Again this year the STC has imported 67,000 tonnes of pulses from Australia at the rate of 467 dollars per tonne. Because of this, the Government Exchequer has incurred a loss at the rate of Rs. 15 to Rs. 25 per tonne. Not only that but this import has been operated through a Singapore based private agency. But the import from Myanmar was done through Government to Government. It is not understandable why the Government of India started importing pulses from Australia at a higher cost than that of imported from Myanmar.

Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to the fact that the Singapore based private agency was given the tender for importing these pulses from Australia whereas the import of pulses was done from Myanmar through Government to Government. I would request the concerned Minister to make a statement in this House regarding the import of pulses from Australia. Sir, this is a scam like the wheat scam.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY (BERHAMPORE, WEST BENGAL): Respected Deputy-Speaker Sir, I take this opportunity to express my concern which is a sensitive one and which has already assumed national dimension. The

severe erosion caused by the fury of the rivers *Padma* and *Ganga* has become a nightmare of the people of my State.

Sir, it is appalling to note that since 1971, one hundred square kilometers of land has been engulfed by the erosion of these rivers. Two commissions were constituted to review the erosion. One was Pritam Singh Committee and the other was Keskar Committee. But no follow up action has been taken so far. The situation is further compounded by the indifferent and callous attitude of the State Government of West Bengal. A comprehensive plan has yet to be prepared. Lakhs of people have been rendered homeless, assets worth crores of rupees have been lost.

So, I would like to propose that a parliamentary committee be set up to review the situation afresh.

DR. (SHRIMATI) C. SUGUNA KUMARI (PEDDAPALLI): Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, I thank you for giving this opportunity to me. I draw your attention and the attention of this august House to the injured and inflamed feelings of the entire Indians for the religious affront that took place at the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Grass Committees annual 'Sleeze Fall' held at the Hordern pavilion in Sydney, Australia last month.

They have insulted the Indian Hindu Gods in innumerable ways. Lord Ganesh is depicted as 'Gaynesh' and many obscene drawings were displayed mocking Hindu Gods. We are entering 21st century and everybody has to have tolerance to the other religions. It appears the Australians are entering the 19th century!

The Australians have no right to injure and inflame the religious sentiments of Indians. I would request the External Affairs Ministry to lodge a strong protest, if it is not done.

I hope the entire House and the entire nation joins me in conveying this protest. Thank you.

SHRI G.M.BANATWALLA (PONNANI): Sir, it is a matter of serious concern and a highly objectionable matter that the Government is attempting at saffronisation of democratic institutions, destroying their secular character and stifling or scuttling their autonomy through a policy of biased appointments and biased retirements.

Sir, biased retirement was resorted to in order to stifle dissent and biased retirement was made in the case of Prasar Bharati Board. There are other prestigious institutions like ICHR, ICSSR, NCERT and others where biased appointments of persons from a particular type of ideology like the RSS *pracharakshan* and RSS thinking were made. Sir, this is an attempt at destruction of secular democracy.

I therefore, appeal to the Prime Minister to intervene in the matter and to see that our secular structure is not dismantled or destroyed through such biased appointments and biased retirements in democratic institutions.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (PANDHARPUR): Mr.

Deputy-Speaker, Sir, even after attaining independence, the Dalits in every village are being subjected to continuous torture. A few days are left for entering in the twenty first century. The upper caste people of the Hathi Darbar of Village Ram Pankhan in Yasoha Taluka of the Junagarh district of Gujarat assaulted and attacked at least fifty persons belonging to Dalit Community in the morning of 27th. It is a very serious matter. They were already in possession of the village land. They have committed an act of encroachment.

[English]

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (CHHAPRA): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, is it not pertaining to law and order? Is it not a State subject? ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please do not interrupt.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: But then he is going to speak about minority, law and order in the State. ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please do not challenge the decision of the Chair. We have already taken that into account. Please do not pass such a remark.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: It is our submission to the Government of India that it should issue instructions to those states where these atrocities are being committed. If these who do not own a piece of land, occupy the land belonging to the Government, then the objection raised by the villagers over it is not justified. It can be looked after by the Government. The villagers feel that the Dalits should not have any land. If the atrocities on Dalits continue to occur like it then the people who already own land will come forward to forcibly occupy more land. But they are yet to reach this stage. Inquiry should be conducted in this matter and the instructions should be issued by the Government of India to take severest action against those found guilty. Here, in the Centre as well as in Gujarat, your party is in power. If the atrocities on Dalits continue like this, your Government at both the places will be toppled. The Government should take measures to stop atrocities against Dalits. Through you, I am making the same submission to the Government.

[English]

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN (TIRUNELVELI): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I make a special mention to draw the attention of the Government regarding desilting of Tamirabarani river in Tamil Nadu. Under the National River Action Plan, only Cauvery river is included and it is being desilted. This river originates from the hill, Pothigai. It caters to the needs of lakhs of farmers. It originates from Pothigai and mixes with the Bay of Bengal. It caters to the needs of all the inhabitants of three districts. Very fine potable water, protected water is being supplied.

From the day of Independence, it has not been desilted. Now a serious situation has arisen wherein the whole river is polluted by planting. It is looking like a forest plantation inside the river. The water is not able to flow freely and it has a number of channels for two districts. Through the channels, the river water flows to the water tanks. So, the cleaning and desilting of Tamirabarani river has to be included under the National River Action Plan by the Ministry of Forest and Environment. I do not know whether the Ministry of Water Resources also has to be consulted. So, to give protected water supply to all the districts, a master plan has to be drawn up by the Government of India. It is because from Tirunelveli — the water is originated from Pothigai Hills — the water is being supplied to Madurai, Kolpatti and in and around hundred miles radius of that area. Also, this river is supplying water to the naval base at Vijayanarayanam. The water is being supplied to the skylab there.

So, I would appeal to the Government of India, through this special mention, to desilt the whole Tamirabarani river and also the channels to preserve the river. There are two dams — Papanasam and Manimuthar. Sometimes during the rainy season, these two dams are being opened and their waters are also entering Tamirabarani river. So, it has to be cleaned and desilted. I appeal to the Government of India to clean it.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to bring to the notice, through you a very important matter. It is causing concern to the entire nation. Sir, on 23rd November, repeated messages were given through the Doordarshan and also other TV channels. But I had watched Doordarshan. To correct the position whether I was right or wrong. I wrote a letter to the CEO of the Prasar Bharati and the All India Radio asking him to give the correct verbatim. The report was like this that the Chairman of the Kargil Commission, Mr. Subramanyam, had submitted the report of the Kargil Commission to the Government on the afternoon of 23rd November, the holy day of Guru Nanak's birthday. Later on, on the next day, newspapers reported that Mr. Subramanyam called on the Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, had some interaction with him and assured that it would come before the 15th of December. Reports are now in various circles in the news media that the report was submitted. But, maybe, something was wrong or right in the paragraph. We do not know that. It was further advised to be amended. Firstly, the Chairman was not supposed to be with the Prime Minister till he hands over the report. Secondly, if at all he met the Prime Minister whether he has submitted the report or not. This should be checked up from the Government and they should take the House into confidence because this is causing a lot of concern to the entire country. I asked for the verbatim of the Doordarshan's report came in the news media on that day from the CEO. I hope the Government should clarify the position because it is creating a lot of concern and lot of apprehension about the objectivity and impartiality of the Government towards the Commission. That is all.

SHRI SAIDUZZAMA: Sir, my name is in the list. My name has not been called.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (HOOGLY): Sir, it is a very serious matter. I associate with the views expressed by him. The hon. Prime Minister owes it to the House to explain the situation as to what had happened actually.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, my submission is that in Rajasthan, the farmers used to get electricity at the rate of 50 paise per unit which has now been enhanced to Rs. 3.65 per unit by the Rajasthan Government. What an unprecedented rise from 50 paise to Rs. 3.65 per unit. Besides, the Government have also increased the meter rent and service charges. The assistance which was provided to the Rajasthan Government by the Government of India during famine, is yet to be distributed among the people, on the other hand tariff of electricity has been increased. This has further aggravated the already poor condition of the farmers leading to a situation like super-famine for them.

My submission is that the farmers should get the electricity for eight hours which they are not getting. Farmers are not getting electricity even for two hours due to which they are agitated. Therefore my submission is that the farmers should get the money provided by Government of India to the Rajasthan Government as relief measure and the State Government should withdraw the enhancement in electricity tariff which was done at such a time when the farmers were already reeling under the devastation of famine, further electricity for eight hours should be made available to them.

SHRI SAIDUZZAMA: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir I thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak. I would like to further speak on the same subject of the worsening condition of farmers about which my colleagues have been speaking. Today, the farmers of the Uttar Pradesh has been passing through a phase of great difficulties.

No support process have been announced yet. Due to this they are not able to reap the sugarcane crop leading to a great deal of trouble and even starvation is looming large over them. My submission to the Government is that it should immediately for the support price for sugarcane. In other States, it has been fixed at Rs. 110 per quintal. Therefore I submit that the same should be fixed for the farmers in Uttar Pradesh so that they may be saved from the difficulties from which they have been passing.

DR. S. VENUGOPAL (ADILABAD): Sir, in the Adilabad district of Andhra Pradesh, the people have given a notice for *dharna* and *rasta roko* for stoppage of trains for which they are insisting since last one and a half years. They are asking

*Not recorded.

for stoppage of the G.T. Express at Bellampalli, the Navajeevan Express at Kagaznagar and the Janata Express at Tandur. In these three places many factories are located where about 20,000 to 25,000 people from Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi are working. But due to non-stoppage of trains at these three places, they are facing many difficulties. This issue pertains to the Ministry of Railways. From 15th December onwards, the people of the entire district are going to agitate.

So, I request the Government to intervene in the matter and give instructions to the concerned railway authorities for stoppage of the trains at above places.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (CHHAPRA): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the issue which I was going to raise prove a major problem for the country in the coming days. The ISI activities are on increase on the Nepal border adjacent to the Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. As the activities of ISI are increasing on this porous border, a network of ISI is being especially unfolded in Bihar. As far as the question of recent activities are concerned including the one which occurred during the visit of a Central Minister the land of these forces can not be denied. Therefore, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the increasing activities of ISI in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh and the protection of life and property in these States.

13.37 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Thirty Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

14.38 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Thirty-Eight Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

(MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Let us now take up matters under Rule 377.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) Need to look into the grievances of sugarcane growers particularly in Eastern Uttar Pradesh

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYA NATH (GORAKHPUR): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Eastern U.P. region which consists of Gorakhpur, Deoria, Padrona, Maharajganj and Basti districts, is prominent sugarcane growing belt and has singularly one cash crop, i.e. sugarcane. But today the sugarcane growers of that region are starving. The sugar mills in private sector-Saraiya Mill at Gorakhpur owe 23 crore, Kaptanganj Mill 16 crore and Khalilabad Mill Rs. 3 crore to the sugarcane grow-

ers. Similar is the case of Anand Nagar (Maharajganj), Padrona and Kathkuiyan based sugar mills under Government of India. These mills have been closed for past few years and owe 20 crore to the sugarcane growers. Even the sugar mills of U.P. State Sugar Corporation are yet to clear the outstanding payment for sugarcane from 16th February, 1999 onwards. U.P. Government has proposed to close down these mills one by one. Sugar mills at Ghugail, Chhiltoni, Mudreva, Hardoi, Rampur and Meerut have been closed down on 27.10.99 and other major mills like Pipraich, Ram Kcia, Betalpur, Dhuriyapar etc., are on the verge of closure. Since these sugar mills have not been modernised and expanded, these are not in a position to make payment to farmers as a result of which farmers have reached the stage of starvation. There is a widespread resentment among the farmers and the sugar mill workers and general populace against the decision of the Government to close down the sugar mills.

Through you, I request the Government of India that in view of the plight of these farmers, an exclusive sugarcane policy should be formulated for eastern U.P., payment for sugarcane should be made without any delay and instead of closing down these mills, Government should modernise and expand them.

(ii) Need to provide halt of Sangam Express/Chaura-Chauri Express at Bindgi railway station in Fatehpur, U.P.

DR. ASHOK PATEL (FATEHPUR): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, Bindgi Tehsil in Fatehpur district (U.P.) is famous for Brass 'Kalsa' industry. Though several major trains traverse Bindgi railway station but none of them halts there, which causes lot of inconvenience to the locals and the traders. This is affecting 'Kalsa' industry also. To catch major trains like Sangam Express/Chaura-Chauri Express, people have to go to either Fatehpur or Kanpur due to which they have to face lot of difficulties. Due to this, not only their time is wasted but they have to spend more money also.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government to provide halt of Sangam Express/Chaura-Chauri Express trains at Bindgi station. This will not only solve the problem of people but will also promote 'Kalsa' industry.

(iii) Need to expedite supply of L.P.G. through pipeline in Mumbai

[English]

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA (MUMBAI NORTH EAST) Sir, Two months back Department of Petroleum announced to provide LPG cooking gas through pipeline in various parts of Mumbai. Residents of Mumbai, particularly Eastern suburbs, were asked to apply. Thousands of people have applied for gas pipeline at their residence. No action has been taken till today. No connection has been provided in the last so many months. People, residents are finding it difficult as there is no LPG connection in their houses, particularly housewives are demanding and requesting the Ministry concerned and also

Mahanagar Gas Company an undertaking of Union Government to expedite the gas connection plan.

I would like to request the concerned Ministry to expedite the action plan to provide gas connection through pipelines with the help of Mahanagar Gas Limited at each and every house in Eastern Mumbai and other parts of Mumbai. The action plan, time table and the procedure of getting gas, LPG cooking gas through pipeline in their houses may also be announced.

(iv) Need to provide halts on railway line at Karota and Derhgaon in Begusarai Parliamentary Constituency, Bihar

[Translation]

SHRI RAJO SINGH (BEGUSARAI): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, there is an urgent need of effecting improvement in the Gaya-Koel rail line that falls in Begusarai Parliamentary Constituency. There is a long standing popular demand for providing rail halt at Karota and Derhgaon but despite an assurance given by Minister of Railways last year, the same have not been provided so far. I urge upon the hon'ble Minister of Railways to direct the concerned authorities to take up the construction of halt at Karota and Derhgaon without any further delay.

(v) Need to take steps to check encroachment on railway land and formulate plan for its proper utilisation

[English]

SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR (MYSORE): It is a matter of great concern that the Railway land worth crores of rupees has been encroached upon in different parts of the country. According to an estimate, 2457 hectares of land has been encroached upon by different people. This is ten per cent of the total unutilised Railway land. The remaining 90 per cent of surplus Railway land is lying unutilised. In the absence of any activity, there is a vast scope for the encroachment of the surplus land. Unless immediate steps are taken to tackle the twin problems of encroachment and non-utilisation of the surplus land, Railways will continue to remain the loser. Though there are State and Central Acts but they are not being implemented properly and effectively. The Railway Protection Force is also not taking any action to evict the encroachers or to stop the encroachers.

In view of this, I demand that the encroachment on Railway land should be stopped forthwith. Action should be initiated to evict the encroachers and action plan should be formulated for the proper utilisation of the surplus Railway land.

(vi) Need to advise Kerala Government to increase the storage capacity of Periyar Dam to 152 feet

SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN (PERIYAKULAM): Sir, I rise to mention an important matter which is of serious concern to the people of Theni, Madurai and Ramanathapuram districts of Tamil Nadu. Periyar river which originates in Kerala flows

through these three districts, parts of which fall in my Periyakulam constituency. Periyar river water is a major source of irrigation and drinking water in these areas.

Though the storing capacity of the Dam is 152 feet, Kerala Government has objected to store water to full capacity. Kerala fears that the dam is very weak and as such has allowed Tamil Nadu to store water only to the height of 136 feet. The reduction of 16 feet of storage capacity has affected farming severely in Theni, Madurai and Ramanad districts.

The Tamil Nadu Government have spent crores of rupees and have reinforced the dam as required. Even the Central Water Commission, which visited the dam certified that the storage capacity could be increased to 152 feet. But the Kerala Government has been persistently refusing to increase the storage capacity for unknown reasons.

Since it is the question of life and death for the people of Theni, Madurai and Ramanathapuram districts, I appeal to the Centre to intervene and prevail upon the Kerala Government to allow increasing the storage capacity of Periyar dam to 152 feet.

(vii) Need to set up additional L.P.G. Outlet at Arrah in Bhojpur district, Bihar

[Translation]

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH (ARRAH): Mr. Deputy, Speaker, Sir, Bhojpur district of Bihar State has a population of about 25 lakhs. This is very old district having headquarter at Arrah. There are many educational institutions in this district like Kunwar Singh University, Jain college, Maharaja college and eight schools. Besides these, there are court, agricultural institute, business establishments and railway junction. Here famous jain pilgrimage is also situated. In this way, it is also an international Centre.

But till now this place has only one LPG agency. Coal and wood, which is the source of fuel, is also not available in sufficient quantities. The said agency is facing great pressure of LPG demand. The difficulties of people have increased too much. Supply is less than the demand. People are facing acute shortage of fuel.

Therefore, in the public interest I would request the Union Petroleum Minister to set up an additional LPG outlet at the earliest so that difficulties of people could be removed.

(viii) Need to increase forest cover area in the country

[English]

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL (JOYNAGAR): Sir, nearly half of the world's original forest has been lost. over 60 per cent of temperate broad leaf and mixed forest, around 30 per cent of the needle leaf forest, about 45 per cent of the tropical moist forest and approximately 70 per cent of the tropical dry forest have disappeared.

The greater reduction has been in Asia where about 70 per cent of the original forest cover has been lost.

The world's forest cover, not counting plantations, decreased by 13 per cent between 1960 and 1990 from 37 million square kilometres, that is, an average annual loss of about 1,60,000 square kilometres.

Forests world wide remain under extreme threat and, therefore, I urge upon the Government to increase protected areas at least up to 10 per cent in our country to improve the fast depletion of forests.

(ix) Need for five year fixed term for Lok Sabha, Legislative Assemblies and municipal bodies

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY GOEL (CHANDNI CHOWK): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, during the last decade the country witnessed five Lok Sabha elections, whereas only two were required over this period. In every election crores of rupees of Government is spent. Similar amount is spent by political parties and candidates. Besides this wasteful expenditure, the instability hampers development of nation. The people also grow sceptical about the efficacy of democracy.

The Government should tell as to what steps have been taken to fulfil the promise made in the manifesto of NDA to allow the Lok Sabha to complete its term of five years.

Alongwith this, it should also be considered that the elections for Lok Sabha, Legislative Assemblies and Municipal Bodies or Panchayats are not very frequent. The propriety of holding elections for Lok Sabha, Legislative Assemblies and Municipal Corporation simultaneously should also be considered. Throughout the country the elections should be held once after five years only.

The Government should take initiative to evolve consensus among all political parties and apprise the House about concrete steps to be taken in this regard.

(x) Need to issue a white paper on the preparation for the Census 2001

[English]

*SHRI D. VENUGOPAL (TIRUPPATTUR): The Decennial Census is to be taken up soon in 2001. There has been no effort so far to collect caste-wise population data in all the earlier census. Now, reservation has been provided both at the Central and State levels to other backward classes. So, when we evolve plans to extend educational and employment opportunities, we need to have a clear idea about the exact number and particulars of various sections of the beneficiaries to allocate funds accordingly. So, it is imperative to prepare census survey formats that will help us to collect caste-wise data also. The Union Government must take justiciable and adequate care in this regard. Similarly census data must be of practical use in identifying the number of the physically and visually handicapped to ensure a direction and thrust to our social welfare measures and schemes. Apart from teachers and Government employees, youth especially the edu-

cated unemployed, college and higher secondary students, members of local bodies and voluntary agencies should also be involved in this gigantic task. Hence, I urge upon the Union Government to issue a white paper on the preparations for the Census 2001.

14.55 hrs.

MINES AND MINERALS (REGULATION AND DEVELOPMENT) AMENDMENT BILL*

(English)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House will now take up legislative business.

Item no. 22, Shri Naveen Patnaik.

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND MINERALS (SHRI NAVEEN PATNAIK): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957."

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): Sir, I rise to oppose the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Amendment Bill, 1999. In the name of delegating powers to the State Governments to allow mining operations, the Government proposes to open the mining sector of our country. Nowhere in the Bill there is a mention of any restriction for the multinational companies. If this Bill is passed, then there will be a scope for the multinational companies to plunder the mineral wealth of our country.

Two new terms, in place of exploration of mineral resources, have been added in this Bill, namely, reconnaissance operation and reconnaissance permit. This is a new methodology or, maybe, a new technology in regard to mining operations, exploration and exploitation of our mineral wealth.

What are the problems that the Government is facing in order that a new measure is proposed to be undertaken? I would like to know whether the existing law which was enacted way back in 1957 is not sufficient to take care of illegal mining.

Sir, we all know that we discussed the problems of illegal mining a number of times in this House. I do not know whether by bringing in this Bill, which seeks to delegate powers to the State Governments, the Government would be able to prevent illegal mining and plundering of our mineral wealth. Rather, on the contrary, there would be sufficient scope to plunder our mineral wealth. That is why this Bill is

* Translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

* Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part-II Section-2, dated 30.11.99.

not in the interest of our nation and in the interest of the people of our country. I oppose the introduction of this Bill.

SHRI NAVEEN PATNAIK: Sir, I would like to clarify that amendment to this Act is a progressive legislation in tune with our times. This will open the mining sector to more investment which is required. It would also make the laws for illegal mining more stringent. At the time of consideration of this Bill ample opportunity would be given to the hon. Members to discuss the merits of the Bill.

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (CALCUTTA NORTH WEST): Demerits also.

SHRI NAVEEN PATNAIK: Much needs to be done in this field. As I have already said, it is a progressive legislation.

15.00 hrs.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI NAVEEN PATNAIK: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.01 hrs.

SECURITIES LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL

AND

SECURITIES LAWS (SECOND AMENDMENT) BILL

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Hon. Members, Government have recommended two hours for the combined consideration and passing of (i) Securities Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1999; and (ii) Securities Laws (Second Amendment) Bill, 1999. If the House agrees, both the Bills may be taken up together for consideration and passing and two hours may be allotted for this purpose. Does the House agree to this?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The Minister may now move for consideration of the two Bills.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956 and the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992, be taken into consideration."

"That the Bill further to amend the Securities Con-

tracts (Regulation) Act, 1956 and the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992, and the Depositories Act, 1996, be taken into consideration."

Sir the Bill proposes to expand the definition of securities under the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956 and to include derivatives and instruments of collective investment schemes. This would enable development and regulation of markets for derivatives of securities and units of collective investment. The Bill also proposes to authorise the Central Government to delegate powers to the Reserve Bank of India under this Act. This would enable the RBI to regulate transactions in Government securities and other related instruments as may be specified by the Government.

In the last few years, Sir, there have been substantial improvements in the functioning of the capital market. Risks have been reduced by requirement of adequate capitalisation, margining, establishment of clearing corporations in stock exchanges, etc. Systemic improvements have been made by introduction of screen-based trading and depositories to allow book entry transfer of securities and so on. However, there are inadequate advanced risk management tools. With a view to promoting and providing such tools and to strengthen and deepen the markets, there is an urgent need to allow derivatives trading in securities for which the infrastructure, rules and regulations are ready. SEBI has already drawn up a detailed regulatory framework under which stock exchanges, clearing corporations, clearing houses would be permitted to carry on derivatives trading and settlement. This constitutes a major component of economic reforms process in the securities market. The Bill, therefore, proposes to include derivatives within the ambit of securities in the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956, thereby trading in derivatives may be possible within the framework of this Act.

Sir, recently, many companies, specially plantation companies, have been raising resources from investors which are in the form of collective investment schemes. However, the existing regulatory framework is not adequate to allow an orderly development of this market. In order that the interest of investors is protected, Government took a decision that SEBI would frame regulations with regard to collective investment schemes which would include, instruments such as agro-bonds to enable the SEBI to regulate collective investment schemes and develop the market for the same effectively. The Bill proposes to amend the definition of securities under the Securities Contract (Regulation) Act, 1956 so as to include these instruments as well as the units of collective investment schemes within its ambit.

Sir, the Securities Contracts Amendment Bill, 1998 was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 4th July, 1998. The Bill was later referred by the Hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha to the Standing Committee on finance on 10th July, 1998 for examination and report thereon. The Committee submitted their report on 17th March, 1999. Many of the important recommendations of the Committee have been accepted by the Government and incorporated in the Bill. Thus the Bill aims to protect the

interests of investor while promoting an orderly market for trading in derivatives and units of collective investment schemes.

This, Sir, is the first Bill that I move with your permission.

The second Bill, Sir, relates to the amendments of the Securities Laws (Second) Amendment Bill, 1999, no. 68 of 1999.

Sir, in order to bring greater transparency and impartiality of appellate body, the Bill proposes to amend the Securities Laws, namely, the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act of 1956, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) Act 1992 and the Depository Act of 1996 to empower the Securities Appellate Tribunal to dispose of all appeals under these Acts instead of the Central Government.

Sir, at present, the appeals from the SEBI lie with the Central Government. It is our proposal that these appeals should lie with the Appellate Tribunal which already exists under the SEBI Act. We are bringing this amendment to take this power away from the Government, from the Ministry of Finance, and empower the SAT to deal with this. The Presiding Officer of the SAT has been consulted in this matter. He has suggested that the Securities Laws may be amended to delegate these powers to SAT. And this is what we are proposing to achieve through this Amendment.

Sir, with your permission, I move that both these Bills be taken into consideration.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): Are both these Bills taken together?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: For discussions, yes, together.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: But it has not been mentioned in the Order Paper of today that item no. 24 and 25 would be taken together.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House has agreed. Just now, I have read out and the House has agreed. There is not much of a difference in that.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: But the sense of the House has not been taken.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: The sense of the House has been taken, Shri Basu Deb Acharia.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: When was it taken?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (BOLPUR): Let everything not be thrown to winds. But Members have to be told. Of course, we would not have objected to it but courtesy demands that the hon. Minister takes leave of the Chair before he goes on to the second Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The proposal had come and I put it before the House, and nobody objected to it.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Some norms be maintained.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, this point has to be clarified. I must state that it was the hon. Deputy-Speaker who took the sense of the House. It was only with his permission that I took both these Bill together.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: No.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Yes, he did.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I think, the sense of the House was not taken.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, I think, if the House has no objection, we can go ahead with it.

SHRI SOMMATH CHATTERJEE: Sure, Sir. The sense of the House is retrospectively given.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Motions moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956 and the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992, be taken into consideration."

"That the Bill further to amend the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956, the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992 and the Depositories Act, 1996, be taken into consideration."

[Translation]

SHRI J.S. BRAR (FARIDKOT): I Rise to oppose the Security Law (Second Amendment) Bill presented by respected Shri Sinha. I oppose this amendment which has been brought mainly on three issues. First of all my attention goes towards those lakhs and crores of investors who have invested crores of rupees and lost their money. These companies were connected with Agro-Plantation and despite legislations of SEBI, their crores of rupees were irretrievably lost. These Companies either vanished from the market, as it happened in Harshad Mehta Scam. In that case also, till now the accounts of crores of rupees have not come before the country.

Shri Sinha, my Second objection on this amendment is that basically it is against the spirit of Constitution, under which States have right to own their land and to cultivate it. The amendment which you have brought is infringement of that. I feel that this is a conspiracy hatched by bureaucrats. They want to make Security Exchange Board of India so powerful that the irretrievable loss of money of investors, as it has happened earlier, should continue.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would also like to draw your attention towards the fact that while introducing this amendment, the hon'ble Minister has very confidently said that by regulating it, the country and the people will be benefited. The hon'ble Minister, you might have observed that we have received many letters and many hon'ble Members too would have received many letters. Some years back, the newspapers had carried out advertisements inviting people to invest in agro-plantations. People invested their hard earned money

[Shri J.S. Brar]

incessantly. When SEBI was asked to investigate it, I think it was in 1995, I am also aware that allured by those advertisements people invested their money in those companies. After that all shops were closed. My main purpose to oppose this amendment bill is that the Government is empowering those people who have already cheated them. It will not benefit them in future. I think Parliament was also kept in dark in this matter. I am saying this because my heart aches for those people. Some farmers of Punjab invested their hard earned money impressed by the slogan of diversification of agriculture. After that they were compelled to commit suicide. Hundreds of our farmers had committed suicide. Now, roughly speaking I would like to draw your attention towards the another issue of this amendment. I would like to suggest you in this regard that entry of any type of contribution or payment and advance on sale of property including, agricultural land by investors in any such plan or plan arrangement is against the Constitution of India, because this subject is in the State list and it should be done according to the provisions of article 246(2) of the Constitution of India. The Central Government can not make rules with regard to agriculture land. It is not according to that, it is a violation of Indian Constitution. By this amendment some bureaucrats and some officers of Security Exchange Board of India will be benefited, I do not want to accuse anyone, but it is a fact that many high-ranking officers of Security Board of India have embezzled crores of rupees. I do not find it appropriate to handover power to those very people. Any contribution or payment by investors in the scheme to get the immovable property and further to that any type of contribution or payment in any scheme to get the benefits etc. and what has been said in this amendment that document in the form of proof of alienation..(Interruptions)

[English]

DR. NITISH SENGUPTA (CONTAI): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Brar, he is on a point of order.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What is your point of order? Under what rule are you raising your point of order?

DR. NITISH SENGUPTA (CONTAI): The hon. Member mentioned that the SEBI has ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please quote the rule.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: There is no point of order.

[Translation]

SHRI J.S. BRAR: No, I want to raise one or two more points. I will not take much time of the House. Section 2(h) of part II of the Bill relating to Securities Contracts (Regulation)

Act, 1956 should be amended so that units or any other document issued by Collective Investment Scheme are included for investors. This should be covered under the definition of securities provided in this section.

Lastly, I would like to make one more suggestion. In the present definition of Securities, shares, scrips, bond papers and documents related to mortgage cannot be included in the category of proposed definition of the Collective Investment Scheme because your collective investment scheme, has no entity of its own and it can be issued by collective investment management company only. Hon'ble Minister may give clarification on these two points. This will further harm the farmers and the poor. In 1995 also, it was stated that the Securities and Exchange Board of India had issued a regulation on its own without seeking the permission of Parliament, and then they had informed the House later on. The Hon'ble Minister, is a very efficient Finance Minister of the country. There is no doubt regarding your experience and capability but you will agree that laden with so many problems of the country, you might not have got the time to study. This amendment will prove quite harmful. Some bureaucrats and officers want to concentrate power in their hands. The Bhartiya Janata Party during elections had stressed that they believe in decentralisation of powers and they will give more powers to the States. I believe that the passage of this bill will tantamount to direct infringement of rights accorded to the States under the Constitution. Such a legislation would be a blot on the Constitution.

I strongly oppose the Second Amendment Bill and my mind goes to those millions of people who have been betrayed. On being asked by the State Governments to look into the matter, SEBI covered up the entire thing with deftness and people did not get justice.

With these words, I express my gratefulness and thank you.

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA (MUMBAI NORTH EAST): Hon'ble Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, first of all I would like to welcome Hon'ble Minister. I rise to support both the bills.

I would like to inform the House that being the Chairman of the Investors' Grievances Forum, I had filed a public interest litigation in Mumbai High Court regarding both these issues. I am the chairman of the Forum. Complaints were received in the Forum not only from Mumbai but from all over the country. The judgement given by the Mumbai High Court in both the cases is in favour of the small investors. Both these bills have been introduced in pursuance thereof.

I welcome both the bills and wish that they had been introduced four or five years back, because in that case, 12 thousand crore rupees of around 22 lakh small investors would not have been lost. Being the chairman of the Investors' Grievances Forum, I raised the matter with the former Prime Ministers, Hon'ble Deve Gowda ji and Hon'ble Gujral ji. Now that both these bills have been introduced in the House, I welcome them. I would like to give some suggestions to

Hon'ble Minister of Finance and would like to bring some cases to his knowledge.

Just now the position in Punjab in this respect was being discussed. There is a Punjab based company known as Golden Forest Company. The Members will be surprised to know that this company has managed to raise 1100 crore rupees from small investors, whereas the paid-up equity capital of the company is 11 lakh rupees and it has eleven shareholders. This is a family company. Hon'ble Member has correctly stated that the farmers and the small investors have been cheated. A fraud has been committed. You might have seen an advertisement of Anubhav Plantation on television which shows a plant next to the picture of a small girl alongwith the commentary that your daughter is growing up. From where will the money be raised to get her married after 21 years? The viewers were then urged to invest money in Anubhav plantation and were promised a repayment of 21 lakh rupees after 21 years on an investment of ten thousand rupees. There is not just one but several such companies which have issued in advance post-dated cheques meant to be encashed after 21 years whereas the reality is that the cheques are bouncing after six months. Still the cheques were issued. I support both these bills introduced by Hon'ble Minister. However, no action has been taken against such companies. Looting has taken place in broad daylight and the thief has already run away whereas we are taking precautionary measures now. High Court and SEBI gave the information and we had a discussion with the officials last week. We were informed that 26 plantation companies are registered with SEBI which have collected 2500 crore rupees. We asked the Registrar of Companies to give us the total number of agricultural plantation companies. We were told that there are 3800 such companies. Then we asked SEBI to furnish the addresses of the companies. Some of these companies might be tea companies but there are more than 3000 plantation companies which have vanished after having taken money from the people. SEBI informed us that they have already given an advertisement in the newspapers that all such companies which have raised 2500 crore rupees should submit their application to the SEBI. The Mumbai High Court and the Government gave the instructions that rating should be done in respect of all these companies. SEBI laid down guidelines in this regard. I would like to point out for the information of the Members that there are five grades of rating in respect of plantation companies. 626 companies were to be rated, however, only 38 companies applied for the rating. No.5 rating is the worst rating and 37 out of 38 companies got no.5 rating which means that either these companies have gone bankrupt or are going to be bankrupt soon. Navbharat Group has also set up a company in Madhya Pradesh known as Navbharat Plantation Company. The company released advertisements in the newspapers that they have got No. 5 rating from the SEBI and hence raised eight crore rupees in one year. I would like to inform the House as to how this money was invested. NB Agro company acquired an aeroplane worth Rs. 1.75 crore. It spent 70 lakh rupees for purchasing motor vehicles and bought a bungalow worth Rs. 90 lakh. This is how plantation companies are

working wonders. We made a request to Hon'ble Prime Minister that people are losing money. 22 lakh small investors are going to lose twelve thousand crore rupees. Is there any provision to recover this money? The small investors will bless you on learning about these provisions, however, the reality is that there is no action plan to recover the money.

An announcement should be made in this regard alongwith the passage of the bill. I would like to tell you about an advertisement given by a company in Marathi. Samarthyva Agrobond company had released an advertisement in Marathi. It was stated therein that if an investment of Rs. 15,000 is made with the company, a buffalo will be bought in the name of investor. It'll be milked by the company and the cream will be passed on to the investor. Another commitment made was that the initial investment of fifteen thousand rupees will be repaid after three years and the annual profits generated will also be passed on to the investor. The company is untraceable now. I support this bill, but would also request Hon'ble Minister to get a list of such companies from the Registrar of companies for a thorough checking. I would like to inform the House that SEBI issued guidelines under the directive of the High Court and the companies were asked to apply for registration.

[English]

Unless and until you get a licence or a registration certificate from the SEBI, you cannot collect any deposit.

[Translation]

A period of 60 days was fixed for this purpose. However, 35 days have passed and not a single application has been received for registration. SEBI is being authorised to define derivatives but accountability should also be fixed. I would like to inform the House that we had approached SEBI before going to the High Court. We had held demonstration in which thousands of investors participated. However, the response of the SEBI and the Reserve Bank was that they were helpless as it was not within their jurisdiction. People have invested money which has been lost and now they must bear the losses. Hence my submission is that

[English]

There should be some clause for accountability.

[Translation]

I would like to quote another example. Libra Plantation Company collected 24 crore rupees and stopped making payment to the people thereafter. A relative of the Managing Director of that company wanted to withdraw three lakh rupees, but his cheque bounced. The M.D. said that the company had no money. Liquidation orders were passed against that company and thus 24 crore rupees were lost. As you are aware that the case of liquidation remains undecided for years together. Hence I would like to ask if the Government propose to seize the assets and the properties of such companies and whether any criminal action will be taken against them? S.E.B.I. sought powers and the department of finance made provisions in this regard but no provision was made to take

[Shri Kirti Somaiya]

action against it. Therefore, I request the hon'ble Finance Minister to kindly bring forward amendment in it during the next session to protect such investors and an assurance should be given that money would be recovered from the Director and criminal proceedings would be initiated against him.

I would like to bring one more point to your notice. This too has not been included in the definition. Lakhs of rupees are collected from the public in the name of time share Resort. People are asked to deposit rupees one lakh with them and are promised free stay at any of their resorts for four to five days every year till the next twenty five years. But reality is that resort themselves vanish within two years. Directors say that they do not have money.

I would like to draw your attention to the second Bill also. First thing is that you intend to enhance the powers of Appellate Authority of SEBI.

[English]

It is good. I really welcome it and appreciate it.

[Translation]

SEBI imposed fine on the Hindustan Lever for insider Trading. Appellate Authority was in existence at that time which passed order against the SEBI.

[English]

I welcome this Tribunal.

[Translation]

This tribunal is a single member tribunal and is manned by an officer below the rank of Joint Secretary. This should be a multi member authority. There are more than one member in the Income tax and Exise Appellate tribunal. It should have atleast two members and they should be senior level officers because the status of Chairman of SEBI is that of Deputy-Governor of Reserve Bank of India or equivalent. The members of SEBI Board are officers of secretary level. As the Minister of State cannot take cognizance of the appeal against the order passed by the cabinet Minister similarly a Joint Secretary cannot hear the appeal against the decision taken by the secretary. Therefore, it will be better to make correction in this regard also. Second thing which I want to tell is that the Hindustan Lever filed a petition in the Mumbai High Court challenging the order passed by SEBI which was set aside by the appellate authority.

[English]

The SEBI cannot go to the Court.

[Translation]

The investors had to approach the Court and the Supreme Court upheld our stand in this matter. In the provision made in this regard you have shown section point five where as it

should be section 22 F. I would like to request the hon'ble Minister and bring to his notice clause 22F at page number 3 which states.

[English]

"any person aggrieved by the decision of the security Appellate Tribunal."

[Translation]

"Any person" in clause 22F at page number 3 under the second amendment should be substituted by "any aggrieved party" because the Hindustan Lever advanced the argument in the Court that SEBI is a Government body and how a Government body can approach the appellate tribunal against the Ministry of Finance. If SEBI has passed a judgement then that is an honest judgement.

[English]

If you are treating the SEBI as a separate entity.

[Translation]

Then there should be an amendment and "any person" Should be substituted by "any aggrieved party."

In this connection I would like to take note of companies which are vanishing from the market after collecting money from safe exchange in market. There are about 3500 companies which have vanished from the market after collecting more than Rs. 10,000 crores from the market there is no trace of these companies as they have closed down their offices. They have collected rupees two to five crores from the public and disappeared. The Government should pay attention to such companies. Today morning I brought another matter to your notice regarding 'Indprakash Mutual Fund Scheme." SEBI should be given more powers. But it is to be seen whether the instructions issued by SEBI are followed or not. It is also to be ensured that the orders passed by SEBI are complied with by the nationalised Banks. What provisions are you going to make in the Act in this regard. The Indian Bank floated a Mutual Fund scheme in the market in 1992 under which the Indian Bank Mutual fund assured return of Rs. 30 to the investors on maturity after seven years. On November 30, 1999 on a unit of the face value of Rs. 10 under the scheme Indprakash. On maturity of the scheme the Indian Bank says that they have suffered loss under this scheme and payment to the investors under this scheme will be made at the rate of Rs. 17 instead of Rs. 30.

[English]

The net loss would be Rs. 70 crores which belong to the small investors.

[Translation]

I would like to know the manner in which investment was made during 1992-93 to 1995-96. Where did Indian Bank Mutual Fund invest the fund. Other Mutual funds earned profit during the period. I would like to bring to your notice that Canara Bank and State Bank of India suffered losses under

the Mutual Fund Schemes during 1995-96 and the Government made payment on behalf of these Banks. Similarly the Government should also pay for the loss suffered under the scheme of the Indian Bank Mutual Fund. Today I would like to present another matter before you as to what SEBI, Regulatory Bodies, Reserve bank of India, Ministry of Finance and Registrar of Companies are doing. For your information I would like to tell you that no procedure has been prescribed for registration of Plantation Companies. Registration fee is Rs. 200 or 500.

[English]

You can get a registration certificate across the counter.

[Translation]

They advertise it through the newspapers and brochures that they have been registered by the Registrar of Companies. There is no need of giving any proof to the Registrar of Companies to get a limited company registered. But birth certificate, school leaving certificate proof in respect of earlier residence and photo are required to get a ration card. But there is no need of any proof to get a plantation company registered and to collect rupees five to fifteen crores thereafter.

I would like to illustrate an example. Ten days ago SEBI directed Kirloskar to refund Rs. 30 per unit of the Indian Bank Mutual Fund. Nobody knows what action will be taken in this regard and who will take such action. Kirloskar Finance and Leasing Company of Kirloskar group collected Rs. 105 crores from 60 thousand small investors and stopped repayment of public money from January, 1999. Further it stopped payment of interest from April, 1999. They stopped repayment in January, 1999 and from May 1999 they started closing down their offices at different places. When we approached them they told that they had sold the Company. We lodged Complaints in May, June and July and it is quite surprising that the Company which collected Rs. 105 crores in July was sold to Champawat family of Ahmedabad by the Kirloskar group. That the Company has been sold out was disclosed only when we demonstrated in front of them.

That family has no background, they have no experience of running N.B.S.C. Today I have come to know that the Champawat family has informed the Registrar of Companies that they are going to close down offices of Kirloskar located at Pune and Gwalior and are shifting to Ahmedabad. Not only this they have also decided to change the name of the company. What will be fate of the investors? Who will account for these rupees 105 crores? Will the Minister of Finance pay attention in this regard? I would like to say that the Ministry of Finance together with the Registrar of Companies and other Ministries should constitute a strong action group. I will dwell at it some other time as to how an amount of rupees one lakh fifty thousand crores of investors has been locked or lost between 1992 to 1999 due to the operations of Harshad Mehta to C.R. Bhansali and N.B.S.C. This is not a small amount. You will be surprised to know that in all 386 companies have registered themselves with the Reserve Bank of India up to January, 1997. Three years have passed since then

and the Reserve Bank of India has been able to verify only nine thousand applications out of 38 thousand. Will anybody seek answer to this from the Reserve Bank of India? I would like to say that whenever we met Shri Yashwant Sinhaji he has fully supported the small investors. He is bringing forward legislation one after the other. Therefore, I thank the Government for taking steps to safeguard the interests of small investors. I support both the Bills.

[English]

SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN (SIVAGANGA):
Sir, in this Bill we find that the Government is having *ad hoc* policy of amending the Acts on the command of some other agencies. I think the international agencies are compelling the Government and to satisfy the foreign investors, small amendments are being made. But at the same time the common man is not protected. They are exposed. I would like to suggest an amendment to Section 11 where new definition is given and collective investment scheme is mentioned. The collective investment scheme is having exemption also under Clause 3 notwithstanding anything contained in Sub-section 2 any scheme or arrangement made or offered by a cooperative society registered under the Cooperative Societies Act, etc.

Actually bodies registered under the Cooperative Societies Act cannot be controlled by the Securities and Exchange Board of India. In the same way, non-banking financial companies are shown in another clause, contract of insurance is shown, then providing for any Scheme, Pension Scheme or the Insurance Scheme is also shown. The fifth point says that deposits are accepted under section 58A of the Companies Act, 1956. The sixth point says that deposits are accepted by a company declared as a Nidhi or a mutual benefit society under section 620A of the Companies Act, 1956. The seventh point talks of Chit business. The eighth point is a broad one under which contributions made are in the nature of subscription to a mutual fund. All these shall not be a collective investment scheme.

Why this type of exemptions are given? What is the need of this? Seven clauses are shown as exempted clauses. Why? Is there any protection given for this type of people who are cheating the mass? In Tamil Nadu you can see each and everyday many Nidhis and mutual funds closing. Hundreds of people who are having an earning of one hundred or two hundred rupees are putting their money in the mutual funds. But they are not protected. They are just going here and there. They are going to the police station, but they are told that a new police officer is being deputed and they can have their grievance settled. No court appreciates this. Only IPC clause 420 is there to initiate proceedings against them. People are aggrieved because of this type of definition of Collective Investment Scheme. Crores of people are exploited by these schemes.

How are these people exempted? Unnecessarily they are included as exempted class. There is no need for this. That means there is some other meaning given for these bodies like 'you are protected, you can go on like this'. There

[Shri E.M. Sudarsana Natchiappan]

should be some law to protect the mass who are ignorant, who are evaded by the market, who are carried away by advertisements. Every day we see so many advertisements like, if you put one hundred rupees, you will get one thousand rupees within ten years, you will get ten thousand rupees, you will get a pension of Rs. 250 every month. There is no protection for these people. But there is a protection given by unnecessarily including an amendment. Therefore, I submit that the hon. Finance Minister may exclude this clause, so that there is no necessity at all to bring this provision into this particular section.

The very important thing on which this particular amendment is made is only to make the market available for the ordinary people. But the SEBI has not protected the ordinary people. Only ten shares are purchased by monthly salaried people, but they are not protected. They are sending petitions, telegrams, notices and criminal proceedings are also started. Even then companies are not giving them money. They are just dragging on asking them to wait for one year or six months. The SEBI is not listening to them. Therefore there should be some summary proceedings in such cases just like a small cause court is available for trying offences not exceeding a certain amount, say, one thousand rupees to ten thousand rupees. There is no need for any proceedings. Straightway there can be a decree and there can be execution. In that way there should be a procedure. There should be such a clause by which small investors are protected by summary proceedings. There should not be any waiting for appeal or revision. This point should be taken into consideration.

Regarding the compensation with interest provision, there may not be an amendment. But actually compensation with interest should be the focussing point for investors. There should not be any criminal proceedings, one year punishment or paying back the money. That is not sufficient. There should be compensation. A person who is evaded by a company, who is not given back his money immediately, should be paid the compensation with interest. That type of provision should be there.

Whenever the Government brings up such amendment there should be a comprehensive and total outlook of the whole issue. We are now having electronic transfer of shares also. Therefore, when there is an amendment, there should be a total outlook, the entirety should be taken into account and a comprehensive Bill should be brought which is modern as we expect, as the Western countries expect or any other foreign investor expects.

There should be a total comprehensive Act. There should not be tailoring and stitching here and there which give a beggary look of the Act also. The people cannot accept this type of amendments.

Regarding the second amendment, the hon. Finance Minister said that we are delegating the powers. Actually, delegation is towards the Government Secretaries who are

sitting as Members in the SEBI. There should be a provision that it should be occupied by a judicial member. A sitting judge who is not at the command of the Government should be a Member of the SEBI and the Appellate Authority should have a person who is sitting Member in the Bench. Nowadays, this type of tribunals is occupied by retired people who are just hankering for that particular post. When a Secretary is going to retire, he is seeking for some other appointment. There are ten lakh lawyers on the road. There are many persons who are experts in company law. We should create a separate body which is specialised in company law. After five or ten years of practice, they should be appointed in SEBI or the Appellate Tribunal. A person who is practising law and also specialising in a particular field, especially in company law, should be appointed. Masters degrees are coming up. They are doing research also. Such people are not accommodated. Only the Secretary who has come as an IAS officer is again appointed here. He is omnipotent and knows everything about the trend of law. Many writ petitions are coming and that is why, the courts are interfering in each and every aspect. Therefore, I request that lawyers should be accommodated in SEBI and also in bodies like the Appellate Tribunals which are having this type of arbitrated appointments. There should be a proper position for a practising lawyer who has got expert knowledge in the field.

Finally, I would like to submit that there are many summer resorts and land dealings. I do not want to mention any particular company. Certain companies are coming forward to purchase lands from poor agriculturists for small amounts and are selling them at large bidding. This type of a thing should be taken into consideration. Actually, they are not giving or showing any correct amounts. They are transferring it as black money. This type of transferring lands in the name of the company and getting protection through SEBI and other things should be inquired into properly. Purchasing of lands and summer resorts, giving one month's rotation, taking away the money and declaring one fine morning that the Managing Director has escaped and his property is attached and such things should be restricted. The aggressive nature of certain people is to get the Companies Act into their hands. They exploit poor people considering that the poor people could not understand what is free market. They are afraid that free market is only exploitation and is only for blackmarketeers. These types of things should be taken into consideration by the hon. Finance Minister. It should be clearly shown to the public that we will be adamant in this field and see that these things will not be repeated.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (CHIRAYINKIL): Sir, I oppose these two Acts. These Act were examined by the Standing Committee on Finance in the Twelfth Lok Sabha. At that time, I had pointed out certain irregularities which had crept into the Act. I had difference of opinion about the overriding provision that is given. The words, 'Notwithstanding anything contained in any other Act, contracts in derivatives as per this Act shall be legal and valid' have been included. How far will it stand the judicial scrutiny is a matter which has to be seen. You cannot include everything in this Act. Moreover, you have not defined the derivative as such. The

Act only tells that derivative includes such and such things without straightaway telling what is exactly the derivative. We were dealing with money transactions which were defined within the purview of the law. But here is a matter where we are dealing with especially collective investments.

Now, Mr. Minister, when we take the definition of "collective investment", we will come to very wrong conclusions. The term "collective investment scheme" means any scheme or arrangement which satisfies the conditions specified in Section 11AA. Section 11AA says:

"Any scheme or arrangement which satisfies the conditions referred to in sub-section (2) shall be a collective investment scheme".

What is this collective investment scheme? It will not come within the purview of the proposed Act. The cooperative societies are also conducting and transacting business. They are also collecting money. But they are excluded from the purview of Section 11AA. But you have done it in the later part of the Bill which says:

"Notwithstanding anything contained in section (2), the following transactions or the following materials will not come within the purview of this section."

In that, you have said: "made or offered by a cooperative society registered under the Cooperative Societies Act, 1912.." "The point is that is not a collective investment scheme as per the present provision. Then, the Insurance Act is also excluded. You have also excluded the Provident Fund Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952. So, all these were excluded. Then, what is exactly the meaning of "collective investment?" By "collective investment", we mean without any mutual understanding or without any definition or undergoing any bye-law. What you say is "the contributions, or payments made by investors, by whatever name called, are pooled and utilized solely for the purposes of the scheme or arrangement." The important point is that individuals can join together to make any arrangement and make any proposal. Under what provision of law is it done? How can you define those arrangements and collective investment without any a definition and bringing in all those acts within the purview of the law? I do not think it will stand the judicial scrutiny. So, Section 11A as such and Section 11 sub-clause (3) are contradictory in many ways. That is why, we oppose this Bill.

Then, I come to the second provision. As per the existing Act, the Government can give directions. The Government can frame rules and the Government can even entertain appeals from the Appellate Tribunals. Now, those powers are taken away and given to a new body, the Appellate Tribunal. The Government is having no power. As far as this provision is concerned, the Government is retaining no power to give direction in matters concerning money transactions. This is a matter which I cannot agree to. So, my opposition is mainly because of this. The Government should retain some powers to control these bodies.

Sir, they say that they are entering into an area where

there is privatisation and tax research. In that case, if you entrust the entire thing to a body constituted under the provisions of this Bill without reserving any power for the Government, it looks absurd and, at the same time, it is dangerous to all. That is the main reason for which I oppose this Bill.

Then, you have made an amendment whereby the powers of the courts are taken away through this proposed Act. That is evident. Section 22E says:

"No civil court shall have jurisdiction to entertain any suit or proceeding in respect of any matter which a Securities Appellate Tribunal is empowered by or under this Act to determine and no injunction shall be granted by any court or other authority..."

Why should it be so? Whenever there is some irregularity in a money transaction, why should the common citizen be asked to go to the High Court? Let him take the matter to the civil court. Why should you debar the citizens? Also, in the High Courts, petitions or cases are accumulating day by day. Our judicial system itself is facing a crisis. At this time, you are making a statute by which further accumulation will be the result.

And there will be no end of the matter. So, I would like to ask the Government as to why the courts are debarred from entertaining matters under this Act. What is the necessity? Let the civil court decide. Why should you ask the citizen to go to the High Court to file a petition in such matters? So, I would urge upon the Government to do away with this provision. Whenever there is any grievance, let the court decide it. After all, when it is a money matter, why should they refuse justice at the lower level? So, I oppose this Bill on that ground also.

Moreover, even the appeal to the High Court is also there only in a limited sense, not in the correct perspective. So, the Bill itself is defective and it cannot be supported. At the same time, in future we will have to face very serious irregularities in money matters. So, I oppose these two Bills on these grounds.

Sir, this is a very important legislation. Unfortunately, we were not given sufficient time to discuss this legislation in the House. Hereafter, I would request that we should be given more time to discuss such legislations concerning money matters. So I would urge upon the Speaker to give us more time in such cases, in future.

With these words, I conclude.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh— Not present. Now, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ): Sir, I am not speaking.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Rupchand Pal.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (HOGLY): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to oppose both the Bills. My first objection is based on the reality and I would like to know whether the capital

[Shri Rupchand Pal]

market in our country is equipped enough to undertake derivatives. I had occasions to interact with very important people related to the capital market and they are of the opinion that till today, the situation with regard to the capital market is not such as may warrant permitting trading in derivatives. Once, I had an occasion to ask the Head of the S.E.B.I. whether he has enough teeth to control the unscrupulous operators in the capital market. His reply was that he has no such teeth and he was toothless. We have witnessed this kind of a situation not only during the days of the securities' scam but also in the subsequent days. Even very recently, the well-know operator, who was operating during the days of the securities' scam, was operating and three very well-known companies like Starlight, Videocon, B.P.L., etc., are there in the market. We had asked the Head of the S.E.B.I. as to what steps he has taken to stop the unscrupulous operators who had been rigging the market in various ways. The reply was that as a regulator, he had hardly any strength in his apparatus, both physical as well as legal, to control these operators.

Sir, we have, of course, seen the very distressing spectacle of more than 5,000 companies literally vanishing in the air after taking the small investors' money. Here, it is being said that this is brought forward in order to protect the small investors.

16.00 hrs.

Since the days of securities scam, we have been trying again and again to draw the attention of the Government to what is happening in the capital market. We were told at a point of time by the great leader of reforms in our country, Dr. Manmohan Singh: "I cannot lose my sleep over what is happening in the capital market." A Joint Committee was set up. They had gone into the details of what had happened. Till today, there is only one bank. I can give you any number of instances. Rupees seven hundred crore are due from a particular foreign bank. They have bluntly stated, "We are not ready to pay it." Is the RBI having enough strength to control the situation? No. They cannot control the foreign banks. SEBI cannot control the unscrupulous operations. In such a situation, they are going to start shedding in derivatives.

There is a reference to the plantation companies' investment schemes and all these things. At one point, they are quoting: "Because of the sagging capital market, derivatives will be necessary." At another time, the Minister said, "We have already matured enough to undertake derivatives." These are both contradictory. At that point of time when the Standing Committee have been suggesting all these things, they have been referring to the capital market as a sagging market. Now, what is happening? It has never happened in the world that even though a near-war situation has developed after the Kargil war, we witnessed that even in such a situation, the sensex was going up and up and up. It has never happened in the world. Out of several issues, you would find only five. It is related to information technology, pharmaceutical company, certain banks and a fast-mov-

ing consumer goods concern—Hindustan Lever. Five or six companies are there. Take the examples of steel sector, oil sector and many more.

Of course, in the public sector, there has been an encouraging response. But in respect of most other well-known reputed companies, who several times wanted to have access to the foreign market for capital mobilisation, they have also been failing miserably. That is the situation in the capital market. The sensex is artificial. I can tell you that on any day, it is just like a balloon. It will be pinpricked. We shall be nowhere. What are these foreign institutional investors doing?

After experience of the East Asian countries, after the experience of the Asian tigers, we have not learnt anything that they are indulging in unscrupulous speculation. Whenever we need money, they are withdrawing it. We are playing to the tune of the foreign investors.

If these things are allowed in such a manner, a point will come when we shall be in a situation when not only our currency but our whole economy will also be in jeopardy. I have repeatedly been asking one question that you are globalising. We are speaking in terms of global standards and many more things. We have been on line. We do have a national stock exchange. Even after that, can the Minister of Finance assure us that there is enough transparency in the operations? No. They have been encouraged to cover up. The SEBI is daily giving opportunities to unscrupulous operators to have their own way.

There is hardly any transparency, leave alone global standard. By any standard, there is no transparency at all and the unscrupulous operators are free to loot the public money to deprive the small investors of their valuable savings.

I am objecting these two Bills. I am just clubbing together the arguments also as these two Bills have been clubbed together.

Now I come to plantation companies. Till today they have been ruining the savings of the common people and the small investors. This Government and the previous Congress Government have been just on-lookers. I charge this Government also that they are in the full knowledge of what is happening but they have been hand in glove with these unscrupulous operators, those who are looting money. I can cite a number of examples. I can give you the names of important people who are associated with it. Till today there is a deep association, close association of very important people belonging to that side with these unscrupulous operators. I can name them. I can give any number of instances as to what is happening. Now what should they do? What has happened? You were there. I am talking about the securities scam. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (BOLPUR): Who will investigate? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL. The Joint Parliamentary Committee gave certain recommendations. India is unfortunately

one of the most corrupt countries considered by the Transparency International. ...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): Why are you quoting the imperialist organisation? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: That is okay. They are your friends. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. NITISH SENGUPTA: China is the most corrupt country. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Would you object to our quoting the World Bank report also? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: We find that corruption is rewarded. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Dr. Sengupta is very happy and proud that China is the most corrupt country and we are second. What are you talking? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Order please.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: We can have a discussion on that. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Let there be a discussion on these two Bills now.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Now, corruption is taking place in respect of telecom and in respect of sugar. What has happened very recently can be taken up on that occasion only. I am now confining only to these two Bills.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That is exactly I want you to do. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: The Joint Parliamentary Committee on Securities Scam was chaired by Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha, as far as I remember. He was the Chairman of that Committee and unanimous report had been given to the Government saying that these were the culprits, who had been ruining the capital market, they had done this and that; these were the foreign banks, nationalised banks, the financial institutions and these were the culprits. After a long time, we found that one or two people were picked up and apparently punished. Some huge claim was made in respect of some individual that his income tax was due more than Rs. 5,000 crore. But the same person was called to deliver his observation, deliver his speech about the Budget on the Television, Government-controlled Television. Both the people from this side and that side were friendly. On that side, when Dr. Manmohan Singh was sitting, he refused to lose his sleep over the happenings in the capital market. When you are sitting now, you are bringing these derivatives. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: They are two sides of the same coin. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Yes, they are two sides of the same coin.

This Government should reconsider these Bills. These are very very dangerous piece of legislation. You are presenting on a platter the national savings, the savings of the poor investors and they are going to be virtually looted. You are handing over whatever little authority that the Government of India has now to some appellate body. We know what is going to be this appellate body.

We are not against reforms if reforms are meant to construct something good for the benefit of the common people and for the benefit of the poor. Today we find that in the WTO, the World Bank President has come out with strong words that reforms cannot succeed without just rendering any benefit to the poor people of any country. It has come out. Our former Prime Minister, Shri Narasimha Rao ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Sir, I am concluding. I am trying to become very relevant to the Bill as much as possible. Our former Prime Minister, Shri Narasimha Rao has made certain observations about three or four days back. I think, it might have been noticed by many people. He has said, "in 1991 when we started the reforms process, we could not imagine that this is going to be the outcome. We were thinking that after liberalisation, people will come and invest in infrastructure and that people will come and take care of the social structure". He has said all these points. It will never be done and it will never happen. After eight years, the leader himself, who had initiated reforms, is lamenting about it. It may be for political reasons or because of some differences, I do not know. But he has said that reforms have failed to achieve the desired goal.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: This is a fact.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: We are having this admission from the World Bank and from the eminent economist Shri Paul Krugman, the greatest advocates of market economy. He has turned around and has taken a totally opposite stand these days. So, I am saying that when you are considering the capital market, you should have to look into the fact that there is enough transparency today. Even after the on-line, even after the National Stock Exchange that has come into operation, derivatives can fit only when you can have a mature and transparent market. There must be able regulators. S.E.B.I. is not ably regulated today. It is toothless and in such a situation, it will play havoc with our small investors.

So, I oppose the Bill and request the hon. Minister of Finance to withdraw the Bill. After due consideration, he can bring it again to serve the nation and not to deprive the national savings from the poor investors.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, I am grateful to those hon'ble members who have participated in this discussion to make it so interesting. I am very much grateful to those hon'ble members also who refused to participate in this discussion and thus saved the time of the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: I wanted to speak very much, but I understood that my colleagues have already done the job. That is why, I did not want to repeat the same thing. I have no other bad intention.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: I am expressing my gratitude to you.

[Translation]

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the two Bills which I have presented in the House contain three main issues. As I have said in my initial speech, the first issue is that we are going to change the definition of the word "Securities" in the existing Act so that derivatives could also be included in the definition of security. The second issue is collective investment schemes relating to planlation companies control of SEBI over such companies will be tightened further. The Third issue is related to provision of appeal in the SEBI Act, 1992 which is presently with the Ministry of Finance. In the proposed Bill, the power of appeal is sought to be taken away from the Ministry of Finance and is proposed to be assigned to the Tribunal which is already in existence under the depositories Act. These are the three main points contained in these two Bills.

Not much discussion has taken place about derivatives, but just now Shri Rupchand Pal wanted to know whether our capital market, our stock market were ready for derivative trading. Before that hon'ble Member Shri Radhakrishnan had raised several objection on these Bills. I have said in my initial speech that this Bill was introduced in the previous Lok Sabha and thereafter it was referred to the Standing Committee on Finance. The Standing Committee submitted a report to both Houses of Parliament after considering the Bill. A copy of the said report is with me. Hon'ble Member Shri Radhakrishnan was the member of that committee, but after going through the said report I found that except an hon'ble member from Rajya Sabha no other member of the said committee have given any dissent to the recommendations made in the report. Shri Radhakrishnanji has also not given any note of dissent to the said committee. I was a little bit surprised to listen to what he has said just now.

[English]

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Just a minute, Sir. My disagreement was expressed even at the meeting, but Shri Murl Deora, the then Chairman of the Committee had expressed his view that it need not be undercut. So, I did not agree with that and had expressed my disagreement in that Committee. But in obedience with the Chairman's ruling, I could do nothing ... (Interruptions) Could I write it in the report without his consent?

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What the hon. Minister is saying is that you could have given a dissenting note.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: I had given it in writing.

[Translation]

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: I accept that the hon'ble member has dissented but his dissent was informal. That was not included in the report of the committee formally and that is why it did not come to my notice. But in clarification of these two things I would like to say that as far as derivatives are concerned, we are proceeding with utmost caution. There are futures and options in derivatives. We are not permitting options. We are only taking up futures and in futures also we are only permitting stock index futures. No other derivatives will be permitted. In addition this, SEBI has got the right to decide which of the stock exchanges is capable of doing this. The national stock exchange is fully prepared for this and it is capable to handle it, therefore trading of derivatives will be allowed in the national stock exchange. Bombay stock exchange has prepared itself for this and it can handle it. (Interruptions)

Mumbai stock exchange is capable to handle it and perhaps SEBI can give its permission to them but we are neither in favour of permitting it indiscriminately nor we intend to permit all the futures and options included in the definition of derivatives.

Hence no one should have any apprehension that the Government would give SEBI the blanket rights and as such there would be an increase in the scope for scams. We shall move forward with caution and I would like to say that a JPC was constituted under the chairmanship of Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha in 1992 of which I was a Member. Therefore, whatever I am speaking regarding this, is being done so with certain creditability on my part for I had worked in that Committee which dealt with this subject. I would like to say that the then Government had also accepted its recommendations. The most important finding of the Committee was that we should bring liberalisation in the country but the system under which it was to be brought could not be developed by us.

[English]

It was liberalisation without regulation,

[Translation]

so was stated by the Committee. I do not want to accuse or blame anyone but I would like to say, by taking this House in Confidence that whatever happened, whether it be the security market scheme, NBFC scheme, collective investment scheme, fund scheme, mutual fund scheme or any other scheme, all these were the outcome of the above said situation. We give them the permission to get their companies registered with the Registrar of Companies, issue big advertisements and then they vanished after collecting the money from the people, all this because there is no regulation in the country. After the JPC Report the Government became alert and started framing regulation.

Our friend Sri Rupchand Pal said that when the Kargil war was going on, stock market was rising. Yes, it was so. When the war was going on, prices were undercontrol. Some-

times many untoward incidents take place and we should learn to accept them on the basis of facts. I am saying this thing with Confidence that the Indian Stock Market will not collapse while it is under the control of SEBI. It is not a bubble which will burst any time. If Shri Rupchand palji and his other friends have any apprehension in this regard, I would like to submit through you that they should cast out this thought from their mind because right now there is no such danger. Marginal requirements are such that the market can not fail and settlement will never default. Therefore, today, we feel that there is no danger with the way of caution we want to proceed in the matter of derivatives. I assure the House that we are fully equipped to deal with the derivatives and we are going to allow derivatives trading.

Our friend Shri Kirit Somaiya is well-versed person in this regard. We have been discussing this subject with him. It is true that the small investors in our country have been suffering a lot and the way their hard earned money has been lost is really a matter of great anguish. It does not matter what has caused the loss of their money, be it NBFC, vanishing companies of the stock markets, mutual fund or something else, it is a very bad thing. This has happened only because there was no rule, regulation or law. The reference of Golden Forest Company was made in the House that it collected thousands of crores of rupees from the people by flashing advertisements and luring them. And suddenly these companies became bankrupt or fled from the scene and the hard earned money of the people was lost. I would like to inform the House that we are bringing collective investment scheme. The earlier United Front Government in 1997 had made this provision and authorised SEBI to regulate collective investment scheme.

Thereafter, an expert Committee called the Dave Committee was constituted which examined the entire issue. The committee evolved the ways to define the collective investment scheme and the things which should not come under this scheme. Our friend from Congress Shri Nachiappanji has stated as to why we have brought seven exception under it. I would not like to waste the time of the House by mentioning those but would like to state that these seven exceptions have been made because there is a separate provision of law to regulate these seven exceptions. Therefore there was no need to make any further provision in the law in order to regulate these seven exceptions. We have adapted the same definition in the Act which was given by Dave Committee. Hon'ble Shri Brarji has said that I sternly oppose this move. I am unable to understand as to how this amendment will widen the scope for further scams and loot when under this amendment, we have been empowering SEBI to control the investment schemes.

I agree with the fact that loot has taken place. Small investors have been deceived and this amendment has been brought keeping in view all this so that further looting may not take place. If he and other Members have this apprehension in their mind, then I would request, them to give up such thoughts because only after this Amendment SEBI will get the teeth to control all this looting and disorder. ...(*Interrupt-*

tions)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (CHANDIGARH): He had said that by this Amendment, SEBI will even possess the rights of buying and selling the land.

[*English*]

That is a State subject...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: I am coming to that point. Firstly he had said that it will lead to their autocratic attitude...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Perhaps you have not seen,

[*English*]

You have been swayed only by one consideration ...(*Interruptions*).

[*Translation*]

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: I did not see but I have heard.

[*English*]

I listened to him very carefully. Shri Brar opened the debate and I listened to him very carefully. I did not interrupt him at that point of time. I have here my notes which I have taken meticulously in order to be able to reply to those points.

The second point that he has made is about the right of the States and how this Act or amendment encroaches upon constitutional right of the States. I do not agree with that approach. I do not think that through this amendment, we are, in any way, encroaching upon the constitutional jurisdiction of the State Governments. What is the power that we are taking? The only power, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, that we are taking is to regulate the collective investment schemes which are clearly defined. They relate to agricultural operations because they relate to plantations. It has nothing to do with purchase, distribution, utilisation and lease of land. We are only concerned with the financial instrument and that financial instrument does not fall within the jurisdiction of the State Governments. Under the Constitution, it falls entirely within the jurisdiction of the Government of India and therefore, we are competent to legislate on this.

[*Translation*]

The third point which he had raised was that we are giving more powers to the officers and the bureaucracy so that they indulge in more scams. Our friend Shri Senguptaji had risen to speak but he was not able to state as to under which rule he was raising point of order, his views were not heard. I do not think that the casual blaming and accusing of a person or an institution adds to the prestige of this House ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI J.S. BRAR (FARIDKOT): Hon'ble Mr. Minister, is it a small thing that the crores of rupees of this country was

[Shri J.S. Brar]

taken away. People have committed suicide as their hard earned money has been lost, is it a small thing?

[English]

This is your non-seriousness. We appreciate what you have said but this ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You hear the hon. Minister. If there is any clarification that you want to seek thereafter, I will allow you.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: If a Member has some apprehension about a particular thing, this is the comment that the Minister is making.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Bansal, let him complete. Thereafter, if you want to seek any clarification, I will allow you.

(Interruptions)

SHRI J.S. BRAR: I have not taken any names. I have taken full care of the decorum of the House. Did I mention any name? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, that makes it even worse because we denigrate an entire class of people by making such an accusation.*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: There are black sheep also.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: When sweeping powers are being given to any particular body, institution or organisation, we certainly have the right to express our apprehensions about it.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: We are not giving sweeping powers.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: What we are expressing our apprehension about is that SEBI would try to even cover those cases where there is a case of only purchase of land.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, I should not be interrupted like this, unless I yield.

[Translation]

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have not yet concluded. I am stating that we have given only those rights to SEBI which are necessary. On one hand it is being said that officials have been given so much power that they are looting the people and on the other, Shri Rupchand Pal has mentioned that the Chairman, SEBI, has told him that they are toothless. Therefore, we are providing them just sufficient powers to work. Before 1997, as SEBI had not been provided with such powers, it was unable to control the system. Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the third point which I have mentioned is that we have made a provision for appeal. Shri Kirit Somaiya was

rightly saying that there was a matter regarding H.L.L. in which SEBI has passed an order. An appeal was made in Ministry of Finance under the provision of present act. A bench of two officers of the Ministry of Finance, was constituted to look into these cases. It has nothing to do with the officials of Finance Ministry or other Ministries. These two officials are hearing the case in their personal capacity. They did not agree with the order passed by SEBI and rejected the same. Consequently, a strange situation arose. As some people did not have full information regarding the case thought that the Finance Ministry had rejected the order issued by SEBI. Secondly, SEBI appealed in High Court against the order passed by the two officials. Though, both are Government bodies, they are pulling down one another in High Court. As SEBI refers the appeal to the Finance Ministry, we discussed and concluded that the tribunal which is already there to hear the appeals made against the orders of SEBI should be empowered to hear this appeal. Shri Kirit Somaiya had an apprehension that the officer is of Joint Secretary level and the Chairman of SEBI is of secretary level. How can the Cabinet Minister take directions from the Minister of State? I would like to say that there is no such thing. It has been stated in the provision made under SEBI Act that:

[English]

"The Presiding officer is/has been qualified to be a judge of the High Court."

[Translation]

A person of such level can be made the Chairman and since the start of tribunal, it has very less work to accomplish. The new work of appeals assigned to the tribunal will increase its work load and will reduce the burden of official of our Ministry and thus the whole system will be regulated. It will eliminate the chances of any difficulty as the one we faced in respect of H.L.L. case.

So far as the last question raised by our hon'ble members is concerned that what can be done with regard to type of companies which came into existence in 90's, collected money from the people and disappeared. A person or family with the name 'Champavat' was also suspected.....*(Interruptions)*. He collected more than Rs. 5 thousand and then disappeared.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (MAHARAJGANJ, U.P.): SEBI was given power.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Please listen to me patiently.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you might remember that earlier when we were in the Government, our Prime Minister had expressed much concern in this regard. Directions were issued to SEBI, Company Law Board and the Department of Company Affairs at that time to set up a joint team to regulate the whole system and to take the immediate steps to trace and punish the companies which have been disappeared after collecting money. I would like to tell you that SEBI has filed suit against such companies from time to time and the promoters and the Directors of the companies have been

sent to prison on the basis of cases filed by the investors under criminal law.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: But how many people have been sent to jail?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: A large number of people and many prominent persons have been sent to jail.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Hon'ble Minister of Finance, what action has been taken against the companies in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar which have political protection. Please state what steps are being taken in that direction.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, first of all by bringing this amendment we are giving powers to SEBI to have control over these companies so that they could not cheat the people in future. Action will be taken against those who have already cheated the people. Steps have been taken against some of such companies. A mention was made regarding plantation company. There are 5 such companies including Golden Forest Company against whom action has been taken. SEBI has approached High Court to restrain those companies from disposing of their property and assets so that money can be collected by selling their assets and be given to those who have invested their money in these companies.

Hon'ble Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to mention that carefulness is the only solution to this problem. Due to such steps, the people who have been cheated by these companies by making false promise of quick money multiplying will not be able to do so in future. All of us have to remain careful not to be trapped in the game of such companies. I am happy that advertisements are being issued by SEBI from time to time to caution the people not to invest in such companies.

Shri Kirit has mentioned 69 companies, regarding ratings. All these companies have been given the proper rating.

[English]

They are below investment grade.

[Translation]

SEBI has informed the investors through press releases dated June 17, 1998 and July 17, 1998 that all the collective investment schemes have been given below investment grade rating by the credit rating agencies which denotes heavy risk for the investors. SEBI has also issued directives to the plantation companies to display credit rating as well as the meaning/definition thereof in the advertisements/brochures/booklets and other publicity material. The subsequent advertisements would adhere to the directives and regulation of SEBI.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Ratings are not done in a proper manner.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Irregularities are everywhere, what can be done.

SHRI J.S. BRAR (FARIDKOT): Mr. Finance Minister, there

is nothing left to say anymore. I did not interrupt you while you were speaking

[English]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: This is an admission of the total failure of the Government. ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please listen to him. He is not yielding.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, I am about to end my reply ... (Interruptions).

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (DAUSA): The hon. Member has asked a very simple question ... (Interruptions) He would like to know whether the Government would be able to come out with an Action Plan with this amendment that would give a signal to those companies which are likely to do the same thing in future... (Interruptions)

That was the question which the Member belonging to the ruling party asked. It is a very genuine question. The Minister should come out with an answer for that question.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: I have already explained. I have explained that with the steps which have been taken in the past — this is not the first step that we are taking — and with this amendment where we are giving powers to SEBI, it will not now be possible for any company to cheat people in the sense that they cannot just register anywhere they like. They cannot issue prospectuses and advertisements in the manner they like. They cannot collect money from depositors in the manner they like. All this is going to be regulated now. The future is going to be safe. But in regard to the companies which have already defrauded the people, in regard to the companies which have cheated people, we have taken a number of steps. I mentioned to you that under the instructions of the Prime Minister a joint team is already looking at it and we are taking action against those companies. I explained to you what action has to be taken. I would like to say that the amendments which I have moved today before this House are all eminently reasonable. They will facilitate market operations; they will regulate markets better; they will make the markets deeper, more liquid; and they will protect the small investor which is what we want to achieve through this provision.

Therefore, Sir, I would suggest that this Bill be passed.

[Translation]

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA (MUMBAI NORTH-EAST): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to say that whatever Hon'ble Minister has said is correct. The Action Group of Registrar of Companies and SEBI which has been appointed after your appointment as Minister of Finance does not deal with plantation companies. This group has no power to take any action against plantation companies. My only submission to the Hon'ble Minister is as to how much time will this Action Group take to do its job which has been the outcome of your initiative?

[Shri Kirit Somaiya]

Second thing is whether the Hon'ble Minister will appoint a similar kind of group to recover the money from the plantation companies.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: There is no need to form such group regarding plantation companies because after this amendment SEBI will be vested with all the powers. Earlier also, I had informed this House that due to the rights which were given to SEBI by the then Government in 1997 and due to the rights under which it is functioning today, it has become possible for SEBI to take action against these companies and to move the High Court and thereby, restraining these companies to save their assets. That action is being taken by SEBI. The SEBI has asked the 600 companies which have been seeking registration to get their credit rating done. Out of these 69 companies did so and all were found below investment grading. All this action is being taken by the SEBI and therefore there is no need to make any special arrangement in this regard. That special arrangement was made because the period about which I am talking, during that period many companies, which were merely the companies on paper, entered the stock market. They collected money from the people and vanished. In order to locate those companies there was a need to form such a multi-disciplinary team which as I have said, has been formed as per the Instructions of hon'ble Prime Minister.(Interruptions)

SHRI J.S. BRAR: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I feel sorry to point out that the Hon'ble Minister has not tried to understand our sentiments and apprehensions. I will not say that it was duty of bureaucracy and that was fulfilled. But if any member expresses his apprehension that you have given more powers to such people even after losing crores of rupees then is it not degradation of Parliament. This is what I wanted to clarify.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: I have not said this.

SHRI J.S. BRAR: You have said this only. I would like to bring one most important thing to your notice.

[English]

"Parliament has been superceded by the Securities and Exchange Board of India."

[Translation]

Why, how?

[English]

"The Securities and Exchange Board of India has framed the Securities and Exchange Board of India Collective Investment Schemes (Regulations), 1999 and duly notified the same in Gazette of India extraordinary part 2, section 3, sub-section (2) on the 15th October, 1999."

Now, I want to say that an attempt has been made by the Securities Exchange Board of India to take the Parliament for granted.

[Translation]

What is your opinion in this regard? We are expressing this apprehension that this is an infringement of State matters and violation of Constitution. You are an able Minister, you can say that this is not so. But your saying that scams are prevalent now-a-days and the same cannot be checked. You are shirking your responsibility. Hence, there is no use of this Amendment Bill.

[English]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (CHANDIGARA): Sir, there is Regulation even before the amendment of the Act.

[Transalation]

SHRI J.S. BRAR: Before passing of this Amendment Act, SEBI has already notified the regulations in Gazette notification which is not in your knowledge. Please don't mind, it seems to me that it is like 'Yes Minister' serial. The Hon'ble Minister does not know anything as to what SEBI is doing.(Interruptions)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I never said that Parliament is being denigrated or degraded. I did not use these words.(Interruptions) You can see the record. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I had said that(Interruptions).

SHRI RAMSAGAR RAWAT (BARABANKI): Hon'ble Minister, Sir, why you are not mentioning in the House that fraud companies should be punished. Atleast, Government can do this.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: I had expressed categorically as I could. I do not know as to how I could have presented it more clearly. Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I had said that since hon'ble Member Shri J.S. Brar has said in the beginning that I strongly oppose this and he mentioned three points. His last point was that plundering is being done by officers and the provision which we are going to make, that provision will further facilitate them in plundering.

SHRI J.S. BRAR: This issue was different, besides these there were three other issues.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: I mentioned those three issues. Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I said that since SEBI has no right, its officers could not do anything. We had not given any right to them. We have given right to them in 1997 only. Since then they started regulating it and the regulation about which he is talking, that was given to them under that right in 1997 and under that right they regulated it.

In the meantime, one Expert Committee called Dave Committee was constituted. That committee said that don't leave it ambiguous—

[English]

'Let there be no confusion.'

Therefore, they suggested a definition of what should be included in the collective investment schemes.

That is the Amendment that we have brought here so that there is no confusion, whatsoever, either about the authority and the powers of the SEBI because these powers have been challenged in various High Courts. This is also an issue. The question whether those administrative orders which were issued in 1997 would be able to help the SEBI, and would defend its position in the courts of law is something about which there is no clarity, and we are bringing this Amendment so that it is put on the Statute Book and it is beyond the realm of any doubt that SEBI has the authority and the power. That is why this Amendment has been brought. Let this be very clearly understood. Once SEBI has these statutory powers, SEBI will be very well-equipped to deal with the situation which has arisen or might arise in future. That is why this Amendment is there.

SHRI J.S. BRAR: Sir, earlier, when the Parliament was in Session, they did not lay it on the Table of the House.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Sir, I have two questions to ask. Firstly, Several Committees have gone into the working of the capital market. Taking note of the deficiencies and inadequacies of the Indian capital market. They have made very valuable recommendations

One more recommendations...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Rupchand Pal, please put your question straight. Why are you indirectly going into the question?

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Sir, I am directly coming to the question.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Yes, you directly ask your question.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: The very important recommendation is about transparency in the operations of the capital market.

How this Government wants to ensure the transparency in the operations of the capital market?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Ramdas Athawale wants to seek a clarification.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it seems that members of the Congress Party and some other members have done something so that only they can get the chance to speak ...*(Interruptions)*.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please do not cast such aspersion. We had discussion in a very good atmosphere.

[Translation]

I had started from that side. Perhaps you did not see it. Please don't level such allegations.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Shri Murlī Deoraji was the Chairman of this committee and according to the recommendations, which the committee had

made, this amendment bill is being brought...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (PANDHARPUR): Mr. Deputy Sepaker, Sir, since the scams are on the increase, the Government felt the necessity of bringing this amendment. By bringing this amendment, Government is doing good work. I want an assurance from the hon'ble Minister that after this amendment, there will be no scams. He should give this assurance today in this House. Only then we will accept this amendment. If even after this amendment scams continue then what is the use of passing this amendment here ...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Prof. Rawat, if you want to ask something then please ask in brief.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, about this, I would like to say only that:

"Maya se maya mile kar-kar lambey haath,
tusi haye gareeb ki puchhe nahi koi baat"

For protecting the interests of poor people, even if radical measures are required, then even that should also be done.

[English]

DR. NITISH SENGUPTA (CONTAI): I fully support this Bill at this stage. The basic problem was that when the Parliament in one line amending Bill abolished what was known as capital issues control in 1992, the real mistake was there. Before that, so long as capital issues control was in position, no ghotala or any such thing ever took place because there was strict control and the Controller of Capital Issues actually fixed up the price at which shares were to be issued. It was suddenly abolished. No alternative was in position which the hon. Minister is now trying to put in place. There was a Sebi, but it had no power at that time.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You can seek a clarification from the hon. Minister, but not make a speech.

DR. NITISH SENGUPTA: It was due to introduction of free pricing that these changes took place. My question is with all these changes, will the Sebi be in a position to fulfill the role of a proper regulatory authority which the C.C.I used to do.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (BOLPUR): Can MPs be members of the Sebi Appellate Board?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Not to my knowledge. Now, three sets of questions have been raised. The first is about transparency. Through a whole series of measures based on the recommendations of various Committees including the Joint Parliamentary Committee, as I said earlier, the functioning of the stock market is far more transparent today than it was in the past and this amendment that we are bringing about was derivatives is something which will bring further transparency because future is different from forward.

There is some kind of a forward market which goes on informally at times; and, at times, it is permitted through some rule or the other.

[Shri Yashwant Sinha]

Once we bring the derivatives, clear the futures market and make it legal, it will not only ensure protection for those who are indulging in the futures market but also lead to a greater transparency in the market. This is what I would like to say in response to the point raised by Shri Rupchand Pal.

As far as the issue raised by Dr. Sengupta is concerned, I would like to say that SEBI will certainly be more equipped after this amendment to deal with the collective investment schemes. NBFCs are not within the jurisdiction of the SEBI. They are within the jurisdiction of the RBI. But SEBI will certainly be better equipped to deal with collective investment schemes which include the plantation schemes.

As far as the *ghotalas* are concerned, I would like to say that with all these measures that we are taking, the chances are that we will be able to minimise the fraud which takes place and we will be able to eliminate the situations and the circumstances which lead to such defrauding of the small investor.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956 and the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI J.S. BRAR: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have given notice of an amendment. You have not called me.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You will be called when your amendment is to be taken up but not now. You are a senior Member of this House. We have just now started.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House will now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clauses 2 to 10 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 10 were added to the Bill.

Clause 11

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Brar, your amendment Nos. 1, 2 and 3 have come up now. Are you moving them?

SHRI J.S. BRAR: Yes, I am moving them.

I beg to move:

Page 4, lines 15 and 16,-

for "profits, income, produce or property, whether

movable or immovable"

substitute "profits or income" (1)

Page 4, line 18, -

omit "property," (2)

Page 4,-

after line 45, *insert-*

- (ix) under which agricultural activities are undertaken,
- (x) which involve transfer of agricultural land, or lease of land, or agricultural loans or development and improvement and improvement of land,
- (xi) which are in the nature of joint-ventures,
- (xii) which involve payment of advance for sale of goods and services. (3)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I shall now put amendment Nos. 1, 2 and 3 moved by Shri J.S. Brar to the vote of the House.

The amendments were put and negatived.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 11 stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clause 11 was added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The Minister may now move that the Bill be passed.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956, the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992 and the Depositories Act, 1996, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House will now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

That clauses 2 to 16 stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 16 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The Minister may now move that the Bill be passed.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

17.00 hrs.

RE: INSURANCE REGULATORY AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BILL

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We will now take up Item no.26. Shri Yashwant Sinha to move for consideration of the Bill. We will continue the discussion tomorrow.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): Sir, I am on a point of order. My point of order is this. ...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): Sir, under what rule is he raising it? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Acharia, under what rule you are raising your point of order?

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: It is under rule 376 read with Kaul & Shakhder's Procedure and Practice of Parliament.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Under what rule? You may quote the rule.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I have already quoted the rule.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What is the rule? You may read out the rule.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, a petition with regard to the Bill on Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority ... Sir, it is under rule 376.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: May I read out the rule for you?

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, it was presented to the

House. Let me have my say. It was presented to the House in the last Session. Under the rules, if a petition is presented, it should be circulated to all the hon. Members of the House. Hon. Speaker has circulated the petition which was presented by Shri Rupchand Pal to all the hon. Members of the House.

Again under the rules, if a petition is presented, it should be referred to the Committee on Petitions. This has not yet been referred to the Committee on Petitions. Before the consideration of the Bill by this House, if that matter is referred to the Committee on Petitions, that should be considered by the Committee on Petitions.

Sir, the Committee on Petitions has not yet considered the petition presented by Shri Rupchand Pal, signed by 1.5 crore people of our country. As the Committee on Petitions has not yet considered it, the Bill should not be considered by this House. I say that it should not be considered by this House. It should be referred to the Committee on Petitions and the Committee on Petitions should consider and present its report to the House. Then only the Minister should be allowed to move the Bill for consideration. If he does it, it will be against the rules of the House. So, the Minister should not be allowed to move the Bill for consideration.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (HOGLY): Sir, my point is this. I had submitted a petition on the 28th of October. It was duly circulated to all the hon. Members. In the meanwhile, the Committee on Petitions has been in the process of formation.

The names have been sought by the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs. I think different political parties and groups have already sent their names but there is a design in delaying the formation of the Petitions Committee. I am hold that according to rule 307, there is nothing by which ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (CALCUTTA NORTH WEST): Sir, who will appoint the Committee? It is an aspersion cast on the Chair as if some deliberate attempts are being made to delay the formation of the Committee. He cannot accuse the Chair. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: I am not casting aspersions on the Chair. I have not used any uparliamentary word. I did not show any disrespect to the Chair. I am just mentioning the facts.

In the meantime, I had submitted the Petitions containing 1.5 crore of signatures from people belonging to different walks of life across the country. Even there are signatures of the Ministers belonging to this Government. There are also signatures of the hon. Members belonging to that side. My plea is...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAKASH PARANJPE (THANE): What is the percentage of 1.5 crore?... *(Interruptions)* Sir, they are just wasting the time of the House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please hear him.

Shri Pal had given a notice and I am giving the ruling.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: No, Sir, I have a point, to make. My point is this. Is not the Petitions Committee being made redundant? The Parliament itself is making one of its important Committees redundant here. I would like to make a reference to the Petitions Committee of the other House. It had made a specific recommendation. The Chairman of the Petitions Committee, Shrimati Sushma Swaraj recommended that such opening up should not be done. The insurance sector should not be opened up. This was the recommendation made by a Committee of the other House which was Chaired by no less a person than Shrimati Sushma Swaraj.

Now, I have submitted a Petition along with 1.5 crore signatures belonging to different walks of life including eminent jurists, economists and bureaucrats who have been associated with several Governments. What will happen to this Petitions Committee which is seized of this particular subject matter which is under discussion?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I am giving my observations.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Sir, this Parliament cannot dilute. ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Basu Deb Acharia, I have already allowed you. I have heard you.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Please hear me, Sir. I wish to refer to Kaul and Shakhder. Please refer to Page 860.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have heard you. Nothing will go on record. I am on my legs.

(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have given you a chance to speak.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: At that time I did not refer to Kaul and Shakhder. It is very relevant.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Whatever it may be, you please hear me. I have already heard you.

Shri Pal has given a notice. I will give my observations after hearing him. I have heard you also.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, I wish to refer to Kaul and Shakhder. I will take only one minute. Please refer to Page 860. It says:

"Every petition after it has been presented by a Member or reported by the Secretary-General, as the case may be, stands referred to the Committee on Petitions. Thereafter, a memorandum is prepared by the Secretariat for the consideration of the Committee, indicating briefly the grievance and prayer of the petitioner, the background of the case and the suggested remedy, if any. In case any facts or comments on a petition have been received from the Ministry concerned, they are

suitably incorporated in the memorandum.

In case a petition deals with a Bill or other matter which is under discussion or is to be discussed immediately in the House and the Committee is not able to meet for want of time or quorum, the petition is placed before the Speaker who directs that it be circulated *in extenso* or in summary form. When, however, adequate time is available before the subject-matter of the petition is to be taken up in the House, the Committee may examine the petition in detail and make suitable recommendations to the House."

This is very important. The petition stands referred to the Committee. So, before the consideration of the Bill by the House, it should be considered by the Petitions Committee and the House should wait for the Report of the Petitions Committee. Only then the Minister should be allowed to move for consideration of the Bill.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (BOLPUR): Sir, it is true that up till now the Petitions Committee has not been formed. I am not attributing anything. The question is, it is a petition which has been admitted by the hon. Speaker. He has thought it fit that it is an important matter and it should be circulated. Whatever imputations may have been made here, it contains signatures of 1.5 crore of people. The Government may ignore it. It has every right to ignore it. But will the Petitions Committee ever have an occasion to deal with this? What is the objective of having a Petitions Committee? What is the fun in allowing a petition to be submitted and in the meantime taking a decision on the floor of the House making the position final in the sense that the Petitions Committee will have no occasion to deal with it? According to the rules, it should be referred to the Petitions Committee. In fact, it stands referred to the Petitions Committee. When Committee of the House, which is the sole authority to decide on petitions, is unable to look into the matter and the House finalises the procedure, it will be a question of useless formalities being followed. It is not a question of scoring any debating point. It is a question of functioning of the Parliament of India. It is a question whether the Committees which are represented in the Parliament can be treated in such a manner, whether their entire jurisdiction can be taken away and the whole situation becomes a mere formality if not a mockery. Therefore, it is not a question of rushing through a legislation just because somebody is committed to somebody outside and the Committee will be formed within this week. I think with the dynamic Minister of Parliamentary Affairs that we have, the Committee will be formed very soon and the Committee will be requested to give its Report within three to four days. Sir, let them have an opportunity. Heavens will not fall. I do not know how much money will he be able to collect in a matter of week's time!

I think in deference to the position in Parliament, the dignity of Parliament and in consonance with the norms of functioning, let this matter be referred to the Petitions Committee and let them give a Report within a week. I submit that in deference to these positions, let the hon. Finance Minister request for the deferment of this Bill.

* Not recorded.



MR. DEPUTY-SEPAKER: Shri Rupchand Pal has given a notice urging that the consideration of the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority Bill, 1999 by the House be deferred until the Committee on Petitions have considered the petition presented by him on the subject of the Bill and submitted their Report thereon.

Shri Pal has contended that once a petition has been presented, it stands referred to the Committee on Petitions and the Committee after examining the matter make suitable recommendations to the House. According to Shri Pal, if the Bill were to be taken up for consideration at this stage, it would amount to the Committee on Petitions being denied an opportunity of examining the petition. Shri Rupchand Pal has quoted passages from page 860 of Kaul and Shakhder in support of his contention.

In addition to the passage quoted by Shri Pal, there is a more specific and relevant reference in Kaul and Shakhder at page 730 to the effect that "In the case of petitions on Bills or other matters pending before the House, the Committee generally does not make any recommendations but circulates the petitions *in extenso* or in summary form to the Members of the House and makes a report to the same effect giving the dates on which the petitions were circulated."

The copies of the petition: *in extenso* have already been circulated to the Members as per the requirement of Rule 307. As the House is aware the Committee on Petitions has not yet been constituted. The consideration of the Bill cannot be kept pending indefinitely. Hon. Members may formulate their views on the basis of the contents of the petition and express them while participating in the discussion on the Bill.

I am, therefore, not in a position to accede to the request of Shri Rupchand Pal.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, the petition would become infructuous.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Anyway, I have given my observation. Now let us proceed with the Item No. 26. Shri Yashwant Sinha.

INSURANCE REGULATORY AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BILL

17.16 hrs.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to provide for the establishment of an Authority to protect the interests of holders of insurance policies, to regulate, promote and ensure orderly growth of the insurance industry and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto and further to amend the Insurance Act, 1938, the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956 and the General Insurance Business

(Nationalisation) Act, 1972, be taken into consideration."

Sir, as you are aware, in my Budget Speech of 1998-99, I had proposed the opening up of the insurance sector to competition from private sector Indian companies in order to provide better insurance coverage to our citizens and also to augment the flow of long-term resources for financing infrastructure. The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority was also to be converted into a statutory body. Accordingly, the Insurance Regulatory Authority Bill, 1998 was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 15.12.1998. The Bill was referred to the Standing Committee on Finance on 4.1.1999 for examination and report.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Hon. Minister, please wait for a minute. As the house is aware, no panel of Chairman has been constituted. So, with the permission of the House, I would request Shri Basu Deb Acharia to come and occupy the Chair.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

(SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA *in the Chair*)

17.17 hrs.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, as I was submitting before you, the Bill was referred to the Standing Committee on Finance on 4.1.1999 for examination and report. The recommendations of the Standing Committee have been accepted by the Government. This is one instance where all the recommendations of the Standing Committee have been accepted by the Government.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (HOGLY): Have you accepted the Dissent Note also?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: The Dissent Notes are Dissent Notes. They are not part of the report. The amendments to the IRA Bill, 1998 were introduced in the Lok Sabha on 18 March, 1999.

However, the Bill could not be taken up for consideration consequent on the dissolution of the Lok Sabha. The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority Bill, 1999 which is before the House incorporates the provisions of the IRA Bill, 1998 along with the recommendations of the Standing Committee on Finance as accepted by the Government.

I commend the Bill for the consideration of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to provide for the establishment of an Authority to protect the interests of holders of insurance policies, to regulate, promote and ensure orderly growth of the insurance industry and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto and further to amend the Insurance Act, 1938, the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956 and the General Insurance Business (Nationalisation) Act, 1972, be taken into consideration."

There are some amendments to the motion for consideration. Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee.

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY (BASIRHAT): I beg to move:

"That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the 6th March, 2000." (1)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Amendments Nos. 3 and 4 are in my name. I am moving them as a Member and not as Chairman.

I beg to move:

"That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the 7th March, 2000." (3)

"That the Bill to provide for the establishment of an Authority to protect the interests of holders of insurance policies, in regulate, promote and ensure orderly growth of the insurance industry and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto and further to amend the Insurance Act, 1938, the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956 and the General Insurance Business (Nationalisation) Act, 1972, be referred to a Joint Committee of the House consisting of 15 members, 10 from this House, namely:

- (1) Shri Samar Choudhury
- (2) Shri Moinul Hassan
- (3) Shri Bir Singh Mahto
- (4) Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal
- (5) Shri Hannan Mollah
- (6) Smt. Geeta Mukherjee
- (7) Shri Rupchand Pal
- (8) Prof. R.R. Pramanik
- (9) Shri Yashwant Sinha
- (10) Shri Basu Deb Acharia

and 5 from Rajya Sabha;

that in order to constitute a sitting of the Joint Committee the quorum shall be one-third of the total number of members of the Joint Committee;

that the Committee shall make a report to this House by the last day of the Monsoon Session;

that in other respects the Rules of Procedure of this House relating to Parliamentary Committees shall apply with such variations and modifications as the Speaker may make; and

that this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do join the said Joint Committee and communicate to this House the names of 5 members to be appointed by Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee." (4)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (HOOGLY): I beg to move:

"That the Bill to provide for the establishment of an

Authority to protect the interests of holders of insurance policies, to regulate, promote and ensure orderly growth of the insurance industry and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto and further to amend the Insurance Act, 1938, the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956 and the General Insurance Business (Nationalisation) Act, 1972, be referred to a Joint Committee of the House consisting of 15 members, 10 from this House, namely:

- (1) Shri Basu Deb Acharia
- (2) Shri Moinul Hassan
- (3) Smt. Geeta Mukherjee
- (4) Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal
- (5) Shri Amar Roy Pradhyan
- (6) Shri P.H. Pandian
- (7) Shri Yashwant Sinha
- (8) Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh
- (9) Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav
- (10) Shri Rupchand Pal

and 5 from Rajya Sabha;

that in order to constitute a sitting of the Joint Committee the quorum shall be one-third of the total number of members of the Joint Committee;

that the Committee shall make a report to this House by the last day of the Budget Session;

that in other respects the Rules of Procedure of this House relating to Parliamentary Committees shall apply with such variations and modifications as the Speaker may make; and

that this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do join the said Joint Committee and communicate to this House the names of 5 members to be appointed by Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee." (14)

SHRI PRAKASH PARANJPE (THANE): I have also given some amendments to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can move them when the clause by clause consideration of the Bill is taken up.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (CHIRAYINKIL): I have also given notice for an amendment to the Bill for eliciting public opinion.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Not now.

17.22 hrs.

[Translation]

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA (MUMBAI NORTH EAST): Sir, whether there is a monopoly of Government company or any

other company, monopoly is harmful to the common man, be he investor, insurance agent, or a consumer, from that point of view, in the year 1992 the Government began the process of privatisation and liberalisation. Different segments, like Telecom, Insurance and upto some extent Banking also, were opened one after another for Private Sector. We have examples of banking and telecom sectors before us which suggests that whenever private companies were allowed to operate alongwith the Government companies, the customers were rendered better services. Keeping in view the circumstances prevailing at that time the banking sector was nationalised. It might had been done with good intentions, but gradually in the decade of 80s, the circumstances changed to that extent that due to its monopoly, the administrative cost went on increasing and the result is that today several banks are bearing heavy losses. In the morning I had given the example of Indian Bank which is bearing loss of Rs. 770 crore every year and the customer is not getting good service.

When we opened banking sector to the private sector, then private sector banks like H.D.F.C. or Times Bank emerged. Earlier nationalised banks used to open from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and when common man visited those banks, he was told that counter had been closed, but today, the situation has changed. Now the cooperative sector and private sector banks are providing bank service round the clock and these are being opened on Saturdays and Sundays also. All nationalised banks are also now opening for 24 hours and even on Saturdays and Sundays also. I would like to cite the example of M.T.N.L. Mumbai. Till M.T.N.L. was not facing any competition, it used to disconnect telephone line, due to non-payment of a telephone bill even if M.T.N.L. had not sent the bill. If the subscriber wanted to pay the bill, he had to go to regional centre which used to be 10 to 15 kilometers away to make the payment, after getting duplicate bill. But now what is the position? Similarly, what is the position in insurance sector today? You will be surprised to know that

[English]

The total per capita savings ratio is the highest in the world. In 1950, our rate of total income savings was 10.4 per cent.

[Translation]

Our savings rate has gone up to 23%. But what is the number of people employed in insurance sector or what is the insurance amount?

[English]

Savings rate is the highest in the world but in the insurance sector, India's share in the world insurance market is just 0.34 per cent in 1997-98. It is just 0.34 per cent.

[Translation]

It is viewed with per capita aspect, then we find that,

[English]

in India, insurance spending per capita is worth 7.6 dollars while in the developed countries like in Switzerland, it is 4289 dollars, in Japan it is 3900 dollars and in UK, it is 2451 dollars per capita.

[Translation]

In so far as insurance sector is concerned, we are ahead of all countries of the world. But where do we stand in per capita investment in insurance? In that, we are having fourth position from below only, Ukraine, Pakistan, Vietnam and Nigeria are below us? Why is it so? Because, there is no competition in this sector and market remains unexploited.

The second reason behind it is that the main benefit of insurance sector is to give social security to the common man. But alongwith it,

[English]

Savings reinvestment is a major factor.

[Translation]

Had we reinvested the savings in industrial and developmental sectors, the pace of nation's development would have been accelerated but as I said in spite of the fact that we have substantial per capita savings, we have not been able to exploit the opportunities for investing them.

Mr. Deputy-Sepaker, Sir, I will dwell on foreign insurance companies later; first I will talk about Indian companies. We have GIC in the exploited sector which has produced 130 different types of policies but till now it has introduced only 30 products in the market. Why is it so? If even after having 130 products, people do not know about them, then what is their use? Last year a new policy for women was introduced by the Prime Minister but, according to my information, even after lapse of one full year we have not been able to market properly and it has not been propagated among social and rural woman. In view of this fact, I think that we should welcome the IRA Bill. The second thing, I would like to say is:

[English]

"What is the role of Insurance Companies? The Insurance Companies are like banks or the repository of the public savings. Their credibility and safety is, at all times, far more vital than that of, say, manufacturing companies. It is, therefore, only to meet that the regulator should be particularly concerned about the quality of the management of these companies."

[Translation]

With this view, I welcome the condition of provision of Rs. 100 crore capital laid in the IRA bill, but I express my concern over capping of foreign equity at 26 per cent. This is good that

[Shri Kirit Somaiya]

[English]

Let us go for privatisation, liberalisation and Indianisation first and then internationalisation.

[Translation]

The companies of our country are also capable, as I have cited the example of H.D.F.C. Bank which is competing with Citi Bank and American Express Bank. When such type of industries and managements are present in the country, these should be given the first opportunity. I welcome the capping at 26 per cent, but at the same time, I would like to draw the attention of hon'ble Minister of Finance that while capping foreign equity at 26 per cent, he should keep vigilance, on 74 per cent share capital stake of Indian domestic companies also. Foreign companies have entered on very large scale in NBFC similarly, Foreign Institutions and Foreign Mutual Funds have entered on very large scale in capital market, mutual funds and small Indian companies. Likewise, in the Indian subsidiaries and sister concerns also they have acquired 10 to 20 per cent stake. I do not know, but an apprehension has been expressed that the foreign companies will acquire the stakes in domestic companies indirectly also. This aspect needs to be clarified.

The section therein mentions only 26 per cent but there is no clarification. Mutual Funds have a lot of money for investment if they acquire the stakes in insurance companies then I would like to quote an example in this regard. The Chief Executive Officer of the Canara Life Company appeared in an interview for Financial Express. That interview has been published. On being asked with whom he would enter into a joint venture, he replied that it will be centurian bank. Canara Life and Centurian Bank will enter into a joint venture in which the share of the foreign company will be 26 per cent while the remaining 74 per cent share will be their's. Second question which was asked is that-

[English]

whether he is having any plan to acquire any stakes in the Centurian Bank. The reply is quite indicative. He said, "not now." What does that mean?

[Translation]

Similarly, another company — Royal Insurance Company is coming in the market. They have made a declaration to launch a joint venture with an infrastructure leasing company. About 16 foreign companies of this kind have already signed AMU with the Indian Companies. We should not live with this doubt that foreign companies are not ready to invest in our country.

[English]

This is a policy.

[Translation]

I have read a clarification of the Department somewhere that foreign companies are not eager to come here. I would like to say that they are very much eager to invest in India because they can very easily manipulate with the Indian market through the savings and investment which are available to them in India. Today, even after the passage of three to four years, 16 companies daily issue different kind of statements after signing AMUs. Therefore, while welcoming this Bill I would like to say that there is a need to make the IRA bill a little more stringent. The example which I was giving about the Infrastructure Leasing Company, mentions that it was asked from the Royal Insurance Company as to why do you behave in such a manner with Infrastructure Leasing Company. It is also not clear as to which company will be the asset management company in the joint venture. If the foreign companies have a direct indirect stakes and interest in the asset management Company of the Insurance Company including its mutual funds then what will be the extent of its direct and indirect powers to control the assets management companies of the joint venture. The answer to this is that the savings will be ours, they will be Indian savings. I give you an example of Life Insurance Company.

[English]

They are mobilising Rs. 30,000 crore per annum out of that, almost Rs. 16000 is their profit and this amount is invested somewhere every year.

[Translation]

The total investment for LIC is around more than one and a quarter crore rupees. The main source of income for the insurance sector is this investment company. Now there is also a need for clarification and guidelines for the investment company and the asset management company. There is also a need to issue guidelines about as to how much profit will be reaped by the asset management company, how many free services will be given to it and how much service charges it will be given. We have surely added a clause to it in which we have illustrated about the profitability of the joint venture insurance companies. But the issues regarding the acquiring of indirect profits also need a mention.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the hon'ble Minister that recently, during Diwali festival, the index of Mumbai stock Exchange dropped by 700 points within seven days. Why did it happen? Several newspapers wrote about it. The Chairman of the Mumbai Stock Exchange told me that F.I.I. sold goods worth Rs. five hundred crores which caused the fall of 700 points in Mumbai Stock Exchange. At Diwali, the index touched the 5000 mark which was celebrated with gutso by us.

[English]

Within a month, the index went down to 4200 points.

[Translation]

Why did it take place. The reason which is being extended, though I do not possess complete knowledge about it, is that as the disinvestment of the public sector undertakings is being pursued vigorously the good index i.e. about five thousand will fetch good price for these Government owned companies. If the Government company is to issue G.D.R., go to foreign or Indian market, mutual fund is the first choice for them because it is the most comfortable short-cut available which causes a decline in the index of foreign management and foreign mutual fund. They will purchase the Shares of our company with our own money at reduced costs. There are no clear guidelines as how to invest. It is written in that the guidelines have been framed for investment but they can be strengthened.

I gave the example of mutual fund. In the same way, we opened the doors for foreign financial institution in 1994. What was the result of it? When foreign mutual fund came, we welcomed it with open arms. I would like to quote an example of what happened in 1994. Morgan Stanley, started the first scheme of foreign mutual fund. They announced that we will collect a hundred crores rupees.

[English]

It was widely publicised that it is a close ended scheme. But ultimately they have collected Rs. 1200 crore from the market.

[Translation]

At that time, neither Ministry of Finance nor SEBI did seek any explanation.

[English]

Directly or indirectly they gave an impression to the Indian small investors that they were going to collect only Rs. 100 crore.

[Translation]

The metro cities like Mumbai, Calcutta and Delhi witnessed long queues for it. If the deadline for payment was morning, people started to queue up before the banks in the night itself and they collected Rs. 1200 crores in the name of hundred crores. But what was the result of this? The result was that Morgan Stanley did not pay a single paisa as dividend for five years. We do not have any regulatory system for this. If the foreign mutual fund can play with our small investors, then insurance company can do anything with the small insurers.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I do not say that we should not do it. This should be done but with care. As has happened in the case of plantation companies, NBFC and vanishing companies, that they vanished with the collected amount and now we will frame new rules.

[English]

That is not for foreign insurance companies only.

[Translation]

This applies to the Indian companies too. As the Indian Companies too have issued mutual funds and that has led to the same situation, regarding this, Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the subject that firstly, 26 per cent indirect tax can increase and the clarification of the administration in this regard is not right

[English]

I am prepared to sit with them. I am also a Chartered Accountant.

[Translation]

You plug the loopholes, where does the question of prestige arise in it?

Secondly we should make special arrangement for the cross investment. Thirdly, we are going to develop a new kind of system. Now, everywhere we have been staging an entry in the second stage. When we enter the new millennium, privatisation, liberalisation will have taken place here and we have been making a regulatory system to control it. We created TRAI for telecommunication, SEBI for financial companies and now we are constituting IRA for the insurance sector.

[English]

We are giving so much authority and power to them. But does the authority not go with responsibility? Does the authority not go with accountability?

[Translation]

Accountability should be made credible. Infact all of us should collectively discuss the subject that

[English]

Politicians are accountable to common man.

[Translation]

If the politicians, political parties, elected representatives and the Government do not function properly, then the people do not re-elect them.

[English]

They are accountable and responsible.

[Translation]

But in this new system — we are developing a system — they are nowhere accountable. They will be appointed for five years. If they commit a mistake and do not pay attention and one and half Lakh crore rupees of an investor goes in the gutter, then who is accountable for that. Three and half years have passed since the opening of P.F. by C.R.B. and not a single officer from Reserve Bank of India to SEBI has been suspended. Will nobody be responsible for that?

[Shri Kirit Somaiya]

[English]

It is prodding CRB's case.

[Translation]

SEBI refused to issue them banking licence, but Reserve Bank sent it to SEBI for giving a positive report. What did our Government do.

[English]

I am talking about the Government of India. It does not matter whether it is the BJP Government, the Congress or the United Front Government or the Government of the Third Front.

[Translation]

It is the question of Government of India and whichever Government may come to power but if we are going to develop such a regulatory system under which decision is taken today which is followed by a second decision after two months and then again it is challenged in the High Court resulting in a third decision, then it is not going to help the people. It affects the consumer and the economy of the country thereby causing hindrance in the development.

[English]

Is the regulatory authority not accountable anywhere?

[Translation]

I will not be able to explain it as I am not a legal expert. However, the clause regarding the fixing of accountability should be included in all regulatory authorities. Today, we are developing I.R.D.A. but if there is failure at any place.

[English]

Who was the concerned person who gave the permission? who was the incharge?

[Translation]

Then they will reply that they were not aware of it. We know the loss incurred in Unit 64 scheme. Ultimately Central Government made up that loss. Unit holders were given tax benefit. Government reinvested a sum of Rs. 2.5 thousand crores, only then the value of Unit 64 stabilized at this level.

[English]

Ultimately, the common man has paid the money. The tax-payer has paid the money.

[Translation]

The loss in Unit 64 scheme was due to faulty investment decision. No enquiry will be conducted in this regard. The Report of the Deepak Parikh Committee should be laid on the Table of the House. That report reveals the types of decisions which were taken. The shares of a company were purchased at the rate of Rs. 390 which is not more than Rs.

250 today. How the regulatory authority will prevent them from doing so. I would like to submit a point before you that the Government should include accountability clause in all types of regulatory authorities.

Secondly, the foreign insurance companies will try to manipulate the country's capital market by money power. What provision Government propose to make in this regard. Besides, insurance companies whether it is LTC of GIC, have a large number of development officers and agents working under them. Some corrections are required to be made in the conditions imposed for the agents including women working for such insurance companies for the purpose of additional income or part time income. I.R.D.A. should have a little flexibility in its attitude in this regard. Some courses for the existing agents can be started so as to enable them to compete with the other companies. LIC and other insurance companies will have to appoint active agents. I would like to say that our entry in this field will be fruitful one if handled properly. Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Hongkong, Taiwan and China etc. are Asian economies which have got good experience when some year ago they opened their insurance sector for the foreign companies. Alongwith it, there is a term in the guidelines framed by I.R.D.A. that this sector should be particularly developed, marketed and be concentrated in the rural sector. For that purpose, certain percentage has been fixed.

Through you I would like to draw the attention of the Government and of Hon'ble Minister towards it.

[English]

British Insurance warned against artificial cuts.

[Translation]

They haven't even started operating here, and have started giving warnings. British insurance has written:

[English]

British Insurance major yesterday said "the rural business could constitute much of its business in India, but warned of artificial barriers to entry for private insurance firms".

[Translation]

We did not go to London to invite them to come to our country.

[English]

If you want to come, you can come, but you are not coming for any social motive

[Translation]

They are coming for their own business. They are coming because they are seeing huge savings in India. Therefore, these foreign companies have to comply all conditions necessary for investment in insurance sector. I would like to request that the concerned department should clarify in this regard. Moreover, 15 lakh employees of insurance companies

are apprehensive about losing their job. If there is competition between insurance companies and the private companies, then nationalised companies will start incurring losses. What will be the scenario when they actually start business. I have come to know that Government have no such intention. A conducive atmosphere will have to be created for these employees. Government should clarify its stand regarding G.I.C., L.I.C. and holdings because people have an impression in their minds that through disinvestment programmes, it can sell its insurance company to foreign company. As per my knowledge, Government have clear intentions to keep its insurance company with itself.

In the end, I would like to submit again that the Government are taking a very good step. We had made a small mistake from 1992 to 1995. Hon'ble Member has also stated that we resorted to privatisation and liberalisation but the infrastructure of regulatory body was not strengthened, which resulted in all these scams. Now, if a new experiment is going to be made in insurance sector, regulatory system should be more strong. I want to point out that in foreign private companies they have an investor protection act. This fund is meant for protecting the interest of share holders of the insurance companies.

[English]

That is named Investor Protection Fund.

[Translation]

If Government propose to create any such fund or formulate any such act, then it should come forward with a declaration in this regard. A bill of such kind will enhance the faith among the people. I once again support the Bill.

[English]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (PANSKURA): Hon. Chairman, Sir, I rise to oppose the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority Bill, 1999 because it opens up the Insurance Sector to the private companies.

The BJP Government now thinks that India stands to gain by this opening up. When the BJP was in the Opposition, they were of contrary opinion. We were always opposing this attempt. Even when the CPI was a partner of the United front Government, we openly voted against this move along with other Left parties, who were supporting the Government, from outside. At that time also, we opposed this Bill. Consequently, the Bill had to be withdrawn.

What is the basis of the present Government's thinking that India stands to gain by opening the Insurance Sector to private companies, maybe national or multinational companies.

During the last Parliament when the BJP and its allies far outstripped the Congress Government in its liberalisation policy, they thought that it would push up the condition of Indian economy and during the last election, they propagated in the same vein to hoodwink the electorate.

But the recently published Report of the Reserve Bank

of India candidly admits, I quote:

"The deceleration in Industrial production witnessed from 1996-97 deepened during 1998-99 with the index of industrial production showing a growth rate of 4 per cent during 1998-99 as compared with 6.6 per cent in 1997-98. The current trend has been led by contraction in the growth of manufacturing output to 4.4 per cent, the lowest so far, compared to 6.7 per cent during 1997-98. The output of the mining and the quarrying sector declined by 1.8 per cent in contrast to an increase of 5.9 per cent during 1997-98 while the growth of electricity generation slipped down to 6.4 per cent from 6.6 per cent."

The Report further points out that there has been a decline in the growth service sector from 7.8 per cent in 1997-98 to 5.8 per cent in 1998-99.

According to the same report, there has been a fall in gross domestic saving coinciding with a decline in the overall investment accentuating the economic crisis. Sir, nor is the report optimistic about the future.

The opening up of the insurance sector is likely to aggravate crisis by opening up possibilities of private insurance business to divert the significant investible funds generated by insurance business from productive and socially useful areas to speculative and short-term investment. More than 70 per cent of the investible funds estimated at around Rs. 60,000 crore recently is invested in Government bonds and securities for financing public sector projects, thus contributing to national growth. At present LIC and GIC together mobilize over Rs. 25,000 crore of fresh funds every year. The amount is likely to be doubled in the next few years enabling the Government to avail of huge additional resources for national development. The opening up of insurance sector will reduce this and flow of funds for economic regeneration of the country.

If the Government allows the private sector to enter what would they do? They will corner profitable urban business — this is what the LIC and the GIC are doing today in the urban sector — thereby availability of funds will decrease and investment in Government securities and bonds will reduce, therefore, funds for development as a whole will decrease.

The Government are claiming that they will control. But international experience is on the contrary.

In America in 1996, the Prudential Company had to apologize to the policy holders and pay a record 35 million dollars as fine. In Japan, Nissan Mutual Life has become insolvent. Some others also have collapsed. In America, out of 3500 insurance companies, majority are incurring losses with 272 already declared insolvent.

Germany and France have imposed ban on import of insurance for domestic risk. There are many examples. Therefore, a claim of control is totally baseless.

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY (BASIRHAT): Sir, it is six o'clock now.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Still one minute is there.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Let her continue tomorrow, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you want to continue tomorrow or you want to finish today?

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: All right, Sir. I can continue tomorrow because it is already six o'clock.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay, you can continue tomorrow. Or, do you want to finish today?

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: I am on my legs, Sir. If you want me to continue and finish, I can do that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: How much time will you take?

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: I do not think a long time will be taken.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Tomorrow Sir, not today.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okey, you can continue tomorrow.

Now the Report of the Business Advisory Committee to be presented.

17.59 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

First Report

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (CHANDIGARH): Sir, I beg to present the First Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House now stands adjourned to meet tomorrow at 11.00 a.m.

18.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, December 1, 1999/Agrahayana 10, 1921 (Saka)

Corrigenda to Lok Sabha Debates
(English Version)

Tuesday, November 30, 1999/Agrahayana 9, 1921 (Saka)

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<u>Col./line</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Read</u>
108/9	250	250*
153/25	SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHATRE	SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE
187/23	(a) and (c)	(a) to (c)
201, 202/4, 16, 24 (Column 2)	-	1
235/23	(a)	(b)
241/29	47977	47877
254/34	(v)	(iv)
254/40	(vi)	(v)
264	AFTER LINE 13 ADD: (c) and (d) Do not arise	
322/11	SHRI SOMMATH CHATTERJEE	SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE
337/17	MR. DETUTY-SPEAKER	MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER
349/8 (from below)	MR. DEUTY SPEAKER	MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER

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